Faculty Senate Report

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Introduction

Baruch College is a community where students should feel connected to faculty and administration, as well as, one another. We need to enhance the fundamental bonds required to function effectively, to engage students and develop a work ethic that facilitates communication, while keeping in mind that the most valued commodity should be the students.

Effective Use of Resources

Communication is vital to the productivity and performance of any group. Baruch College is equipped with the technology and resources to encourage the interchange of thought and ideas. This is integral to educating students. With the introduction of Blackboard, Degree Audit and AirBaruch the college is definitely making inroads into a convenient, urban and hip way of reaching and interacting with its audience. Faculty need to comprehend the importance of such tools and its direct relation to their classes. For example, in a growing number of courses, additional lecture material is available through Blackboard resources that faculty can setup for their students. This allows faculty to create a more dynamic and exciting environment for students to learn. In addition it establishes direct communication with students. I thus encourage all faculty, to make full use of resources and update their teaching tools for use in the twenty first century.

Faculty Engagement

Faculty, it is important to support students beyond the classroom. Some faculty already have committed themselves. They include both individuals and departments that have taken an active role in student extracurricular events. Consider the History, English and the Black and Hispanic Studies Department, in conjunction with the Office of Student Life, provided students with programs, support, and encouragement. We also have a host of professionally run and corporate sponsored competitions that allow students and faculty to work closely on business cases. Such programs include PWC’s XAct Competition and Merrill Lynch’s Entrepreneurship Program. These opportunities provide learning avenues for students to understand real world experiences. Faculty can also gain from fostering these dialogues by working closely with their pupils to create and develop valuable learning objectives and accomplishments both in and out of the classroom. In addition, those that have committed to lead Freshman Seminar classes and participate in the success of Learning Communities should be applauded. Still we need more volunteers.

Conclusion

Baruch’s ‘diverse faculty’ is charged with the duty of teaching the future leaders of the world. Clear dialogue and greater interaction with students, by faculty, will assist the college to develop and produce a more seasoned and well rounded individual that will continue to boost the quality and standard of the Baruch College degree.