

Appendix II Report by the President

The following is a summary statement of President Caputo's report to the Senate. He said:

"By now I am sure most of you heard that the Board of Trustees at last Monday's meeting appointed Dr. Christoph Kimmich, the former Provost of Brooklyn College, as the Interim Chancellor of CUNY. We were delighted to see his selection. He brings a strong academic background to the position and, given everything that is going on, I am sure he will have his hands full in the months ahead. Also at Monday's meeting both committee resolutions on the School of Arts and Sciences reorganization proposal were approved by the Board. Therefore, we are on track for the July 1, 1998 start date. The Provost's committee continues to meet and will have a report back before the end of the semester. We will be working on it during the break and will be implementing it after everyone has had a chance to see it and comment on it during the second semester.

My report is very short today, because I know you have several important items of business, and also I have to leave for another meeting in just a minute. I want to acknowledge Dean Fleissner's contributions over the last decade in terms of developing the programs and research teaching programs in science and mathematics, and to wish him well on his impending retirement. Professor Robert Marino of the Physics Department has agreed to be the acting dean of sciences and mathematics for the spring semester until the reorganization takes place.

I want to mention one other thing. In talking with the chair just a moment ago, I realized that I mentioned at the last meeting that I would make a state-of-the-college address on February 11th. I believe Vice Chancellor Mirrer is going to be meeting with you on February 11th. I don't want to compete with her and will make my comments on the 25th if possible. I will be glad to answer any questions.

Hearing none, I will just close by saying that the weeks ahead will be a very difficult time for everybody. We are all feeling a great deal of pressure and stress in terms of trying to finish the semester, are shorthanded and also without a lot of the things we might feel we need to get the job done. Nonetheless, I think it is important that we all realize that civility should be important to everybody, and we should realize that our students come first, and that in fact we need to be responsive to their needs as well as to the needs of our fellow faculty and staff. So, I am sure you will join me in trying to make sure that the end of the semester ends as smoothly as the semester began. Thank you very much."