

## Faculty Senate Minutes #385

March 5, 2012

1:40 PM

Room 630 Haaren

**Present (37):** Andrea Balis, Erica Burleigh, James Cauthen, Kathleen Collins, Lyell Davies, Virginia Diaz-Mendoza, James DiGiovanna, Mathieu Dufour, Terry Furst, Jay Gates, Lior Gideon, Demis Glasford, Maki Haberfeld, Devin Harner, Richard Haw, Veronica Hendrick, Charles Jennings, Shaobai Kan, Karen Kaplowitz, Kwando Kinshasa, Anru Lee, Richard Li, Yue Ma, Evan Mandery, Roger McDonald, Sara McDougall, Mickey Melendez, Brian Montes, Catherine Mulder, David Munns, Richard Ocejo, Rick Richardson, Raul Rubio, Manouska Saint Gilles, Francis Sheehan, Staci Strobl, Denise Thompson

**Absent (11):** Michael Alperstein, Jana Arsovska, Elton Beckett, Demi Cheng, Janice Dunham, Jennifer Dysart, Beverly Frazier, Laura Greenberg, Tim Horohoe, Vincent Maiorino, Pat Tovar

**Invited Guest:** Professor Lisandro Perez

### Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Announcements & Reports
3. Adoption of Minutes #384 of the February 23, 2012, meeting
4. Approval of candidates for the at-large positions on the Faculty Personnel Committee
5. Proposal for JJ's 12-Credit College Option of the Pathways Gen Ed curriculum
6. Review of the final Pathways 42-credit general education Pathways curriculum
7. Update on Veterans Issues
8. Budget Report

1. Adoption of the agenda. Approved.

2. Announcements & Reports [Attachment A].

3. Adoption of Minutes #384 of the February 23, 2012, meeting. Approved.

4. Approval of a slate of candidates for the at-large positions on the Faculty Personnel Committee [Attachment B]

Seven members of the faculty had self-nominated to be candidates for the 2012-2013 Faculty Personnel Committee, in response to four separate calls for candidates. By secret, written

ballot the Senate voted to nominate six of the faculty members who had agreed to accept nomination if nominated and to serve if elected:

Gail Garfield – Sociology  
Lila Kazemian – Sociology  
Ali Kocak – Science

Nivedita Majumdar – English  
Chitra Raghaven – Psychology  
John Staines – English

**5. Proposal for JJ's 12-Credit College Option of the Pathways Gen Ed curriculum: Invited Guest: Professor Lisandro Perez, Chair, General Education Subcommittee of UCASC [Attachment C]**

Professor Lisandro Perez, Chair of the General Education Subcommittee of the Undergraduate Curriculum and Academic Standards Committee [UCASC] and Chair of the Department of Latin American/Latina/o Studies, was invited by the Senate Executive Committee to present John Jay's proposed Pathways common core structure [Attachment C]. Professor Perez explained that the College must submit its college option proposal to 80<sup>th</sup> Street by April 1, and that the college option must have gone through governance at the College and so it is being presented to UCASC at its March 23 meeting and then, if approved by UCASC, at the March 29 meeting of the College Council. President Kaplowitz pointed out that the Faculty Senate will have another opportunity to consider the proposed college option before it goes to the College Council on March 29 when the Senate next meets on March 22.

Professor Perez explained that the Committee decided to use the Education for Justice framework that was developed previously by a Taskforce chaired by Professor Amy Green and approved by the College Council last May. He described how the College will attempt to comply with CUNY mandates. The college option is also called the flexible option; the learning goals for these areas are still being developed by the subcommittee. Senators asked Professor Perez questions about the common core and Pathways in general. He reviewed the process of review and the timeline, most notably the April 1 deadline for transmission to 80<sup>th</sup> Street of the college option. Professor Perez added that courses must be ready to be taught in Fall 2013, which means they must be developed and approved by the academic departments by October 2012 in order to go through John Jay governance and approval by 80<sup>th</sup> Street by December 2013 so that the computers can be programmed by April 2013 when students register for their fall courses.

Senators expressed vehement opposition to the imposition of Pathways and opposition to the learning goals of the inflexible core courses. Senators discussed a motion against Pathways.

So as to reaffirm the Senate's opposition to Pathways, Senator Jay Paul Gates made the following motion:

Highlighting the Faculty Senate rejection of Pathways from November 15, 2011, the JJC Faculty Senate emphasizes that Pathways is irresponsible. Pathways is a model designed to erode the liberal arts (those skills necessary to be a free and contributing citizen) in

favor of a technical or vocational education. What is being marketed as freedom of choice is no more than a ploy to give students a sense of control while stripping them of an education rooted in both disciplinary knowledge and rigor. We therefore call on the Chancellor to act responsibly and in the best interests of CUNY students.

The Senate discussed the motion and another Senator moved that the proposed language be emailed to all the Senators for their review; any suggested changes should be emailed to Senator Gates and then this motion, perhaps amended, is to be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the Senate. Senator Gates supported this course of action. The motion carried by a vote of 35-0-2.

**6. Review of the final Pathways 42-credit general education Pathways curriculum and Implementation [Attachment D1, D2, D3, D4, D5, D6]**

The PSC is holding a Town Hall Meeting on Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm in the Community Church of NYC at 35 East 35 Street. Asked about what is happening at the other CUNY colleges, President Kaplowitz reported that despite opposition to Pathways at all the colleges, the faculty governance leaders at virtually all the colleges are reporting that their colleagues are participating in the Pathways processes and are moving forward in developing their Pathways college option and bringing them through college governance.

Senators discussed briefing students about the ways in which Pathways will short change their education. President Kaplowitz said that the faculty at three colleges have been successful at this but that most students favor Pathways because it will mean a smaller general education curriculum and guaranteed transfer of their courses, which has not been the case by any means; she noted that John Jay has been very responsible in this area in respecting and crediting the courses students take at other CUNY colleges but that the opposite has been the case at many of the senior colleges. She noted that huge numbers of students testified at the Board hearing in June in support of Pathways, citing terrible transfer experiences.

A Senator asked about one of the agenda attachments, which lists the names of the faculty members from each campus who are serving on the eight CUNY Pathways committees; the Senator asked how the John Jay faculty members were selected and by whom. President Kaplowitz said that Provost Bowers selected them and from her inquiries into this she learned that none of the department chairs was consulted and she noted that she was not consulted. She also noted that reports from faculty governance leaders at the other campuses reveal that almost all the faculty governance leaders were consulted by their provosts and in many cases department chairs were consulted as well.

Senator Staci Strobl moved the following resolution, which is addressed to Provost Jane Bowers: "Resolved, The Faculty Senate has today, March 5, learned that you selected faculty members to serve on the 8 CUNY Pathways committees without consultation with any elected faculty leaders and in a manner completely lacking transparency. This was undemocratic and violates the core principles and processes of shared governance. We call upon you to honor the

principles of both consultation and transparency henceforth.” The motion was adopted by a vote of 36-0-1.

**7. Update on Veterans Issues [Attachment E]**

President Kaplowitz reported that our student veterans have been given an excellent space in North Hall, which the College will probably be using for at least another year, for an interim Veterans Center, while space for a more permanent Veterans Center is identified and prepared for occupancy. The student veterans are very pleased with it: it comprises a lounge/meeting room and several offices. Also, the consultant on prior learning assessment, Dr. Kesiah Scully, is now working on a proposal for credits for veterans for the learning they accomplished while in the service; as reported by Dean Lopes to the Senate, Dr. Scully did this same work for NYU and other institutions of higher education.

**8. Budget Report [Attachment F1, F2, F3]. Noted.**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.

Submitted by  
Virginia Diaz-Mendoza  
Recording Secretary