Minutes of
The Lehman College Senate Meeting
Wednesday, February 3, 2021
Senate Meeting


The meeting was called to order by President Daniel Lemons at 3:37 p.m.

1. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the December 2, 2020 and the December 16, 2020 Senate meetings were unanimously approved.

2. Announcements and Communications
   a. Report of the President—

   Dr. Lemons welcomed all to the first meeting of the Spring 2021 semester. He briefed on an email announcement sent earlier in the week: the decision of the CUNY Board of Trustees (BOT) to appoint Dr. Fernando Delgado as the next president of Lehman College. He expressed that Dr. Delgado would receive a warm welcome to the Lehman College community effective July 1, 2021. Dr. Lemons went on to provide several informational items concerning the budget. He informed that the New York State (NYS) 2022 Preliminary Budget had proposed a 5 percent decrease—a decrease that would be less than the 20 percent reduction received for the current fiscal year, 2021. He explained that the discrepancy was
to be a collaborative responsibility. There were many arguments for the proposal as well, in which it was contended that the resolution was necessary for budgetary reasons and for reaffirming the College’s values. Although such was acknowledged, there were further questions concerning effective implementation.

Dr. Pamela Mills, the Dean of Natural and Social Sciences, questioned the use of “authority” in the fifth paragraph of the resolution. In response, Professor Robert Farrell made a motion to change the word “authority” to “prerogative.” The motion was seconded and discussion ensued on the proposed amendment. The Executive Counsel, Bridget Barbera, reminded that such would neither change the issue at hand, nor allow for a collaborative conversation. Professor Paula Loscocco pointed out that the language danced between the current online learning situation brought on by the pandemic and a post pandemic future that was yet to be determined. Prof. Mills stressed that the language was unclear and that further discussion, in collaboration with a wider range of individuals, should be considered. Professor Paula Loscocco motioned to table the amendment. It was seconded. The amendment was tabled after more than 3/5ths of the body voted to table.

Professor Paula Loscocco motioned to table the resolution. It was seconded. The amendment was tabled after more than 3/5ths of the body voted to table.

See Attachment VI

b. Mission, Vision, and Values Statement Resolution

a. Dr. Lemons presented the Lehman College Mission, Vision, and Values Statement resolution for endorsement. He motioned to both consider the proposal and initiate discussion. It was seconded and discussion ensued. There were many positive comments concerning the resolution, and some offered alterations in the chat box to further reflect Lehman’s goals, guiding principles, and its continuous capacity for positive change. Others believed the resolution should be brought to the Senate at a later date. The Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Peter Nwosu, informed that Lehman was far behind, with regard to Middle States and its plan for 2025, due to setbacks as a result of the
pandemic. Dr. Lemons echoed Dr. Nwosu, in that he urged for closure of the process in light of previous obstacles that have impeded Lehman’s progress; he affirmed that all input provided would be taken into consideration.

Professor Robert Farrell made a motion to table the resolution. It was seconded. The motion proceeded to a vote. It was denied by majority vote.

Dr. Lemons motioned to endorse the resolution, with the understanding that the comments provided by senators in the chat box be considered for inclusion into the final product. It was seconded. The resolution was approved by majority vote.

See Attachment VII

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Lemons adjourned the meeting at 5:43

Respectfully submitted:

Cynthia Cessant
Lehman College Senate

RESOLUTION REGARDING SENATE ENDORSEMENT OF
THE LEHMAN COLLEGE: MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES STATEMENT

WHEREAS, Lehman College wishes to revise its institutional mission statement in order to provide the various constituencies, both within the College and the community, with the institution’s defined core values and goals; AND

WHEREAS, Lehman College seeks the Senate’s endorsement of the revised Mission, Vision, and Values Statement;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Lehman College Senate endorses the Lehman College: Mission, Vision, and Values Statement, which will be part of Lehman College’s Strategic Plan:

Lehman College: Mission, Vision, and Values

MISSION
Lehman College, an urban public institution and economic and cultural catalyst in the Bronx, is a national engine for social mobility, providing a transformative educational experience while advancing equity, inclusion, and social justice.

VISION
Lehman College will be a nationally recognized leader in educational attainment, expanding knowledge through innovative curriculum, pedagogy, scholarship, and enhanced digital solutions. The College will be a model of engaged citizenship and an advocate for a just and sustainable world.

VALUES

Inspired by the life of our namesake, Herbert H. Lehman, we are committed to:

- **Social Justice**: Advocating for human rights, honoring differences and working towards equality and equity for all.

- **Excellence**: Pursuing innovative teaching, research, and scholarship to produce a diverse pipeline of leaders and change agents committed to novel and sustainable solutions and igniting new possibilities.

- **Ethics**: Upholding the principles of academic freedom, and demonstrating honesty, integrity, respect, and care in our interactions with others.

- **Diversity and Inclusion**: Fostering a campus environment that respects and values diverse perspectives and identities and where all members of the Lehman community experience a remarkable sense of belonging.

- **Service**: Empowering the community through the increased engagement of faculty, staff, students and alumni in outreach and partnerships contributing to individual achievement, economic development, and the common good.