

April 19, 2012

From: Dr. Linda Meltzer

To: Dr. Emily Tai, Chairperson
Dr. Peter Bales, Vice-Chairperson
Dr. Lana Zinger, Secretary

**The 366th Plenary Session of The University Faculty Senate
of The City University Of New York
Tuesday, April 17, 2012, 6:30 p.m.**

Chair Sandi Cooper called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. in Room 9204/05 at the CUNY Graduate School and University Center.

I. Approval of the Agenda for March 20, 2012

The agenda was approved by voice vote.

II. Approval of the Minutes of March 20, 2012

The minutes were approved as distributed by voice vote

III. Reports

A. Chair Sandi Cooper's Report-postponed until after following Speakers.

B. CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein:

- Chancellor Goldstein spoke of CUNY's Budget providing an upbeat message. There will be stability for next few years as Governor and legislature have a multiyear agreement. CUNY/SUNY have worked together on a new unprecedented provision and CUNY budget will keep the tuition hike.
- CUNY will supplement major revenue sources with 1) \$3B CUNY campaign near completed and 2) Research dollars have increased dramatically though will not be equally distributed across CUNY campuses.
- Regarding the CUNY/SUNY collaboration, it costs CUNY \$30 million "to undo" and remediate students to ready for college and \$60 million for SUNY.
- CUNY Grad PhD program will receive new \$ as an investment to make its program more competitive. There have been a number of meetings to reform and make doctoral program stronger and enhance its ranking nationally.
- Chancellor Goldstein asked Rick Shaeffer, CUNY's General Counsel to lead taskforce to investigate why some of NYC jobs are not being filled and whether there is an opportunity for CUNY students. The taskforce will look at 6 potential job segments: Information technology, Marketing, Communications, Finance, Healthcare and Higher Education. Report will be released soon.

- Chancellor Goldstein, as part of NY Development Council's effort to set up 10 regional centers across NYS, wants CUNY to be a player on these platforms.
- Regarding the newest CUNY Community College, Chancellor Goldstein provided an update. The implementation plan is in place and there is a lot of interest in the school. It will open September 2012 with several hundred students initially, growing to several thousand. Bloomberg provided some funding.
- Goldstein pointed to a still low graduation rate of 16% for CUNY community colleges, however that number jumps to 56% for new cohorts after three years. This is a promising and it appears to be a real number after further review.
- With respect to the new Science institution which will operate under an independent principle and different financial model with research funding from sources like DOD, NIH, Goldstein said they were in the process of hiring 5 very high level Academic Chairs for areas like neuroscience and botanics.
- Chancellor Goldstein could not comment on Pathways given the lawsuit that was recently filed.

C. Associate Vice Chancellor and CIO Brian Cohen spoke on several CIS issues:

- CUNYFirst went live recently in several campuses with more rollout to campuses to occur in the next several months.
- E-Portfolio-still in evolving stage. It is a tool to collaborate in cloudbased environment with lots of features. It is driven by faculty and students. CIO Cohen added that, like other social media, there is no protection in any of the licensing agreements. This is a privacy issue that has come up before with Google and its right to your intellectual property.
- Blackboard is going to be upgraded. It has not changed in the past two years. It is stable, supportable and no one complains about Blackboard. However, new features are coming and the challenge is to target an opportune time to bring the current Blackboard down for the upgrade. It is likely to be at the end of May.

IV New Business and Report. Chair Cooper made several points:

- Cooper said it is traditional for retiring Senators be thanked for their service.
- Fred Shaeffer, General Counsel will be coming to our next meeting to discuss revisions of policy the Board will consider at their June meeting.
- Chair Cooper will send us a link to a Diversity Report which reflects the impact on retention and mentoring of our faculty.
- Chair Cooper gave the floor to two announcements: Anne Friedman spoke about Pathways and the need to get more signatures on the petition asking Chancellor Goldstein to remove Pathways. There are now 4700 signatures but they would like 50% of full time faculty.

- QCC Emily Tai announced the May 11th screening of film of “Higher Education in Prisons and handed out leaflets.

V. Nominations for Officers and Members-at-Large of the Executive Committee. Nominations for 2012-2014 for Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer as well as At-Large members were collected for voting at our next meeting.

C. Michael Fabricant and Barbara Bowen from the PSC

- Dr. Fabricant announced that the PSC/UFS lawsuit against Pathways was filed this evening.
- Dr. Fabricant and Dr. Bowen informed the UFS that more faculty signatures against Pathways need to be collected before the April 30th CUNY Board of Trustees meeting.

IV. New Business

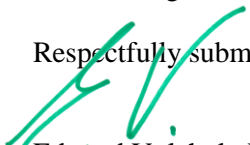
A. Pathways Implementation: Campus Updates

The following college reported on the implementation of Pathways: Baruch College, BMCC, Brooklyn College, City College, Hostos College, Hunter College, John Jay College, Kingsborough Community College, LaGuardia Community College, Lehman College, NYC College of Technology, Queens College, Queensborough Community College, College of Staten Island, and York College.

Each college reported similar concerns, procedures, and progress.

The meeting was adjourned at around 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward Volchok, PhD