AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes for January 28, 2016. Proposed minutes are attached.
2. Budget Update. Based on the information provided, we should probably discuss in broad terms how we might approach recommendations for further cuts. Hopefully, we’ll know much more about the budget situation in the days after April 1, when presumably the State budget will be adopted.
3. Space Plan. At one point we heard about the receipt of a final report from the space consultants. We will have an update.
4. Space Policy. Linked with the various moves associated with leaving North Hall, we quickly developed some very useful ad hoc guidelines concerning the allocation of space. At that time we determined to undertake the larger project of a comprehensive space policy for the college. Let’s see if we would like to reaffirm that project and, if so, develop some first steps toward getting it done (assuming that budget matters don’t consume our attention for the balance of the year).
Joint Meeting: SPS – FPS
Minutes
March 28, 2016

Present: Jane Bowers, James Llana (SPS Chair), Pat Ketterer (FPS Chair), Ric Anzaldua, Ned Benton, Sandrine Dikambi, Janice Dunham, Mark Flower, Jay Hamilton, Karen Kaplowitz, Virginia Moreno, Doug Salane, Raj Singh, Charles Stone, Bob Troy, Alison Orlando (Recorder)

1. New Business. Ned proposed the committee talk about the suite of offices now being used by the Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration. Karen made a motion to recommend to the President that the space be reassigned to academics for the use of faculty research and offices, and that a suitable alternative be found for the future Vice President. The motion was seconded. Jim commented that in the charter the committee is charged with comprehensive strategic planning, and that this motion does not fall under that category. He felt that the motion may undermine the credibility of the committee. Jane said that while she does not disagree with Jim, she doesn’t know how this request can be made known otherwise. Pat mentioned that one challenge would be to find another location for the Vice President, but this is something that space planning could be charged with. Janice said that the motion would be an expression of desirability and a good move. Raj suggested that the request be taken to space planning so they could take a look at it. Doug felt that the force of the committee was needed and that was not a viable option. The motion was put up for a vote and passed with a vote of: Y- 7 N - 0 A - 2.

2. Budget Update. Pat then gave a budget update. She explained that right now the governor’s position on the CUNY budget looks like it is softening, but things are still in the air. She also explained that the university is committed to helping us but we need to be prepared to absorb any possible cuts to our budget. She then spoke about the tuition increases. It seems that if the tuition increases go into effect they will be used towards collective bargaining for the first year. After the first year, they could be used to help balance the budget, but this wouldn’t give John Jay any room to grow. Pat further explained that this year’s budget looks fine, but next year’s budget will be problematic even without the collective bargaining agreement. Jim asked Pat if we have to make cuts, where should we look for them. Pat said that we have never done the difficult exercise of costing out academic programs. Jay asked if there was any model for this. Jim explained that there is a book by Robert Dickeson (Prioritizing Academic Programs and Services) that presents a model for this approach. Jane explained that the process was done at Lehman College; however, it stalled at the point of acting on the recommendations that came from the process. Pat said we could grow our way out of our budget issue; as an example, summer is now bringing in additional revenues. After Karen inquired about our budget for this year, Pat responded that she will send a document to show where we are now. Jane stated that new investments for the upcoming year don’t make sense, since the College needs to stabilize. Ned stated that there are programs that were designed to grow and are growing; these programs might need investment. Jane explained that could be done through reallocation.

3. Space Plan. Jim asked about the latest on the space plan. Pat explained that we hired a consultant with a commitment to do two reports, one for the short-term and the other with an extended horizon. There was some work done on the short-term report but our own staff played a large role in compiling it. We have not received the long-term report. We have to look into either getting our money back or receiving the long term report. Pat then gave an update on the renovations. She explained that renovations in Westport should be done in the fall and everyone should be moved out of North Hall by July.
4. **Space Policy.** Jim explained that the committee previously discussed developing strategic guidelines for space allocations through a comprehensive space policy but never completed the job. He inquired if this was something the committee would be interested in developing. Ned said that he would like to see options and while a comprehensive space policy is complex it is a worthwhile exercise. Jim said that he would circulate some examples of space policies to the committee. It was decided that Jim and Ned would collaborate and come to the committee with a proposal.