Committee Chair Wellington Chen called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

The following people were present:

**Committee Members:**
- Hon. Wellington Z. Chen, Chair
- Hon. Jill O’Donnell-Tormey, Vice Chair
- Hon. Mayra Linares-Garcia
- Hon. Charles A. Shorter
- Prof. Karen Kaplowitz, faculty member
- Ms. Alyssa Desouza, student member
- President Russell K. Hotzler, COP Liaison

**University Staff:**
- Deputy to the Secretary Hourig Messerlian
- Ms. Doris Wang
- Chancellor James B. Milliken
- Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Vita Rabinowitz

**Trustee Staff:**
- Deputy to the Secretary Hourig Messerlian
- Ms. Doris Wang

**Cal. No.**

Committee Chair Chen welcomed Trustee Mayra Linares-Garcia, as well as Ms. Alyssa Desouza, the new student member, to the Committee.

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

**I. ACTION ITEMS:**

A. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 9, 2017.** Moved by Trustee Charles Shorter and seconded by Prof. Karen Kaplowitz, the minutes were approved as submitted.

B. **POLICY CALENDAR**

1. **John Jay College – BS in Applied Mathematics: Data Science and Cryptography.**

   Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost (EVC&UP) Vita Rabinowitz stated that John Jay College seeks to expand its offerings in the liberal arts and sciences by offering an undergraduate degree that focuses on mathematical applications to both big data and data security. The curriculum will consist of high level coursework in mathematics and computer science, and graduates of either concentration will have career opportunities that are both professionally and financially rewarding. She noted that in the cryptography concentration, students will learn to secure information, which is achieved by assuring privacy, as well as other properties of a communication channel, such as data integrity and authenticity, depending upon the application. Graduates of this program will be able to devise systems for companies to resist unwarranted intrusion of hackers, protect internal company and consumer data, and act as consultants in research staffs.

   Prof. Kaplowitz stated that this program is a great proposal.

   Trustee Shorter stated that this is a very critical proposal given what is happening.

   Ms. Desouza stated that this is a fantastic proposal and it is great that John Jay College is having mathematics degrees in applied sciences.
In response to a question from Ms. Desouza on whether any of these classes will be given online:

John Jay College Mathematics & Computer Science Chair Douglas Salane stated that the College is planning to offer some of these courses online. As a matter of fact, John Jay College is making and increasing some hybrid courses.

John Jay College Provost Jane Bowers added that because of the uniqueness of this program, the College is hopeful that CUNY students on other campuses will take their courses, either the online versions or by e-permits.

In response to questions from Trustee Shorter on a) why is this program unique, and b) whether it is offered at other schools:

Provost Bowers stated that this program is not offered in any other CUNY schools but it is offered at other schools in the country.

Moved by Prof. Kaplowitz and seconded by Trustee Shorter, and following discussion, the item was approved for submission to the Board.

2. New York City College of Technology – BS in Applied Computational Physics. EVC&UP Rabinowitz stated that graduates of this program will be well equipped with a solid background in physics, computing, and mathematics, as well as learn valuable skills in complex problem-solving and teamwork, which will strengthen their preparation for pursuing careers in engineering areas, such as aerospace, applied mathematics and computer science, physical chemistry, finance, bio-medicine, environmental science, as well as for conducting research in academic, industrial, or national laboratories.

In response to a question from Trustee Shorter on getting an explanation of what computational physics is:

New York City College of Technology (NYCCT) Dean Justin Vazquez-Poritz stated that the idea of this program is to provide students with a general skillset that can be applied to various industries, including the financial industry. There is a commonality of the computational skillset used for physics that has a vast spectrum of applications elsewhere, and NYCCT's mission is to prepare students directly for the job market.

Moved by Prof. Kaplowitz and seconded by Committee Vice Chair Jill O'Donnell-Tormey, and following discussion, the item was approved for submission to the Board.

3. York College – MSW in Social Work. EVC&UP Rabinowitz stated that York College is strategically expanding its suite of professionally oriented master’s degree programs. The College currently offers an undergraduate degree in social work that enrolls more than 300 majors, so this is a natural addition to their offerings. The program will focus on healthcare, a growing specialization in the field of social work. Currently, CUNY offers no MSW program in either of the boroughs of Brooklyn or Queens, so this will make an impact.

In response to a question from Trustee Shorter on whether there is a substantial demand for this program:

President Marcia Keizs stated that much study went into this program, and even though York College has existed since 1972 as an accredited undergraduate program—currently
accredited for the next 10 years, the College did lots of homework using the Bureau of Labor Statistics, census data, etc., which clearly spells out a growing demand not only across the nation, but also in this region, so York College has a very solid basis for establishing such a program in the borough of Queens.

In response to another question from Trustee Shorter on whether there is an identified demographic within the borough of Queens that would be targeted:

York College Health Sciences and Professional Programs Dean Lynne Clark stated that a large part of the students will come from the undergraduate programs but there is a great need for this type of health program. There is a big change right now in healthcare, so this sets up the social worker to deal with healthcare as a total team of how to give quality care to patients. The social worker at the master's level, and particularly somebody with this expertise, will probably be one of the directors of these teams, as it will not be the doctor anymore.

In response to a third question from Trustee Shorter on whether there would be extensive fieldwork in this program:

York College Social Sciences Chair Gila Acker stated that there is extensive fieldwork, same as in the undergraduate program. The MSW is an accredited program, therefore, the College has to follow strict guidelines of the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE), which is the accrediting body. Furthermore, York College is offering 900 internship hours in the senior year—which is the second year—as required by New York State and CSWE.

In response to a question from Committee Chair O'Donnell-Tormey on what is the anticipated enrollment for the program:

Chair Acker stated that it is anticipated that around thirteen students from the College will enroll in the program for the first year, even though there may be a bigger demand. The College has many majors and many of the students come from different backgrounds and countries, but one of the issues is that most of the students come from a more middle or lower socio-economic class, so for them to have a graduate public program is extremely important.

President Keizs stated that this is an open program and it is not only for York College students. Anyone can enroll in this program as it has been determined that within Queens there is no existing MSW. The College sees the possibility of a regional draw even though there is a need in the Borough of Queens. This program is not limited to Queens residents.

Dean Clark added that the program will also draw Long Island residents. There are some private colleges out there, but the difference is in tuition, accessibility, and quality of the program.

In response to a question from Trustee Shorter on whether faculty is already in place:

President Keizs stated that there is already faculty in place but the College will ramp up more faculty. Some things were done in preparation. The social work program had been embedded in a larger department, and a few years ago the College separated it out into an independent department, then established some new lines, which have been funded. The College plans to establish more new lines. If this program is approved by the Board, it
needs to go up to the State and the admissions process is quite long. Admission will include setup of the guidelines in fall 2017, then enrollment to the class in spring 2018, but the class will not start until August 2018, so the timeline is needed in order to plan things through. She added that the College has also made some commitments to bring in some additional Ph.D. trained research faculty into the department.

Dean Clark added that the department already has faculty who are Ph.D. trained. She added that the program is self-funding so all the costs are built in. There is nothing extra. It was done that way in case there were financial ramifications. The College does not want to take funding away from other areas.

In response to a question from Prof. Kaplowitz on whether other CUNY colleges have MSW programs that are capable of meeting the demand:

President Keizs stated that other CUNY colleges with MSW programs are capable of meeting the demand. However, one of the things that happen in programs like this is that GPAs just keep rising, and students whom York College would like to serve may be excluded, so the College has set its GPA at a good standard.

Chair Acker added that there are two different GPAs. For the full program it is 3.0, and it is 3.2 for advanced standing. Students with a GPA of 3.2 go directly to the second year.

In response to a question from Ms. Desouza on what will be a focus of the program:

Chair Acker stated that the focus is community healthcare which is really different from other MSW programs offered within CUNY.

In response to another question from Ms. Desouza on whether this program will be modeled after another CUNY MSW program:

Chair Acker stated that York College does not need to model other MSW programs in CUNY, because MSW programs in the United States are very similar. Each follows the same strict guidelines of the accrediting body so students who complete their MSW program are similar to each other in their knowledge base, except those with specializations.

Committee Chair Chen stated that this program will make a great impact.

Moved by Prof. Kaplowitz and seconded by Trustee O’Donnell-Tormey, and following discussion, the item was approved for submission to the Board.

4. Lehman College – Honorary Degrees.
   Eddie Palmieri, musician
   Doctor of Music

   Betty A. Rosa, Chancellor, NYS Board of Regents
   Doctor of Humane Letters

   Jeffrey Gilbert, ’72, Physician
   Doctor of Science

   EVC&UP Rabinowitz stated that Lehman College proposes to honor Mr. Eddie Palmieri, who has had an outstanding career in the field of Latin jazz. His career includes ten
Grammy Awards, recordings for the Smithsonian National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. and numerous other honors, such as the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Latin Grammys and the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) Jazz Master. The NEA Jazz Masters Fellowships are the highest honors the United States bestows upon jazz musicians. Lehman College also proposes to honor Dr. Betty A. Rosa, the Chancellor of the New York State Board of Regents. Dr. Rosa has worked tirelessly on behalf of the students of New York City, and especially the Bronx, where she was a bilingual teacher, principal of Intermediate School 218, Superintendent of Community School District 8 and Senior Superintendent of the Bronx. Lastly, Dr. Jeffrey Gilbert is an international authority on the diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). His previous positions include Medical Director for Sexually Transmitted Infections at BioReference Laboratories and Medical Director for the STD Center of Excellence at Montefiore Medical Center. Since May 2005, Dr. Gilbert has been a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of Amazon Biotech Inc. and also holds the prestigious designation of a World Health Organization (WHO) Expert in Human Diseases, including HIV. In 1992, he founded the STD Center for Excellence at Mount Vernon Hospital, and in 1996, he moved the Center to Montefiore Hospital. The Center was the STD training site for New York State for nearly two decades and was a Center for Disease Control training site for five years.

5. Queens College – Honorary Degrees.
Donald Brownstein, ’65, Philosopher and Investment Banker
Doctor of Humane Letters

Saul Kupferberg, Marketing Executive and Queens College Benefactor
Doctor of Humane Letters

EVC&UP Rabinowitz stated that Queens College Dr. Donald Brownstein grew up in a household of modest means in the Gun Hill Section of the Bronx. Through his dedication and hard work, he rose to become Chief Investment Officer and CEO of Structured Portfolio Management, LLC. Dr. Brownstein holds a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of Minnesota, a B.A. in Philosophy from Queens College, and was a fellow at the Center for the Study of Language and Information at Stanford University. Dr. Brownstein donated $1 million to Queens College in 2012 in the name of Distinguished Professor John J. McDermott. He felt that the philosophy classes that he took from Dr. McDermott at Queens College in the 1960s inspired him to obtain a Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Minnesota and become a philosophy professor at the University of Kansas. His professional achievements and civic consciousness make him an ideal recipient of this award. Mr. Saul Kupferberg rose to Vice President of Sales and Marketing at Kepco Incorporated after having been part of the company since 1988. Prior to joining Kepco Incorporated, Mr. Kupferberg attended Trinity College, where he earned his degree in Religion and graduated with honors. He then attended Dropsie College from which he graduated with an MA in Ancient History. He is a member of IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers), which is the largest professional association for the advancement of technology. Mr. Kupferberg is a member of the Queens College Foundation, and a founding member and current Chair of the Kupferberg Center Arts Advisory Board at Queens College. In this capacity, he has worked with the Executive Director to establish five working committees which have expanded funding for internships in the arts, as well as expanding opportunities for Queens College students to participate in internships at cultural locations. Mr. Kupferberg has been an outstanding supporter of the role of the Kupferberg Center to provide enrichment to the academic and professional lives of Queens College students and campus stakeholders. Mr. Kupferberg’s personal achievements, coupled with his commitment to the advancement of Queens College students and community members, make him a distinguished candidate to receive this award.
6. **Baruch College – Honorary Degrees.**

   Neil deGrasse Tyson, Director of the Hayden Planetarium and Public Intellectual
   Doctor of Pedagogy

   Allen E. Goodman, President and CEO, Institute for International Education
   Doctor of Humane Letters

   EVC&UP Rabinowitz stated that Baruch College seeks to award an honorary degree to
   Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson, who is the Frederick P. Rose Director of the Hayden
   Planetarium at the American Museum of Natural History. In this role, Dr. Tyson has been a
   leader in advancing understanding of science, and particularly astronomy and
   astrophysics, for the general public. In his role as a scientific communicator, he continues
   to educate and inspire the public, and in particular young people, to pursue discovery and
   understanding of the world through science. A native New Yorker, Dr. Tyson is a graduate
   of the Bronx High School of Science, and received degrees from Harvard University,
   University of Texas, and Columbia University. He was awarded the National Aeronautics
   and Space Administration (NASA) Distinguished Public Service Medal in 2004, hosted the
   NOVA Science Now series on PBS, and was awarded the Public Welfare Medal by the
   National Academy of Sciences in 2015 for his “extraordinary role in exciting the public
   about the wonders of sciences.” The second candidate nominated by Baruch College is
   Allan E. Goodman, who is President and CEO of the Institute of International Education
   (IIE), which conducts research, and administers the Fulbright Programs sponsored by
   the U.S. Department of State, as well as several hundred corporate, government and
   privately sponsored programs on international education. Dr. Goodman was Executive
   Dean of the School of Foreign Service and Professor at Georgetown University, and
   served as Presidential Briefing Coordinator for the Director of Central Intelligence in the
   Carter Administration. Dr. Goodman has served as a consultant to the Ford Foundation,
   the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, the United States Information
   Agency, and IBM. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

   In response to a question from Trustee Shorter on whether each nomination will be
   submitted to the full Board:

   Committee Chair Chen stated that each nomination will be submitted to the full Board after
   it is approved by this Committee.

   Moved by Prof. Kaplowitz and seconded by Trustee Mayra Linares-Garcia, and following
   discussion, items I.B.4 through I.B.6 were approved for submission to the Board.

7. **CUNY School of Medicine - Establishment of the Department of Molecular, Cellular &
   Biomedical Science and the Closing of the Department of Pathobiology and the Department of Physiology, Pharmacology and Neuroscience.**

   EVC&UP Rabinowitz stated that the CUNY School of Medicine recently completed a major restructuring of its
curriculum and academic program as it transformed its biomedical science program into
an MD degree-granting program. Prior to this restructuring, an external reviewer panel and
two strategic planning workgroups recommended the reorganization of the School's
departmental structure and the merger of academic departments for improving the
School's effectiveness and efficiency. The basic science components of the curriculum
have historically been taught as discreet disciplines, administered through two or more
academic departments. The new curricular structure that is being proposed for enhancing
students' learning and application of content is an integrated, interdisciplinary curriculum.
This integration aligns with trends in medical education and in the scientific community
toward increased interdisciplinary collaboration in areas of instruction and research. The
proposed new Department of Molecular, Cellular & Biomedical Sciences will be established through the merger, and the resultant closure, of the Department of Pathobiology and the Department of Physiology, Pharmacology and Neuroscience, and is intended to enhance efficiencies, to support and promote interdisciplinary curricular and research development and the collaborative teaching required to support the new BS-MD curriculum. The costs associated with the establishment of the new department will be minimal, as it will be using the School’s existing resources.

City College Dean Maurizio Trevisan stated that first of all, the curriculum is no longer discipline-based, it is now an organ-based curriculum, so there is no more biochemistry and physiology. Secondly, the School has historically been a small school—a department of four or five people. In this kind of research, critical mass is important, so it is much better to define the strategic priority in terms of research and education with larger groups of people.

In response to a question from Committee Vice Chair O’Donnell-Tormey on whether this program will emulate more interdisciplinary research versus teaching load:

Dean Trevisan stated that all the basic sciences will be in one department. There were five departments five years ago, and each one of them had four people. Since the merger, the School has one department with about 25 people.

In response to another question from Committee Vice Chair O’Donnell-Tormey on whether there is currently one chair of the department:

Dean Trevisan stated that the faculty and the Senate Committee voted unanimously to have one chair of the department.

In response to a question from Prof. Kaplowitz on what is the meaning of organ-based curriculum:

Dean Trevisan stated that an organ-based curriculum is divided up into building blocks, so part will be anatomy and part will be pathology—all the traditional ways. Then after the building block is started, they would take, for instance, Gastrointestinal (GI), to have the opportunity to discuss the physiology and pharmacology of Genomic Grade Index (GGI). Also, as part of the curriculum, clinicians would come in to do clinical correlates of the GI, and the same thing goes for cardiovascular and neurodegenerative diseases. In addition, the other big change is that very little time is spent in big classes. Students would now work in small groups of six to ten people, interacting with the faculty through problem-based learning.

In response to a question from Committee Vice Chair O’Donnell-Tormey on whether in the first year, students will still be taking histology and biochemistry, continuing on to gross anatomy:

Dean Trevisan stated that this program is actually a seven-year program, so students attend straight out of high school. In the first three years, clinical organic chemistry and physics will be taken, but in a traditional four-year curriculum in medical school, the first semester is discipline-based, and the remaining three semesters are organ-based. Therefore, students will still take gross anatomy which is divided into two parts. For instance, in the building block, anatomy will be part of the required general courses that students take and then they will continue on, taking a specific anatomy course through the organ-based curriculum.
Moved by Prof. Kaplowitz and seconded by Trustee Shorter, and following discussion, the item was approved for submission to the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:34 p.m.