

**Minutes of the LACUNY Executive Council Meeting
Friday, November 14, 2008
Graduate Center Room 8400**

Present:

Sarah Aponte (CC), Danielle Becker (HC), Daniel Cleary (YC), Joseph Deodato (CSI), Jose Diaz (Hostos), Eva Dimova-Angelov (BC), Beth Evans (BC), Maria Isabel Fernandes (QBC), Jane Fitzpatrick (GC), Nancy Foasberg (QC), Harold Gee (Baruch), Curtis Kendrick (Central), Jeffrey Kroessler (JJ), Dalia Leonardo (GC), Karen Mason (MC), Kadri Niider (SUNY), Steve Ovadia (LG), Sharon Swacker (NY), Junior Tidal (NY), Betsy Tompkins (KB), Linda Wadas (BMCC), Ed Wallace (LC), James Watson (BCC)

Not Represented:

CUNY School of Law

Meeting called to order at 2:30 pm.

Acceptance of Agenda and Minutes of October 17, 2008.

New Business

▪ **Mentoring Roundtable Proposal**

- Sharon Swacker and Jane Fitzpatrick proposed the formation of a Mentoring Roundtable, which would offer cross-campus support and encouragement for library faculty on the tenure track. The Mentoring Roundtable would pair senior and junior faculty members for the purpose of facilitating the acclimation of junior faculty to the CUNY environment and providing individualized support for professional development, promotion, and advancement in the profession. A proposed mission statement was distributed.
- Swacker explained that the idea of establishing of mentoring program was initially raised at a Junior Faculty Roundtable meeting. Three senior faculty members have already expressed an interest in serving as mentors and a roundtable could be created as early as January 2009. The Mentoring Roundtable would complement and work closely with existing LACUNY bodies such as the Junior Faculty Roundtable and Professional Development Committee to provide institutional support for junior faculty.
- Fitzpatrick pointed out that the Library Faculty Mentoring Program at Rutgers University could serve as an instructive example and passed around literature from their program. For more information, see the [Rutgers University Libraries website](#).
- The topic was opened for general discussion. Steve Ovadia noted that tenure polices vary from campus to campus and expressed concern that the guidance offered by the roundtable might not be valid for at a particular institution. Fitzpatrick responded that the mentoring program would not be prescriptive. It would provide general guidance at the professional, not institutional level. Swacker noted that faculty have limited contact with colleagues outside of their own institutions and the mentoring program would provide an opportunity to discuss professional issues with people beyond one's own department. The program is not intended to offer a step-by-step guide to tenure.
- A motion to approve the creation of a LACUNY Mentoring Roundtable was approved with two abstentions.

President's Report

- **LACUNY Institute**
- Beth Evans reported on the success of LACUNY Institute, Greening Libraries/Greener Communities, which was well-attended. Details about the event can be found on the [conference website](#). Notes can be found on the [LACUNY blog](#).
- **LACUNY Website**

- The Website Committee (Junior Tidal, Steve Ovadia, and Daisy Dominguez) is currently in the process of redesigning the LACUNY website by restructuring the navigation, consolidating content, creating a searchable directory, and archiving old content on D-space. The redesigned website will be located at a new address <<http://www.lacuny.org>>.
- Evans reminded the council that every committee and roundtable has an assigned Web Committee contact whom they should contact with updates/changes to their web content.
- **CUNY/SUNY Collaboration**
- The meeting was joined by a representative from SUNY – Assistant Librarian Kadri Niider from the College of Optometry – for the purpose of exploring possibilities for collaboration between CUNY and SUNY. Niider suggested mentoring and teleconferencing as potential areas for future collaboration.
- **Outreach Committee**
- Evans said she would post an invitation to CULIBS to attract members for an Outreach Committee.
- **Scholarship and Awards Committee**
- The Scholarship and Awards Committee is still looking for one more member. Thus far, Maria Isabel Fernandes and Eva Dimova-Angelov have volunteered to serve.
- **LACUNY Directory**
- LaRoi Lawton and Joanne Canales have been working to update the LACUNY directory. There was a general discussion about possible changes/improvements to the directory.
- Beth Evans mentioned the possibility of having a searchable web directory on the LACUNY website. Evans also noted that the LACUNY directory is more accurately a directory of CUNY librarians (not all are dues-paying LACUNY members) and suggested we might want to consider changing the name in order to reflect this.
- Jeffrey Kroessler suggested that the directory continue to include all CUNY librarians but add a note that not all librarians are LACUNY members.
- Curtis Kendrick favored renaming the directory but added that LACUNY should approach OLS about supporting it since the directory provides a system function.
- It's been suggested that the directory include the ranks of faculty members. Evans asked if anyone objected to this but no one did. Daniel Cleary suggested that the directory include function as well as rank.
- **LACUNY Membership Form**
- Daisy Dominguez has created a revised LACUNY membership form, which updates and corrects some errors on the previous form.
- **News from CUNY Libraries**
- Beth Evans urged to members to send submissions for the fall issue to Michael Adams by November 24th. Looking for news about appointments, awards, grants, presentations, publications, retirements, and other achievements occurring through December 31.
- **CUNY Librarian Publications**
- Beth Evans reported receiving a suggestion from Kathleen Collins about creating an archive of publications by CUNY Librarians. Evans noted that Brooklyn College's faculty profiles are database driven and allow faculty members not only to list their scholarship but upload files of articles, papers, and presentations. Evans suggested the possibility of having a similar system for collecting and archiving publications by CUNY librarians.
- Curtis Kendrick mentioned that CUNY does in fact have a system-wide database which collects faculty profiles and scholarship but that not all faculty choose to participate in it. He advised council members to look for an invite in March/April 2009. Kendrick also mentioned the possibility of using D-space to host copies of faculty publications.
- **Budget Issues**
- Curtis Kendrick reported that he and Dean Bryan have been visiting all CUNY campuses. The major concern across campuses is the budget. CUNY has had its budget cut by \$82 million and it is almost definite that there will be additional cuts. Tuition is slated to increase by \$300 in spring and \$600 by next fall. There has been some discussion of monetizing CUNY assets (such as selling air rights over CUNY buildings). Kendrick advised

librarians to get their budgets spent as soon as possible to avoid having funds taken away. Next year could be worse.

Vice President's Report

- Jane Fitzpatrick gave a report on the Council of Chiefs meeting.

Treasurer's Report

- Total funds as of 11/14/2008: \$17,966
- Inflows for October: \$2,764
- Outflows: \$1,788
- Paid members as of 11/14/2008: 82

Committee Reports and Announcements

- **Emerging Technology Committee** – Google Chrome, Google Docs, and the Explosion of Cloud Computing – Nov. 19, 10am–12pm @ CUNY Grad Center.
- **Multicultural & Diversity Committee** – Tour of Center for Puerto Rican Studies – Nov. 20, 3pm–4pm @ Hunter College. Also Considering a spring program on communication and language challenges in the library. Possible expedition to the classical theater of Harlem. Need to look into legality of using it as a fundraising event.
- **LACUNY Winter Membership Meeting** – The Enriched Librarian – Dec. 12, 2:30pm–4:30pm @ Brooklyn College. Program exploring people's avocations and talents – includes 2 singers, a violin duo, short-story writer, translator of Greek poetry, painter, photographer, ceramic collector, a panel speaker on dance and another on historic preservation in NY.
- **Library Instruction Committee** – Next meeting on Dec. 12. Winter membership meeting on Mar. 27.
- **Junior Faculty Roundtable Meeting** – Dec. 16, 3pm-5pm @ Baruch College.
- **Dialogues** – Jan. 17 @ Graduate Center – Adjuncts share their experiences. Still looking for volunteers and topics.
- **Acquisitions Committee** – Had meeting on Nov. 13th to discuss the book budget, videos, e-books, and next week's visit from Dean Coutts
- **Collection Development Committee** – In the process of formulating an "untouchables" list of items that cannot be cut in the case of a budget crisis.
- **Interlibrary Loan Committee** – CUNY is currently negotiating licenses with vendors.
- **Urban Library Journal** – Next issue due out in early 2009.

Meeting adjourned at 4:03pm.

These minutes were submitted by Joseph Deodato (in the Secretary's absence).