



DARE TO DO MORE

**President's Cabinet Meeting
Monday, December 20, 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

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

Laura Bartovics, Interim Executive Director of Development

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

Nayelli Valencia Turrent, Chief of Staff

On the phone:

Maria Cook, Executive Counsel to the President/Labor Designee

Rochell Isaac, President, Faculty Council

Not present:

Cristy Bruns, Chair, College Senate

I. Campus/CUNY Updates

- a. The Chancellor sent a draft to all the Presidents that contained information on return to work. It is not official until that email is out but let's be prepared. We know how to do this.
- b. Because of our academic calendar, President Adams has been talking to CUNY Central to have our staff return to campus, pursuant to the 70% requirement for staff in-person work, later than January 28.
- c. In Crain's today, there is an op-ed President Adams wrote regarding our new collaboration with Hostos Community College regarding continuing education and the scholarships we are giving to New Yorkers to get back on their feet.
- d. Today, Amazon is announcing and communicating the benefit tuition reimbursements across the country to their employees. As President Adams mentioned before, La

Guardia was selected as one of their partners in the CUNY system. President Adams wants to thank Gail, Shannon, and their team in advance because it is a lot of work, as we need to keep track of them, but if it works, it will be great. There are over 50,000 Amazon employees in Queens alone.

- e. President Adams wanted to bring to Cabinet's attention the remarkable effort Executive Director Bartovics and her team made in collaboration with PI's in 2021 regarding grants. They have secured 24 new grants (with new programs) totaling \$20 million. Of those 24 new grants, 18 came out from ACE, and the most significant single grant came from Dean Eric Hoffman in Academic Affairs (\$3.4 million).
- f. We are at \$8.8 million on the challenge for the Tomorrow Campaign.
- g. The Cabinet packet includes an updated chart on COVID protocols regarding exposure provided by VP Erfan.

II. Review 12/13/21 Cabinet Meeting Notes:

- a. Professor Bruns clarified that in last meeting notes, In section V. b. should read:
"Program Directors are looking for guidance to avoid the last-minute cancellation. And Professor Bruns is wondering if there is a need for contingency plans if students are resistant to signing up for in-person classes".

III. Enrollment

- a. Interim Associate Dean Baksh-Jarrett mentioned that there is little change in enrollment, but we will know our final numbers for Fall 2 by the second week of January.
- b. Many of the students received the AARP funds, and about 30% opted to use it to pay off the balance, though we still have another 6000 students with outstanding balances.
- c. Spring 22 enrollment is gradually moving ahead. Last three weeks, we had about 350 new registrations each week.
- d. We have seen an uptake in food insecurity with our students. Rhonda Mouton has been distributing electronic gift cards, and she is also looking to do home delivery for the students who can't get them.

IV. Fall 2021 Return to Campus

- a. Let's wait to see if the Chancellor sends the announcement regarding in-person/remote work in the Spring 2022 semester.

V. Benefits of Aligning Career Services within ACE presentation

- a. VP Gupta gave a presentation about Career Services and the benefits of aligning within the ACE division.
- b. Comments:
 - i. President Adams mentioned that we will roll up into one mechanism, one tracking system by centralizing Career Services. This move will make the department stronger and more visible for the College. We want potential students to know that we have a solid Career Services Office at LaGuardia that will help them get a job and that reputation is good for enrollment.
 - ii. Provost Arcario said that he sees the strength in having Career Services in ACE because they are the heart of the workplace connections. The challenge is connecting with the Academic Division, where departments maintain siloed arrangements with employers.
 - iii. Interim Associate Dean Baksh-Jarrett mentioned that part of that conversation has to start with enrollment counselors and Academic advisors because we are talking about assisting in helping students get work and moving beyond completion. Advisors should tell the students that we have resources to ensure employment in their field, and early career advising should be implemented.

- iv. ED Jaffe mentioned that we need to think about messaging this new model to faculty and staff to address expectations and lay out the long and short-range plan. We don't want to advertise it and not be able to deliver.