



**DARE TO DO MORE**

**President's Cabinet Meeting  
Monday, November 29, 2021  
9:00 – 10:30 a.m. in E-500**

**Meeting Notes**

**Participants:**

**Present:**

Kenneth Adams, President

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

Ronald Edwards, Executive Director of Human Resources / Interim Chief Diversity Officer/  
Affirmative Action Officer/Title IX Coordinator/504-ADA Coordinator

Robert Jaffe, Senior Advisor to the President/Interim Executive Director of Marketing and  
Communication

Cristy Bruns, Chair, College Senate

Rochell Isaac, President, Faculty Council

Laura Bartovics, Interim Executive Director of Development

Nayelli Valencia Turrent, Chief of Staff

**On the phone:**

Maria Cook, Executive Counsel to the President/Labor Designee

Wendy Nicholson, Executive Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

**Not Present:**

Fay Butler, Interim Associate Dean for Student Success

**I. Campus/CUNY Updates (President Adams)**

- a. There has been another \$100,000 pledge to the Tomorrow Campaign. We are getting close. And VP Gupta and ED Bartovics have some important irons in the fire with a couple of foundations. We will know more about it at the beginning of December.
- b. There will be a Town Hall meeting on Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup> @ 10 am and we will talk about:
  - i. Tomorrow Campaign,
  - ii. Grants highlights and,
  - iii. Grant Recovery Investment Program (GRIP)
- c. There will be a COPS meeting on Wednesday, Dec 1<sup>st</sup> in person at the Graduate Center. There are a couple of items President Adams would like to ask at the meeting:
  - i. The policy that prohibits faculty to ask students to turn on their camera during zoom classes;

- ii. BURSAR Holds and what are other Colleges doing?
  - iii. Employee mandate on vaccinations, and
  - iv. For staff to come back to work policy. (As of now, it is up to the managers to work with their staff but if they want 100% remote, that case goes to ED Edwards).
- d. This info is not to be shared yet but we have a new recruitment opportunity with Amazon. CUNY Central office approached us to participate in it as an educational partner. It is an employee benefit program for Amazon workers to finish a degree. It is a tuition reimbursement program. We need to have a point person for the look of the Amazon employees that will study at LaGCC when is time.

**II. Review 11/22/21 Cabinet Meeting Notes:** Notes were reviewed and there were some clarifications:

- a. ED Nicholson pointed that it is Director of Admissions instead of Director of Enrollment
- b. Professor Isaac mentioned that the staff feels demoralized but she didn't mention Professor Hofmann.

**III. Enrollment**

- a. Associate Dean Baksh-Jarrett presented for the first time a Spring 2022 dashboard. She wanted to clarify that the dashboard compares Spring 2021 and 2022 but Spring 2021 has inflated numbers because of PAR. Therefore, there is not an accurate comparison between the two years.
- b. The good thing is that we have seen for Spring 2022 an increase for freshmen and transfer for freshmen and part of that has to do with the increased communication that ED Jaffe and his team are doing. New digital ads, social media, google search, TikTok.

**IV. Returning to Campus (Staff and Faculty)**

- a. ED Jaffe mentioned a couple of things that will be included:
  - i. An intro referencing what is happening now in the world with the new variant.
  - ii. Emphasize the vaccine verification deadlines
  - iii. Mandatory random testing

**V. Other:**

- a. Professor Bruns mentioned that there is a concern in Senate for the Spring semester regarding the balance of enrollment versus modality. President Adams asked if we can ask Burhan to track the pattern and he thinks is normal that there is more enrollment with online classes. Provost Arcario mentioned that we need to be careful changing modalities because it is not allowed to start a class in person and then switch online.
- b. Provost Arcario thinks we should be strict with dropping students that have not verified vaccination by the deadlines established by the college and university. If we drop them, there is no penalty. He thinks plenty of students will come back the day after the deadline and ask us to put them back. Professor Bruns mentioned that she agrees with being strict but that she lost a lot of her students who did not manage to negotiate the extension.
- c. ED Jaffe mentioned that the deadline of 12/11/21 established for vaccine verification by students for Fall 2 is earlier than the deadline set by the University (10 days before the start of classes). Given the holidays and the need for adequate time to handle any special circumstances, the Cabinet reaffirmed the 12/11/21 deadline.
- d. ED Jaffe wanted to bring up the issue of how to manage non-student-facing office expectations. Even though we want to empower managers, at some point questions on equity issues are going to be raised. ED Edwards mentioned that CUNY Central has been looking into that and that soon we will have some guidelines.