The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m.

There were present:

**Committee Members:**
- Hon. Benno Schmidt, Chair
- Hon. Philip A. Berry, Vice Chair
- Hon. Wellington Chen
- Hon. Freida D. Foster
- Hon. Joseph J. Lhota
- Hon. Kathleen Pesile

**University Staff:**
- Chancellor Matthew Goldstein
- Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost
- Alexandra Logue
- Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer Allan H. Dobrin
- Vice Chancellor Eduardo Marti
- Vice Chancellor Frank Sanchez
- Vice Chancellor Pamela Silverblatt
- Vice Chancellor Gillian Small
- Vice Chancellor Gloriana Waters
- Associate Vice Chancellor Mathew Sapienza

**Trustee Observer:**
- Hon. Sandi E. Cooper
- Hon. Cory Provost

**Trustee Staff:**
- Senior Vice Chancellor and Secretary of the Board Jay Hershenson
- Senior Vice Chancellor and General Counsel Frederick Schaffer
- Deputy to the Secretary Hourig Messerlian
- Mr. Steven Quinn

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I. **ACTION ITEMS:**

A. **REVISED TUITION SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE FALL 2011**

Chancellor Matthew Goldstein stated that for many years the setting of tuition at the City University of New York and at the State University of New York has been helter skelter. Invariably what we have seen is steep tuition increases at the level of 15% or 20%, or tuition increases that are zero. The reason for that was that when the State of New York found itself in precarious financial situations the University was asked to raise tuition by considerable levels. So much so that on several occasions when the tuition increases were very high students were leaving the University because they could not manage.

Chancellor Goldstein noted that the University needs to have a predictable policy for tuition so that it can plan and provide opportunities for students beyond the financial assistance that is given by the state or federal government to help those students that are in harm's way. That predictability is imbedded into the discussion tonight. It is unfair for students not to be able to plan for tuition increases. This is the first in a series of actions that the Board may take in years ahead. So this recommendation is very consistent with the approach of trying to have a more rational and predictable plan for setting tuition targets.

Chancellor Goldstein stated that the legislation adopted by the State includes a maintenance of effort commitment to the University. The State will not reduce CUNY's budget from the previous year because of the maintenance of effort clause, and in addition it will provide for mandatory
cost increases due to collective bargaining increases and fuel increases and so forth. It also ensures that the State will not sweep tuition, which has been the case before. When students would provide a dollar of support for tuition, oftentimes part of that dollar was swept away so it never found itself into the academic life of the institution. The state is ensuring that it will not sweep tuition and that tuition dollars will go toward the academic life of the students.

Chancellor Goldstein noted that this legislation stipulates that if students are now receiving the maximum amount of Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), support, they will not have to pay the increase. If students are now getting 80% of the TAP maximum or 60% of the TAP maximum, the increase will be reduced accordingly. So part of the revenue that the University would be receiving from this increase is going to support the students that are at risk. Because the legislation reactivates the CUNY Compact, much of the resources that the University would be receiving through philanthropy will also be reprogrammed to assist students in need. The University is going to do everything it possibly can to insure that there will be soft landings for those students that will have problems.

Trustee Cory Provost stated that the State took a major step in establishing some kind of tuition policy for the University. It is a good thing that the State is willing to invest through the maintenance of effort policy to maintain the University. However, raising tuition right now is not the most appropriate or the best thing to do for the students. This Board authorized tuition increases through the CUNY Compact already and now it is asked to increase that amount just a little more to gain a couple of extra dollars. After the testimony we heard last night I asked one of the Vice Presidents at BMCC whether he thinks that this tuition increase is even sufficient or adequate to solve the problems the University is facing, and his only response was it better be. This provides no certainty that the tuition increase would even rectify the problems the University is facing. I see this as just putting a band-aid over what the real situation is. I never want to see a tuition increase. I made that very clear. But if the University makes do with the tuition increase already included with the CUNY Compact, if we accept that while we try to go back to the drawing board to fix this or try and come up with a real solution to fix the situation, I think that would probably be the best thing that can be done, rather than trying to increase tuition again which will hurt students. The Vallone Scholarship is pretty much non-existent now. I think we need to just take a moment and not let this happen.

In response to a question regarding the implication of not proceeding with the tuition increase, Chancellor Matthew Goldstein noted that in the last two and a half years the University has seen $300 million extracted from the budgets of the senior colleges, and a huge amount from the community colleges as well. This is unsustainable. The administration's main concern is the implications for students. The University will not be able to provide the classes that students need, the academic support services that students need, the laboratories, the lab techs, all of the core resources. It is going to take longer for students to graduate and the affect is going to be a much greater financial burden on the students. The longer it takes to graduate because of the inability to give students the choices that they need and the options that they need for classes, has the inevitable consequence of taking another semester or another two years to graduate. There is no alternative given what the University is facing.

Trustee Cory Provost noted that just because the State authorizes the University to approve a tuition increase of up to $300, that does not mean tuition has to be increased by the full amount.

In response, Chancellor Matthew Goldstein stated that if the University did not need the $300 the administration would not be proposing it.
In response to a question, Chancellor Matthew Goldstein stated that the $300 is not going to solve the University's problems completely. It is not going to solve all of the dollars that have been already extracted from the University. On a going forward basis, as more and more students are selecting CUNY to provide them with opportunities to earn baccalaureate degrees and associate degrees, the University is going to need to hire more full time faculty, it is going to need to hire support services. The University is growing and its expenditures are going to grow with it, and it needs an income stream to support that.

Following discussion the item was unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.