The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

There were present:

**Committee Members:**
- Hon. Wellington Z. Chen, Chair
- Hon. Hugo M. Morales, Vice Chair
- Hon. Rita DiMartino
- Hon. Charles A. Shorter
- Prof. Karen Kaplowitz, faculty member
- President Russell K. Hotzler, COP liaison

**University Staff:**
- Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost
- Alexandra Logue

**Trustee Staff:**
- Deputy to the Secretary Hourig Messerlian
- Mr. Steven Quinn

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The agenda items were considered and acted upon in the following order:

**I. ACTION ITEMS:**

A. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JUNE 3, 2013.** The minutes were approved as submitted.

B. **POLICY CALENDAR**

1. **Brooklyn College – MFA in Cinema Arts; MA in Cinema Studies; Establishment of a Branch Campus.** Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Alexandra Logue stated that this proposed degree is for an MFA in Cinema Arts, an MA in Cinema Studies and a Branch Campus at Brooklyn College. The college is in the process of establishing the largest production studio outside of Hollywood that will be located at the Steiner Studios in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. As the first part of this film school, the MFA in Cinema Arts will offer students opportunities to concentrate their professional education in one of five areas of commercial film and television production. These areas are directing, cinematography, production management, post-production, and screenwriting. A second initial part of the program for the film school will be the MA in Cinema Studies, which will focus on the theoretical and historical aspects of film studies. The college has been active in raising private funds to support these programs, and earlier this year received a commitment of $5.5 million for these programs from a graduate of the college. A resolution for a Branch Campus is included because the New York State Education Department and Middle States—a major accreditor—requires such an action any time programs are taught at a location that is away from the location of the College’s other programs.

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

2. **City College, Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education – Establishment of the Department of Medical Education.**

3. **City College, Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education – Letter of Intent for a BS/MD in Biomedical Science/Medicine.**
Dr. Logue stated that City College is in the process of establishing a full medical school. The first two years of medical school combined with a Bachelor of Science degree are already provided by the Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education, which is part of City College. At the end of the two years of medical training—these are the two years that focus on the science and classroom instruction that medical students need—the students transfer to a traditional four-year medical school for the last two years of their training, and these are the years that they traditionally focus on clinical training. However, this model is no longer functioning well, and will soon cease to function. Competition for clinical placements in hospitals has increased such that the Sophie Davis School graduates must delay—sometimes for as much as a year—their admission to a traditional medical school in order for a clinical placement slot to be found for them and in order to do the last two years of their medical education. In addition, medical training has been increasingly integrating clinical work throughout the curriculum, not just in the last two years of medical school. CUNY has therefore concluded that either the school will close or expand to a full medical degree program. Given Sophie Davis’ long, proud history and future promise of preparing excellent primary care physicians who are from, and who will serve, traditionally under-represented communities, it has chosen to expand the school to a full medical degree program. There are many steps involved in doing this, and the first is the creation of a department to provide an academic home for the affiliated physicians who will teach much of the curriculum. In addition to faculty who will be hired, five current full-time faculty of the school will be members of this new department. The formation of a full medical school at City College has many other potential benefits. For example, CUNY will now be able to give combined MD/MPH degrees with the still relatively new School of Public Health, which is a very popular and very useful degree combination. Significant possibilities also exist in terms of bio-engineering research with the School of Engineering at City College. The second step necessary to expand the school to a full medical degree program is to change the program offered from a five-year program, in which students receive a BS and complete the first two years of medical school, to a seven-year combined BS/MD program. Although it is no longer required to have letters of intent for academic programs, this Letter of Intent is being considered to provide City College with the Board approval needed to work with medical school accreditors on creating this program, as well as with the New York State Department of Education on the Master Plan amendment that will be needed in order for CUNY to offer the MD degree.

In response to a question from Trustee Charles Shorter, City College Provost Maurizio Trevisan stated that based on preliminary conversations with the accrediting board at the LCME, the cost of the full medical program will be between $25-30 million. Currently the college has about $13 million available in its budget for the program, and tuition revenues should cover another $10 million, to get to the $23 million. The college has two different options for the remainder. In the first option, the State of New York supports the State Medical School at SUNY with a certain amount of funds per FTE students during the seven-year program in the range of $40,000. If that principle should apply to CUNY as well, the college would have adequate funds. Currently, students’ undergraduate tuition during the seven-year program is $5,800 for the five years they are with us, paid to the school of attendance and for the remaining two years, paid to the medical school of choice. Seventy percent of the students who go to private schools will pay more so if City College charges the same amount of money that other state medical schools charge for four years, the students will pay the same amount that they would pay if they went to a public two-year medical school. But, in the public system, there will be no impact to the students in terms of their tuition.
In response to a question from Trustee Hugo Morales, Provost Trevisan stated that the current state tuition is $30,000 a year so City College will basically pair up the CUNY Medical School with the same level of tuition as at the other state medical schools.

Following discussion, items I.B.2 and I.B.3 were approved for submission to the Board.

4. John Jay College – BA in Anthropology. Dr. Logue stated that John Jay College proposes a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology as part of a strategic plan to offer its students a wider array of liberal arts majors with a social justice emphasis. Many of the college’s anthropology faculty are already engaging their students in scholarly research projects, and those opportunities will increase with the establishment of this major. The college already has a sufficient number of full-time faculty to offer this program and therefore additional costs are expected to be minimal.

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

5. Kingsborough Community College – AAS in Polysomnographic Technology. Dr. Logue stated that this is a proposal for an AAS degree in Polysomnographic Technology at Kingsborough Community College. New York State has recently established licensing criteria for polysomnographic technologists who are individuals who work in sleep study centers—as part of a team diagnosing a variety of sleep disorders. This program will fulfill the academic requirements for that license. This will be the first associate degree of its kind at CUNY, and only the second in New York State. The program advances the college’s strategic plan to provide extensive health profession degree programs.

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

6. Lehman College – Establishment of the School of Health Sciences, Human Services and Nursing. Dr. Logue stated that this resolution proposes that four existing academic departments at Lehman College—Health Sciences, Nursing, Social Work, and Speech Language Hearing Sciences—merge together to form the School of Health Sciences, Human Services, and Nursing. The merging of these four departments into a single academic enterprise will provide the college with increased visibility in the health science and human services arenas, produce more internship and service-learning experiences for students, and generate more opportunities for external funding from government agencies and private sources.

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

7. The School of Professional Studies – BS in Information Systems. Dr. Logue stated that this is a proposal for a Bachelor of Science degree at the School of Professional Studies. Employment prospects for individuals who have mastered the formal methods of systems designs and implementation, and who have programming skills, continue to be strong. This degree completion program will be delivered totally online, offering more students the ability to complete the program. It will be a welcome addition to the suite of professional degree programs offered both online and in-person by the school.

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

8. College of Staten Island – BA in Geography. Dr. Logue stated that this proposed degree program at the College of Staten Island will expose students to course work covering the terrain of regions throughout the world, and the impact that terrain has on politics and economics. In addition, students will be exposed to Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software that is used to characterize the earth by visualizing and analyzing
spatially-referenced information. Career opportunities in the field of geography, particularly for individuals with formal exposure to GIS, are expected to increase at a faster rate than the average for all professions.

Committee Chair Wellington Chen stated that he would like to commend Interim President William Fritz, who is a top expert in this field for this program.

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

9. The City University of New York – Change in University Student Retention and Progress Policy. Dr. Logue stated that the proposed change to this policy will permit the University to comply with federal regulation, which concerns students who are receiving financial aid and who are also on academic probation, that now require students to file an appeal that includes an academic plan that will, if followed, bring the students to good academic standing.

In response to a question from Trustee Shorter, Dr. Logue stated that students come up with their own academic plan, which is then reviewed by a committee at their college. The process is entirely an internal matter.

In response to a question from Prof. Karen Kaplowitz, Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Logue stated that there is no need for approval from the federal government; however, the University is still subject to audit by them.

COP liaison President Russell Hotzler stated that CUNY can no longer say that someone on probation is in good academic standing so in effect, someone on probation has to have a plan as to how they are going to get off probation.

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

10. [ADDED ITEM] Baruch College – Agreement with the College of Management Academic Studies in Israel to Offer a Dual Degree in International Masters of Business Administration. Dr. Logue stated that this proposal authorizes General Counsel and Senior Vice Chancellor Frederick Schaffer to execute an agreement on behalf of Baruch College with the College of Management Academic Studies (COMAS) in Israel to offer a dual degree of International Masters in Business Administration. This degree will basically be the same as the MBA that the college currently offers, and the great majority of the coursework will be taught by Baruch faculty in Israel.

In response to a question from Prof. Kaplowitz, Baruch College Provost David Christy stated that students who are enrolled in the program will also take some courses taught by COMAS faculty that will transfer to Baruch College. The college will send faculty to Israel to teach several other courses as part of the program, and then the students will come to Baruch in the summer to complete a multi-week degree. This is when the college has the greatest capacity that is underutilized. This will give the students a chance to get a COMAS degree and a Baruch degree.

In response to a question from Trustee Morales, Provost Christy stated that Baruch College will initially have about thirty students per year participating in the program.

In response to a question from Committee Chair Chen, Provost Christy stated that students will pay tuition to Baruch College for the courses that are recognized as being taken at COMAS, and just like any student who transfers, the college will transfer in some of the credits.
In response to a question from Prof. Kaplowitz, Provost Christy stated that this program has been reviewed by multiple faculty committees, both within the Zicklin School of Business and the entire faculty senate. Baruch College operates more or less on the same model, but there is a consultative process—it is advisory to the president. There is a coordinating committee that exchanges information, but it is basically at the campus level. In fact, the college sees a potential possibility to develop a Liberal Arts curriculum in commerce with COMAS for other programs that they have with the Weismann School of Arts and Sciences. The faculty at Baruch College is in support of the program.

Dr. Logue stated that Baruch College has no college-wide curriculum committee.

In response to a question from Trustee Shorter, Provost Christy stated that at this time, there are no program agreements with any other countries existing or pending. Baruch College has a really good partner in COMAS—which is in Tel Aviv—and believes that the college is going to learn a lot from this relationship so that similar kinds of relationships with universities in other countries can be developed.

In response to a question from Trustee Morales, Provost Christy stated that Baruch College has partnerships in several countries where this program is of potential interest. For example, if a school in the Dominican Republic has instruction largely in English, it would be a major factor in considering a partnerships. Also, Baruch College has to make sure that the college faculty have a place where they can function with ease.

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

II. INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. City College – The Documentary Forum: The Center for Film, Journalism, and Interactive Media

Dr. Logue stated that this Center for Film, Journalism, and Interactive Media is dedicated to supporting and encouraging the creation, exhibition, and study of documentary film, journalism, and non-fiction visual storytelling through multi-platform media. The Center will engage with the local Harlem Arts Community, and will increase City College’s cultural and intellectual visibility in New York City. Members of the this committee have already received a letter in lieu of the September meeting that covers this Center, and formal notice is now being given for the establishment of the Center.

B. Report by Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Alexandra Logue

Dr. Logue stated that with regard to the approval of the Sophie Davis BS/MD program, she would like to note that letters of intent are no longer needed for such programs. In the past, when a college was proposing a new academic program, it was required that they submit to the Central Office a Letter of Intent, and then, if the University approved it, to develop a full proposal and submit it to the Central Office. However, as time went on, more and more information was required in the letter of intent before it could be approved. It could take a very long time for the final approval of a new program, even if the new program was relatively simple. At the same time, some other institutions in this region that are not a part of CUNY were able to add new programs much more quickly than CUNY could, making the University less responsive to the marketplace. So, early this fall the University decided to remove the requirement for a letter of intent and now only requires colleges to do the full proposal. Of course, the Central Office is always in touch with the colleges to stay informed of what new programs are coming before they get the proposals.
Dr. Logue stated that the committee had a fairly lengthy agenda and she would like to discuss what this length represents. Not only were there just a lot of items on the agenda, but there were two very momentous items related to the formation of a major new film school and a full medical school. After approval of these items, they now move on for full consideration by the Board, which is a key component in these exciting developments for CUNY. As a system, CUNY has always represented New York City, and these latest program approvals constitute additional evidence of how the roots of the CUNY tree are continuing to grow into every corner of this great city, taking sustenance from that city, but also providing a strong and living foundation for this city’s future.

Dr. Logue stated that as for the future of CUNY, the University is doing extremely well and is growing in numbers of students, numbers of programs, and also, in program quality. However, the winds of change are swirling all around. For the past two years, there has been a phenomenal amount of talk in the higher education press, and more generally, about how the current American higher education business model is unsustainable, and the number of American students that are graduating with quality degrees is unsatisfactory. In the past few months, the talk has gone from being primarily complaints about what exists now in the United States to proposals about what should replace what currently exists, and the proposals that are seen are not just for little tweaks in the current higher education structure. People are proposing that most courses have at least an online component. They are also proposing that what students need to know should be separated into smaller units, and students should be taught only those units that they do not yet know, and that students should be given credit towards a degree for demonstrated knowledge, no matter how they acquired that knowledge. Also, they are proposing that the jobs of professors be unbundled, with some faculty serving primarily to create content for instruction and other faculty serving primarily to deliver that instruction. Currently, CUNY is not at the forefront of these changes and that is a good thing because some of these changes are not going to work out. CUNY has far fewer online courses than most other public universities. That is just one example of the beginning of that wave of change that CUNY is not part of. CUNY actually tends to deliver instruction in a relatively traditional way, more so than is the case at many other institutions, including SUNY. However, CUNY is subject to the same pressures as are other public universities, meaning that the portion of the operating budget that is supplied by state and city resources continues to decrease. CUNY has had to continuously raise tuition and eventually that means—similar to other public institutions—it is going to become impossible to raise tuition any further without harming CUNY’s mission of access to higher education for all New Yorkers. When that time comes CUNY needs to be much further along in adopting the innovative techniques for delivering higher education that so much of the country’s higher education community is now exploring and embracing. So committee members should be aware of and at least be willing to look into if not necessarily supporting everything. The good news is that there are a great many CUNY faculty, as well as a lot of CUNY administrators, who are dedicated to effecting the sorts of changes that are needed, and those numbers of forward-thinking people are definitely growing.

Committee Chair Chen stated that he would like to commend Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Logue for a tremendous report.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.