

March 26, 2024 at 3:00 PM

Room: U-219

Meeting of College Council Volume 51 Number 5

The College Council met on Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 3:00 PM in Room U-219.

There were in attendance:

Acosta, John	Kalin, Amanda	Repetti, Rick	Sokolova, Valerie
Alley-Young, Gordon	Kane, Daniel	Ricciardi, Paul	Spear, Michael
Armstrong, Rick	Kapetanakis, George	Rios, Ed	
Cally, Scott	Lax, Jeffrey	Rodriguez, Michael	<u>Students</u>
Cohen, Judith	Levy, Dawn	Rohr, Gila	Bennett, Riquelme
DeGrazia, Thomas	Matthew, Martin	Rothacker, Thomas	Brunson, Adaiah
DelPrincipe, Ann	McKinney, Ryan	Rozenboym, Anna	Nemet, Netanel
Duitch, Suri	Mikalopas, John	Russell, Joanne	Pinnock, Jaiden
Eaton, Thomas	Nasser, Helen	Sawyer, Jeremy	Shumyatskaya, Valeriya
Franquiz, Juan	Olvina, Cynthia	Schnee, Emily	
Friedman, Shoshana	Parker, Stuart	Segal, Jacob	
Gartner, Matthew	Patestas, Maria	Shannon, Mary	

Interim President Duitch called the meeting to order at 3:11 PM

I. The Minutes of the meeting held on February 27, 2024 were approved by acclamation.

II. Reports

A. President's Report

I am two months into my position as interim president; here are some recent updates on what I've been doing. As many of you know, we held the spring 2024 convocation on Thursday, March 7th – I was able to give a talk to introduce myself, as well as to speak about some of the history and evolution of CUNY and of Kingsborough within that context. My understanding is that we had good attendance for the event and I have received some positive feedback on what I said.

We also held a budget town hall on Zoom this past Thursday to talk about the current fiscal situation of the college. That event also had good attendance. Vice President Ed Rios did a great job of explaining how we got into our current fiscal situation, what we are doing to address it, and some of the unknown factors financially that may have an impact on our options going forward. In particular, it was made clear that, because personnel is 89% of the college budget, our primary option for cutting back on spending is to reduce personnel. We are doing this through natural attrition and being very careful about which staff and faculty positions we fill. And VP Rios and I noted that, in the

supporting evidence we sent to the CUNY central office around city budget advocacy, we had 51 unfilled full-time faculty and staff positions as of a few weeks ago. We are thinking about how to be just as careful with spending planning for and going into next fiscal year.

Along those lines, budget advocacy continues for next fiscal year. I spoke, along with other CUNY Brooklyn presidents and senior officials from the central office, at a CUNY legislative breakfast two Fridays ago. KCC has several funding requests submitted to state and city legislators. Thanks to Nadine Browne, Chief of Staff, for stepping in to cover those requests with the departure to York College of Stephannia Cleaton, who had been providing our government relations support to KCC.

Finally, I want to let you know about how KCC is utilizing resources received through a NYS “Transformational funds” initiative. Last week, we received approval from the university of our proposal for spending \$1.165M in funds allocated to KCC for this and next fiscal year. Funds will be directed to permitted uses such as:

- Replacements of aging desktop computers
- Facilities upgrades – specifically painting and carpentry
- Other initiatives with part-time staffing, such as
 - Continuation of efforts to increase the proportion of LatinX students recruited to and enrolling at the college
 - Case management for at-risk students
 - Support for faculty development around equity in teaching practices

B. Presentation of Proposed Changes to the CUNY Bylaws

Dean of Faculty, Dr. Gordon Alley-Young, presented the proposed changes to the CUNY Bylaws garnering faculty discussion and feedback. The presented proposed changes to the CUNY Bylaws are included (see p. 7).

C. Ad-hoc Governance Committee, presented by Daniel Kane, serving as the Committee Co-Chair

The proposal for an Elected Chair and Vice Chair of College Council was discussed. Under Article IV - Section IV (b), it was suggested that the Vice Chairperson be included as a member of the Steering Committee. Prior to vote, the language for the proposal was amended as indicated by the red text.

Proposal for an Elected Chair and Vice Chair of College Council

For Constitution:

Proposed changes to the Kingsborough Governance Plan

	From	To
Article I Section II	the presentation of such petition to the President	the presentation of such petition to the College Council chairperson

Article III Section 1	The College Council shall be composed of the President of the College, who shall be Chairperson,	The College Council shall be composed of the President of the College,
Article IV - Section I	<p>a) The President of the College shall preside as chairperson of the Council. In his/her absence, a designee shall preside over meetings.</p> <p>b) The President or a designated Dean shall be a member ex-officio of all College Council standing committees.</p>	The chairperson and vice chairperson shall be chosen by the College Council by a vote of the Council. To be eligible, a person must be a member of the College Council at the time of the vote. Student members are not eligible. The vice chairperson will serve as the chairperson if the chairperson is absent or unable to perform duties from the College Council.
Article IV - Section IV (b)	<p>The Steering Committee shall be composed of the President or a designated Dean, the Secretary of the College Council, and the chairpersons of the standing committees.</p> <p>The President of the College shall serve as the chairperson of the Steering Committee.</p>	The Steering Committee shall be composed of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the College Council, the Secretary of the College Council, and the Chairpersons of the Standing Committees

For Procedural Guide*:

- A) The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will serve for one year and can be re-elected after the completion of their terms.
- B) The Chairperson sets the Steering Committee meetings and College Council meetings. The Chairperson will chair the Steering Committee. The Chairperson of College Council helps to set the agenda and calls the meetings to order. The Chairperson also will call the meetings to an end.
- C) During College Council meetings the Chairperson is a neutral party throughout discussions. If the Chairperson wants to share their opinion, the Vice Chairperson will take the role of Chairperson until the discussion on the topic is complete and then the Chairperson will assume their original role.
- D) The Chairperson of College Council will present the recommendations of the College Council meeting to the President of the College.

- E) The Chairperson of College Council may be called upon to participate in campus wide matters as a representative of College Council. The Chairperson of College Council will provide Shared Governance leadership in campus wide communities.
- F) If the Chairperson elected is a faculty member, the Chairperson will also assume the role of faculty governance leader. If the Chairperson is not a faculty member, the faculty members will elect a new faculty governance leader to serve in the role for one year.
- G) The Vice Chairperson will assume the responsibilities of the Chairperson if the Chairperson is unable to attend College Council or Steering Committee.

* This language will not be included in the Constitution (Governance Plan). It will be included in the First Draft of the Procedural Handbook as discussed at the 2/27/24 College Council Meeting.

Per the Legislative Committee:

When a 2/3 vote is required or requested, a motion needs 2/3 of the votes cast from members present, excluding blanks (if secret ballot) and abstentions, for it to pass. Quorum for the meeting must be met for a vote to occur regardless. When unclear, we defer to Robert's Rules of Order.

The proposal for an Elected Chair and Vice Chair of College Council passed by a vote of 37 (yes), 4 (no), 1 (abstention), and 1 (blank).

Daniel presented the following Proposals for New Standing Committees for initial discussion and feedback from the College Council as well as initial discussion about College Council Membership.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Standing Committee

For Constitution:

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Standing Committee: shall be concerned with advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion across our college community, cultivating an environment of respect, understanding, and belonging for faculty, staff, and students at all levels of academic and campus life.

For Procedural Handbook*:

- A) Review, evaluate, and propose recommendations to promote an institutional commitment to an effective, unifying, and consistent campus-wide DEI vision and plan.
- B) Sponsor proposals that can enhance Kingsborough's success at addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion at all levels.
- C) Develop recommendations for other College Council Standing Committees to help include and implement diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives within policies and practices. Additionally, develop a plan to increase participation from faculty and staff in DEI efforts.

D) Identify or create tools for individuals and programs to assess DEI-related gaps and needs.

E) Work closely with the Office of Equal Opportunity and other DEI-related offices to make recommendations and foster a coordinated and collaborative connection between DEI work and college governance.

*This language will not be included in the Constitution (Governance Plan). It will be included in the First Draft of the Procedural Handbook as discussed at the 2/27/24 College Council Meeting.

Facilities Standing Committee

For Constitution:

Facilities Standing Committee: shall be concerned with the functionality, comfort, and safety of the physical college campus environment to enhance its efficiency for the benefit of the college community.

For Procedural Handbook*:

A) Assess, consult, and recommend policy regarding the allocation of space and facilities.

B) Assess, forecast, and make recommendations for future college needs regarding environmental sustainability, facility improvement, and expansion.

C) Work closely with the Campus Facilities offices to collaborate and make recommendations.

*This language will not be included in the Constitution (Governance Plan). It will be included in the First Draft of the Procedural Handbook as discussed at the 2/27/24 College Council Meeting.

Shared Governance Standing Committee

For Constitution:

Shared Governance Standing Committee: shall conduct ongoing assessment of the college's system of shared governance, hold trainings for new College Council members as well as all members of the college community, develop and maintain a Procedural Handbook for the Council, and shall communicate with the college with regard to the Council's work and principles and values of shared governance.

For Procedural Handbook*:

A) Review and suggest improvements to the College Council Constitution and Shared Governance Plan. Develop and maintain a College Council Procedural Handbook. The handbook will contain all the details of the operations and procedures of the College Council.

B) Ongoing communication with the college community on shared governance principles and how shared governance works at KCC. Assist the College Council Secretary with regularly updating the website and college community on governance happenings.

C) Create and oversee the onboarding process for new college council members and continuing education of college council members on shared governance best practices. Additionally, provide material to college council members on Roberts Rules and parliamentary procedures.

D) Request and maintain year-end reports of the College Council and standing committees on the council. Conduct and disseminate yearly assessments on achievements and effectiveness of college-shared governance.

E) Track levels of shared governance participation at KCC and make recommendations for increasing participation. Additionally, liaise with faculty governance leader on effective, shared governance.

*This language will not be included in the Constitution (Governance Plan). It will be included in the First Draft of the Procedural Handbook as discussed at the 2/27/24 College Council Meeting.

Daniel noted he will bring the recommendations, questions, and concerns shared at this meeting back to the Ad-hoc Governance Plan Committee for continued discussion.

III. New Business

Interim President Duitch introduced the topic of the Presidential Search, noting she wanted to be transparent that the President's Office will have no role in the Presidential Search process. Interim President Duitch, handed the meeting over to Secretary Kalin, and left the meeting so updates about the Presidential Search process could be shared with those in attendance.

In alignment with the [CUNY Presidential Search Guidelines](#), it was announced that nominations and election of three (3) tenured Faculty members for the Presidential Search Committee will take place at the April 16, 2024 College Council Meeting. The College Community was encouraged to participate in the Chancellor's Virtual Forum on Kingsborough Community College Presidential Search, scheduled for March 27, 2024 from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM via Zoom.

In the absence of any additional New Business, the meeting was adjourned by Secretary Kalin at 4:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Amanda Kalin, Secretary

COLLEGE COUNCIL CALENDAR 2023-2024

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 @ 3:00 PM in U-219

Tuesday, May 28, 2024 @ 3:00 PM in U-219