

LEHMAN COLLEGE
City University of New York
Minutes of Meeting
Senate Governance Committee
25 March 2009
Shuster 179, 3:30 pm

Present: Rosalind Carey, Jason Jeremias, Jim Jervis, Ayesha Lewis, Marie Marianetti, Manfred Philipp, Justin Simmons, Duane Tananbaum (chair), Angel Vitiello, and Vincent Zuchetto.

1. The chair reported on his recent meeting with Vincent Zuchetto and College Counsel Esdras Tulier on the issue of changing the governance document to better control the size of the senate. Another meeting is planned to finalize the changes to the governance document, which must first be forwarded to the vice chancellor for legal affairs. It was decided to refer to HEOs from now on as 'non-teaching instructional staff.' No agreement was reached, however, on the proposed change to the governance document to allow the governance committee to propose changes to that document. The president had suggested various mechanisms, such as investing veto power in the administrative representative, but these were unattractive to the chair and to the committee hearing his report. The committee therefore decided to shelve the matter for the time being.
2. The committee agreed to nominate students for senate committees at the next senate meeting.
3. It was noted that VP Magdaleno has agreed to meet with student conference and CASA members to appraise the student governance documents.
4. The chair reported receiving few responses to his letter to chairs inquiring into the ways departments involve student members in P&B committee proceedings. Another letter of inquiry is planned, failing which the provost will be asked to raise the matter at the chair's retreat.
5. The committee decided to extend by one week the deadline to submit nominations to senate committees and to email faculty the form, since faculty had received the previous mailing late.
6. Concern was expressed that some senate subcommittees are insufficiently proactive and therefore silent on matters directly related to them - such as the current fiscal crisis and the recent failure of Blackboard and related technology. Concern was also voiced about VC Small's draft of proposed changes to the PSC CUNY research award program.