# College Council Chair Report

The College Council Executive Committee Met with the President and Provost on April 6th.

The meeting started with a review of the budget position. The College’s budget has been uncertain for most of the year, and now many things have become known, though still not all. We heard:

* The federal stimulus monies (CARES, CRSSA, ARPA) have been announced. These funds are available for the next 3 years. *The rough amounts for the campus are CARES: 7M; CRSSA: 16.2M; ARPA: 22M.*
* to be in the “black” for FY 21 the college will need **all** of its CARES funds and **2/3rds** of its CRSSA funds. (*The latter seemed to be far too high given the size of the monies and the advertised scale of the deficit.)*
* The hiring freeze (vacancy review board) is ongoing
* the adjusted revenue from CUNY is 100.9M dollars; the PS costs are 101.5M. (The additional lump monies not included in the initial figure).
* The (*then pending*) budget from the state had 500 TAP gap assistance, a tuition freeze, no increase in mandatory costs. (*These are all the case, the new budget only seems better relative to worst case scenarios*.)

We asked about College Assistants and whether they will be month to month, or have they had contracts extended through the fiscal year.

We followed up on the staffing at the Center for Global Engagement; we emphasized that their loss in revenues (they are part of the IFR budget) could be reimbursed by CRSSA funds

We asked about PSC travel funds and whether they are being reserved for when travel can be resumed. This led to a comment about the College’s supplement to travel funding.

We asked whether there were any plans to modify sabbaticals (Ans: No)

We heard that the federal funds do not solve our “structural deficit” but should give us a window of time to engage the conversation as to how to address it. Some examples came up in this conversation:

* The scope of the Nursing program. There was a question as to whether it was too large for it staffing model, it spanning the entire range of teaching level (UG, Masters, PhD).
* The costs of teaching at the Graduate Center. It was said that it costs the college money to do this. It was pointed out this doesn’t reflect the understood model for reimbursement, save for EC positions.

The need to pick a tighter focus and perhaps stop doing things was expressed.

As for staffing, a need for re-evaluation and critical assessments was mentioned.

## We asked about COACHE:

*Status of the college’s COACHE response. CUNY Central has received a report on the CUNY wide COACHE committee’s work and begun action. Has this college received any recommendations, and if so what is the progress on them?*

The work of the task force is online; the emphasis chosen is on faculty of color and untenured faculty. Research support is problematical.

We heard a diversity task force would be meeting soon.

*(For reference, the CUNY COACHE task force had recommendations on: clarity of faculty status processes (especially for FOC) ; equitable workplace efforts; facilities improvements; increased research support; COACHE-like survey for PT faculty.)*

## We asked about Athletics

*With the departure of the AD, it was expected that a nationwide search would take place for a replacement. We now see that the basketball coach has been assigned as an interim – and that a replacement coach is being sought. Does this mean there will be no national search?*

We heard that the plan is to hold a national search once that is possible. That the departing AD left on very short notice and this plan was possible, as the assistant basketball coach was available to step in as coach (We heard that the NCAA doesn’t like ADs coaching)

## We commented on College Governance.

The College Council Executive Committee has endorsed the following statement:

*The College Council Executive Committee is disappointed in the timing and process within which the proposed replacement governance plan was drafted and presented. We request that it be withdrawn and redirected through the established Bylaws Committee and College Council.*