Meeting of College Council Volume 39 Number 2

There were present:

Prof. Aranoff  Ms. Fernandez  Ms. Loubeau
Prof. Arliss  Prof. Ferretti  Prof. Martin
Prof. Barnhart  Prof. Gale  Prof. Miranda
Prof. Bassen  Prof. Gattullo  Prof. Murphy
Prof. Beeber  Prof. Gerwin  Prof. Nanin
Prof. Borgese  Prof. Graziano-King  Prof. Nicosia
Prof. Brancaccio-Taras  Prof. Gregory  Prof. Pierre
Prof. Burger  Prof. Guigno  Prof. Sokolow
Mr. Campbell  Mr. Hardy  Mr. Soloviev
Ms. Cohen  Mr. Hermida  V.P. Suss
Dean Dalpes  Prof. Hesse  Mr. Troutd
Prof. Dawson  Prof. Hume  Mr. Viltovsky
Dean DiLorenzo  V.P. Keller  Prof. Wood
Mr. Dominique  Mr. Klein  Mr. Yarde
Ms. Driscoll  Prof. Kraljic  Prof. Yarmish
Prof. Farley  Mr. Krantz
Prof. Farrell  Prof. Lax

President Peruggi called the meeting to order at 3:10 PM.

I. The minutes of the two meetings of May 24, 2011 were approved by acclamation.

II. Reports

A. President’s Report

The President referred the members of College Council to her remarks at Convocation on September 9, 2011, which went well. Last week it was announced that nearly $500 million was granted by the federal government to community colleges nationwide for workforce development. Kingsborough led a consortium of six colleges in making a proposal for funding, which was one of only 32 which were approved. The proposal received $20 million over four years, with Kingsborough receiving the largest share at $6 million. The President commended Dr. Stuart Schulman for his hard work on the successful proposal.

Kingsborough will concentrate on its Project Welcome component, which includes training in the areas of tourism and hospitality. Other partner colleges, such as LaGuardia Community College and New York City Technical College, will concentrate on their own areas of expertise.
The President reported that the CUNY Pathways Project Task Force is underway, with the College represented by Professor Michael Barnhart on its Steering Committee. Future committees are being formed to work on the transfer of disciplinary courses throughout CUNY colleges. The number of our students and graduates transferring to senior CUNY colleges is very high, and their ability to transfer credits within disciplines and Gen-Ed is very important. For example, in the Accounting major 162 of our students have transferred to Baruch and 181 to Brooklyn; 95 of our Criminal Justice students have transferred to John Jay; and 301 of our Business students to Brooklyn College.

In the area of developmental education, it is vital that the College make progress, especially due to changes in financial aid regulations. The chancellor is deeply concerned about this issue, as the number of Kingsborough students not completing the developmental sequence by the time they have earned 30 non-developmental credits is among the lowest in CUNY. Although this is true for a variety of reasons, the College must streamline and improve the Developmental Education sequence as a high priority. The College expects funding from the Center for Economic Opportunity to expand the ASAP program to 4000 students, which should help in this area.

Finally, the President reminded the College community of the upcoming Strategic Planning dinner on Wednesday, October 26 at 5:00 PM, and urged everyone to attend.

B. Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee reminded the Council that the deadline for submissions to the committee is Wednesday, October 5, 2011, by which time proposals must be in the hands of the Provost.

C. Legislative Committee

1. In 2008-2009, as the first step in an ongoing assessment process, the Legislative Committee asked each College Council committee to examine its mission and the relevant section in the Council Constitution. In 2010, the Council resolved to perform this assessment process every three years, beginning with the 2011-2012 academic year.

This year, each standing committee on of the College Council shall repeat its self-assessment by reexamining its mission statements, listing its recent activities since the last self-assessment in 2008-09, and analyzing and identifying any changes its members wish to propose.

Each committee shall report the results of its self-assessment to the Legislative Committee, which will then compile the results into a single report to present along with any recommendations to the full Council at one of its meetings during the Spring 2012 semester.

2. The annual University Faculty Senate elections will take place this November. The current senators whose three-year terms expire are Profs. Rebecca Arliss, Michael
Barnhart, and Eben Wood. The alternates whose one-year terms expire are Profs. Robert Cowan and Anthony Alessandrini.

III. New Business

A. Prof. Wood extended an invitation to the college community to attend the upcoming Roundtable on Brooklyn and Development on Thursday, October 13 from 5:30-9:00 PM. It will include several distinguished scholarly panelists and will be catered by the Kingsborough culinary arts program.

B. Prof. Barnhart reported on the status and progress of the CUNY Pathways Project. He stated that it currently appears that the project will have less impact on Kingsborough’s curriculum and course structure than might be feared, and that they will remain essentially intact.

The Pathways Project was initiated by the CUNY Board of Trustees this past June to institute a consistent Gen-Ed core curriculum throughout CUNY; and to solve the “transfer problem” of articulation inconsistencies and needlessly repeated courses for students transferring to colleges within CUNY. The initial resolution, which is posted online at the CUNY website, established a multi-tier process. Currently under design is the 30-credit core, with a Task Force comprised of the Steering Committee as well as a working group gathered from across the university. The mission is to craft a detailed proposal for the distribution of these 30 credits which builds in disciplinary and course flexibility for each college. This should leave Kingsborough’s degree requirements intact.

In the next stage, once the core curriculum is presented to the Board of Trustees, committees will be formed to identify which courses will be proposed by each college to satisfy Gen-Ed credit. There will also be some tweaking of the course lists and requirements, with waivers presumably granted for particular programs, stem disciplines and the like.

In terms of a timeline, a Steering Committee draft proposal should be ready to be circulated to the colleges by November 1st. Comments will be solicited from the campuses to be submitted by November 15th; while there are mechanisms for individuals to submit their own input, each college is expected to submit an official response to the draft. Finally, the core curriculum proposal is due to be submitted to the chancellor by December 1st.

In response to questions from the floor, Prof. Barnhart and President Peruggi added some proposed details regarding additional core credits to be added by senior colleges to the original 30 credits, leading to a maximum of 42 university-wide Gen-Ed credits for any student. They also stressed that the proposal is a work in progress that reflects the many disparate interests represented on the Task Force.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Sokolow

Michael Sokolow, secretary