

College Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Information

Date: Monday, October 28, 2024

Time: 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM

Location: Founder's Auditorium (Bedford Building)

Meeting by Agenda Item**I. Call to Order**

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order officially at 11:45 AM by President Ramsey.

II. Approval of Agenda & September meeting minutes

A motion to approve the agenda was seconded and unanimously approved.

A motion to approve the September meeting minutes was seconded and unanimously approved.

III. The President's Report

The President gave an overview of the JP Morgan Chase – MEC partnership which will focus on financial literacy education for students and their families. As a community partner, Chase desires to mitigate the financial wealth gap within the community. Chase has produced a couple of profile videos that highlight MEC to inform the community of the partnership. Visibility matters in most college ranking reporting.

At last month's White House HBCU Initiative, President Ramsey met the IBM AI training representative and secured access to their programs, hence freshmen beginning next fall will be able to complete the IBM AI certificate training (which requires students to finish their college degrees). An opportunity for faculty participation is forthcoming.

IV. Personnel and Budget: constitution of department committees – Shirley Irick, parliamentarian

In 2021, the composition of the departmental P&B committees was in question. After conferring with CUNY legal for clarification of Article 8 Section 7 of the Governance Plan President Ramsey determined that the Governance Plan was clear. Subsequently, a grievance (step 1) was filed concerning the rank of faculty members allowed to serve on P&B. No consensus between OAA and the PSC was reachable, so the grievance moved forward (step 2). In June 2024, CUNY determined that no violation of CUNY or MEC policies was in violation and the PSC has accepted the outcome. A complete explanation will be sent to all faculty.

V. Standing Committee Reports:**a. Committee on Governance –**

Dr. Catapane shared that the committee's main goal is to revise and edit the MEC Governance Plan. The President commented that CUNY will allow the submission of a complete revision to reduce the volume of amendments from all campuses.

Regarding the ratified amendments from last year, these have been incorporated and the updated version of the Governance Plan is located on the OAA website.

b. Committee on College-wide Curriculum –

Dr. Fischer reported that a new literature course is forthcoming.

New programs/courses – Nursing RN-BS online completion program – (presented by S. Daniels) The Nursing program is moving to an online-only platform to (1) retain current students and (2) attract new students. In the completion program, students are finishing the coursework portion of their degree programs, as these students are already working. All courses are asynchronous which allows for developing partnership programs the state requires a bachelor's degree in nursing are any resources needed to ensure the quality of the program is maintained – all faculty are certified in online teaching.

A motion to approve the change of modality to online for the RN-BS program was seconded and unanimously carried.

c. Committee on Administrative Advisory

SVP Clark gave an overview of the Financial Plan. The budget (\$57,542K) is impacted heavily by full-time equivalent students (FTE =2655), not the number of students enrolled. So, students must enroll in at least 15 credit hours. The college ended the 2024 fiscal year with a surplus of \$724K, however, at present there is a structural deficit of \$500K due to a shortfall of enrollment of 3%+ in fall 2024. We are looking at a potential deficit of \$763K which is impacted by enrollment and collections (currently at 71%)

i. Comments

- (T. Blackman) class cancellation impacts FTE because students are not in the classroom at the times they require, particularly for majors.
- Course scheduling must be optimized.
- E-permits are credited to the College.

d. Committee on Student Life –

SVP Kane reported that the Office of Student Life is focusing

- on the student experience in and out of the classroom
- Educating students about the 2024 election and voter registration
- Aim to develop a course on financial literacy.
- Reestablishing the MEC NAACP chapter, officer elections will be held on Nov. 4.
- Need volunteers to lead a discussion on the campus read of '*Medgar and Merlie*' by J. Reed (2024 commencement speaker).

VI. Announcements

- The new leader of DASNY will be visiting campus today.
- Dr. Castro thanked Cory Brown and Lystra Huggins for bringing students to the Going for the Gold event. Represented at the Harlem Chamber thanks to all for working to make the College visible.
- Food services to resume once the kitchen equipment is replaced.

A motion to adjourn was seconded and unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 PM.