

**Testimony of Yakov Genis, Professor
Borough of Manhattan Community College
Before the New York City Council Committee of Higher Education**

March 3, 2017

I began teaching at CUNY in the Spring of 1998 at Kingsborough Community College and from the Fall of 1998 at Borough Manhattan Community College.

I began at BMCC as an Assistant Professor, then an Associate Professor and now as a full Professor. I developed new classes on Java, Visual Basic and C#. I taught regular face-to face classes, on-line classes. This Spring semester, I have two hybrid classes on Java 1 and two face-to face classes in Data Structures and Programming.

Coupled with teaching, I conduct extensive scientific research in areas of reliability and safety assessment of complex computer systems. While I have been at BMCC, I published 17 articles including four publications in international conference proceedings. I have had to decline personal invitations to international conferences because I had not enough time to fulfill research and discover new results.

If CUNY's request for \$35 million dollars to fund the Faculty Partnership for Student Success Initiative was included in the City budget, it would allow faculty to restructure the full-time faculty workload and pursue work that would enrich students' learning experience. Currently, when I am teaching, I do not have enough time to work with an individual student or a small group of students. If I had more time, I would be able to help my students better. I also want to develop innovative courses on programming mobile devices such as Android and iOS, but I can do it only if I take a half-year sabbatical.

The restructuring of full-time faculty workload would allow me to significantly improve students' knowledge in computer science, provide new scientific research and develop new courses.