

October 3, 2023 at 3:00 PM

Room: U-219

Meeting of College Council Volume 51 Number 2

The College Council met on Tuesday, October 3, 2023 at 3:00 PM in Room U-219.

There were in attendance:

Acosta, John	Lax, Jeffrey	Russell, Joanne	<b><u>Students</u></b>
Armstrong, Rick	Matthew, Martin	Schnee, Emily	Ali, Filza
Cally, Scott	McKinney, Ryan	Schrader, Claudia	Asif, Laila
Cohen, Judith	Mikalopas, John	Segal, Jacob	Azad, Ayesha
Dawson, Mary	Mullen, Avery	Shannon, Mary	Bennett, Riquelme
DeGrazia, Thomas	Nasser, Helen	Sokolova, Valerie	Bhuiyan, Mahir
Delgado, Jeffrey	Olvin, Cynthia	Spear, Michael	Brunson, Adaijah
DelPrincipe, Ann	Oppenheim, Joachim	Tila, Dorina	Gibbs, Adrianna
Eaton, Thomas	Parker, Stuart	Wetzel, Dominic	Johnson, Shazielle
Franquiz, Juan	Patestas, Maria	Yarmish, Rina	Morris, Michael
Gartner, Matthew	Repetti, Rick		Nemet, Netanel
Hume, Donald	Ricciardi, Paul		Pinnock, Jaiden
Johnson, Tyronne	Rios, Ed		Sameen, Dur-e
Kalin, Amanda	Rodriguez, Michael		Shumyatskaya, Valeriya
Kane, Daniel	Rohr, Gila		Zafar, Sidra
Kapetanakis, George	Rothacker, Thomas		

President Schrader called the meeting to order at 3:09 PM.

I. The minutes of the meetings of June 6, 2023 and September 12, 2023 were approved by acclamation.

## II. Reports

### A. President's Report

Welcome back and welcome to our newest faculty and staff members.

Congratulations to Amada Kalin, our new College Council Secretary and John Mikalopas our College Council Parliamentarian. We look forward to your leadership of Council.

As you know a call was issued for GRAC participation. While we have made significant progress towards revising and updating our Shared Governance Plan, more work still needs to be done. Our goal is to complete all needed work by the end of the semester. I hope you took our fearless facilitator guide and leader Prof. Kane up on his offer to join in this work.

Earlier this morning I had the opportunity to attend the State of the University Address which centered on the University's strategic roadmap: CUNY Lifting NY. A Seven-year map, 6 thematic areas and four overarching goals that "accelerates our role as the nation's greatest

educational vehicle for equity and upward mobility and amplifies the well-being of the City and the State of New York.”

At Kingsborough we will do and continue to do our part as we lift KCC higher.

We are lifting up assessment, as evidenced in Dr. Davy’s presentation at convocation as she reinforced our continued shared focus on where we are as an institution and where we want to go. We are actively in the process of working on aligning our Strategic Plan, our one-year projected goals for each indicator and indicating college initiatives to support achieving these goals.

The University’s Performance Management Process (PMP) has been restructured to align with the Strategic Road map. The dates and times for a virtual chat about our 2022-23 performance will be shared shortly.

Our Middle States Self -Study design was approved last Spring and implementation is underway. Self-study involves every member of the college, so I thank you all in advance for your responsive and engagement with the co-chairs in their inquiry in identifying our strengths and gaps.

This academic year we have already lifted our enrollment higher thanks to the efforts of our Enrollment Management, Advisement, Academic departments, Communications team, Student Affairs and so many faculty and staff. But we are not resting on our laurels, we are preparing for a new season of strategic recruitment and enrollment.

Good is the enemy of great. It is not good enough at 61% our fall-to-fall retention rate is the highest among community colleges and comprehensives. Not only have we done better at 69% fall 2019, but 61% means that 39% of first-time full-time students who entered in the fall 2021 did not return last fall.

So we will continue to lift retention and persistence higher. In addition to all you do to help students persist- academic support, counseling, mentoring athletics, student life and a host of other things, we will launch a second round of the Sense of Belonging grants for staff and faculty to develop student focused programs to promote students sense of belonging. More information will be forthcoming.

In late June/early July we lifted off with a new and refreshing website. Thank you to VP Todmann and all the members of the website redesign and implementation team. A tremendous amount of work went into developing a new site and a tremendous amount of work continues on refining the content.

We are lifting up transfers and relationships so as part of this effort, Michelle Anderson, President of Brooklyn College. Her remarks focused on the strength of our KCC to BC transfer rates and collaboration driven by bringing the best support and success to our KCC graduates as they prepare to transfer and continue on the pursue their bachelor’s degree after graduating from Kingsborough.

At a time in our city and world where there are increasing levels of divisiveness, hate and aggression, we will continue to lift up positivity, community and education. From jazz in the amphitheater last week, to salsa in the Cove we will continue to create ways for us to come together. Later this month, on October 26 we will hold our 3rd intramural softball game. This year we are playing for Pink and Blue and bring awareness to awareness to Prostate and Breast Cancer. A Call for Players will be forthcoming.

And November 14 -16th as we mark the 10th anniversary of our Diversity Symposium with the theme “*Honoring social justice through the 50th Anniversary of Hip Hop: A diverse world of voices and expression*” we will continue to lift our efforts up through education.

We recently made an offer to a candidate for the position of CDO. We are completing the necessary processes to onboard them, and once this is complete, we will share additional information. I look forward to the leadership a new CDO will provide especially as it relates to implementing our comprehensive plan for DEI and related trainings.

I also want to take this opportunity to reemphasize messages previously shared by Senior VP and Provost Russell. We are obligated to ensure that all individuals within the University who are observing religious holidays are respected and supported. We are also legally obligated to provide accommodations for students with disabilities.

Even with all lifting, among our heaviest lifts may very well be addressing the saving target of \$5.9 million that we are still mandated to meet. We are still making hiring decisions that align with our priorities and strategic plan, and these decisions are being reviewed and scrutinized and ultimately approved or disapproved by the VRB. With regards to our budget, VP Rios will first present the budget to the P&B and SGA and will then update the campus accordingly.

I can’t remember in recent history when there was good budget news. The budget and the impact on our college and mission is always in the back of my mind, but what is always at the forefront of my mind are our students who took a leap of faith to earn a college degree despite their doubts, finances, or present circumstances. At the forefront of my mind are the faculty who show up and the staff who show out so much so that they make students fall in love with KCC and fall in love with themselves and the thought of themselves in a cap and gown. At the front of my mind especially now are our former students, now alum pursuing their baccalaureate degrees and/or on their way to work and careers they have always dreamt of.

Colleagues, as we begin this new academic year, and in the spirit of assessment—as we continue our efforts to review and improve our governance plan—please remember that governance is a shared, participatory and collaborative process that includes students, faculty, staff, and administration that helps to fulfill the Kingsborough mission.

And that is to provide high quality, affordable, innovative, student-centered programs of study that prepare graduates for transfer and the workforce.

## B. Strategic Plan Report

Dean of Institutional Research, Assessment, and Effectiveness, Colleen Davy, presented on the Strategic Plan. The PowerPoint presentation is included as *Attachment A for the 10/03/2023 Meeting – Strategic Plan Presentation*.

## C. Legislative Committee Report

Points of information on the College Council Constitution were presented by Chairperson Maria Patestas as follows:

- Discussion of submission of the current “Draft” to CUNY Board of Trustees (BOT). Upon review of the draft, the Legislative Committee noticed a discrepancy in language between the resolution as voted on and approved at the meeting as compared to how it was integrated into the document. The Legislative Committee will review all language before submitting it to the BOT. We are as of now in compliance with Middle States for accreditation, but we should still move forward with correcting the draft
- Clarification of the “2/3 vote”- there is continued on-going discussion regarding this
- When it comes time, the Legislative Committee will review the proposed governance before it is presented to the CC for vote. Our decision does not necessarily mean that we approve the plan, but that it does not violate any other policies that exist.

## III. New Business

- President Schrader acknowledged the new Student Government Association (SGA) members, asking each in attendance to stand and introduce themselves to College Council.
- Jeffrey Delgado, Chairperson of the Student’s Committee and Faculty Advisor for SGA, asked the College Council to welcome the SGA members to their Committees and to display kindness, patience, and guidance as the student members become accustomed to their roles on College Council.

The meeting adjourned at 4:06 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amanda Kalin, Secretary

## **COLLEGE COUNCIL CALENDAR 2023-2024**

Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 3:00 PM in room U-219

Spring 2024 dates and locations TBA