

BROOKLYN COLLEGE
POLICY COUNCIL
Minutes of the
September 23, 2026 General Meeting
5:00pm, Gold Room, Student Center

Present: President Michelle J. Anderson, Provost April Bedford, Senior Vice President Alan Gilbert, Vice President Yasmin Ali, Dean Philip Napoli, Dean Maria Scharron-del Rio, Dean Shalei Simms, Dean Peter Tolias, Randall Clarke, Judith Kenny, Professor Patricia Antonello, Professor Joshua Cheng, Professor Douglas Cohen, Professor Dov Fischer, Professor Namulundah Florence, Professor Mobina Hashmi, Professor Kip Marsh, Professor Martha Nadell, Professor Jolie Tong, Professor Sreyashi Samaddar, Mahnoor Ahmed (USG), Deborah Bernfeld (USG), Robert Echevarria (USG), Katherine Hepburn (USG), Anna Hsieh(USG), Illan Saji (USG), Amnerys Taveras (USG), Dayna Taylor (USG), Lumi Kuusisto (GSO).

Absent: Professor Jillian Cavanaugh, Professor Brian Sowers, Professor MJ Robinson, Naomi Jagroop (USG), Adil Hussain (GSO).

Non-voting: Sadiya Hoque, Dean Paula Massood, Aharon Grama, Michael Kravets (USG).

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, Robert Echevarria (USG).
5. Each constituent group met separately in caucus and selected representatives to serve on the Standing Committees.
6. Mahnoor Ahmed (USG) was nominated to serve as Secretary. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed, and Mahnoor Ahmed (USG) was elected by acclamation.
7. Dean Peter Tolias moved to approve April 22, 2026 minutes. Professor Mobina Hashmi seconded. The motion carried, with two abstentions.

8. President Anderson reviewed the prior year's progress and accomplishments of the Policy Council, noting several key initiatives, including amending the Governance Plan to expand representation to full-time professional staff, subsequently ratified by the CUNY Board of Trustees; endorsement of the Faculty Council's resolution opposing the "Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education"; and continued discussions regarding the Classroom Recording Policy, the Bullying on Campus Policy, and the Institute for Democratic Renewal.
9. Provost April Bedford reviewed proposed revisions to the Brooklyn College Governance Plan to align with CUNY governance requirements, including the addition of the Senior Lecturer position and other minor revisions.
10. Professor Joshua Cheng motioned to approve the revisions of the Governance Plan. Randall Clarke seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
11. On behalf of Professor MJ Robinson, President Anderson provided an update regarding the University Faculty Senate's proposed policy on classroom recording and photography.
12. The Council discussed the proposed classroom recording and photography policy, including its applicability to non-classroom settings and concerns regarding recording without consent.
13. A point of order was raised regarding the version of the Governance Plan under review. It was noted that the proposed revisions had been prepared using the 2023 version of the Governance Plan and that a revised version had subsequently been ratified in 2025. President Anderson stated that the matter would be reviewed and addressed at a future meeting.
14. President Anderson adjourned the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>MEMBERS</u>	<u>STUDENT</u>	<u>ADMINISTRATIO N</u>	<u>FACULTY</u>	<u>STAFF</u>	<u>CHARGE</u>
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 President from Academic 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 9/18/26

**Standing Committees of
Policy Council: 2026-2027**

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Student Members</u>	<u>Faculty Members</u>	<u>Staff Members</u>	<u>Administration Members</u>
Executive (3)	Robert Echevarria	MJ Robinson	N/A	April Bedford
Governance and Policy (7)	Deborah Bernfeld Mahnoor Ahmed	MJ Robinson Joshua Cheng	Aharon Grama [Alternate]	Nancy Olisma Shalei Simms
Faculty/Student Relations (8)	Amnerys Taveras Vanessa Tseytlina [GSO Rep]	Jillian Cavanaugh Mobina Hashmi Doug Cohen	Ariel Maguire [Alternate]	Maria Scharron-del Rio
Fiscal, Infrastructure and Planning (10)	Katherine Hepburn Michael Kravetz Adil Hussain	Patricia Antonello Sreyashi Samaddar Mariana Regalado	Eduard Skylar [Alternate]	Alan Gilbert Matt Doherty Michael Lanza
External Relations (7)	Ilan Saji Robert Echevarria	Kip Marsh Joshua Cheng	Lisa Millsaps- Graham [Alternate]	Michelle Anderson Ludovic Leroy

Term of Office:

Student members – Fall 2026 – Spring 2027

Faculty members – Fall 2025 – Spring 2027

revised 10/12/26