

**BROOKLYN COLLEGE**  
**POLICY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the**  
**November 19, 2025 General Meeting**  
**5:00pm, Gold Room, Student Center**

**Present:** President Michelle J. Anderson, Provost April Bedford, Interim Vice President Yasmin Ali, Executive Legal Counsel Jaclyn Helms, Dean Maria Scharron-del Rio, Dean Peter Tolias, Dean James Lynch, Assistant Vice President Catherine Freeland, Randall Clarke, Professor Patricia Antonello, Professor Douglas Cohen, Professor Dov Fischer, Professor Namulundah Florence, Professor Mobina Hashmi, Professor Kip Marsh, Professor Sreyashi Samaddar, Professor Brian Sowers, Professor MJ Robinson, Deborah Bernfeld (USG), Haikeda Hilliman (USG), Cyle Paul (USG), Ailyn Paz (USG), Fia Sanchez (USG), Ajadah Simms (USG), Keyanna Tyrell (USG), Beth Rocco (GSO).

**Absent:** Dean Philip Napoli, Judith Kenny, Aharon Grama, Professor Jillian Cavanaugh, Doha Nemr (USG), Hailey Johnston (USG), Nilgun Gungor (GSO).

**Non-voting:** Sadiya Hoque, Professor Carol Connell, James Eaton, Robert Echevarria, Danielle Haynes, Pierre Junior, Carrie Sadovnik.

1. President Michelle J. Anderson called meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.
2. President Anderson announced that the process for submitting honorary degree nominations had begun.
3. Professor MJ Robinson moved to approve the minutes of the October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 meeting. Professor Patricia Antonello seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
4. Aharon Grama submitted a written report on behalf of the Governance and Policy Committee.
5. Senior Vice President Alan Gilbert submitted a written report on behalf of Fiscal, Infrastructure, and Planning Committee.
6. Dean Maria Sharron-del Rio provided an oral report on behalf of Faculty-Student Relations Committee regarding classroom recordings and confidentiality. She reported on the need for clear policies that include student accommodation and stakeholder involvement, and the importance of reviewing the Henderson Rules with stakeholder participation, the role of Public Safety in student disciplinary matters, and follow-up with the Office of Student Affairs regarding accommodation review. Discussion ensued.

7. Cyle Paul (USG) requested the installation of signage with a QR code for reporting concerns, and the matter was referred to the Advisory Committee on Campus Safety, chaired by Legal Counsel Jaelyn Helms. Fia Sanchez (USG) requested that the Public Safety Code of Conduct be publicized and included in the referenced QR code.
8. Interim Associate Vice President Ludovic Leroy submitted a written report on behalf of the External Relations Committee, and Professor Kip Marsh provided additional context regarding committee discussions.
9. The existing classroom recording policy, which is circulated each semester, was reviewed and referred to the full body by the Governance and Policy Committee. Discussion addressed concerns regarding the policy's second paragraph, its origin, noted as possibly evolving from 2021, and the absence of student agency and consent, as well as the need to assess accommodation-based recording usage, clarify coordination among students, faculty and the Center for Student Disability Services (CSDS), and address access issues for students not using the Brooklyn College email, including applicability to synchronous and asynchronous instruction.
10. Members discussed the establishment of a defined timeframe for accommodation requests, consideration of additional accommodation methods, and clarification of whether classrooms are public or private spaces and how recording should be institutionalized and monitored. Recommendations included renaming the policy to "recording of the classroom experience", requiring prior written consent, including whether consent is revocable, defining the permissible scope of recording, and including consequences for violations, including disciplinary action.
11. President Anderson advised that students may escalate concerns to department chairs or deans, tabled questions regarding the recording of private conversations, and emphasized that updated policies should be broadly accepted and widely communicated.
12. The Faculty Council passed a resolution opposing the Mutual Academic Defense Compact. Dean Peter Tolia moved to endorse the resolution, Professor Dov Fischer seconded, discussion ensued, and the motion carried with one abstention.
13. President Anderson adjourned the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

## Report of the November 12, 2025 Committee Meeting

**To:** Brooklyn College Policy Council

**From:** Governance and Policy Committee

**Date:** November 12, 2025

The Governance and Policy Committee convened to advance its ongoing governance agenda, continue policy development work on classroom recording and campus civility, and identify next steps for several standing priorities.

**Governance Plan Amendment Update:** General Counsel Jaclyn Helms provided a brief update on the April 2025 Governance Plan amendment process. The amendment, which would add full-time professional staff to Policy Council through Presidential appointment, continues to move through review channels and is expected to be forwarded to the CUNY Board of Trustees Committee on Education Policy for consideration.

**Classroom Recording Policy: Review and Next Steps:** The committee continued its structured discussion on whether Brooklyn College should adopt a campus-wide policy on student recording in classrooms. Documents referenced during discussion included the [Provost's August 19, 2025](#) campus policy, [comparative models](#) from CUNY and peer institutions, and the [Frameworks for a Classroom Recording Policy](#) item shared during the meeting. After discussion, the committee took a formal vote on the three proposed policy models. The committee approved Model 1 (maintain the current policy) as the preferred framework for advancing to Policy Council.

**Bullying and Civility Policy Exploration:** The committee began its first formal review of potential Policy Council action related to **bullying, harassment, and civility**, considered in concert with CUNY and SUNY model policies. [Supporting documents](#) circulated included research folders and draft frameworks referenced during the meeting. The committee welcomed guest participant Danielle Haynes, who had been invited to contribute her perspective to the bullying and civility discussion. The committee also discussed how USG's disciplinary processes for student clubs intersect with bullying, harassment, and conduct issues. Members noted that questions about due process, authority, and procedural clarity within USG's handling of club-related conflicts may need to be examined as part of a broader campus approach to civility and community standards. Initial discussion emphasized whether Brooklyn College should adopt a standalone campus policy, advocate for CUNY-wide standardization, integrate bullying into the student & employee handbook or determining that no additional policy is needed, given that the

Henderson Rules (particularly Rule 9) already encompass bullying. The committee will continue this discussion at the next meeting.

**Henderson Rules Clarification and Communication:** Committee members discussed improving campus awareness and interpretation of the **Henderson Rules**, including their application to student conduct, academic spaces, and digital environments. Topics included updating explanatory materials for faculty and students, Henderson Rules training, and exploring ways to incorporate Henderson Rules clarification into the governance repository.

**Disciplinary Policies and Confidentiality Issues:** The committee examined confidentiality considerations related to student discipline, faculty responsibilities, and record handling, including intersections with FERPA. Jaclyn Helms will review the college's confidentiality statement and report back.

**Priorities and Continuing Work**

- CWERC Bylaws
- Stated Meeting of the Faculty
- Governance Repository

## **Policy Council**

*Fiscal, Infrastructure, and Planning Subcommittee*

November 17, 2025

As a follow up from the last Policy Council Meeting:

Wheelchair users can enter Whitehead Hall via the library café patio door, which connects to the building. This door remains unlocked during campus hours, and signage is posted to guide users. Students should contact the Center for Student Disabilities Services.

Discussions continued on:

- A Facilities Open Forum for faculty, staff, and students in Spring 2026
- Using Brooklyn College Knowledge and the college website to provide scheduling information on Facilities Capital Projects. We will be working with Marketing and Communications
- Working with the Provost and Deans on Academic Program Funding Models
- Review staffing and the possibility of setting up administrative hubs

## External Relations Committee Report November 18, 2025

### Attendees:

Namulundah Florence  
Ludovic Leroy  
Kip Marsh  
Beth Rocco  
Mohamed Tabrani

### Summary of Meeting

The committee discussed:

- Updates on **ongoing lobbying efforts** and **marketing strategies** targeting non-traditional students.
- The need to draft two policies:
  - **Campus visits by elected officials**
  - **Doxing prevention for students, faculty, and staff**

### Lobbying and Marketing Initiatives

- **Lobbying Efforts:**  
President Michelle Anderson continues building year-round relationships with elected officials to advance Brooklyn College's programmatic priorities.
- **Recent Event:**  
On **November 14**, Brooklyn College honored **Congresswoman Yvette Clarke** with the **Presidential Medal of Honor**.  
This event served as a cultivation opportunity for Clarke and other elected officials who were invited and attended.

### Next Steps

1. **Policy Development**
  - Review examples of elected official visitation policies from other colleges/universities.
  - Draft a doxing policy for faculty, students, and staff based on examples from peer institutions.
2. **Scheduling**
  - Confirm future meeting dates for the committee and policy council.