



**DARE TO DO MORE**

**President's Cabinet Meeting  
Monday, December 13, 2021  
9:00 – 10:30 a.m. in E-500**

**Meeting Notes**

**Participants:**

**Present:**

Paul Arcario, Provost  
Shahir Erfan, Vice President of Administration and Finance  
Sunil Gupta, Vice President of Adult and Continuing Education  
Henry Saltiel, Vice President of Information Technology  
Gail Baksh-Jarrett, Interim Associate Dean for Enrollment  
Fay Butler, Interim Associate Dean for Student Success  
Ronald Edwards, Executive Director of Human Resources / Interim Chief Diversity Officer/  
Affirmative Action Officer/Title IX Coordinator/504-ADA Coordinator  
Wendy Nicholson, Executive Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion  
Cristy Bruns, Chair, College Senate  
Laura Bartovics, Interim Executive Director of Development  
Nayelli Valencia Turrent, Chief of Staff

**On the phone:**

Kenneth Adams, President  
Maria Cook, Executive Counsel to the President/Labor Designee  
Rochell Isaac, President, Faculty Council  
Robert Jaffe, Senior Advisor to the President/Interim Executive Director of Marketing and  
Communication

**I. Greenway Pathway Presentation**

- a. The presentation was given by the students: Arhum Aamir, Shawn Blackman, Maria Fonseca- Morales, Naurene Sultana, and Layla Xholi.
- b. Also present, the President's Society Environment faculty: Dr. Holly Porter-Morgan, Professor of Environmental Sciences; Dr. Joby Jacob, Assistant Professor in the Natural Science Department and Dr. Ryan Mann-Hamilton, Assistant Professor of Anthropology.
- c. The presentation was about their vision of transforming 29th Street into an open space with natural elements. The students shared that the immediate next steps are two pop-ups Plazas for the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT) to test the format. The dates for the Pop-ups are April 6 and May 11.
- d. VP Gupta asked how else we could help the students to make the project a reality, and the students answered to be present at the pop-ups so we could have foot traffic.
- e. Professor Bruns asked the students to come to the Senate to present their project.

- f. Professor Ryan Mann-Hamilton asked the Cabinet to fill out a survey provided to Nayelli and share it with colleagues to keep gathering data.

## **II. Campus/CUNY Updates (Kenneth)**

- a. The LaGuardia Community Greenway. President Adams wanted to highlight the students' great job at their presentation. He believes we should have more of these presentations at the Cabinet meetings. If you have any suggestions, please let us know. He also wanted to thank Shahir regarding this project. Once you start talking about making it a reality, many technical issues come up: security, electricity, water, cleaning crew, and all of that goes to Shahir and his team, and they always find a way to make it work.
- b. Tomorrow Campaign. Last Thursday, President Adams reported to the LaGCC Foundation Board of Directors that we had reached \$8.7 million towards the \$10 million targets.
- c. ACE Department. There are excellent news coming from VP Gupta and his team. They have secured two grants totaling almost \$3 million for new and significant programming for the College. One is coming from New York Community Trust and the other from The Robin Hood Foundation. Another great piece of news is the \$875,000 funding that John Hunt and his team received from the State for Adult Literacy.
- d. Grants Office. President Adams also wanted to give a shout-out to ED Bartovics and his team because it would be impossible to submit the proposals without them.

## **III. Review 12/06/21 Cabinet Meeting Notes:**

- a. No changes

## **IV. Enrollment**

- a. Interim Associate Dean Baksh-Jarrett mentioned that Fall II enrollment is stable.
- b. Saturday, December 12, was the last day for students to upload their vaccination, and as of this morning, 334 students were dropped for the Fall semester.
- c. For Spring 22 enrollment, Interim Associate Dean Baksh-Jarrett sees a positive sign, which means we are seeing a 10% increase in the number of applications. Overall enrollment has increased 5% compared to last year.

## **V. Spring Enrollment and Course Modality**

- a. Professor Bruns mentioned that there is considerable concern among faculty about enrollment in Spring regarding course modality because the online classes are filling faster, and they are afraid of late cancellation of in-person classes.
- b. Program Directors are looking for guidance to avoid the last-minute cancellation. And Professor Bruns is wondering if she can work with the Provost to create a contingency plan if students are resistant to signing up for in-person classes.
- c. Provost Arcario mentioned that he already had a couple of meetings with Interim Executive Vice Chancellor Daniel Lemons. They hear the same thing around the CUNY System. But one thing is clear. CUNY won't allow the change of modality.
- d. Provost Arcario is meeting with their Chairs on December 14, and he will ask them to start thinking about what can be done in advance to avoid the last-minute changes that seem inevitable.
- e. Professor Bruns talked about the interest at the Senate regarding course pass rate over the pandemic. Can we as a College try to monitor it? Provost Arcario mentioned that President Adams has been talking to IR Director Nava Lerer about this data.

- f. President Adams wanted to clarify that we should follow the procedure and let the Chairs of each department work with their Program Directors. The Cabinet should not be making decisions regarding course scheduling, this is a decision properly delegated to the Chairs.

**VI. Fall 2021 Return to Campus**

- a. ED Jaffe doesn't have anything new.

**VII. Other:**

- a. ED Bartovics brought the issue of the 70% in-person mandate for staff returning in Spring. The Research Foundation has already sent an email to all RF employees directing staff to come back in person 7 out of 10 days. She is asking when the information will be disseminated to tax-levy staff.
- b. Provost Arcario suggested the sooner, the better because the date to return in person is January 28.
- c. President Adams asked to wait on the communications until he can double-check if there is any room to change the January 28<sup>th</sup> date.