

Report to QCC Academic Senate re UFS Plenary Meeting

DATE: 27 February 2015

TO: QCC Academic Senate

FROM: QCC Faculty Representative to CUNY UFS, Beth Counihan

SUBJECT:

The 385th Plenary Session of The University Faculty Senate of The City University Of New York Tuesday, February 10, 2015, 6:30 p.m.

UFS Chair Terrence Martell called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. in Room C201/2/3 at the CUNY Graduate School and University Center.

I. Approval of the Agenda for February 10, 2015

The agenda was approved by voice vote.

II. Approval of the Minutes of December 9, 2014

The minutes were approved as distributed by voice vote.

III. New Business

A. Proposal to Amend the UFS Charter

To be voted on at next meeting: proposed changes of 7 members at large (no more Secretary and Treasurer) and for past chair to serve as ex-officio for a period of two years (not one).

IV. Reports

A. Invited Guest, Chancellor J.B. Milliken

Agenda shifted so that Chancellor's report was first item after approval of minutes and agenda. Chancellor Milliken was just back from Albany advocating for the CUNY budget. He stated his talking points were: "The Dream Act, celebrate CUNY students and support our talented and dedicated faculty"—and that faculty salaries are the highest priority in the budget request. The Chancellor noted in Cuomo's budget that: "ASAP not funded; TAP underfunded; SEEK and College Discovery not funded; childcare at community colleges not funded, annual step increases not funded." He spoke of the proposed mandate for experiential learning—curriculum would be up to faculty and "there's more work to be done" and noted President Obama's reference to ASAP in his outlining of the federal community college initiative.

The Chancellor spoke of the searches for University Provost, BCC president and Hostos president. A review of International Efforts and Programs is in process and reviews are planned in the near future for Fundraising and Online Education. Research fellowships for community college faculty have been reinstated for next academic year.

Q and A period followed: a suggestion was made to fund an institutional repository; continuing opposition to Pathways was voiced; request made for support for faculty with international faculty/institution connections. The Chancellor was asked to comment on University's role in supporting student

activism and he supports “providing a forum for students and faculty.” When asked to speak about the collaboration with Pepsi and the rationale to advertise the University on soda cans, the Chancellor explained the University is receiving \$21 million from Pepsi and the advertising is on “more than just soda—it’s juice.”

B. Representatives to Board Committees (oral)

Student Affairs: making connections with NYPIRG, Offices for Students with Disabilities and efforts to attend USS meetings

Faculty and Staff: Retiring Associate and Assistant Professors now are conferred automatically with title of Professor Emeritus upon retirement.

C. Chair’s Report

Chair Terrence Martell spoke of the FY16 State Executive Budget for CUNY: “the only significant increase in budget is \$52.4 million tuition increase,” noting that “no contract increase is going to be easily found” and advising “if you have searches, complete them.”

Chair Martell presented a resolution against Cuomo’s proposed “applied learning” mandate: resolution unanimously approved

Chair Martell read an appreciation of recently deceased retired CUNY faculty member Dr. Leon Katz and reminded all about the Stewart Travel Awards for Assistant Professors.

Kay Conway made an announcement of the UFS Spring Conference on Globalizing Education Fri 24 April at John Jay

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.