

BROOKLYN COLLEGE

POLICY COUNCIL

Minutes of the

September 17, 2025 General Meeting

5:00pm, Gold Room, Student Center

Present: President Michelle J. Anderson, Provost April Bedford, Interim Vice President Yasmin Ali, Dean Philip Napoli, Dean Maria Scharron-del Rio, Dean Peter Tolias, Randall Clarke, Aharon Grama, Judith Kenny, Professor Patricia Antoniello, Professor Jillian Cavanaugh, Professor Douglas Cohen, Professor Dov Fischer, Professor Namulundah Florence, Professor Mobina Hashmi, Professor Kip Marsh, Professor MJ Robinson, Professor Brian Sowers, Professor Sophia Suarez, Deborah Bernfeld (USG), Hailey Johnston (USG), Cyle Paul (USG), Ailyn Paz (USG), Fia Sanchez (USG), Ajadah Simms (USG), Keyanna Tyrell (USG), Nilgun Gungor (GSO), Beth Rocco (GSO).

Absent: Executive Legal Counsel Jaclyn Helms, Haikeda Hilliman (USG), Doha Nemr (USG).

Non-voting: Sadiya Hoque, Yelena Azriyel, Robert Echevarria, Marcus Malivert.

1. President Michelle J. Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.
2. President Anderson provided a brief overview of the Policy Council's purpose, reviewed participation procedures and outlined the charge and composition of Standing Committees.
3. Introductions were made by all members.
4. President Anderson confirmed Policy Council Executive Committee members, who were identified by each constituent groups: Provost April Bedford, Professor MJ Robinson, Cyle Paul (USG).
5. Professor Mobina Hashmi reported that Professor Sophia Suarez is no longer eligible to serve on the Council under the faculty constituency due to a change in title. Professor Jolie Tong will assume the vacant position as the next faculty member with the highest number of votes.
6. Each constituent group caucused to recruit committee members to serve on the various Standing Committees.
7. Cyle Paul (USG) nominated Ajadah Simms (USG) to serve as Secretary. Ajadah (USG) was elected by acclamation.

8. Professor Douglas Cohen moved to approve April 30, 2025 minutes. Professor Patricia Antoniello seconded. Unanimously approved.
9. President Anderson reviewed the prior year's progress and outcomes from the standing committees, noting several key initiatives, including the development of an events protocol, improvements to the Policy Council website, a review of course scheduling practices, the inclusion of staff representation and the advancement of the "You Are Safe Here" decal initiative.
10. Professor Hashmi asked if the signage about recording could also be used for faculty offices and classrooms. President Anderson referred the matter to the Governance and Policy Committee to draft a policy on classroom recording. Professor Jillian Cavanaugh noted that some students have accommodations permitting recording, and Randall Clarke emphasized the need for additional notetakers. The item was referred to the Governance and Policy and Faculty/Student Relations Committees for further discussion.
11. President Anderson informed the Council that proposed amendments to the Policy Council Bylaws will be submitted to CUNY Central for Board of Trustees approval.
12. Professor Dov Fischer raised an issue that occurred during Faculty Council and inquired about potential consequences for such actions. Robust dialogue ensued.
13. Professor Hashmi requested a discussion on building stronger relationships and trust within the campus community. The matter was referred to the Faculty-Student Relations Committee.
14. President Anderson adjourned the meeting at 5:57 p.m.

COMMITTEE	MEMBERS	STUDENT	ADMINISTRATION	FACULTY	STAFF	CHARGE
Executive	4	1 rep elected by the student constituency	President (chair) 1 rep elected by the administration constituency	1 rep elected by the faculty constituency		Shall act as a nominations committee and as a steering committee; prepare the agenda for Policy Council meetings; supervise the work of standing and ad hoc committees of Policy Council; and act for Policy Council in emergencies. Each academic year, the committee shall act as a nominations committee only after that year's election of members to the Executive Committee. In addition to recommendations from the Executive Committee for service on Policy Council committees, nominations from the floor shall always be appropriate.
Governance and Policy	7	2 reps the presidents of the student governments or their designees	2 reps named by the President	1 rep from Faculty Council Steering 1 rep from CAP Liaison Committee	1 rep	Shall serve as a screening committee for the Policy Council in matters involving governance and policy and shall make recommendations with respect to adjudication of conflicts or problems in the areas of governance and policy referred to the Policy Council. It shall serve as a supervisory body for the implementation of changes in governance.
Faculty/ Student Relations	8	3 reps the presidents of the student governments or their designees	1 rep appointed by the VP for Student Affairs to sit ex officio (chair)	3 reps	1 rep	Shall be charged with examining faculty-student relationships, including counseling, and with accepting related agenda items which may be proposed by any one of the constituencies. This committee shall meet as the need arises and report to council.
Fiscal, Infrastructure & Planning	10	3 reps presidents of the student governments or their designees	3 members: Senior VP for Finance & Administration AVP for Budget & Finance Associate Provost for Institutional Planning and Assessment	3 reps	1 rep	Shall advise on budgetary matters, the physical plant, and evaluation of current academic programs and structure of the College; and shall develop recommendations for Policy Council advisement to college bodies concerned with long range planning. The committee shall report to Policy Council periodically as the need arises.
External Relations	7	2 reps presidents of the student governments or their designees	President (chair) 1 other rep	2 reps	1 rep	Shall be charged with reviewing the working relationships of the college with all segments of the Brooklyn community and making suggestions for enhancing the image of the college within the borough. This committee shall meet as the need arises and report to council.

Revised 9/14/23

Standing Committees of Policy Council: 2025-2026

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Student Members</u>	<u>Faculty Members</u>	<u>Staff Members</u>	<u>Administration Members</u>
Executive (3)	Cyle Paul	MJ Robinson	N/A	April Bedford
Governance and Policy (7)	Fia Sanchez Nilgun Gungor	MJ Robinson Dov Fischer	Aharon Grama	Jaclyn Helms Judith Kenny
Faculty/Student Relations (8)	Ajadah Simms Ailyn Paz Deborah Bernfeld	Mobina Hashmi Jillian Cavanaugh Brian Sowers	Ariel Maguire	Maria Scharron del-Rio
Fiscal, Infrastructure and Planning (10)	Keyanna Tyrell Hailey Johnston Haikeda Hilliman	Jolie Tong Doug Cohen Patricia Antoniello	Eduard Skylar	Alan Gilbert Peter Tolias Philip Napoli
External Relations (7)	Doha Nemr Beth Rocco	Namulundah Florence Kip Marsh	Lisa Millsaps-Graham	Michelle Anderson Ludovic Leroy

Term of Office:

Student members – Fall 2025 – Spring 2026

Faculty members – Fall 2025 – Spring 2027

revised 09/29/25