BARUCH COLLEGE  
PRESIDENT’S CABINET MEETING  
March 5, 2012

Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes
2. President’s Remarks
3. Provost’s Remarks
4. Recent 4-yr and 6-yr Graduation Rates (J. Choonoo)
5. Budget Request Discussion (M. Finnen)
6. Video Cameras in Select Spaces
7. FY13 Enrollment Projections and Its Revenue Implications (M. Finnen & B. Corpus)
8. Other Old Business
9. New Business

Attendance:
Mitchel B. Wallerstein, President
David Birdsell, Dean, School of Public Affairs
John Brenkman, Acting Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
John Choonoo, Director of the Office of Institutional Research
Ben Corpus, Vice President for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management
Arthur Downing, Chief Librarian and Chief Information Officer
John Elliott, Dean, Zicklin School of Business
Mary Finnen, Acting Vice President for Administration and Finance
Mark Gibbel, Vice President for College Advancement
Mary Gorman, Chief of Staff
Christina Latouf, Assistant Vice President for Communications, Marketing and Public Affairs
Jeffrey Peck, Dean, Weissman School of Arts & Sciences and Vice Provost for Global Strategies
Stephanie Vullo, Executive Legal Counsel

Absent:
Terrence Martell, Chair, Faculty Senate

Approval of Minutes
A motion was made to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2012 meeting and the minutes were approved as amended.

President’s Remarks
President Wallerstein announced Ms. Monique Brown George is the new Executive Director of Human Resources as of Monday, March 5, 2012.

The President reported three finalists for the position of Vice President for Administration and Finance will be visiting the campus beginning March 5, 2012. He noted the search produced a strong pool of candidates.

The President briefed members of Cabinet on an ongoing immigration problem concerning a faculty member.
The President reported Ms. Latouf and Mr. Eric Lugo Director of Government and Community Relations have completed lobbying for the 17 Lex renovations to ensure it remains on the gold list of capital projects.

The President reported the College will be hosting a lighting ceremony in honor of the completion of the 25th Street External Lighting project on Monday March 19th. A reception will be held 6:30pm, following by the lighting ceremony. Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer and Councilmember Rosie Mendes will be present. The President noted the College has collected letters of support and is preparing to submit the application for the 25th Street plaza to the Department of Transportation soon.

**Provost’s Remarks**

Provost Brenkman reported the College is working to begin searches and fill faculty lines now that the College’s budget concerns have been addressed.

The Provost reported that during the strategic planning process it became evident that a mechanism for curricular decisions across the three schools is necessary.

Dean Birdsell distributed two drafted documents entitled: *Matching the College’s Processes to its Accomplishments and Ambitions* and *Executive Education and Contract Research*. A discussion followed. It was noted that it would be helpful for the College to create workflow charts for (1) student processes and (2) staff and faculty hiring. Dean Birdsell asked members of Cabinet to send him their input on the two documents.

Dean Peck expressed concern over the short timeline within which the strategic plan is expected to be completed. He noted the seriousness of the document and the need to slow down the process to ensure that a high quality strategic plan is created. A discussion followed. The President agreed the strategic planning process has proven to be more complicated. Dr. Downing added the need for the College to do more self-analysis. Dean Birdsell noted that Baruch College is a more complicated organization than it was twelve years. Vice President Corpus agreed that more time and energy is needed to consider what we want the College to achieve. Ms. Latouf suggested that infrastructure issues be addressed as the process moves forward, as the infrastructure problems will not be fixed within six months time.

The President noted that if the strategic planning process is elongated, it will be necessary to extend the arrangement with the consultants Tony Knerr and John Braunstein. The President noted he would take all expressed concerns under advisement and then determine how best to proceed.

Provost Brenkman reported a deep discussion would be held at the next academic council meeting. He noted that as the huge problem of the College’s budgetary issues has been addressed, it is now necessary to identify other obstacles that need to be fixed.

The President expressed an eagerness to utilize newly allocated funds to address faculty hiring needs. Vice President Corpus stressed that critical student services positions be filled as well.

Provost Brenkman reported he met with Allan Wernick, a faculty member specializing in immigration matters, regarding faculty needs for green cards and visas. He noted the costs associated with H1B visas for faculty and the need for the College to formalize its policy regarding such. A discussion followed.
Recent 4-yr and 6-yr Graduation Rates
Mr. Choonoo distributed a document outlining Baruch’s ranking comparatively in the *US News and World Report* 2011 Regional Universities Ranking. A brief discussion followed.

Dean Birdsell noted that *The Chronicle of Higher Education* recently released an issue on graduations and while SUNY was included, CUNY was not. Mr. Choonoo noted he would try to determine why CUNY was not included.

Vice President Corpus requested graduation and retention figures with gender and ethnic breakdowns.

Budget Request Discussion
President Wallerstein noted the College had to make difficult budgetary decisions last year and now the administration would need to make steps to determine what could be restored. A discussion followed. Dean Birdsell expressed frustration with the budget process three to four years ago. Vice President Corpus suggested the administration resume the practice of holding divisional budget presentations noting it was informative to learn the priorities of the various divisions and that partnerships were identified based on common needs. It was also noted that it has been helpful to learn about the budgetary challenges of the various divisions. Dean Birdsell noted the RCM discussions should be resumed once the permanent Vice President for Administration and Finance is identified.

Video Cameras in Select Spaces
Members of Cabinet discussed the suggestion of the placement of video cameras in select spaces in reaction to a student conflict that resulted in arrests. It was noted that such action would be considered invasion of privacy and conflict with first amendment rights. Vice President Corpus noted the student affairs staff is working closely with the student community to improve the culture of student common spaces. He additionally stressed the need to be more connected to the students.

FY13 Enrollment Projections and Its Revenue Implications
Vice President Corpus provided a brief update on FY13 enrollment projections. He noted the goal is to reduce the enrollment to 17,500. He noted that he and Vice President Finnen received a communication from James Murphy, University Associate Dean for Enrollment expressing concern regarding the budgetary differential between the enrollment of 18,100 and 17,500. Vice President Finnen noted the College now has an enrollment cap of 17,500. Vice President Corpus noted the chancellery have an expressed concern that increased enrollment could lead to a decrease in the quality of the educational experience. A brief description followed.

Other Old Business
Commencement
President Wallerstein asked the three deans for their assistance in encouraging members of faculty to commit to the platform parties for the morning and afternoon commencement ceremonies.

President Wallerstein noted the College has identified two possible honorary degree recipients and their names will be submitted to the CUNY Board of Trustees for approval.

The President reported that City Council Speaker Christine Quinn will be the morning commencement speaker.

New Business
President Wallerstein reported Ms. Carmen Pedrogo is no longer Affirmative Action Officer.