

**Bronx Community College Faculty Council Meeting  
Minutes of February 15, 2024**

**Present Members:**

**At-Large Senators (18):** John Athanasourelis, Kevin Bozelka, Larry Brenner, Howard Clampman, Hisseine Faradj, Tanweer Haroon, Farnaz Kaighobadi, Peter Kolozi, Carmen Meyers, Maria Psarelli, Jonathan Scott, Gerard Weber, John Ziegler [13]

**At-Large Alternate Senators (5):** Teresa Fisher [1]

**Department Senators (15):** Andrea Ortuno, Shazia Khan, James Cecil Simpson, Sara Brady, Raquel Otheguy [seated for Seth Offenbach], Barbara Caballero Flores, Ulana Lysniak, Michael Miller, Shanell Rawls, Jawied Nawabi, Silvia Carlosi [seated for Salvador Salazar] [11]

**Department Alternate Senators (15):** Theresa Smalec, Stephen Powers, Tiquana Gatlin, Zhe Wang [4]

**CLT Senators (2):** Bubacarr Bah, Martha Sanchez [2]

**CLT Alternate Senator (1):** Lourdes Rosario [1]

**HEO Senators (3):** Katherine Acevedo-Coppa, Chris Efthimiou [2]

**Registrar Senator (1):** Karen Thomas [1]

**Faculty Council Voting Membership:** 41 (21= quorum)

**Voting Members Present:** 29

**I. Call to Order**

A regular meeting of the Bronx Community College Faculty Council (FC) was held on Thursday, February 15, 2024 in Meister Hall Room 228. Prof. Kevin Bozelka, FC Chair, chaired the meeting. Chair Bozelka called the meeting to order at 12:16 pm.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Chair Kevin Bozelka asked for a motion to approve the November 9, 2023 FC minutes. Prof. Carmen Meyers motioned to approve the minutes. Prof. Michael Miller seconded the motion. A vote took place.

Approval of FC Minutes from Nov 9, 2023 (as read)

(Yes: 27) (No:0) (Abstain: 2: Ulana Lysniak and Raquel Otheguy)

**III. Approval of Agenda**

Chair Bozelka asked for a motion to approve the February 15 FC agenda. Prof. Larry Brenner motioned to approve the agenda. Prof. John Athanasourelis seconded the motion. A vote took place.

Approval of Agenda

Approved unanimously.

(Yes: 29) (No:0) (Abstain: 0)

#### **IV. Faculty Council Committee Reports and Announcements**

Chair Kevin Bozelka asked Chairs of the FC Committees if they had any announcements. The following announcements were made.

##### **PSC-BCC**

Prof. Peter Kolozi, PSC-CUNY BCC Chapter Chairperson, announced the “Memorandum on Strategies for the Optimal Use of Academic Resources” sent by Wendy Henzel, the CUNY Executive Vice Chancellor. Prof. Kolozi noted that the memo is demanding some tough measures going ahead. These measures include conducting a faculty workload audit, increasing section caps, and being much more aggressive about cancelling classes before the semester begins. Prof. Kolozi added that faculty governance issues might also be at stake. Faculty Council at other CUNY colleges have discussed this memorandum.

The FC discussed the implications of the Vice Chancellor’s “Memorandum on Strategies for the Optimal Use of Academic Resources.” A member asked if the Vice Chancellor had sent the memo to BCC Chairs. Another member responded that discussion of the memo is all over Twitter, and the document is publicly available. This member noted that the memo seems to focus on senior colleges, and asked how it will affect community colleges. Prof. Kolozi responded that bargaining for a new contract has restarted; one issue is to compensate faculty for teaching “jumbo” sections. Prof. Teresa Fisher said that if the memo comes to the University Faculty Senate (UFS), she can send a Zoom link to the next UFS meeting on February 20, 2024 at 6:30 pm.

##### **Meeting on Faculty Governance Leadership**

Prof. Hisseine Faradj said he attended an informal meeting on Friday February 9, 2024 about Faculty Governance Leadership. Prof. Faradj stated that if, in the by-laws of CUNY, we have something called “shared governance,” then we need to know what that means. We have to discuss among ourselves what this means. Faradj added that the group on Faculty Governance Leadership would meet again officially on Friday, February 16, 2024.

#### **V. Second Presentations and Action Items: None**

#### **VI. New Business:**

Prof. Michael Miller stated that BCC’s Communications and Marketing division sent out a broadcast today (Feb. 15, 2024) to involve students. He noticed that some of the information in the broadcast is old, outdated, or missing. Prof. Miller encouraged FC members to review the broadcast, talk with Chairs, and draft a response.

Chair Kevin Bozelka asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting

Prof. Larry Brenner made the motion. Prof. John Athanasourelis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Kevin Bozelka adjourned the meeting at 12:33pm.

The next meeting is Thursday, March 21, 2024.

Respectfully submitted by Theresa Smalec, Secretary

Theresa Smalec

