

The City University of New York  
Bronx Community College  
Committee on Governance and Elections

**Minutes of the Meeting on September 15, 2020**

**Present: Susan Fiore, Charles Maliti, Franklin Moore, Gabriel Morillo, Jesus Sanabria, Jonathan Scott, Goldie Sherr, Pricilla Tokor, James Webb**  
**Guests: Debra Gonsler, Jose Lai.**

- I. **Call to Order:** 12:10 PM by F. Moore
- II. **Approval of Agenda**
  - a. New item was added by James Webb regarding proposed Governance Plan amendment to protect integrity of department chair elections.
  - b. The agenda, with the new item added, was approved unanimously.
- III. **Introductions**
  - a. All members introduced themselves.
  - b. One student member seat is still vacant.
- IV. **Action Item**
  - a. Election of secretary
    - i. Goldie Sherr was elected unanimously as secretary by voice vote. There were no oppositions or abstentions.
- V. **Review of Items from Prior year**
  - a. There were a number of items remaining from last semester that were postponed to this semester.
  - b. The plan for today's meeting: To schedule each of the items and decide when they should be presented this semester.
  - c. Franklin Moore proposes that the Committee on Governance and Elections should meet more than once a month for the Fall 2020 semester. This is to ensure that any referendum items that needs to be presented to the Senate will be done by February 2020.
  - d. The following items need to be addressed this semester:
    - i. Amendment to Rules of Procedure
    - ii. Resolution to define "Shared Governance"
    - iii. Powers of the Senate Executive Committee
      1. Ambiguous language: "appoint vs "elect"
    - iv. Non-voting members in the Governance Plan
    - v. Request to look at and increase adjunct representation
    - vi. Request from Roni Ben-Nun to take a comprehensive review of the Governance Plan for clarity, consistency and format
    - vii. Possible Senate referral regarding Senate Committee Membership reform

1. Franklin Moore will send an email to all the chairs of the Senate committees for their input.
  2. Debra Gonsler will start the discussion on this item.
  - viii. New item by James Webb for proposed Governance Plan amendment to protect the integrity of department chair elections.
    1. Proposal that department chair elections should be run by a legal or labor executive instead of self-run.
  - ix. Issues with VoteNet and whether we want to move forward with using them.
  - e. Franklin Moore suggests having Governance and Elections meetings every other week this semester and that we should agree in advance on which items need to be presented on specific days.
  - f. Currently, the scheduled Governance and Elections meetings for the semester are:
    - i. October 6, 2020
    - ii. November 3, 2020
    - iii. December 1, 2020
  - g. The committee unanimously decides to add October 13, 2020 to the list of meetings.
  - h. A formal motion was made that on October 6, 2020, Franklin Moore will present on the Amendment to Rules of Procedure and James Webb will present on the resolution to define “Shared Governance”. Additionally, if time allows, Jonathan Scott will discuss the ambiguous language of “appoint” vs “elect”. The motion was seconded and there was a voice call vote. The motion passed with one abstention: 8-0-1.
  - i. For the October 13, 2020 agenda, Jonathan Scott will be scheduled to give his presentation if he was unable to present on October 6, 2020. Debra Gonsler will be scheduled to present on non-voting members in the Governance Plan.
  - j. Franklin Moore will send an email to Howard Clampman regarding adjunct representation in the senate since he initially made the suggestion.
  - k. Debra Gonsler will also be scheduled to discuss membership on senate committees.
  - l. Franklin Moore will send out an email to put the October 13, 2020 meeting on the calendar.
  - m. A formal motion to approve the October 13, 2020 agenda was made. The motion passed with one abstention: 8-0-1.
- VI. James Webb discussed the proposed amendment of changing BCC’s Governance Plan to codify that all department chair elections be conducted by representatives of the college’s Labor and Legal office.
- a. James Webb stated that President Isekenegbe recommended outside assistance for department chair elections that were requested by department members.
  - b. James Webb makes a motion to consider amending the governance plan to reflect the new language and to move forward with discussion on department chair elections. The motion was seconded.
    - i. Jonathan Scott questions the usage of the word “conduct” with regard to the Legal and Labor office “conducting” the meeting. Perhaps instead it

should be changed to “monitor”. Debra Gonsler agrees with Jonathan Scott about the wording.

- ii. Susan Fiore questions the need of this amendment, stating that the President originally recommended outside assistance in response to confidentiality issues with electronic voting. Now that everyone is more knowledgeable about the online voting platform it is not an issue anymore.
- iii. James Webb mentions that multiple constituents have come over to him stating that they want this change. Franklin Moore states that he has also been approached regarding these concerns.
- iv. This item will come back at the next meeting as a potentially actionable item with discussion.

VII. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Goldie Sherr