

BROOKLYN COLLEGE
OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
FACULTY COUNCIL
April 14, 2026

- (7129) Call to order The seventh meeting of Faculty Council for the 2025-2026 academic year was called to order at 3:30 pm by Professor Robinson (TREM).
- (7130) Roll call The roll call was taken at the door. Department Chairs and Representatives: Murelli (CHEM), Yarrow (CLAS), Lauterbach (ECAE), Fishman & Remy (HIST), Porter (SOCY); Delegates: Elmadani (EDUC), Ginsburg & Jain (NBS), McCoy (Prog Dir), Fry (VMPA), were absent (-11); Day (AFST), Panek (GLLC), Sandeman (PHYS), Santamaria (PRLS), Grasso (PSYC), Amoo & Ninan (BUSN), Avivi-Reich & Pan (HUMA), Cherrier (NBS) were excused (10); Administrators – Ali, Lynch, Ludovic, McFadden, Bassell, Scharron del Rio, Suarez, O'Reilly, Coombs & Paul were also absent and excused. All other members were present.
- (7131) Minutes The minutes of March 10 with changes were approved with a vote of 74 yeas, 3 nays, and 2 abstentions.
- (7132) Steering Committee Professor of Physical Education, Emeritus Michael Hispcher read a tribute in memory of Professor of the Department of Physical Education, Emeritus, Charles Tobey. Professor Robinson announced the results of the University Faculty Senate elections and called for nominations for the Brooklyn College Association Board. The following nominations were made: Professors Chang (CISC), Finn (THEA), Gythfeldt (MUSC), Kobrak (CHEM), Lewis (MUSC) Piva (MUSC), Sosa (TREM), Snider-Stein (THEA), Suarez (PHYS), Tong (THEA), Torrente (CHEM). The resolution to submit all the nominations passed with a vote of 83 yeas, 0 nays, and 2 abstentions. Professor Robinson announced that the Committee on College Integrity and Academic Freedom will be sending out survey on academic freedom via email and urged all to respond.
- (7133) Committee on Committees Professor Robinson announced that Faculty Council secretary Kathy Busacco-Streffacio was honored for 25 years of service at Brooklyn College on March 10, 2026.
- The latest slate for Faculty Council committees passed with a vote of 74 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.
- A discussion of the Resolution Concerning the Merging of the Faculty Council Committees on Computer Utilization and Educational Technology and on the Library ensued. The following were discussed: the importance of maintaining the broad charge of the Library Committee, as well as of its work in years past, the lack of consultation about the resolution with Library faculty and staff, the current activities of the Library Committee, and concerns about narrowing the focus of the Library Committee if the resolution passed. The motion to call the question passed with a vote of 81 yeas, 8 nays, and 0 abstentions. The Resolution to Combine the CUET and Library Committees failed with a vote of 13 yeas, 70 nays, and 6 abstentions.
- A discussion of the Resolution Concerning the Reconstitution of the Faculty Council Committee on College Integrity and Academic Freedom took place. A discussion about the following ensued: the rationale for including *ex officio* members on the committee; the current committee's work on revising the charge and including members from every

school on the committee; the meaning of “college integrity” and how Faculty Council takes responsibility for it; the current climate for higher education, including threats to academic freedom; the current charge and configuration of the committee; and the history of the activities of the committee in recent years. An amendment to add “one from each school,” after the words “five members of the faculty” passed with a vote of 73 yeas, 1 nay, and 8 abstentions. An amendment to change the new charge in the resolution to replace “the Chairperson of Faculty Council, one additional member of the Steering Committee of Faculty Council” passed with a vote of 72 yeas, 6 nays, and 8 abstentions. The motion to call the question passed with a vote of 73 yeas, 1 nay and 0 abstentions. The motion to postpone the resolution to the May Faculty Council meeting passed with a vote of 83 yeas, 5 nays, and 0 abstentions.

(7134) Degree Lists

Degree List 2026/10 was approved with a vote of 87 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstention.

(7135) Standing Committees

Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Curriculum Document 447 was approved with a vote of 88 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

Committee on Graduate Curriculum & Degree Requirements: Curriculum Document 294 with changes passed with a vote of 88 yeas, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.

Ad Hoc General Education Committee: Professor Childers (GLLL) announced a town hall about “Brooklyn Bridges,” the possible general education model, on April 30, 2026.

Committee on Review of Interdisciplinary Programs: The Resolution Asserting that the Interdisciplinary Programs of Brooklyn College Need More Support and Resources passed with a vote of 64 yeas, 11 nays, and 11 abstentions.

(7136) Liaison with the University Faculty Senate

Professor Cohen reported on the March 31, 2026 meeting of the University Faculty Senate, at which Senior Vice Chancellor for Budget, Finance, and Labor Relations & Chief Financial Officer Godiner and PSC-CUNY President Davis spoke. Topics discussed included the New York State Executive Budget, the financial situation of Queens College, collective bargaining bodies in New York, and resisting the austerity model. A question about CUNY’s efforts to address the situation at Queens College.

The motion was made to extend the meeting until 5:10 failed with a vote of 52 yeas, 29 nays, and 4 abstentions.

(7137) Communications from the Administration

President Anderson discussed the latest summer enrollment figures and urged members to take summer classes. She also encouraged members to support efforts to increase yield. She then spoke about efforts to support immigrant students, making reference to an article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* about measures that can be taken to protect immigrant students if ICE comes to campus; encouraging faculty to attend the Undocually training, offered by the Immigrant Student Success Office on March 12, 2026; and informing about the emergency planning team’s subcommittee, which focuses on immigrant enforcement. She also discussed the executive order tying federal funding to eliminating diversity and identity-based programs and affirmed a commitment to not preemptively comply. She then discussed plans for commencement and announced that National Legal Director of the ACLU, Cecillia Wang, will be awarded the Brooklyn College Presidential Medal of Honor. A discussion

followed, at which the following were raised: signage for emergency phone numbers, a request that President Anderson ask CUNY Central to allow the hiring of the adjunct whose position was terminated, the schedule for arbitration for that adjunct, as well as procedures and protocols for grievances, and how Brooklyn College plans to address diversity in the self-study for the Middle States accreditation process.

(7138) Old Business Faculty Council adjourned before a discussion of and vote on the Resolution to Build Unity in Defense of the BC community.

(7139) New Business Faculty Council adjourned before any new business was raised.

(7140) Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

MJ Robinson
Chair

Martha Nadell
Secretary