The meeting was called to order at 4:45 p.m.

There were present:

**Committee Members:**
- Hon. Wellington Chen, Chair
- Hon. Hugo Morales, Vice Chair
- Hon. Charles A. Shorter
- Hon. Sam A. Sutton
- Prof. Karen Kaplowitz, faculty member
- Mr. Brandon Clarke, student member
- President Russell K. Hotzler, COP liaison

**University Staff:**
- Chancellor Matthew Goldstein
- Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Alexandra Logue
- Vice Chancellor Gillian Small

**Trustee SObserver:**
- Hon. Kafui K. Kouakou

**Trustee Staff:**
- Senior Vice Chancellor and Secretary of the Board Jay Hershenson
- General Counsel and Senior Vice Chancellor Frederick P. Schaffer
- Deputy to the Secretary Hourig Messerlian
- Ms. Towanda Lewis

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Committee Vice Chair Hugo Morales opened the meeting in the absence of Committee Chair Wellington Chen. The agenda items were considered in the following order:

**I. ACTION ITEMS:**

**A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 31, 2011.** The minutes were approved as submitted.

**B. POLICY CALENDAR**

7. Medgar Evers College – Resolution to Close Academic Foundations Division. Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Alexandra Logue stated that this action will insure that the faculty from the Academics Foundations Division will be housed in departments with other faculty in relevant academic disciplines, which will enhance the assistance of students’ developmental needs in preparation for college courses. All affected faculty will retain their tenure or certificated status. This action was approved by the College Council on November 28, 2011.

In response to a question from Trustee Sam Sutton, President William Pollard stated that the purpose of this action is to eliminate dual structures in academic affairs, and this action allows the college to bring everything under one roof.
Senior Vice President and Provost Howard Johnson noted that there is clear evidence of the need to develop a continuum of content, learning, teaching and assessment in each content area of mathematics and English. A large number of students require developmental courses upon entry to the college. For example, of the first-time freshman who registered in the fall of 2009, approximately 6% were placed in lower-level reading, 8½% were placed in lower level writing and over 52% were placed in lower-level mathematics courses. Also, the college has poor passing rates both in English and in mathematics gateway courses, a lack of collaboration between academic departments and the Department of Academic Foundations, and there is content drift because of the high number of adjuncts teaching these introductory courses. It is anticipated that the merger will improve outcomes for students in developmental courses, improve student skills in these critical content areas, improve instruction and strengthen collaboration in research within the disciplines, and finally, strengthen the curriculum.

In response to a question from Trustee Charles Shorter, Dr. Logue explained that the original intent of the division was for the instruction of remedial courses. Some of the faculty are specialized in math remediation, others in English remediation. They are going to be moved to the Departments of Math and English so that each of those departments will have this developmental skillset within it. This helps to better align the not-for-credit and the for-credit coursework.

President Pollard noted that this will enable the college to put its best teachers in front of the students who have the most significant needs.

In response to a follow up question from Trustee Sutton, Dr. Johnson explained that the college will insure that full-time faculty will be teaching developmental mathematics.

Following discussion the item was approved for submission to the Board.

Committee Chair Wellington Chen joined the meeting.

9. Lehman College – Mexican Studies Institute. Dr. Logue stated that the proposed institute builds on nearly a decade of work by the CUNY task force on strengthening educational opportunities for Mexicans and Mexican Americans. The 2010 census showed the Mexican population of New York City to be close to 320,000, which represents a growth of 58% over the last decade. The institute will promote research on the entire lifecycle of Mexicans in New York, facilitate curricular development, organize academic conferences, assist students with finding internship opportunities, and will work with community-based organizations on activities promoting education and empowerment.

Following discussion the item was approved for submission to the Board.

1. Queensborough Community College/John Jay College – AS/BS in Accounting for Forensics/Economics. Dr. Logue stated that this program is part of John Jay’s educational partnership initiative known as the CUNY Justice Academy. The Academy has been established with the goal of enabling access to John Jay baccalaureate programs by students at CUNY’s community colleges. Through this proposed 2-plus-2 partnership with Queensborough Community College, after
earning their associate degrees students will transfer seamlessly to John Jay to earn their baccalaureate degrees. The proposed curriculum combines accounting principles in finance, ethics in criminology, and law and investigative techniques. It will prepare students for employment with accounting firms and government entities engaged in investigating and preventing illegal financial activity.

Following discussion the item was approved for submission to the Board.

2. **New York City College of Technology – Btech in Construction Engineering Technology.** Dr. Logue stated that this professionally-oriented program provides an upper-division curriculum for graduates of City Tech’s AAS programs in construction management and civil engineering technology as well as for other students with similar educational backgrounds. This affordable degree will open up more careers for graduates because construction management professionals continue to be in high demand in the New York Metropolitan area. Because of accreditation requirements, a waiver of the 120 credit policy is requested for this 124 credit program.

In response to a question from Trustee Sutton, Dr. Logue noted that there are a few other degree programs at CUNY that have extra credits for accreditation purposes, because professional degrees are accredited by professional organizations which have very specific requirements.

Following discussion the item was approved for submission to the Board.

3. **School of Professional Studies – BA in Disability Studies.** Dr. Logue stated that this fully on-line program is designed as a completion program for students who have earned at least 30 college credits. Consistent with the objectives of a liberal arts education, the program aims at preparing students who can communicate effectively, think critically and demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of diversity. Survey data show that the program will be of particular interest to students already working in the field and interested in advancing their careers in human services areas.

Following discussion the item was approved for submission to the Board.

4. **School of Professional Studies – MA in Urban Studies.** Dr. Logue stated that this interdisciplinary degree examines workforce issues across the curriculum focusing on the intersections between urban studies and labor studies. It will help students achieve career objectives by equipping them with advanced knowledge and skills in the areas of urban policy as well as in the administration and delivery of social services.

Following discussion the item was approved for submission to the Board.

5. **LaGuardia Community College – AA in Psychology.** Dr. Logue stated that this proposed program builds on the existing psychology track in the liberal arts and sciences and responds to significant student demand. Psychology remains one of the most popular undergraduate majors in the United States. Actually it is the largest one of all the non-professional degrees. Students will be prepared to transfer into psychology programs at four-year institutions. One articulation agreement has already been signed and others are being developed. Students
will develop problem solving, analytical and critical skills that will be valuable for a wide variety of employers.

Following discussion the item was approved for submission to the Board.

6. Hunter College – Resolution to close the SEEK Department. Dr. Logue stated that the Hunter SEEK Department was originally an academic department offering remedial courses, but its current function has shifted to academic advisement and counseling, tutoring, and student support services. Academic courses are no longer offered in the department. Consistent with system-wide practice and pursuant to a thorough performance review the SEEK Department is being converted to a program reporting directly to the Provost. Faculty are being transferred to other departments. All affected faculty will retain their tenured or certificated status. This change was approved by the Hunter College Faculty Senate on December 14th.

In response to a question from Trustee Sutton, Dr. Logue explained that the services that were provided through this particular department will still be available to those students who would typically enroll. It is just going to become a program instead of being a department, while providing the same services.

Provost Vita Rabinowitz stated that one of the reasons that the college seeks to make this move is to improve the quality of services for students. For example, currently, because all the SEEK counselors are faculty they are available on a nine-month rather than a twelve-month schedule. Today's students need counselors and tutors and advice twelve months a year. Coverage is needed all the time, and throughout the year for the students. Moving to a program model will enable the college to hire higher education officers as counselors or directors. It will charge the administration with more accountability for the performance and the success of SEEK students. The college does not seek to reduce or eliminate the program, but it is seeking to better support the mission of the program. The program accepts approximately 100 students a year and it has approximately 600 students at any one time. This change will be revenue neutral to the college. Tuition assistance benefits provided to SEEK students will not be compromised in any way by this change.

In response to a question from Mr. Brandon Clarke, Provost Rabinowitz stated that this proposal did not come before the student government group separately. However, students are a part of the Hunter College Senate, which was presented with this proposal at a well-publicized meeting. No negative comments were heard from the students on this matter. Student opinions were taken into account via focus groups of students, in which they talked frankly with the focus group leaders about some of the benefits and problems with SEEK. One thing that was heard again and again was that students wished that counselors were more available.

Following discussion the item was approved for submission to the Board.

8. Central Office – Human Research Protections Program Policy. Dr. Logue stated that the proposed policy compliments CUNY's existing policy on human research protection, which was adopted in 2009. The present document addresses the general structure and operations of CUNY's institutional review boards, and
permits the continuous adoption of standard operating procedures to insure compliance with the evolving federal regulations.

General Counsel and Senior Vice Chancellor Frederick Schaffer stated that he takes responsibility as his office made a mistake when it developed the original policy and procedures. The document was about 120 pages long and he should have foreseen that it was going to need regular updating. The new document separates out the core principles that are embedded in this resolution, and delegates to the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, in coordination with the Office of General Counsel, the periodic updating of the procedures.

Following discussion the item was approved for submission to the Board.

10. Baruch College – Institute for State and Local Governance. Dr. Logue stated that this Institute will provide non-partisan, non-ideological research and professional development opportunities for state and local governments as well as for nongovernmental organizations. The institute will aim to harness the efforts of scholars and practitioners across the full range of policy challenges faced by the city, state and the region. The institute will be housed at Baruch College, which has the largest concentration of faculty with related expertise. Roosevelt House at Hunter College will provide venues for conferences, and faculty from across the system will participate in shaping the research and training programs.

Following discussion the item was approved for submission to the Board.

11. City College – Honorary Degrees to be Awarded at the College’s Commencement Ceremony on June 1, 2012. Dr. Logue stated that Honorary Degrees are being brought to the committee because it is now the procedure that, before the full Board authorizes honorary degrees, they need to be considered by CAPPR, to make sure that there is a full vetting of the candidates. There are four proposed Honorary Degrees from City College:

Kathleen Battle, for the Doctor of Humane Letters. She is a distinguished African American award-winning operatic soprano who has had a long and successful opera career and remains active in concert and recital performances.

Ray Suarez, for the Doctor of Humane Letters. He is a senior correspondent for the News Hour on PBS, who is a leader in the news field and has been recognized by numerous Latino and Hispanic organizations.

Sheldon Weinbaum, for the Doctor of Science. A CCNY Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Biomedical and Mechanical Engineering, Professor Weinbaum has made seminal contributions to biomedical engineering and is widely recognized for his ground-breaking research on atherosclerosis among other research areas. He is one of only eight living individuals who have been elected to all three national academies. He has also rendered distinguished service to City College as an educator and advocate for the greater representation of women and minorities in engineering.
Harvey Kaylie, for the Doctor of Science. He is the founder and president of Mini Circuits Inc. and a CCNY alumnus (1960). Mr. Kaylie is recognized as a world leader in the design and manufacturing of radio frequency infrared and microwave components. He is also very involved in philanthropic activities supporting education, people with disabilities, medical research, the disadvantaged, and the arts. He has established the Mini Circuits Scholarships for talented students, and the Harvey and Gloria Kaylie Entrepreneurship Prize.

Trustee Sutton suggested that information be given to all the Board members in advance of the Board meeting so that they are not caught by surprise at the meeting.

In response to a question from Professor Karen Kaplowitz, Provost Martin Moskovits explained that the college has an honorary degree committee, of which the provost, the president and the chair of the senate are members among the approximately dozen people on the committee, including student representatives. The college is sensitive to the issue of reputation and conducts due diligence on all candidates. The college has found nothing that might be sensitive about these four individuals.

In response to another question from Prof. Kaplowitz, General Counsel and Senior Vice Chancellor Schaffer confirmed that honorary degrees have always been subject to the public hearings of the Board, and they always have been, and will continue to be listed on the Calendars of Board meetings.

Following discussion the item was approved for submission to the Board.

12. Queens College – Honorary Degrees to be Awarded at the College’s Commencement Ceremony on May 31, 2012. Dr. Logue stated that there are two proposed Honorary Degrees from Queens College:

Sara Miller McCune, for the Doctor of Humane Letters. She is the founder, publisher and executive chair of Sage Publications, a leading academic publishing house, and a Queens College alumna (1961). She launched Sage Publications, an independent academic publishing company, in 1965, a few years after graduating from Queens College with a degree in political science. Today she oversees a global corporation with a presence on four continents. Ms. McCune is also a prominent philanthropist and is president of the charitable McCune Foundation.

Orhan Pamuk, for the Doctor of Humane Letters. Mr. Pamuk is the 2006 winner of the Nobel Prize for literature. He is a prominent public intellectual and the first Turkish writer to be awarded a Nobel Prize for literature. Mr. Pamuk has received a number of other prestigious awards in different countries around the world, in addition to the Nobel Prize, and has been accepted as an honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Literature.

Following discussion the item was approved for submission to the Board.
II. INFORMATION ITEMS:

Report by Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Alexandra Logue.

A. An Update on the Pathways Project. Dr. Logue stated that significant progress has been made since her informational letter to CAPPR members a little over a month ago. Each campus has now designated someone as its liaison for all aspects of the implementation of Pathways. During January there were two meetings for these liaisons as well as for other senior leaders of each campus to introduce and start to work on the many administrative aspects of Pathways. For example, one question is how to designate all the Pathways courses so that students and their advisors can choose their courses digitally. Another example is that a decision needs to be made if any students other than brand new freshmen, who are required to do so, can opt into Pathways in the fall of 2013. What about students who left CUNY in their freshman year but are coming back after a year's absence? What about students who entered in Spring 2013 but only took three credits? These are complicated issues because there is such diversity among our campuses, and many discussions need to take place among campuses and Central Office representatives to figure out the best approaches. The CUNY-wide committee that will review the courses submitted for the common core part of CUNY’s new general education framework is being established. This committee is divided into eight subcommittees, one for each area of the common core. Almost all of CUNY’s nineteen undergraduate institutions have a representative on all of these nineteen subcommittees, for a total of about 120 faculty. The review committee as a whole will be chaired by Prof. Philip Kasinitz who is a Professor of Sociology at the Graduate Center and Hunter College, and who regularly teaches undergraduates at Hunter.

Dr. Logue noted that, in addition, the committees that are identifying the first three to six courses for the largest transfer majors for all of CUNY are also making good progress. Many faculty are also now deeply involved in identifying and designing courses for the new common core. The Office of Academic Affairs continues to answer many questions about the common core and what may or may not be included within it. Campuses actually have a great deal of flexibility in terms of what they can put in the core, and some faculty are coming up with very creative ways of structuring courses that demonstrate that flexibility.

In response to a request from Professor Kaplowitz, Dr. Logue stated that as soon as they are finalized the Office of Academic Affairs will post on their website the list of faculty serving on the eight subcommittees of the review committee.

B. Update on the Mater Plan. Dr. Logue reminded committee members that New York State requires CUNY to complete a master plan every four years and the next one of these is due this coming June. Good progress is being made on this document and already there is a completed first draft. This Master Plan will focus on the financial stability afforded to CUNY for the next few years, and CUNY’s ensuing ability to actually plan its actions for those years. A major aspect of that planning will be how to address the challenges that have arisen over the past couple of years when enrollment grew so quickly, more quickly, in fact, than did full-time faculty. Over the past couple of years CUNY has actually lost ground in terms of increasing students’ exposure to full-time faculty. This is a major concern given that such exposure is associated with increased student success.
We need to find ways to grow our enrollment at a controlled rate that maximizes access but enables CUNY to simultaneously grow our faculty at an even higher rate.

In response to questions from Trustees Shorter and Sutton, Chancellor Matthew Goldstein stated that the Master Plan process starts with asking the presidents, chief academic officers, chief financial officers, the UFS and the USS for comments about going forward to get a good general sense. As comments come in, the administration tries to incorporate as much of them as possible. As a matter of course, there will be an external review of the plan as it is developed. Chancellor Goldstein added that he will be briefing the Trustees either at the next Board meeting or the one after it, but well before the Master Plan is put into its final form. The Trustees will get a broad scope of the kinds of things the administration is looking at, and will be able to put some texture to it, as was always done in the past. Chancellor Goldstein noted that when the University came up with the CUNY Compact, the Master Plan became the domain from which ideas for financing the system were derived. At this point in CUNY’s history, the Master Plan is a very important document because it encapsulates the University’s aspirations, directly impacting financing considerations at the state level.

In response to a request from Trustee Sutton, Chancellor Goldstein stated that he would be provided with a package of executive summaries of other master plans, and the University’s last three master plans.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:24 p.m.