

DATE:
TO: QCC Academic Senate
FROM: QCC Faculty Representative to CUNY UFS
SUBJECT:

**The 372nd Plenary Session of the University Faculty Senate of
The City University Of New York
Tuesday, February 5, 2013, 6:30 p.m.**

UFS Chair Terrence Martell called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. in Room 9204/05 at the CUNY Graduate School and University Center.

I. Approval of the Agenda for February 5, 2013

The agenda was approved by voice vote.

II. Approval of the Minutes of December 4, 2012

The minutes were approved as distributed by voice vote

III. Reports

A. Invited Guest, Matthew Sapienza, Vice Chancellor for Budget (6:30 pm)

1. CUNY Budget news

- CUNY 2013-2014 budget submitted to BOT and approved in November 2012
- New York State Executive Budget issued mid-January 2013 by Governor Cuomo. CUNY senior colleges receive increase of 95.6 million (4.6%), to 2.15 billion. In addition, the state pays 34. 8 million in mandatory costs for fringe benefits (Welfare Fund). Additional funds will be available from projected revenue from the \$300.- tuition increase.
- Agreement with SUNY and CUNY allows tuition increases of \$500.- maximum per academic year. 2013 is the third year of this plan.
- 61 million in new revenue is for TAP waivers agreed to in Summer 2011. Maximum student award is \$5,000.- for NY resident undergrads.
- Leaves 47 million in additional funds on top of Compact
- CUNY community colleges: the total increase in the budget is 5.9 million. The base state aid of \$2,272 per FTE student is flat for this year. (CUNY had asked for a \$260.- increase per student.) Lobbying efforts will try to bring the amount higher. The legislature will have to put back 0.5 million for child care.
- A proposed new New York State initiative, “Next Generation” job linkage incentive fund (2 million for CUNY, 3 million for SUNY) would tie state funds to specific outcomes in terms of a) student retention, and b) student degree completion.
- Another part of the job linkage proposal would change the basis for awarding the base aid. In partnership with local industry, community colleges would produce students who had met certain learning

outcomes developed by the educational institution in consultation with local employers.

- No changes in the TAP program. CUNY and SUNY must develop a report how to improve the administration of TAP.
- State budget is due by April 1st.

2. CUNY priorities. CUNY will speak to the legislature about:

- Re-instating state aid in order to return to the 2009 level -- \$2,600 per FTE student.
- Asking for increase of \$260 per FTE student. (SUNY asking for the same.)
- Since 2008, veterans registering as students increased by 53% overall, but increased by 2,000% at the community colleges.
- CUNY LEADS (employment for students with academic disabilities) is asking for 1.5 million.
- New program funding developmental work experience for students during their studies. 30% of students work more than 20 hours per week, but they do not get experience generally in the field they are studying (e.g., internships which would help them obtain the first professional job.)

3. New York City budget

- Mayor's preliminary budget introduced in January 2013, the executive budget will be published in late April, then the Mayor and the City Council will agree on a final budget by June.
- The Mayor is proposing significant cuts in the Department of Education (K-12 grades), but not for the CUNY community colleges.
- Programs such as ASAP, CUNY Prep and Civic Justice Corps will continue as before.

4. Questions and comments with invited guest and UFS faculty

- UFS Chair Martell: What plans were there for how to spend the CUNY Compact investment of \$47 million for senior colleges?
- Tying state aid to student outcomes would be a significant policy change, but at this point it would affect only a small number of programs.
- Enrollment at CUNY community colleges is down 2 – 3% for the first time in a long time. The number of high school students in the pipeline is down. Undergraduates registering in Fall 2012 and Spring 2013: the number is flat. The number of graduate students registering is down across the board (5%), similar to the national trend. Many graduate students prepare for teaching, but with cuts in education, students will not go into teaching.
- Alfred Levine (CSI): The percent of the budget paid for by tuition is going up. 58% of students attend for free (due to Pell, TAP). The burden increases on those who pay full fare.
- Kay Conway (BMCC): Important to analyze TAP rules. How students are allowed to make use of TAP has a huge impact on courses, registration, etc.
- Dean Savage (QC): \$60 million for senior colleges, of which \$14 million is assigned to make for TAP waivers. In the 3d year of the

CUNY Compact plan, students are being charged more every year, but colleges won't be able to spend it.

- Mike Vozick (Hostos CC & BMCC): What are the trends in adjunct budgeting, CUNY Start, CLIP. Are adjuncts a constituency?
- Michael Sapienza's answer: \$10 million has been budgeted for adjunct health insurance. Adjunct spending has been increasing. Enrollments have been increasing faster than adjunct hiring. The tuition increases help to stabilize the budget and enable CUNY to plan ahead and manage enrollment. As enrollments decrease, adjunct spending will decrease.
- 80% of CUNY students arrive in college unprepared to do college-level work. CUNY Start offers students to take remedial courses before starting their college program, so that they do not use up their financial aid. Financial aid is available only 8 semesters. What is the sense of asking about student "on-time" graduation when students run out of TAP and must interrupt their studies for this reason.

B. Chair's Report

- Matthew Sapienza's report deals with the Operating budget only, not at all with the Capital budget.
- "CUNY 2020" \$55 million directed for projects, colleges must compete for this money. 5 – 25 million will NOT be for bricks and mortar projects, but instead for "transformational" plans to promote growth, jobs, innovation and investment in the future. 5-10 such projects need to be approved and chosen by July 2013. Where are these projects? Could this type of money be used to establish and equip a lab?
- Legal update: nothing has come out of the courts yet.
- BOT: legislation passed to thank faculty who worked on the "bucket" committees (CCCRC committees). A resolution passed to approve Interim President Diane Call as President of QCC.
- Early College Initiative in NYC schools – what will it mean for students (quality of the instruction they receive), what will it mean for CUNY faculty.
- Graduate Center – there will be a meeting to start the conversation about whether there has been or will be a structural change in the way GC faculty are hired. Consortial faculty vs. "central line" hiring.
- UFS investigating what does CUNY Central cost the University?
- April 19th, Spring conference of the Community College Caucus, Budget Workshop which had been cancelled due to Hurricane Sandy.

C. Motion to put to a vote the following resolution:

Rosalind Carey (Brooklyn College) introduced the resolution from the Academic Freedom Committee.

Resolution on Brooklyn College co-sponsoring an event with Students for Justice in Palestine.

Motion passed without dissent, 57 for, 1 abstention, 0 against.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Indra Avens
Queensborough Community College