The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. Chairperson Benno Schmidt chaired this meeting in absence of Committee Chair Freida D. Foster.

There were present:

**Committee Members:**
- Hon. Wellington Z. Chen
- Hon. James Molinaro
- Hon. Charles A. Shorter
- Prof. Jay Weiser, faculty member
- Mr. Donavan Borington, student member
- President Gail O. Mellow, COP liaison

**Ex-officio:**
- Chairperson Benno Schmidt, chairing

**Trustee Observer:**
- Hon. Terrence Martell

**Trustee Staff:**
- Senior Vice Chancellor and Secretary of the Board Jay Hershenson
- Ms. Towanda Lewis
- Mr. Steven Quinn

**University Staff:**
- Interim Chancellor William P. Kelly
- Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Operating Officer Allan H. Dobrin
- Vice Chancellor Iris Weinshall
- Director of Public/Private Partnerships Jennifer Friedman

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Chairperson Benno Schmidt stated that he would like to introduce and welcome Mr. James Molinaro as the new Trustee member on this 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 NOVEMBER 4, 2013.** The minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

Vice Chancellor Iris Weinshall stated that she would like to also welcome Trustee Molinaro.

II. **INFORMATION ITEM:**

***PRESENTATION BY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS JENNIFER FRIEDMAN ON START-UP NY***

Chairperson Schmidt stated that Governor Andrew Cuomo is very pleased with the START-UP NY program that the Board had designated on CUNY campuses, one in each borough. He added that it will be interesting to see what can be developed around each of the designated campuses in the way of new business growth.
Vice Chancellor Weinshall stated that the model that the state is looking at is similar to that of MIT—they had all that land that they gave to start-ups. This is one of the examples that New York State is trying to emulate.

Trustee Molinaro stated that Staten Island has a great opportunity with the teleport—they have about 120 acres now that they have put out for RFPs. It is well serviced by transportation and it is also close to the College of Staten Island.

Vice Chancellor Weinshall stated that the great thing about this program is that any property found off-campus would be annexed as part of the campus and be eligible for benefits. She noted that if a piece of property was found at the teleport, that property would then be annexed as part of the CSI campus and be eligible for benefits.

In response to a question from Trustee Charles Shorter, Vice Chancellor Weinshall stated that each company would be annexed temporarily for a ten year period or if some structure were to be worked out between CUNY and the company and they were committed to thirty or forty years, CUNY could extend it longer. The tax benefits would just extend to ten years.

In response to a question from Trustee Shorter, Ms. Friedman stated that the college and CUNY would together submit an application which would then be officially approved by the Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC). She added that Executive Vice President for START-UP NY Leslie Whatley of ESDC will be responsible for the development of tax-free zones along with Ken Adams, President and CEO of ESDC.

In response to a question from Trustee Shorter, Vice Chancellor Weinshall stated that each CUNY campus has a designee whom Ms. Friedman and she are working with, and CUNY as a whole will then work with ESDC.

Vice Chancellor Weinshall stated that another issue is that the state has a lot of surplus property all over New York State and in one of the initial conversations CUNY had with ESDC they talked about these surplus properties providing opportunities for some developers and businesses.

Trustee Molinaro stated that the old prison site in Staten Island, which is about 73 acres, can account for surplus property.

In response to a question from Trustee Molinaro, Vice Chancellor Weinshall stated that the Teleport site has a twenty acre parcel so there could be different businesses in that same parcel. The program is looking for smaller companies that should expand beyond where they start up.

In response to a question from Prof. Jay Weiser, Vice Chancellor Weinshall stated that it is ESDC’s responsibility to monitor compliance with the program over the ten years.

In response to a question from Trustee Shorter, Vice Chancellor Weinshall stated that the START-UP NY program has already kicked off. CUNY is now submitting plans to ESDC—where the University is preliminarily designating real property—but the program is very fluid and even though CUNY has designated parcels on campuses, they can easily be substituted with other parcels.
Referring to the advertisement included in the presentation, Trustee Shorter wondered whether it is the primary vehicle for marketing and outreach to businesses in the community, or are there other vehicles. Interim Chancellor William Kelly stated that the ESDC is doing all sorts of outreach efforts and this ad is one of them. Vice Chancellor Weinshall added that Mr. Ken Adams has been all over the state talking to the chambers of commerce, and Ms. Leslie Whatley has started visiting major counties upstate to market this program.

In response to another question from Trustee Shorter, Interim Chancellor Kelly stated that all 64 SUNY campuses are eligible in the marketing exercises much early; ESDC is dealing with local possibilities.

In response to a question from Chairperson Benno Schmidt on whether the neighborhood around City College has been delineated as a tax free area, Ms. Friedman noted that CUNY is currently just looking at sites on the campuses, but it will shortly start looking outside the campuses.

In response to a suggestion from Chairperson Schmidt, Vice Chancellor Weinshall stated that she would update the Committee on a quarterly basis on the non-economic benefits this program has for CUNY, as well as the economic benefits which could be quite substantial.

Chairperson Schmidt noted that it is very important in reviewing business applications, to stress that CUNY wants the businesses to help the colleges through internships, jobs, and opportunities for students to do credit-bearing work, as well as opportunities for faculty to work out and take care of particular transfers in intellectual properties.

In response to a question from Trustee Shorter, University Faculty Senate (UFS) Chair and Trustee Terrence Martell stated that some of these businesses are not going to succeed but there is a tax advantage that gives these small businesses a chance to see if they can succeed. Chairperson Schmidt added that the tax advantages here are very substantial, millions of dollars over the ten years.

Trustee Molinaro stated that there are businesses on the Jersey side of Staten Island that are very anxious to come here and they will definitely be attracted to this program.

In response to a question from Prof. Weiser, Vice Chancellor Weinshall stated that CUNY will not provide any capital support to build a facility for these entities. It is very clear that CUNY has no capability for doing that.

B. POLICY CALENDAR

1. The City College of New York – Chilled Water System Pressure Independent Valves. Vice Chancellor Weinshall asked for the Committee’s approval to authorize the New York Power Authority (NYPA) to execute a construction contract on behalf of City College for the provision of pressure independent control valves on the chilled water system for CCNY’s north campus buildings, with the exception of the Marshak Science Building. The College expanded the central heating and refrigeration plant to support the new ASRC CCNY buildings, which are going to be opening very soon, and with the construction of these two new buildings, there will be an increased need for new pressure valves to control the flows from the refrigeration plant.
2. York College – Greenhouse and Animal Housing HVAC Upgrade. Vice Chancellor Weinshall asked for the Committee’s approval to authorize the General Counsel to execute a construction contract on behalf of York College to upgrade the mechanical equipment for both the Greenhouse and Animal Housing Labs located in the Academic Core Building. The 2009 feasibility report indicated that the HVAC systems in both these areas were in poor condition and needed to be upgraded. Once the HVAC systems are upgraded in both buildings, the Greenhouse area will be expanded slightly to include an outdoor or terrace classroom. The funding will come from a Reso-A allocation of $2.4 million. The construction is expected to be completed by December of 2015.

In response to a question from Chairperson Benno Schmidt, President Marcia Keizs stated that York College has research animals—the usual mice, rats, mice and fish.


4. Baruch College – Field Building Fire Alarm System Upgrade.

Vice Chancellor Weinshall asked for the Committee’s approval to authorize the City University Construction Fund to amend a contract with the firm of Siemens Industry, Inc. to purchase additional design services and the installation of additional devices for the Fire Alarm System that was recently installed at the Administration Building at Baruch College, which will not exceed $300,000. As for the Field Building, approval is needed by the Committee to also execute a contract with the firm of Siemens Industry, Inc. to modify the existing fire alarm system. The Field Building is a much larger building, that is under major reconstruction. This project will not exceed $2,000,000. Both contracts are necessary, in order to comply with new NYC Fire Department code requirements.

In response to a question from Prof. Weiser, Vice Chancellor Weinshall stated that many of the buildings that were built for CUNY were built by DASNY. They were not required to be built to New York City Building Code and, therefore, they did not have to meet the New York City Fire Codes so many of the buildings do not have upgraded fire alarm systems. As CUNY has done a lot of critical maintenance projects over the last five years, it has worked on a lot of fire alarm systems. If there is not a fire alarm system CUNY has a fire watch. The good news about all the critical maintenance money is that CUNY has a lot of work going on at the campuses, and the better news is that many of these projects over the last few years have been new fire alarm systems.

Chairperson Schmidt stated that CUNY has not had a significant fire in the last fourteen years, while a lot of other universities have had serious ones. CUNY is doing well with the inspections.

In response to a question from Trustee Shorter, Vice Chancellor Weinshall stated that CUNY is working on a number of very large critical maintenance projects. One is for the new nursing school at Lehman College. Another one is exploring the opportunity to build a new science building at Hostos Community College on land that is already owned by CUNY—The Bronx Borough President has been very supportive to this project. The Performing Art Center at Brooklyn College has come above ground. CUNY broke ground for the new academic building at New York City College of Technology, which is taking a lot of time and effort on CUNY’s part. CUNY is definitely putting to work the money the state gave for critical maintenance. $800 million worth of projects have already been completed or are in construction now. There is something going on at all twenty-four campuses.
Chairperson Schmidt stated that a few months ago one in every five construction workers in the city was working on a CUNY project, which is really something when it comes to economic impact. Vice Chancellor Weinshall stated that CUNY is currently falling a little below 20% of the total construction in the city.

Following discussion, items I.B.1 through I.B.4 were unanimously approved for submission to the Board.

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