

Baruch College

General Faculty Meeting Minutes

March 30, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 12:45 pm in the Newman Vertical Campus Building, Room 14-250, by President Mitchel B. Wallerstein, presiding.

1. The following members of the Baruch College faculty and administration were in attendance: (sign-in sheets)
2. Approval of the minutes: Minutes of the meeting of the October 27, 2016 were approved without correction.
3. Approval of the Agenda. The Agenda was approved without objection.
4. Communications and Announcements

Creative Inquiry Day

Professor Nancy R. Aries asked faculty to encourage their students to participate in the event on May 18th at NVC Main and Aux Gyms (Level 2B).

Classroom Space during Renovation of 17 Lex.

Provost David P. Christy announced that next week's regular Department Chairs' meeting would focus on how to use classroom space more efficiently during the renovation of 17 Lex.

5. Report from President Mitchel B. Wallerstein

Tuition Increase

President Wallerstein reported that, given a challenging year for CUNY, a tuition increase was essential for all colleges in order to fund additional payroll. A final agreement will soon be made.

Update on 17 Lex.

President Wallerstein reported that renovation was finally underway. This first phase of the project will transform the lobby and the Lexington Ave. entrance, making them ADA compliant, provide an upgraded electricity supply, replace all six of the existing elevators, and prepare the base for an additional elevator bank that will eventually run express to the upper floors. There will also be demolition work after the spring semester, especially with respect to the Lexington Ave. lobby area. The project will impact classroom and administrative space.

Plaza Update

President Wallerstein reported on the construction of the permanent Plaza on 25th Street. Progress is underway but with the opening scheduled for 2019, prices are going up, so more funds will have to be raised.

Aaronson Student Center

President Wallerstein reported that the lease will be signed shortly. The Aaronson Student Center will be located in a large, unused portion of the Madison Square Station Post Office.

Annual Diversity Luncheon

President Wallerstein reported that the Annual Diversity Luncheon will be held on April 5th from 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. at NVC 14-220. Dean Aldemaro Romero Jr. will be presenting a talk on “Diversity as a Toolbox for Success: The Evidence.” This presentation will summarize that scientific evidence supports the contention that diversity is indispensable for any organization to thrive while homogenous organizations tend to fail in the long run.

New Rankings

President Wallerstein reported that the Zicklin School of Business for the full-time Master of Business Administration (MBA) program jumped 28 spots in the latest *U.S. News & World Report* and now ranked #57 among 377 schools included on the national list.

Among public institutions, the Zicklin School of Business secured the #1 spot for both full-time and part-time MBA programs in New York State and New York City. Nationally, the School ranks #32 for full-time and #46 for part-time programs. Moreover, the *Chronicle of Higher Education* publishes an annual list of the most selective public and private colleges and universities. For the year 2014, the latest year for which data are available, Baruch College ranked third, behind only UC Berkeley and UCLA.

Commencement 2017

President Wallerstein reported that the 2017 Commencement Ceremony will take place on June 5th at 9:30 a.m. at The Barclays Center, Brooklyn. Honorary Degree recipients will be Dr. Allan E. Goodman (President and CEO of the Institute of International Education) and Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson (an astrophysicist and the Rose Director of the Hayden Planetarium at the American Museum of Natural History). We hope our faculty will be well represented at the Commencement Ceremony to support our students on this very important day in their academic achievement. Last year we had more than 18,000 people in attendance.

6. Election of the Baruch representatives to the University Faculty Senate

Professor Yochi Cohen-Charash presented the Committee on Committees’ nominations:

Professor Judith Kafka (Marx School of Public and International Affairs),
Professor Terrance Martell (Saxe Distinguished Professor of Finance, Zicklin School),
Professor Janna O’Keefe-Bazzoni (Communication Studies, Weissman School),
Professor Jay Weiser (Law, Zicklin School of Business).

7. New Business

There was no new business

9. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was approved and the meeting ended at 1:17 pm.

Submitted by

Max Kramer

Assistant Professor and Secretary of the General Faculty