The meeting was called to order at 4:59 p.m.

There were present:

**Committee Members:**
Hon. Valerie L. Beal, Chair
Hon. Rita DiMartino, Vice Chair
Hon. Judah Gribetz
Hon. Carol A. Robles-Roman
Prof. Kathleen Barker, faculty member
President Marcia Keizs, COP Liaison

**Ex-officio:**
Hon. Benno Schmidt

**Trustee Observer:**
Hon. Joseph Awadjie

**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. Doris Wang

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

**II. ACTION ITEMS:**

**A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 3, 2014.** The minutes were approved as submitted.

**B. POLICY CALENDAR**

1. **Amendment to Policy Granting Professor Emeritus Status.** Vice Chancellor Gloriana Waters stated that the honorary title of Professor Emeritus has no financial remuneration and is customarily granted to full professors who retire from CUNY with more than ten years of service. At the recommendation of the University Office of Academic Affairs, the University proposes amending the policy to permit college presidents to confer the title on additional faculty members with professorial titles, regardless of length of service, if recommended by the appropriate Personnel and Budget (P&B) committees.

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

2. **Amendment to the Governance Plan of Brooklyn College.** Provost William Tramontano asked for the Committee’s approval to amend the Governance Plan of Brooklyn College. Under the current Governance Plan, the school committees—five schools at Brooklyn College—interview all of the candidates and the chairperson of the candidates’ department. This practice has continued up to the present even though it is not considered a best practice nationwide. While the purpose of the interviews is to clarify the
written record, in most cases this has served as a distraction from the record, which should be the sole basis of promotion and tenure decisions. The proposed Governance Plan of Brooklyn College puts forward that the school committees should meet and discuss candidates with the Dean to clarify the written record, but will eliminate the interviews that take place with the candidate and the department chair.

In response to a question from Trustee Judah Gribetz, Committee Chair Valerie Beal stated that each campus runs its governance independently; there is not a consistent boiler plate across the University. She suggested that with the Committee’s indulgence, the Chancellor should give a report on college governance best practices nationwide.

President Marcia Keízs stated that occasionally there are things that can supersede a particular aspect of what goes on the campuses but governance plans are very localized and centered around the practices, habits and traditions of each campus.

Prof. Kathleen Barker stated that she is in strong support of this amendment. The body of work that is being evaluated at each stage, each year, seems to be an unnecessary additional hurdle for candidates to manage, and that the process itself would appear to be arbitrary, depending upon the personnel that staff these committees. She added that she would like to encourage the members of this Committee—given that it has gone through appropriate governance—to accept this amendment.

In response to a question from Trustee Carol Robles-Roman, General Counsel and Senior Vice Chancellor Frederick Schaffer stated that Brooklyn College is seeking to amend its Governance Plan to bring it into conformity with the rest of the University. This is less a matter of consistency, but that the College is basing this amendment on experience that has not been favorable. The College’s prior practice of having the professor and the department chair appear at the intermediate level was an outlier because the appeal is supposed to be an appeal from a given record. He suggested that the Committee should not delay or deny this amendment.

In response to a question from Prof. Barker, General Counsel and Senior Vice Chancellor Schaffer stated that this amendment does not violate the Bylaws of the University, which recognizes that the Board has set general parameters, but it permits individual campuses to do things somewhat differently upon review. Over many decades, governance plans across CUNY have all been approved by the Board of Trustees, with advice from the Office of Faculty, Staff and Administration and the Office of General Counsel. The Bylaws of the Board of Trustees do provide in a number of aspects, the procedures on how the P&B committees operate and how promotions and reappointments are done, permitting a variety of practices, some of which are not consistent with what was originally in the Bylaws.

Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Operating Office Allan Dobrin stated that the task is not for the Trustees to determine whether the Brooklyn College Governance Plan is consistent with other campuses, but whether it makes sense in itself.

In response to a question from Trustee Gribetz, General Counsel and Senior Vice Chancellor Schaffer stated that he would like to assure the Committee that the vice chancellors serve as gatekeepers for different areas of the campuses in addition to serving in the same capacity for the Board of Trustees in many cases as well.

In response to another question from Trustee Gribetz, General Counsel and Senior Vice Chancellor Schaffer stated that a report will be given to the Trustees that reflects whether
there are any other campuses within CUNY that follow the practices that Brooklyn College now wishes to change.

Following discussion, the item was approved for submission to the Board, subject to a report on governance plans at the meeting of the Board of Trustees.

3. Naming of the M.D. Sass Investment Academy at Brooklyn College.


Provost Tramontano asked for the Committee’s approval of these two naming resolutions for Brooklyn College. The first resolution is in recognition of Mr. Sass’s generosity of $1 million that provided Brooklyn College with starting capital to create the “M.D. Sass Investment Academy.” The Academy was created to provide students with real-life trading experience, and it is one of the largest undergraduate student-run hedge funds in the northeast. The Academy will be under the full control of the Brooklyn College Foundation, and the Foundation Investment Committee will monitor it. The second resolution is in recognition of Mr. Kaplan’s pledge of $1.5 million to endow a Chair at Brooklyn College. Provost Tramontano requested an amendment to the naming of the Chair to: “Municipal Government Accounting.”

Following discussion, items I.B.3 and I.B.5 were approved for submission to the Board.

6. Naming of the Jonas Nursing Honors Scholarships at Hunter College. President Jennifer Raab asked for the Committee’s approval of this naming resolution, the “Jonas Nursing Honors Scholarships.” The Jonas family has established a foundation to support nursing and has provided Hunter College with over $200,000 prior to this gift. This most recent $100,000 gift for the nursing scholarship is exciting because the College has created a new intern nursing honors program—with entry at the freshman level—for top high school students who are committed to nursing. This is the program’s first year with a cohort of twenty. The students will receive a special academic program and special extracurricular work, exposing them to particular research careers in nursing. The College’s goal is for students to complete the four year curriculum and then go onto the Doctor of Nursing Practice program, also at Hunter College. The College has recruited a number of students who would have otherwise not have been able to attend—the $100,000 gift will allow the College to provide scholarships for two years. The College also hopes to go for renewal with other private sources.

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


9. Naming of the Belle and George Strell Executive Leadership Fellows Program at Hunter College’s Silberman School of Social Work.

10. Naming of the Isabel Meyer May Student Lounge at Hunter College’s Silberman School of Social Work.
President Jennifer Raab asked for the Committee’s approval of the next four naming resolutions at Hunter College. The first naming resolution is a $10 million gift over ten years from the Lauder Foundation. It was made by Leonard Lauder in honor of his wife Evelyn, who attended both Hunter College High School and Hunter College. She had been a supporter of the College’s science programs—which are still maintained through the Breast Cancer Research Foundation that she was engaged with—and art programs. This gift has the potential to transform the School of Nursing, for giving it the flexibility to create support for its faculty through the Lauder Faculty Scholars Program which is requested to be named in this resolution. The third part of this fund, is a game changer for the College, keeping technology for nurses up-to-date. So in honor of the gift, Hunter College requests the approval of this naming resolution, the “Evelyn H. Lauder Fund, the Evelyn H. Lauder Faculty Scholars Program, and the Evelyn H. Lauder Scholarship Program.”

The second naming resolution is requesting the formal approval of the “Baker Theatre Building” in honor of the $15 million cash gift from the Bakers. Two years ago Hunter College signed the first part of the transaction, which allowed the College to acquire a 26,000 square foot landmark building at 151 East 67th Street. The original $10 million gift from Patty Baker allowed the College to move forward with some additional funds, and the Bakers made another $5 million gift to help renovate the building. Patty Baker is a 1982 graduate of Hunter College who became mainstay in the New York City theater community. She is a producer of some Broadway hits including *Memphis* and *Beautiful*, and she is committed to helping create a thriving Theatre Department at Hunter College.

The third naming resolution regards the “Belle and George Strell Executive Leadership Fellows Program” created for the Silberman School of Social Work (M.S.W.) with the support of alumna Joan Glade de Pontet. She originally started this program with a $100,000 donation that helped create an executive leadership and leadership training for current M.S.W. students, and allows other students access to professional development while they are in a practice field in social work. Ms. Glade de Pontet has now made a pledge for $500,000 to support this program, which develops management skills among the social work community, in honor of her parents, Belle and George Strell.

The last naming resolution is for a small lounge at the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, the “Isabel Meyer May Student Lounge.” Peter May is the Chair of Mt. Sinai Hospital and is the Chair of the New York Philharmonic, and he has had great success in the field of finance. His mother, Isabel May, graduated from Hunter College in the 1930’s and in her honor Mr. May made a $50,000 gift—a small portion for scholarship and the rest to support other activities of the Silberman School of Social Work.

Following discussion, items I.B.7 through I.B.10 were approved for submission to the Board.

11. **Naming of the Arthur B. Hill Lecture Hall at John Jay College of Criminal Justice.**
President Jeremy Travis asked for the Committee’s approval of this proposed naming of a lecture hall in honor of Arthur B. Hill at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Chief Arthur Hill is an alumnus of the College, having both a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in public administration. He is known for his police leadership. He was a member of the NYPD, retiring as one of the highest ranking African American police executives along with Lloyd Sealy, who is another John Jay College hero. Chief Hill served twenty-six years in the department and went on to serve in the federal government for many more years. He had two careers of extraordinary service as well as being very active in his community in Queens. His children have asked to devote some of their parents'
resources to the creation of the Arthur Hill Fellowship at John Jay College, and asked that the fellowship support master's or doctoral level students who would study under the broad heading of policing in a diverse society—interestingly in relations between the police and communities of color—to ensure that the research done by the Hill fellows will have world-wide application so that their father's legacy continues. Therefore, they have made a pledge to the College of $125,000. The College intends to select the first Arthur Hill Fellows this coming semester.

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

Committee Chair Beal stated that it has now been about five years since CUNY has had a consistent naming policy. However, at some point the Committee would like to hear the effect of this process, to evaluate if other campuses need to develop other vehicles because some campuses may not have a long history of alums.

C. CHANCELLOR’S UNIVERSITY REPORT

1. Appointment of Panayiotis Meleties as Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs at York College. President Marcia Keizs gave a brief presentation on this item. Following discussion the item was approved for submission to the Board.

II. INFORMATION ITEMS:

Reappointment with Early Tenure pursuant to §6.2.b.(2) of the Bylaws.

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<td>9/1/2015</td>
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Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 5:42 P.M.