

General Faculty Meeting
Lehman College
September 26, 2018
East Dining Room

The meeting started at 3:30 pm (EST)

Announcements

Professor Anne Rice introduced new administrators, full-time faculty and part-time faculty, followed by an introduction of faculty who were starting the year with CCE, tenure and/or promotion.

President's Report--Jose Luis Cruz

- Welcomed Lehman's new talented and inspiring faculty members.
- Presented some of the student success outcomes highlighted in his convocation speech:
 - Opportunity: The Fall 2017 full-time freshman class was Lehman's largest in nearly a decade, while total student enrollment was our largest since 1976, when CUNY's free tuition policy was discontinued.
 - Retention: The proportion of first-time full-time freshmen who returned as full-time students the following fall was nearly 10 points higher than the CUNY senior college average.
 - Graduation Rates, Freshmen: The six-year graduation rate for the first-time full-time freshman cohort that entered in 2011 increased 8.6 percentage points compared to our Fall 2007 cohort —the largest growth rate of any CUNY senior college during this four-year period.
 - Graduation Rates, Transfers: The four-year graduation rate of students who transferred to Lehman from a CUNY associate degree program in Fall 2012 was 7.5 percent higher than the CUNY average.
 - STEM Majors: In the four years between Fall 2013 and Fall 2017, the number of undergraduate STEM majors nearly doubled — this 96 percent growth rate is the highest among all CUNY senior colleges.
 - Value: Forbes recently set out to identify "the schools where grads owe the least relative to their likely mid-career income" — Lehman was one of only four public colleges to rank in the top 25 "low-debt/high-income schools."
 - Social Mobility: At a time of growing inequality in America and waning support for public higher education, Lehman is one of our nation's top engines of social mobility. The Chronicle of Higher Education recently ranked our College as third in the country among public 4-year colleges for helping students "whose parents were in the bottom 20 percent of income levels reach the top 20 percent for individual earnings."
 - 90x30: Just one year after launching 90x30, the number of degrees and professional certificates earned by our students increased by 12 percent—far exceeding the annual growth rate required to meet 90x30. This increase is also the largest in nearly a decade, and more than double the number of degrees and professional certificates conferred 20 years ago.

- Provided an overview of several capital improvement projects currently underway, including:
 - Lehman Center for the Performing Arts Addition & Interior Renovation for ADA Compliance
 - Bookstore Relocation Project
 - APEX Flat Roof Replacement, Stainless Steel Roof Rehab and Plaza Open Truss Enclosure
 - Teaching Lab Renovation Phase II
 - Library Mechanical Upgrade and First Floor and Computer Lab Renovation Phase I

EIC of Academic Affairs and Interim Vice Provost Report - Vincent Prohaska welcomed new faculty, provided brief overview of National Center for Faculty, Development and Diversity program and reminded faculty about the importance of verifying attendance rosters.

Prof. Robert Farrell, Chair PSC Lehman Chapter, gave a detailed history of austerity measures and budget cuts imposed on CUNY since the 1970s to provide context for the Union's current contract fight.

Prof. Rosa Rivera McCutcheon introduced faculty to Lehman's membership in the National Center for Faculty, Development and Diversity. NCFDD is an independent professional development, training, and mentoring community of faculty, postdocs, & graduate students from over 450 colleges and universities, dedicated to helping academics thrive in the Academy. It provides writing support and an online community, as well as web-based trainings. Its 14-day writing challenge is particularly helpful for those seeking help in structuring their writing time.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45.

Next Meeting: Nov. 28, 2019, East Dining Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Farrell