

May 11, 2011

From: Edward Volchok, PhD

To: Emily Tai, PhD; Barbara Blake-Campbell, PhD

UFS Chair, Dr. Sandi Cooper, called the meeting to order at approximately 6:26 p.m. in Room 9204/05/06 at the CUNY Graduate School and University Center.

I. Approval of the Agenda for May 11, 2011

The agenda was approved by voice vote.

II. Approval of the Minutes of April 12, 2011

The minutes were approved as distributed by voice vote

III. Reports

A. Chancellor Matthew Goldstein

Chancellor Goldstein repeated his statement that the state legislature needs to set up an overarching plan for tuition increases for CUNY and SUNY. And, he reported that there are fast-moving, major events in state government regarding setting up such a policy. The outcome, however, is still uncertain. There is also indication that the \$40 million being held from the CUNY budget may be released. But, the outcome on this issue is also uncertain

The Chancellor reported that Pell grants might be cut even further. Given the rising tuition, Chancellor Goldstein recognized the need for continuing and even increasing these grant.

The Chancellor reported that there is growing interest among state governors across the nation to use universities as engines for job creation. This effort could have material benefits for CUNY.

The issues of General Education and transferability of course credits continues to be a major concern for the entire university. The Chancellor sees significant progress on this issue. Dr. Goldstein expects closure on this issue shortly. The big issue is the development inventory of courses that are properly aligned with well-defined learning outcomes. This effort, he added, has to be driven by faculty.

The Chancellor indicated that university continues to make progress with the launch of the new Community College. The Chancellor anticipates that this college will start its first classes in September 2012.

B. Chair (Oral & Written): Update on the Pathways Initiative

Resolutions from CUNY campuses on general education and student transfers have been posted on the USF website. And, if needed, a UFS plenary session might be held on June 7th to discuss issues surrounding general education requirements, student transfer between colleges.

Honorary Doctorate at John Jay College for Playwright Tony Kushner: Chair Cooper quickly reviewed the approximately 500 emails received by the CUNY trustees regarding this issue. Only 1% of these emails supported the trustees' decision. Trustees have since passed a resolution reversing their decree that would have prevented Mr. Kushner from receiving an honorary degree from John Jay College.

C. Task Force on Assessment, Professor Kathleen Barker

The CUNY Proficiency Exam Taskforce, which ended the CPE Exam last fall, is investigating whether a nationally normed test to examine student learning *might* be useful. This test would be a low-stakes test for students, as it would measure institutional effectiveness, not student performance.

Four tests have been investigated:

1. Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP)
2. Critical Thinking Assessment test (CAT)
3. Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA)

4. ETS Proficiency Profile

No test has been selected as yet and many logistical questions have yet to be addressed.

D. Budget Advisory Committee, Professor Terrence Martell

Budget Advisory Committee Report: Expenditures Report is available on local campuses and Professor Martell will try to place this document online.

The big issue regarding the CUNY budget is whether \$40 million held by the state legislature will be released to the FY2012 budget. Two budgets are being prepared, one with and one without the \$40 million. Budgets will be released to the individual campuses soon.

IV. New Business: Nominations and Election of Members-at-Large of the Executive Committee (Conducted by Professor Karen Klapowitz and assisted by Professor Manfred Phillip)

The Senate passed a resolution that the five candidates with the highest number of votes will be elected as the new members-at-large. The table below shows the eight candidates. The Senate adjourned without announcing the winners. On May 11th, William Phipps, Executive Director of the University Faculty Senate, sent an email announcing the winners

The five winning candidates are denoted with an “X” in the “Elected” column.

Nominee	College	Elected
Professor Michael Barnhart	Kingsborough Community College	
Professor Stefan Baumrin	Graduate Center	X
Professor Katherine Conway	Borough of Manhattan Community College	X
Professor Campbell Dalglish	City College of New York	
Professor Phillip Pecorino	Queensborough Community College	X
Professor Kathryn Richardson	New York City College of Technology	
Professor Emily Tai	Queensborough Community College	X
Professor Jeffrey Weiss	Baruch College	X

The meeting was adjourned at time 8:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Volchok, PhD