**Draft Minutes for the One Hundred and Thirty-Eighth Meeting of the College Council Formed on November 14, 2002  
  
Date: Thursday, April 22, 2021, 2:30pm – 3:30pm  
Location: Zoom Meeting**

**Attendance:** Jonathan Peters,Chang-Hui Shen, Angelo Bongiorno, Yumei Huo, Rachel Grant, Simone Wegge, Gene Fellner, Neo Antoniades, Lee Papa, Steven Monte, John Wing, Jonathan Cope, Carles Solà Belda, Soon Chun, Carlo Lancelloti, Tara Mateik, Natalie Fischetti, Siona Wilson, Robert Lovering, Zaghoul Ahmed, Bill Schreiber, Jane Marcus Delgado, ,Florette Cohen, Christine Flynn Saulnier, Jay Arena, Lucas Marchante-Aragón, Alyson Bardsely, Alan Benimoff, Jason Bishop, Vandana Chaudhry, Katie Cumiskey, Deborah De Simone, Maryann Feola, Ellen Goldner, Susan Imberman, Catherine Lavender, John Lawrence, Alfred Levine, Gerry Milligan, Michael Paris, George Sanchez, Francisco Soto, Thomas Tellefsen, John Verzani, Cindy Wong, Alan Zimmerman, Roshen Hendrickson, Andrew Colbeck, Brian Farr, Peter Galati, Victor Miller, Sarah Zelikovitz,, Wilma Jones, Cynthia Chris, Sylvia Kahan, Mark White, Comfort Asanbe, William Fritz, Michael Parrish, Michael Cavagnero, Sarolta Takács, Rob Wallace, Patricia Kahn, Jennifer Borrero, Hope Berte, Susan Holak, Marcus Tye, Beth Livensperger, Maxwell Velikodny, Warrick Bell, Hernan Green, Suzy Shepardson, Michael Volpe.

**Guests**: A. Leykam, Alan Hoffner, Alberto Sanchez, Alexander Scott, Ali Elkomy, Aliza Martini, Amila Goonawardena, Amy Stempler, Anat Niv-Solomon, Angela Cartmell​, Angela RAio, Angie Ramos, Barbara Cohen, Cary Karacas, Caterina Scarimbolo, Catherine Ferrara, Celeste Del Maestro, Chris Conidis, Christina Anastopolou, Christina Boyle, Christina Hagedorn, Christine Cohen, Christine Myers, Christina Toti, Crystal Deosaran, Daniel Kurzweil, Darryl Hill, David Pizzuto, Deborah Meise, Donna Sauthoff, Donna Scimeca, Edward​Patri, Elena Tzen, Eric Ivison, Erma Tacopino, Ewa Dzurak,  Greg Phillips, Gregory Brown,  Holly Block,Intissar Hasan, Isabel Rechberg, Ivan Scott Lee, Janine Scotto, James Hamilton, Jeff Vilkov, Jenn Pizzuto, Jennifer Durando, Jessica Collora, Jessica Stein, Joanne LaPilusa, Jodi Merendino, Jonelle Knox, Joyce Taylor, Juline Robinson, Karen Contreras, Karen Contreras, Katrina Fama, Kenneth Wolpin​,​ Kerri Gerson, Koby Kohulan, Leonardo Pignataro​Leanora Chiaruttini, Linda Conte, Lucy Lombardo, Lynne Lacomis, Manuela Alongi, Maria Levine, Maria Xenakis, Mark Lewental, Matthew Ganz, Maureen Garvey, Maurya Wickstrom, McKala Neese, Michael Anderson, Michele Callahan,  , Michael Chiacchiero, Michael Ivany, Michael Lederhandler,  Michele Karpeles, Michelle Borowski, Mike Cavagnero, Nada Michael, Nancy Casey, Nina Del Gatto,​Nina Long, Nina Morgenlander, Orit D. Gruber, Qiao-Sheng Hu, Ralf Peetz,  Robert Engler,  Roberta Klibaner, Shannon Cammarano,  Sharon Christian, Spozmi Nouri, Stefanie Gardiner, Stephanie Gonzalez Allen, Stephen Ferst, Susan Massara, Susan Mee Crimmins, Tara Mastrorilli, Terianne Darragh, Terri Sangiorgio, Tom Lauria, Veronica Dimeglio,  Byron Taylor, Emmanuel Esperance, Carol Brower, Christina Totti, Debbie Britton, Danielle Dimitrov, Fatima Kamara, Jason Simon, George Wang, Linda John, Shuqun Zhang, Lillian Nicassio, Cynthia Palumbo, Jean Ford, Russell Davis, Khuyen Vo, John Jankowski, Susan Rocco, Jennifer Lynch.

I. Approval of the proposed agenda - *approved*  
  
II. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting – *approved*

III. Executive Committee of College Council Report - J. Verzani

# College Council Chair Report

The College Council Executive Committee Met with the President and Provost on April 6th.

The meeting started with a review of the budget position. The College’s budget has been uncertain for most of the year, and now many things have become known, though still not all. We heard:

* The federal stimulus monies (CARES, CRSSA, ARPA) have been announced. These funds are available for the next 3 years. *The rough amounts for the campus are CARES: 7M; CRSSA: 16.2M; ARPA: 22M.*
* to be in the “black” for FY 21 the college will need **all** of its CARES funds and **2/3rds** of its CRSSA funds. (*The latter seemed to be far too high given the size of the monies and the advertised scale of the deficit.)*
* The hiring freeze (vacancy review board) is ongoing
* the adjusted revenue from CUNY is 100.9M dollars; the PS costs are 101.5M. (The additional lump monies not included in the initial figure).
* The (*then pending*) budget from the state had 500 TAP gap assistance, a tuition freeze, no increase in mandatory costs. (*These are all the case, the new budget only seems better relative to worst case scenarios*.)

We asked about College Assistants and whether they will be month to month, or have they had contracts extended through the fiscal year.

We followed up on the staffing at the Center for Global Engagement; we emphasized that their loss in revenues (they are part of the IFR budget) could be reimbursed by CRSSA funds

We asked about PSC travel funds and whether they are being reserved for when travel can be resumed. This led to a comment about the College’s supplement to travel funding.

We asked whether there were any plans to modify sabbaticals (Ans: No)

We heard that the federal funds do not solve our “structural deficit” but should give us a window of time to engage the conversation as to how to address it. Some examples came up in this conversation:

* The scope of the Nursing program. There was a question as to whether it was too large for it staffing model, it spanning the entire range of teaching level (UG, Masters, PhD).
* The costs of teaching at the Graduate Center. It was said that it costs the college money to do this. It was pointed out this doesn’t reflect the understood model for reimbursement, save for EC positions.

The need to pick a tighter focus and perhaps stop doing things was expressed.

As for staffing, a need for re-evaluation and critical assessments was mentioned.

## We asked about COACHE:

*Status of the college’s COACHE response. CUNY Central has received a report on the CUNY wide COACHE committee’s work and begun action. Has this college received any recommendations, and if so what is the progress on them?*

The work of the task force is online; the emphasis chosen is on faculty of color and untenured faculty. Research support is problematical.

We heard a diversity task force would be meeting soon.

*(For reference, the CUNY COACHE task force had recommendations on: clarity of faculty status processes (especially for FOC) ; equitable workplace efforts; facilities improvements; increased research support; COACHE-like survey for PT faculty.)*

## We asked about Athletics

*With the departure of the AD, it was expected that a nationwide search would take place for a replacement. We now see that the basketball coach has been assigned as an interim – and that a replacement coach is being sought. Does this mean there will be no national search?*

We heard that the plan is to hold a national search once that is possible. That the departing AD left on very short notice and this plan was possible, as the assistant basketball coach was available to step in as coach (We heard that the NCAA doesn’t like ADs coaching)

## We commented on College Governance.

The College Council Executive Committee has endorsed the following statement:

*The College Council Executive Committee is disappointed in the timing and process within which the proposed replacement governance plan was drafted and presented. We request that it be withdrawn and redirected through the established Bylaws Committee and College Council.*

IV. PSC Report – J. Lawrence

* The PSC has been fighting hard for a just 2022 New York State budget. The FY 2022 budget rejects every cut proposed by the governor, increases the maximum TAP award by $500, commits to closing the TAP Gap within the following three years
* A fully enacted New Deal for CUNY would invest about $1.5 billion over 5 years.
* New benefit, Paid Family Leave
* Potential change in health care for retirees
* PSC opposed signing a $3 million contract with McKinsey on reopening
* PSC has endorsed a number of candidates for the upcoming city elections
* April 28, first CSI PSC disability justice working group

V. President Report: W. Fritz

<https://www.csi.cuny.edu/sites/default/files/pdf/presidentsoffice/newsletter/College_Council_Remarks_4_22_21.pdf>

1 College Council Remarks April 22, 2021

As we have all heard, there was a guilty verdict rendered in the murder trial of Derek Chauvin. While there will never really be any justice for George Floyd, who was murdered almost a year ago, this verdict represents a glimmer of hope that change may be on the horizon. It represents a hope that there will be accountability and consequences for police officers who engage in acts of excessive force against black men and women. And while it represents a step in the right direction, it is only one small step. There is much more to be done.

At CSI, we must come together in our efforts to oppose racism in all aspects of life and society, embrace racial equity policies and practices and steadfastly commit to uphold a culture of inclusion. I have always been proud to lead an institution that celebrates diversity and opens doors for underserved members of the community, and I am equally proud of our commitment to 2 promote social justice and equality. We are educators and role models, and we have a unique opportunity to make meaningful change by helping to build a more equitable society. To do so, we must actively work against racial injustice on a daily basis.

Along those lines, there are two upcoming virtual events sponsored by multiple departments, faculty, students and staff, that I encourage you to attend. Cooked: Survival By Zipcode Racism as a Public Health Crisis, a panel discussion scheduled for April 28, and Speak Out Against Anti-Asian Violence!, a panel discussion to be held on May 6. Part of the effort to help address racial injustice is to first acknowledge that racism exists and we can do that by sharing our stories, listening to others tell their truths, engaging in conversation and learning how to become part of the solution. Please check our events calendar for further registration details.

As part of our efforts to help improve the culture at CSI, the Diversity Council had their first meeting, and they are united in their efforts to help build a better community. Provost Parrish will speak more on the first Council’s meeting in his remarks at 3 Faculty Senate, but I want to thank the committee members for making a commitment to serve on this important Council. We will be posting the names of the committee members on our websites in the upcoming days.

Unfortunately, we learned this week that we lost a beloved member of our community, Professor Calvin Holder. Professor Holder helped recruit me to CSI and met with me many times, sharing his thoughts on how to make us a better campus. I always appreciated his wise counsel and insight. He will be remembered as a great educator, mentor, and friend to many. I know that there will be an additional tribute for him at the faculty senate but I wanted pay personal tribute to Professor Holder.

The recently enacted FY22 State budget of $212B was up by $18B and exceeded expectations. For CUNY Senior Colleges the 5% reduction ($26.2M) is eliminated; however, the reduction remains for the current year which still equates to a $1.7M cut for CSI. The enacted 4 budget includes a four-year plan to eliminate the Tap Gap of $78M. For FY22, the TAP Gap will be reduced by $23.1M through an increase in the maximum TAP award by $500. Finally, the Enacted budget does not fund mandatory costs and does not extend the predictable tuition policy for CUNY and SUNY and freezes tuition rates for three years. The overall impact is a wash, at best.

In contrast to the operational budget, the FY22 Capital Budget, is good news and provides $466.7 million in new funding with the majority benefitting Senior colleges. • $284.2 million for critical maintenance; • $100.0 million for new capital projects; • $10.0 million for wind energy.

While we have earmarked funding through the three stimulus packages (CARES, CRSSA, ARPA), it is important to remember that we do not yet have access to much of the money, it is one-time money and not recurring, nearly half goes directly to students, and it must last us for at least 3 fiscal years (FY21, 22, & 23). 5

The current year will require the use of all CARES and 2/3 of the institutional part of CRSSA funding to achieve a balanced budget. We will require most of the remaining CRSSA money to get the campus back open for the fall. At the present time, the ARPA money will be reserved for FY22 & 23.

This month we had two well attended town halls, both for the proposed governance plan and for reopening. I want to thank everyone who attended and participated in these events. As previously announced, I am postponing the referendum for the proposed new governance plan to October to honor the requests to allow additional time for more feedback. The task forces that will be appointed to address specific aspects of the plan will be announced shortly.

April is CUNY Disability Awareness Month. Earlier this month the Annual Willowbrook Lecture was held with about 500 participants in attendance. It was a successful event sponsored by the Department of Educational Studies and The Office of Sustainability. This event is always a great way to honor the 6 history of our campus and continue to pursue equality for people with disabilities by acknowledging the pain and suffering brought upon those who lived at The Willowbrook State School. There are additional events sponsored by the Office of Student Life scheduled to take place tomorrow and next week focusing on students with disabilities and their self-advocacy, struggles, challenges and triumphs. Please check our website for details and registration information.

In closing, I want to acknowledge that yesterday was Administrative Assistants Day, and I would like to personally take the opportunity to thank all of our administrative assistants for all your hard work in helping keep the College operations running smoothly, especially during the pandemic. Your dedication is much appreciated.

William J. Fritz President

VI. Reports from the Administration – No Report

VII. Reports of the Committees of the College Council

a. Committee on Organization – W. Bell,

- Nominations open for full time & part time faulty representations at UFS

- There will be an election for the Full time faculty seats.

b. By-Law Committee - J. Verzani

* By-law committee has not met

c. Administrative Review Committee (AREC) – D. Hill, No Report

d. Institutional Planning Committee (IPC) – W. Fritz,

There has not been a meeting of the IPC because there was no proposals coming from Academic Affairs.

e. Budget Committee – J. Verzani

* Budget Committee has not met.

f. Facilities Committee – J. Peters, No Report

VIII. Student Government Report—Maxwell Velikodny

* Student Government has extended the elections to April 26 because of low voter turnout
* Student Government would like to congratulate its fellow senator Nicole Agu for being the valedictorian for the class of 2021
* The graduate assistant funds have been very successful

IX. Higher Education Officer Steering Committee Report – M. Murphy

·      Hosted a HEO Discussion Forum for a large and very engaged audience to discuss the President’s new governance proposal.

·      Participated in a semester meeting with President and members of Cabinet, with focus on reopening concerns, feedback the President has received during his meetings with invited HEOs, and discussed the impact of abolishing the HEO Steering committee as stated in the new governance proposal.

·      Received reassurance that the HEO Screening Committee is still active. No requests for reclassification or salary differentials were submitted for recent meetings which may be due to misinformation.

·      We asked about reimbursement for equipment expenses incurred during 2020 transition to remote work.  We understand that CUNY is still working on setting up a process for reimbursement. We urge HEOs to submit your requests to supervisors, and not to lose sight of your right to reimbursement for work related items. 

·      We encourage HEOs to reach out to the HEO Steering Committee with any questions or concerns.  
  
 ·      HEO PSC group on campus has developed a HEO workload survey which has now been distributed. We are doing telephone outreach in the coming weeks to get feedback and discuss individual concerns.

X. Auxiliary Services Corporation Report – R. Wallace

Book Orders – B&N is discontinuing Faculty Enlight by April 30th. Orders made after this date should be emailed to Nicole Kempster.

XI. Old Business - *none*  
  
XII. New Business – none  
  
XIII. Adjournment – 3:35pm

Meeting recording can be accessed at:

Meeting Recording:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/B2DTkjm5vu6LAtUGU0pBdXkRAxOnuc8hHsr6o2qAXS\_GuC7N-edq3ee7xrqeErf-.FqtFaQm6u77zh9EM

Access Passcode: 0rzYv\*mD

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Wong, Secretary for the College Council