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**Minutes of  
The Lehman College Senate Meeting  
Wednesday, March 2, 2011  
Senate Meeting**

7       **Senators Present:**   Akan, A.; Alborn, T.; Bamshad, M.; Banoum, B.; Bayne, G.;  
8                               Bennett, M.; Bergmann, R.; Blot, R.; Bullaro, G.; Calvet, L.;  
9                               Carrellas, P.; Carey, R.; Carney, J.; Cheng, T.; Choudhary, A.;  
10                              Clark, V.; DellaPina, M.; DeSimone, F.; Deveaux, F.; Eleyinafe, O.;  
11                              Farrell, R.; Feinerman, R.; Fernández, R.; Fletcher, D.;  
12                              Freedberg, S.; Gálvez, A.; Gorokhovich, Y.; Greenberg, J.;  
13                              Gross, C.; Haghighat, E.; Hattori, T.; Holloway, J.; Jacobson, B.;  
14                              Jafari, M.; Jarroll, E.; Jervis, J.; Kabat, D.; Kayaalp, O.; Kolb, P.;  
15                              Larimer, A.; Lawrence, A.; Levitt, J.; Lizardi, H.; Magdaleno, J.;  
16                              Marianetti, M.; Markens, S.; Matthews, E; Munch, J.; Nadeem, S.;  
17                              O'Connor, N.; Omare, D.; Onyedum, J.; Papazian, M.; Peruyero, C.;  
18                              Philipp, M.; Qian, G.; Raaum, R.; Rachlin, J.; Rice, A.; Rotolo, R.;  
19                              Tananbaum, D.; Troy, R.; Voge, S.; Warde, B.; Whittaker, R.;  
20                              Wilder, I.; Wunder, A.; Zapata, S.; Zucchetto, V.

23       **Senators Absent:**   Almodovar-Salinas, D.; Amaoma, C.; Artinian, A.; Badru, L.;  
24                               Bard, A.; Barnard, J.; Beard, C.; Borrell, L.; Brooks, O.;  
25                               Buckley, M.; Correa, D.; Di Paolo, M.; Dobson, C.; Duhaney, C.;  
26                               Eldridge, D.; Esteves, C.; Fermín, A.; Garçon, M.; Gilbert, F.;  
27                               Henry, P.; Howze, P.; Iddrisu, A.; Jitianu, A.; Jones, L.; Lucente, J.;  
28                               Martin, O.; Maybee, J.; Ndukwe, K.; Nyemba, T.; O'Hanlon, T.;  
29                               Olabode, A.; Prohaska, V.; Ricourt, M.; Ross, S.; Samuels, Y.;  
30                               Schlesinger, K.; Schwartz, G.; Sesay, F.; Sibermintz, N.; Sloan, H.;  
31                               Sokol, M.; Soto, M.; Souare, I.; Thomas, G.; Totti, X.; Twomey, R.;  
32                               Waldo, I.; Zermatt-Scutt, M.

34       The meeting was called to order by President Ricardo R. Fernández at 3:42 p.m.

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36       President Fernández announced that due to absence of a quorum during the December 15<sup>th</sup>  
37       and February 2<sup>nd</sup> meetings, those minutes could not be approved and would have to be  
38       deferred until the next Senate meeting.

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40       **Announcements and Communications–**

- 41  
42       a. 1. The President reported that yesterday he headed a delegation from the CUNY Bronx  
43       schools to Albany. The students and others who traveled to Albany had an opportunity to

44 talk to state legislators. They addressed some of the significant issues pertaining to the  
45 Bronx. One of these is the proposed budget reduction for the community colleges. This is  
46 very significant because every dollar they lose from the state, they lose from the city. The  
47 delegation also met with staff of several senators. As for the budget, it is expected to be on  
48 time. However, the Senate is now controlled by Republicans and there is very little  
49 negotiating so far.

50 2. Finally, the President noted that this has been a very different year compared to others,  
51 with so many demands placed on Albany because of the reductions. He urged everyone to  
52 go to [SupportCUNY.org](http://SupportCUNY.org) and post messages to legislators about what CUNY means for the  
53 State of New York. Over 5,000 messages have been posted but more are needed. We need  
54 to tell the legislature that although this has been a difficult year, public higher education  
55 must continue to be funded. It is problematic because we know we are facing major  
56 reductions. Already \$205 million was cut last year, and \$95 million this year. We've just  
57 received information that CUNY colleges cannot replace individuals who took early  
58 retirement because of budget restrictions.

59

60 **b. Student Conference–**

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62 1. Mr. Marvin Bennett reported that petitioning for the Student Government Association  
63 Constitution is underway. Student Conference is collecting signatures.

64 2. Next week, March 9<sup>th</sup>, a meeting of the Student Conference will be held to fill vacant  
65 positions.

66

67 REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES–

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69 **c. Committee on Graduate Studies–**

70 Professor Janet DeSimone had one item to present, a new course from the Department of  
71 History (HIW726.) Due to absence of a quorum, the item was presented as an informational  
72 item. The next meeting is March 9<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m.

73

74 **d. Governance Committee–**

75 1. Professor Duane Tananbaum presented the nominees to serve on the Senate Committees:

76 **Committee on Admissions, Evaluation and Academic Standards:** Prof. Alyshia Galvez,

77 Department of Latin American and Puerto Rican Studies, until May 2012; **Campus Life**  
78 **and Facilities:** Prof. Carol Gross, Department of Early Childhood and Childhood  
79 Education, until May 2011; and **Budget and Long Range Planning:** Prof. Manfred Philipp,  
80 Department of Chemistry, until May 2011. He suggested that the chairs of the above  
81 committees include the future nominees in notifications of meetings.

82 2. He also reported that emails will be sent to everyone for nominations for senators at  
83 large. This is the first election that will be conducted under the new governance document.  
84 One of the changes made is to cut down the size of the Senate body from 140 members to  
85 102. The same proportions will be retained. Starting in September, with a more compact  
86 body, the senate will be more able to achieve a quorum. He reported that the Committee  
87 will compile a ballot from the nominees.

88 3. The Committee will also be sending out solicitations for nominations for Senate  
89 committees. Half of the faculty members' terms expire each year; therefore, there will be  
90 vacant seats for one half of the faculty.

91 4. Prof. Tananbaum urged the committee chairs to send the approved minutes of their  
92 meetings to the Office of the Special Counsel, as we need to have a permanent record.

93 5. He then reported that Committee on Structure activities have been put on hold because a  
94 number of that committee's members have been very much involved in working up a  
95 response to CUNY's proposal regarding general education and transfer. The Board of  
96 Trustees wants to deal with this issue by changing the General Education requirements at all  
97 campuses. The Board is proposing a task force charged with improving the transfer process  
98 by requiring uniform General Education requirements. Specifically, here at Lehman, we  
99 would be limited to a 36 requirement. Lehman currently has 50 credit requirements for  
100 lower division students; therefore, our students would be taking 14 credits fewer in General  
101 Education. As Assemblywoman Deborah Glick recently wrote in the Albany Times Union,  
102 the main mission of SUNY and CUNY is "honing critical thinking and exposing students to  
103 new areas of study and interest." Prof. Tananbaum said that we accomplish this through  
104 General Education and through distribution requirements. It's important that students  
105 receive a maximum exposure to liberal arts. He added that Chancellor Matthew Goldstein  
106 has spent the last 15 years improving academic quality and standard of Lehman. The

107 purpose of this is so that a CUNY degree will mean something. Lessening General  
108 Education requirements will devalue a Lehman degree. Discussion followed.

109 **e. Committee on Admissions, Evaluations and Academic Standards–**

110 Professor Anne Rice reported that their committee met for the first time yesterday. At this  
111 meeting, Ms. Lisa Moalam, the retention and articulation specialist at Lehman, presented the  
112 proposed modifications to the probation policy, which will be brought before the Senate for  
113 a vote at the next meeting. They have been following very closely the efforts to formulate a  
114 response to the pathways initiative.

115

116 **f. Undergraduate Curriculum–**

117 1. Professor Barbara Jacobson presented informational items. There were two items from  
118 the last Senate meeting from the Department of English and the Interdisciplinary Program in  
119 Linguistics. This month, there are informational items from the Department of  
120 Anthropology, the Department of History, the Department of Psychology and from the  
121 Macauley Honors College. Discussion followed.

122 2. The next meeting of the Curriculum Committee will meet March 16<sup>th</sup> in Carman Hall,  
123 room 263.

124

125 **g. Academic Freedom–**There was no report.

126

127 **h. Library, Technology and Telecommunications–**

128 1. Mr. James Carney announced that there was no report but announced that the tech fee  
129 requests should be in the dean's office at this point and that process is moving along fairly  
130 well. A clarification of the phone use policy was sent to all departments. He encouraged  
131 everyone to read it. He spoke briefly of data security of faculty and staff regarding phasing  
132 out the use of social security numbers on SIMS, and this also seems to moving very  
133 smoothly. Discussion followed.

134 2. Their next meeting is March 7<sup>th</sup> in Carman Hall, room 263.

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136 **3. Campus Life and Facilities–**There was no report.

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138 4. **Budget and Long Range Planning**—There was no report. —

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140 5. **University Faculty Senate**— See attached report.

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142 Old Business—

143 Due to absence of a quorum, the resolution: Amendments to Governance Documents and  
144 bylaws changing “Student Conference” to “Student Government Assembly” was tabled until  
145 the next Senate meeting.

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147 New Business—

148 There was none.

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150 ADJOURNMENT

151 President Fernández adjourned the meeting at 4:52 p.m.

152

153 Respectfully submitted,

154

155 Esdras Tulier