

**DATE: November 6, 2012**  
**TO: QCC Academic Senate**  
**FROM: QCC Faculty Representative to CUNY UFS, Emily S. Tai**  
**SUBJECT:**

**The 370<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session of The University Faculty Senate of  
The City University Of New York  
Tuesday, November 6, 2012, 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 November 6, 2012**

The agenda was approved by voice vote.

**II. Approval of the Minutes of October 9, 2012**

The minutes were approved as distributed by voice vote.

**II. Reports**

**A. Chair Terrence Martell--**

Chair Martell reported that all Committee of the CUNY Board of Trustees had met the previous Monday (11/4). He particularly referred to the report from Cambridge Investment, which reported to the Committee on Fiscal Affairs. Chair Martell indicated that CUNY had made a heroic effort to assist individuals affected by Hurricane Sandy—600 individuals were housed in the gymnasium at Baruch College; 900 individuals, including many with special needs, were housed, as of the Plenary date, at York College. The devastation to students and faculty was considerable; estimates were that over 7000 students across CUNY were affected by the hurricane; over 1100 faculty and staff were affected; and four students were killed: Lauren Abraham, a student at LaGuardia Community College; John Filipowicz Jr., a student at the College of Staten Island; Jessie Streich-Kest, an alumna of Hunter College; and Jacob Vogelman, a Master's degree candidate at Brooklyn College.

- A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to send letters of condolence to the families of these students on behalf of the CUNY UFS.
- Chair Martell commented upon the success and quality of the University Faculty Senate conference on Pathways, held on Friday, October 12, 2012. Papers are available on the CUNY UFS website at <http://www.cunyufs.org/conferencematerials.pdf>
- PSC-CUNY Awards deadline would be December 15. Faculty were urged, both to apply, and to advise colleagues of the availability of these awards.

**B. Vice-Chair Karen Kaplowitz reported to the Plenary concerning the meeting of the UFS Executive Committee with Vice-Chancellor Alexandra Logue. Vice-Chancellor Logue had identified four priorities she wished to discuss, alongside**

the four identified by the UFS Executive. The meeting was productive and amicable, and clarified a few areas of UFS concern:

- Vice-Chancellor Logue had shared a very positive report concerning the ASAP Initiative, indicating that while the cost per Associates Degree candidate is significant, there is a savings when these students transfer into baccalaureate programs, as ASAP graduates are likelier to successfully complete a B.A. Degree.
- There is also good news about CUNYStart, which is proving very successful in enabling students to exit remediation quickly, based upon preliminary data.
- Vice-Chancellor Logue indicated that the University was in greatest support of hybrid instruction, in which both on-line, and classroom time, were utilized, to make the most of modalities that have been shown to be most effective in each of the two settings. This would enable more students to be successful;
- The Office of Academic Affairs would be working to assist colleges with the process of assessment, so that they would be supported in efforts to felicitously address Middle States Standards 7 & 14, both related to assessment;
- The Office of Academic Affairs was also interested in seeing if a “Socio-Economic Values Formula” might be factored into the evaluation of graduation rates that was included in each President’s PMP evaluation.
- The Office of Academic Affairs was also exploring, with Paul Atwell’s research, ways to encourage students to move through associate’s degree programs more quickly, by supporting some students/or providing cash incentives to students, to take summer and intersession courses.

**C. Guest, Dr. Robert A. Ptachik, Senior University Dean for the Executive Office & Enrollment**

Dr. Ptachik shared a power point regarding current trends in CUNY Enrollment.

- CUNY Enrollment has grown dramatically since 2001, after a decline during the last decade of the 1990s
- Associate degree programs, in particular, have grown
- Retention rates have grown precipitously, although at a somewhat slower rate at the community colleges than the senior colleges
- Some of this may be attributable to higher graduation rates in the New York City High Schools, 59% of whose graduates come to CUNY.
- While some of these students are students who might have dropped out, and who are enrolling in associate’s degree programs, a statistically significant number are students with averages of 80% or above.
- Many of the students coming to CUNY are more “traditional” students— younger, enrolling immediately after high school, attending full-time
- The student-faculty ratio, however, has gone up since 1970, from 24 to 1, to 38 to 1. The University hopes to remedy this.
- Dr. Ptachik explained the formulation of College enrollment targets, and indicated that “fidelity” to these targets is part of the PMP process.
- Dr. Ptachik also indicated that students are being encouraged to accumulate more credits, by taking 15 credits per semester if possible.

- Enrollment in Masters Programs, particularly in Education, have declined.
- Dr. Ptachik answered questions about the scheduling of lost days due to Hurricane Sandy; CUNYStart, and tension between the rising number of “traditional” students and the CUNY mission to serve the underserved.

**D. William Phipps:**

**Report on how to access the Board of Trustees website and the Chancellor’s website in order to check items that might be relevant to a senator’s campus.**

**IV. New Business**

**A.**

**B. William Phipps on information sources for Pathways information.**

- CUNY website
- CUNY Portal – Chancellor’s reports – Personnel – Financial
- Old UFS website
- New UFS website/*The Senate Digest* blog
- UFS-FGL listserv

**Standing Committee Meetings:** Committee on Academic Freedom, 5 pm  
Committee on Status of the Faculty, 5.30 pm

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily S. Tai  
UFS Delegate, Queensborough Community College, CUNY