

LEHMAN COLLEGE

Minutes of General Faculty Meeting February 18th, 2015

Meeting presenters:

- 1) President Fernandez
- 2) Provost Morrobel-Sosa
- 3) Associate Provost Sarmiento
- 4) Senate Representative Professor Tananbaum
- 5) UFS/ PSC Representative Professor Philipp

CALL TO ORDER: Prof. Prohaska called the meeting to order at 3:40 pm.

- 1) Prof. Prohaska opening remarks: (for further information refer to Powerpoint: “agenda 2-18-15”)
 - a. Summarized the names of those elected to the Executive Committee of the General Faculty and congratulated them.
- 2) President Fernandez’s Report:
 - a. Congratulated Prof. Prohaska on his election to the Executive Committee of the General Faculty.
 - b. Noted the state of the college is “sound.” “Enrollment levels are okay.”
 - c. Mentioned that Ronald Bergman will announce a new development in Information Technology later in the meeting.
 - d. Announced that a Peace Bell will be installed in the Spring. The location has yet to be determined. President Fernandez stated that the Peace Bell: “...fits well with the Peace Studies program and the overall history of Lehman College.”
 - e. Summarized his recent trips to Albany. During his first trip, one and a half weeks ago, he met with the presidents of two CUNY institutions. The Bronx Delegation put forth their support for the priority of the Budget Cycle and agreed to sign supporting requests. The budget calls for 20 million dollars for science facilities. During his second trip, he attended the Annual Lunch Celebration caucus. He recalled it as a “good day for CUNY achievements” in its “growing consciousness of the role of university in preparing the workforce.”
 - f. Called for questions. *There were no questions.*
- 3) Information Technology Update from Ronald Bergman:
 - a. As part of the tech fee proposal, Lehman has expanded One Access from a service solely offered to students to a service now offered to faculty as well. Faculty will be able to use this application to streamline all password-encrypted programs (CUNYfirst, Blackboard, etc.) The “single sign on” application was originally developed to minimize the number of passwords Lehman students had to manage.
 - b. Gave a demo for meeting attendees and noted that an email regarding One Access would be sent out later that day.
 - c. Called for questions. *Two questions were posed.*

- i. **Question:** How will the One Access application deal with secondary programs with passwords that expire? **Answer:** Ron Bergman said “you need to update your password for the secondary program and then retype the password within One Access.”
 - ii. **Question:** How easy is it to change your password? **Answer:** Ronald Bergman explained that the process is “relatively simple, and if there are any questions feel free to contact the IT Helpdesk.”
- 4) Provost Morrobel-Sosa Report: (for further information refer to PDF: “GenFacMtng_18Feb15”)
 - a. Introduced meeting attendees to the new Vice President of Enrollment and Associate Provost - Ms. Reine Sarmiento.
 - b. Described Business FastFour, a pilot project developed to assist transfer students in completing a degree in four years. The Provost stated that “there will be additional updates later on in the semester.”
 - c. Provided an update on prioritization. The Provost on prioritization, “Currently we are in the Review/Rate phase of prioritization. The plan will be presented to the steering committee March 1, 2015.”
 - d. Invited participants to RSVP (by February 23rd, 2015) to the Diversity Development in Teaching Project planned by the Diversity Advisory Council.
 - e. Explained that Ms. Deborah Jackson has been working in the Provost’s office assisting in tenure, faculty travel, digital measures, and portfolios.
 - f. Invited everyone to visit the Art Gallery and view the “Quilt Project.” The Provost on the Quilt Project: “The Quilt Project traces the history of Gee’s Bend and is an important piece of work.”
 - g. Invited Prof. Prohaska to talk more about the work being done with ILD/ACE_DC Project.
- 5) Report on ILD/ACE_DC Project by Prof. Prohaska: (for further information refer to Powerpoint: “AAC&U Taskforce Update”)
 - a. Noted that the taskforce attended a workshop in July and a meeting in January. He then reviewed the goals of the AAC&U. The goals are: to stress the importance of a liberal education, and integrate general education classes with major classes. He noted the importance of students acquiring transferable skills. An additional goal of the AAC&U is to have every student develop a signature work of his/her own.
 - b. Noted the members of the taskforce.
 - c. Explained the goals set by the Provost were to develop “what a Lehman graduate should look like” and determine “how can we use these characteristics in implementing projects at Lehman.”
 - d. Reviewed some of the common characteristics of the Lehman College graduate and noted that most of the language was pulled from the 2002 Competencies.
 - e. Mentioned that most of the “integrative student learning” mentioned on slide 6 of his powerpoint are already being done at Lehman. Specifically, “active learning,” “overlay,” classes, “interdisciplinary minor,” and “collaborative learning.” Currently the taskforce is working on establishing new guidelines for WI classes.
 - f. Prof. Prohaska noted the status of programming support as of February 2015 and noted typos on slide 8. It should read 2015-2016 for dates implemented.
 - g. Called for questions. *There were no questions.*

- 6) Associate Provost Sarmiento Report:
 - a. Described her excitement to be a part of Lehman College and mentioned that she is looking forward to what is to come.
 - b. Provided an enrollment update: The enrollment target was conservative. With 11,959 students the Associate Provost predicted a 1% increase. The actual outcome was a 1.2% increase. The increase came from new students, new graduate programs, new transfer students, and a few College Now students.
 - c. Noted that retention has gotten better. It was projected retention would increase by 1.2% but, in fact, it increased over 5%. Graduate retention has increased as well. FTE has also increased by 5%.
 - d. Summarized the results, “we’re retaining more students and they’re going full time.”
 - e. Thanked the teams that ensured this increase would happen: Bursar, VP Magdaleno, Enrollment Management team, and the faculty for complying with the administrative responsibility of submitting grade rosters. For Fall of 2014, there was a 98.3% compliance.
 - f. Called for questions. *There were no questions.*
- 7) Senate Report by Prof. Tananbaum
 - a. Explained that the senate will be conducting two sets of elections. The first election will be for the faculty at large. The call for nominations will be sent out in a few weeks. The second election will be for faculty members in Senate committees.
 - b. Asked that everyone look out for these two pieces of information in their inboxes.
 - c. Called for questions. *There were no questions.*
- 8) UFS Report Manfred Phillip (for further information refer to Powerpoint: “GenFacReport-2-18-15”)
 - a. Described a recent change to email policy. Retired faculty members will now keep their email addresses and have continued access to library databases.
 - b. Brought up an unpassed resolution that requires an experiential or applied learning activity as a degree requirement. Prof. Phillip brought up two concerns regarding this resolution. First, it is unclear whether this will apply to both graduate and undergraduate students. Second, this was part of the Governor’s campaign proposal. Additionally, in the Governor’s campaign proposal companies would be given tax credit for offering undergraduate students minimum wage. This proposal has already been passed, while the budget resolution has not. Prof. Phillip explained that a letter has already been written to the Director of State of Operations, Dr. Malatras to push to pass the Budget resolution.
 - c. Summarized other concerns about the budget resolution presented by Chancellor Milliken on February 10th, 2015. The budget does not include any growth in spending in CUNY costs, does not account for step increases, libraries, or repair of campuses.
 - d. Mentioned the Academy of Humanities and Sciences Stewart Travel Awards for which there have been two applicants from Lehman College. He also mentioned the Feliks Gross Endowment Award for Assistant Professors for which there have been no nominations from Lehman College.

- 9) PSC CUNY Report by Manfred Phillip (for further information refer to Powerpoint: "PSCReportstoGenFac-2-18-15")
 - a. Asked that everyone sign the petition on their table for salary increases. 10,000 people have already signed the contract petition.
 - b. Summarized an interview that Chancellor Milliken gave in which he mentioned support for retroactive pay.
 - c. Summarized Borough President Bowen's testimony on February 10th, 2015, in which she noted a \$63 million shortfall for mandatory costs and a jarring statistic, "the State spends 1/3 less per FTE student than it did 25 years ago."
 - d. Summarized Chancellor Milliken's testimony on February 10th, 2015 in which he noted an increase in students now compared to 1974 and yet a decrease in full-time faculty. The Chancellor offered continued support for the CUNY compact and the stability it provides for students and families.
 - e. Announced that on March 4th, 2015, there will be a PSC meeting with chairs regarding workload and peer observations of online classes. On March 23rd, 2015 there will be an open college meeting in the APEX during which the PSC will present a contract update.
 - f. The PSC will be holding elections. Ballots will be mailed on April 1st, 2015.
 - g. Called for questions. *There were no questions.*
- 10) Prof. Prohaska final announcements:
 - a. Called for questions. *There were no questions.*
 - b. Advised that the next meeting will be on April 22nd, 2015.
 - c. Motioned to adjourn meeting.
 - d. Meeting adjourned at 4:26 pm.