



September 16, 2025 at 3:00 PM

Room: U-219

Meeting of the College Council Volume 53 Number 1

The College Council met on Tuesday, September, 16, 2025 at 3:00 PM in Room U-219.

Acosta, John	Dillon, Sarah	Mikalopas, John	Wilson-Mooney, Catherine
Alley-Young, Gordon	Dutch, Suri	Mintz, Tommy	Weisenfeld, Michael
Armstrong, Rick	Franquiz, Juan	Olvina, Cynthia	Zaloom, Joan
Jaime Berco	Friedman, Shoshana	Parker, Stuart	
Berran, Bridget	Gartner, Matthew	Pashkovskiy, Igor	<u>Students</u>
Cally, Scott	Hume, Don	Patestas, Maria	Akinleye, oluwakemi
Caravello, Shannon	Jedlicka, Carrie	Phillips, Audrey	Hussein, Reem
Cohen, Judith	Kalin, Amanda	Polizzotto, Kristin	Kamil, Fatima-Zahara
Warren Cook, Sharon	Kane, Daniel	Ricciardi, Paul	Makhmudova, Fotima
Corbin, Jessica	Kapetanakis, George	Risolo, Paula	Olu-Obazee, Nosagiegbon
D'Alessandro, Mark	Kirby, Michael	Rodriguez, Michael	Pierre, Qatazanah
Dawson, Mary	Lax, Jeffrey	Sawyer, Jeremy	Zan, Myat Khnie
DeGrazia, Thomas	Levy, Dawn	Schnee, Emily	
Delgado, Jeffrey	Matthew, Martin	Schwartz, Eric	
Del Principe, Ann	McKinney, Ryan	Segal, Jacob	

College Council Chair, Daniel Kane, called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM

AGENDA

I. The minutes of the meetings held on May 27, 2025 were approved by acclamation.

II. Reports

A. Updates from the Chair of College Council, Daniel Kane

Good Afternoon,

I want to welcome everyone to College Council. First, I would like to congratulate Kingsborough on getting reaccredited. I know the email went out during the summer, but I want to thank everyone involved for your hard work. Also, before the semester, the Students Committee hosted a mock College Council for student council members, hosted by Paula Risolo and Jeffery

Delgado. The Steering Committee had a great time going over the College Council policies that afternoon. As for College Council dates and times, I have been informed that we accidentally booked our dates on the same days as the UFS plenary meetings, which might make it difficult for our UFS representatives, who are now council members, to attend both meetings. I apologize for that oversight. When planning College Council dates and times, we consider many factors, such as CUNY BOT and Academic Calendar, Kingsborough's Academic Calendar, holidays, union days and more. We attempt to make these meetings accessible for everyone. This semester, we have some changes occurring with the College Council. Based on the feedback we received, we are going to be trying some new policies. The first is that we have added a microphone on a stand. I ask that when we open the floor to questions, please line up at the microphone if you have any questions or comments. Many members felt it was sometimes hard to hear each other when speaking from the seats. Hopefully, this will provide everyone with an opportunity to hear each other. If, for any reason, you are not able to approach the microphone, please raise your hand to address the council, wait to be called on, and you will be able to speak from your seat. Having a microphone stand and everyone lining up can help end cross-debate as well.

Additionally, we will be revising how the Council handles New Business. Last year, there was some confusion about motions presented during New Business. The Parliamentarian will review changes today, and hopefully, the changes will make New Business easier to understand for everyone during the motion and discussion.

We will also be changing how we view and receive motions. When submitting motions, please put them in a WORD format. Many members felt it was challenging to keep up when we had a lot of votes or amendments to a motion in a short time, and could not make changes to a PDF. By having documents submitted to the Secretary in a Word format, we can attempt to make edits to a motion that is being discussed. Also, by editing the motions in real-time, all the members will know exactly what they are voting on. My goal is to keep everyone updated as we go through a motion.

I am always interested in your feedback and want to make College Council a fantastic place for everyone. Today, you will hear from the chairs of Standing Committees. We have Standing Committees for many topics that occur here at Kingsborough. Although you can bring a topic to Council under New Business, I request that you first try to bring it to a Standing Committee as a best practice. Every council member is part of a Standing Committee, attends meetings, and participates based on the agenda. If an issue is presented to a Standing Committee, that Standing Committee will work hard to help someone. If you have a problem, motion, or question, don't hesitate to get in touch with the Chair of a Standing Committee and request that it be put on their next agenda. If you are not sure which Standing Committee can help you, please email me and I will help. Also, please contact me if you have any questions or feedback. Thank you to everyone for your hard work, and let's have a great Fall 2025.

B. Updates from the Vice Chair of College Council, Cynthia Olvina

Good afternoon,

I hope you all had a restorative summer and that the semester is off to a fulfilling start. A warm welcome to our new members and a welcome back to those returning.

We have the exciting launch of our two new standing committees: DEI and Facilities. And I look forward to seeing their important work unfold this year, alongside the ongoing efforts of all our committees, which continue to make a lasting impact. Each committee plays a vital role in moving Kingsborough forward, and your collective efforts truly make a difference.

I also want to share a few updates: the College Council website now includes a section with FAQs and committee duties. I encourage you to review these resources when you have the chance.

As I shared in my last message, it's important to reflect on the core values that guide our work. Beginning this new year together gives us an opportunity to reaffirm not only why we are here, but also the positive impact we can have on our college community.

Your engagement, perspectives, and collaboration are the foundation of our success. Thank you for the time and dedication you bring to this work.

Thank you.

C. President's Report

Welcome to Fall 2025! I want to introduce our newest senior staff members, Corina Lozada Smith, Chief Diversity Officer, and Deon Bergeron, Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management. And, of course, to publicly congratulate Provost Sharon Warren Cook on becoming permanent in her position. You will hear from Deon at Convocation next week – not yet a full report or plan on enrollment management, but a few initial thoughts and data points, and an introduction of the new Free Community College initiative funded by the Governor that we implemented in early July.

I will go into more detail on all of these topics in my report today at the Convocation next week.

Middle States Supplemental Information Report

We expect a visit from a staff person at the Commission in mid-October to give us guidance in developing our Supplemental Information Report for Standard VI that is due February 3, 2026. In the meantime, we are assembling materials and evidence and starting to work on our narrative. I'm confident that the process will go well and we will fully meet the Commission's expectations with this supplemental report. Everything that we are doing right now to improve our financial outlook will be captured in the narrative of the report – we are both doing the work we need to do to improve college operations, and in that way will meet the commission's expectations of us to resolve our structural deficit and improve financial and operational planning.

Strategic Planning

I presented the current status of strategic planning to our steering committee for the plan in August and to the strategic planning and budget committee a couple of weeks ago. Again, I will speak more about this at Convocation. Lots of great work is going on to move us toward achieving the six goals in our strategic plan.

With our staffing gaps, finalizing the plan document itself, the measures of progress, and developing and implementing management of the plan over the five-year timeframe is turning out to be a challenge. My desire is to bring on someone to lead the work I just listed, as I realized over the summer that we just don't have the bandwidth with our current staffing, but we aren't financially in a position to add anyone in this role right at the moment. I'm working on figuring out what to do while the work toward our goals continues.

FY26 Budget and Moving Forward

We are still finalizing our end of year number for the fiscal year (FY25) that ended in June, but are projecting a deficit similar to what we projected in the third quarter – somewhat over \$2M. As a reminder, our year-end deficit the year before that was \$5.4M. And we have submitted a financial plan with a balanced budget for the current year (FY26) to the central office. We presented the current year budget at the last Strategic Planning and Budget committee meeting, but held off on bringing it to the full Council today out of concern that we would end up having to revise based on significant budget effects at the state level from changes to federal funding and policies. We will present the current year budget at the next College Council meeting.

I will say more about the overall fiscal picture. New York State, which was already facing a several billion dollar deficit for next year, is now projecting \$750M in Medicaid cuts this year and anticipating another \$3B for next year. The governor is signaling to agencies that we should be anticipating cuts as a result. There is also some uncertainty related to the City mayoral election, including financial uncertainty.

All CUNY colleges are looking at how to delay hires, combine staff positions and bolster financial reserves in anticipation of potential cuts and cash flow issues stemming from possible delays in processing federal financial aid.

We will talk more about this at convocation next week, but I want to give you a sense of where things are at for the moment. There are six CUNY colleges, including KCC, that ended this past fiscal year with deficits. Presidents of the colleges met with the chancellor and his senior administrators last week. The immediate impact of our fiscal situation is that we are under a hiring freeze, with some exceptions.

In addition, myself and other senior administrators will be participating in two monthly central office meetings; one with finance and a second with the university provost focused on academic planning.

This is a manageable situation, but it is going to require creative thinking and making difficult choices and accepting the resulting tradeoffs. I consider this to be an opportunity:

- To come up with a fiscal model that works better for functioning an uncertain world
- To rethink how we come together as a community in our core mission of supporting student success
- And to reconsider about how we support one another to do our work effectively

This includes how we show up for our students and for one another on this campus. Again, I will say more about this next week at convocation.

We are also in the middle of a search for a Senior Vice President for administration and finance. The search committee, chaired by General Counsel Beth Douglas, is working on scheduling first round interviews. This search is not affected by the hiring freeze, in part because of the expectation that the person we hire will help us to shift funds around in significant ways and to bolster revenues.

I will also be appointing a short-term task force to develop a set of financial management recommendations for me. I am just now starting to identify the members, and figure out the timing of the launch of this group and how it will coordinate with the hiring of the SVP and the new central office management structure under which we will be functioning for the next while.

Again, I truly believe this is an opportunity for us to gain greater clarity on our mission and focus, and then figure out how to reallocated resources toward that focus. Having set strategic plan goals gets us part of the way there.

I hope that you will join us for Convocation next week on Thursday the 25th.
Best wishes for a sweet and happy Rosh Hashanah for those who observe.

D. Presentation on New Business, Parliamentarian, John Mikalopas

The Parliamentarian presented on Special Rules of Order: Introducing Motions Under New Business. These have been included below. He highlighted that motions should be submitted to the appropriate Standing Committee and not submitted directly to the Steering Committee. If a motion is brought to the Steering Committee's attention, they should refer the matter to the appropriate Standing Committee.

STEP	ACTION
Introduce	A member makes a motion under New Business by saying "I move that..."
Second	Another member seconds the motion by saying "I second it."
Restate	<p>The chair restates the motion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>New Business Motions must be given to the Secretary in writing prior must be e-mailed to the Secretary as a Word compatible document by noon one business day before the start of the Meeting.</i>
Discuss	The maker of the motion starts the discussion.

Amend	A member can move to amend the motion by saying "I move to amend the motion ... " <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Second / Discussion / Majority (show of hands)</i>
Refer	A member can move to refer the motion to committee by saying "I move to refer the motion to the STANDING COMMITTEE to report this topic." <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Second / No Discussion / Majority (show of hands)</i>
Table	A member can move to postpone considering a motion by saying "I move to table the motion." <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Second / No Discussion / Majority (show of hands)</i> • A member can move to keep considering a motion by making a motion to <i>Take from the Table</i> — as long as they make that motion in the current meeting or the next meeting.
Close	The chair closes discussion.

Voting	Voting is in accordance with the Two Meeting Rule which always follows the Regular Rules of Order
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Application: These Special Rules of Order are only for Motions introduced under New Business

Purpose: These Special Rules of Order are for the effective introduction of Motions under New Business.

The PowerPoint presentation is included in the Minutes under *Attachment A for the 9/16/25 Meeting – PowerPoint: Special Rules of Order: Introducing Motions Under New Business*.

E. The Standing Committee Chairs shared updates about their Committee work and Fall 2025 Goals:

- Curriculum Committee, Scott Cally, Chair
 - A particular focus for the Committee this semester is streamlining Curriculum Committee processes, such as proposal submission via Teams, for efficiency and tracking purposes.
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee, Cynthia Olvina, Chair
 - Immediate goals include defining DEI for the campus, assessing past and present DEI efforts on campus, researching DEI practices at other CUNY Colleges, and enhancing engagement through scheduling and data-informed strategies. The Committee's commitment is to ensure that DEI is sustainable, visible, and impactful.
- Facilities Committee, Jessica Corbin, Secretary, presented on behalf of Steven Jaret, Chair
 - As a new Committee the main focus this semester will be defining their Committee goals.

- Instructional Committee, John Acosta, Chair
 - The Committee will set its first Fall 2025 semester meeting to officially vote for their Chair and Secretary and will then set their agenda for the upcoming year.
- Legislative Committee, Shoshana Friedman, Chair
 - The Committee aims to ensure transparency for Committee processes and to streamline processes as a means to address previously discovered hurdles, particularly in the election process.
- Shared Governance Committee, Matthew Gartner, Chair
 - The Committee plans to continue its work on the Procedural Guide with an aim to ensure it clarifies the purpose of College Council for the College community as well as outlining College Council procedures. An Information Session will be held via Zoom on Friday, September 26, 2025 at 11AM to further discuss the Procedural Guide, all members of the College community are welcome to attend. The Shared Governance Committee is planning to create an Academic Freedom Subcommittee.
- Strategic Planning and Budget, Thomas DeGrezia, Chair
 - The Committee is working closely with the President to support and advance College priorities, with an eye toward financial responsibility, timely graduation and transfer for our students, addressing student success by enhancing student services and supports, and developing a strategic plan that yields concrete results.
- Students Committee, Paula Risolo, Chair
 - The new SGA members were highlighted and welcomed. The Committee recognized Jeffrey Delgado and Melissa Merced for providing training to the new SGA members. The Committee plans to continue to build on initial work started last year inclusive of exploring the student experience, expectations, and perspective, to review and evaluate preventative grades of WN, WU, and FIN, and to discuss what does AI look like to students.

F. Two-Meeting Rule Vote: Resolution of the College Council Concerning Standards of Collegial Debate, presented by Jeffrey Lax.

A motion was made by Jeffrey Lax and seconded to postpone the vote until the first meeting of the Spring 2026 semester. The motion passed with **42 (Yes), 0 (No), and 7 (Abstentions).**

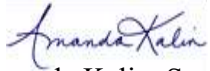
III. New Business

IV. Events/Announcements

- Sarah Dillion announced, Reflections 2025: The Annual Art Faculty Exhibition, at KAM opening on Wednesday, September 17 and closing on Wednesday, October 8.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amanda Kalin".

Amanda Kalin, Secretary

COLLEGE COUNCIL CALENDAR 2025-2026

Tuesday, October 28, 2025 @ 3:00 PM in U-219

Tuesday, November 18, 2025 @ 3:00 PM in U-219

Tuesday, December 2, 202 @ 3:00 PM in U-219

Attachment A for the 9/16/25 Meeting – PowerPoint: Special Rules of Order: Introducing Motions Under New Business.

**Recommended Change
to the
Rules of Regular Order
for
New Business Motions**

Flow of Motions Through Council

- Motions should be submitted to the appropriate Standing Committee.
- Steering Committee must refer matters brought to its attention to the appropriate Standing Committee. ---- Steering Committee does not have a right to bypass Standing Committee structure and place items directly on the agenda.

HOWEVER:

- Having "New Business" on the Agenda, Council invites any Member to bring up any matter that wasn't on the Agenda by a Motion.
- "New Business" has been on the College Council Agenda since 2008 (see website Minutes) (and as far back as I can remember.)

STEP	ACTION
Introduce	A member makes a motion by saying "I move that..."
Second	Another member seconds the motion by saying "I second it."
Restate	<p>The chair restates the motion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Business Motions must be [given to the Secretary in writing prior] must be e-mailed to the Secretary as a Word compatible document by noon one business day before the start of the Meeting.
Discuss	The maker of the motion starts the discussion.
Amend	<p>A member can move to amend the motion by saying "I move to amend the motion ... "</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second / Discussion / Majority (show of hands)
Refer	<p>A member can move to refer the motion to committee by saying "I move to refer the motion to the STANDING COMMITTEE to report this topic."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second / No Discussion / Majority (show of hands)
Table	<p>A member can move to postpone considering a motion by saying "I move to table the motion."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second / No Discussion / Majority (show of hands) A member can move to keep considering a motion by making a motion to Take from the Table — as long as they make that motion in the current meeting or the next meeting.
Close	The chair closes discussion.
Vote	In accordance with the Two Meeting Rule.