There were present:

Prof. Adise        Ms. Derks        Prof. Hume        Prof. Owusu-Ansah
Prof. Arliss       Dean DiLorenzo    Mr. Imperato     Mr. Ozeryan
Prof. Babbitt      Prof. Farley      Prof. Klapper     Dean Pappagallo
Prof. Barnhart     Prof. Farrell     Prof. Kraljc Curran Prof. Pollack
Dr. Basile         Dean Fox         Prof. Martin      Prof. Sarinsky
Prof. Beeber       Prof. Garcia Osuna Ms. McDermott    Prof. Scherek
Prof. Bernstein    Prof. Gartner     Prof. Mezhibovskaya Prof. Shrimpton
Mr. Bisangwa       Mr. Georges       Prof. Mikalopas   Prof. Sokolow
Prof. Burger       Prof. Gerwin      Prof. Mogensen    Prof. Staum
Ms. Cendan         Prof. Graziano    Prof. Nicosia     V.P. Suss
Mr. Chase          Prof. Graziano-King Prof. Olubunmo     Dean Toback
Ms. Cohen          Mr. Guadarrama    Prof. O’Malley     Prof. Yarmish
Ms. Cunningham     Prof. Guigno

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

I. The minutes of the meeting of November 27, 2007 were approved unanimously.

II. Reports

A. President’s Report

The President was happy to report that enrollment is up 5% over last year at this time and the level of non-payment is lower than last year. She thanked the Admissions Office, Enrollment Management and the faculty who attended Open Houses. All contributed to the increase in enrollment.

The budget is very bleak and growing worse each day. Our cut in funding was to be 1.8 million dollars, but another 3% has been added on top of that initial figure. Ms. LaVita McMath, our Director of Government Relations, is on her way to Albany to lobby for Kingsborough. She is asking that our Capital budget be funded as well as for an increase in FTE funds. At the state level the Community Colleges had asked for a $200 increase for FTEs, but that was cut by $50 in the budget. We are trying to get back the $50 plus a slight increase in FTE funding. Funds earmarked by the state for Community College FTEs are not being used since the city does not fund their share in the matching system of funding. In summation, it will be a very gloomy year.

CUNY FIRST (formerly ERP) is moving forward slowly due to budget shortfalls. It will be implemented in Queens and Queensborough. Eventually, Kingsborough will be on-line.

The President reported that the various KCC Task Forces in Liberal Arts, GenEd, Retention, Tutoring and Promotion and Tenure are meeting and preparing their reports. She thanked all the participating members of those committees.

The President thanked the faculty who participated in the New Student Orientation, as well as those who are actively involved in Learning Communities. Special thanks to Rachel Singer, Zuleika Rodriguez, Marcia Babbitt, Janine Graziano-King and Peter Cohen for bringing positive attention to the College.

Several faculty members met with representatives of the Gates Foundation. The Foundation has published a concept paper on “Disconnected Youth”. They are actively seeking means by which to bring youth who are out of the system back into the workforce. They feel that Community Colleges hold the key to transitioning these individuals and would like to spend a great deal of money to that end. The Foundation representatives were very impressed with our students in the Learning Communities.
Several dates of importance: Third Annual Eco Fest: April 8-10. KCC Reads: Panel Discussion, April 15; Open discussion, April 28; Meeting with the author, May 6. Awards Night, June 12; Commencement, June 13 with Keynote Speaker Dr. Richard Maraia a KCC Alum from the NIH. Kingsborough Foundation Scholarship Dinner, June 16.

The President thanked the many faculty and staff involved in the effort to improve CPE results.

B. Committee Reports

1. Legislative Committee

Professor Klapper reported that Prof Frances Kraljic-Curran, who had been the College’s representative to the Faculty Governance Leadership Group since the Fall 2004 semester, was stepping down. Prof. Klapper called for nominations for the position, noting that only the faculty members of Council were eligible to vote. Professor Donald Hume was nominated, and in the absence of any other nominations, elected as representative. Prof. Klapper reported that the Legislative Committee is currently addressing the topic of setting guidelines for the election to this post. The next meeting of the Leadership Group will be May 9 at 11:30 am at John Jay College.

2. Committee on Budget

Dean Fox distributed a copy of the Middle States Progress Letter (See Attachment A). After the Middle States Review in 2006, the College was asked to write a letter on progress thus far. Dean Fox was also happy to report that the rate of passing in Writing was up 5.4%, in Mathematics (without the 3 point rise in the passing score), up 4.3%; CPE up 11.3%; NCLEX up 9.0% and Graduation rate up 1.8%.

3. Curriculum Committee

The Curriculum Committee presented the following as an informational item:

Under the new procedure for expedited courses, the Curriculum Committee approved:
MAT 08242, Math Relativity and Cosmology
3 Hours, 3 Credits
Presented jointly by the Departments of Physical Sciences & Mathematics and Computer Sciences.

After approval by the Curriculum Committee, the course was run in the Winter 2008 module.

4. Committee on Instruction

The Committee has met on the issue of Academic Integrity. They established three sub-committees to examine the definition of Academic Dishonesty, to establish a formal College Policy and to plan a college-wide effort to get the College community involved. On April 1 at 3pm there will be an open meeting in the Ocean View Room.

5. Committee on Students

Ms. Dinora McDermott presented a report on the Student Activities for the Spring semester.

On March 11, student leaders met with State Assembly representatives to lobby on behalf of CUNY & Kingsborough. They were joined by Ms. McMath, Dr. Klapper, Ms. Schatzman-Sherry and Dean Pappagallo. Peer Advisor training weekend will be April 11-13 at Hudson Valley Conference Center. DECA is sending a team of four students on April 12-16 to participate in the Delta Epsilon Chi International Career Development Conference and National Competition in Atlanta, accompanied by Prof. Mastriani. The Salzburg Seminar will be held from April 19 – 26 in Salzburg, Austria. Ten students and Dean Fakhari will attend. The Model United Nations competition will be in Manhattan on April 22 – 27. Nine KCC students and Prof. Opello attended a dress-rehearsal competition at McCauley Honors College from February 29 – March 3 where they excelled.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Ladman
Barbara Ladman, Secretary, College Council