

**Minutes of the Meeting
of the Faculty Delegate Assembly
Wednesday, September 22, 2004**

The meeting was convened at 1:20 by FDA secretary Patricia Woodard, who explained that an election would be required to fill the unexpired presidential term of Prof. Ekhard Kuhn-Osius, currently on sabbatical. Prof. Namby Krishnamachari of the Chemistry Department was unanimously elected to assume the duties of the FDA President.

The Academic Update was given by Dr. Michael Griffel, Acting Associate Provost. It included a number of items of interest.

- 1) Hunter now ranks 50th among Master's institutions in the North region in the latest (2005) edition of the U.S. News & World compilation of America's Best Colleges. Improved retention and graduation rates, along with ratings by peers in other institutions, apparently account for the upgrade from 66th place a year ago.
- 2) The Middle States Periodic Review Report, due June 1, 2004, was delivered on time. The report on Hunter's physical facilities is the only part of Middle States' response, due August 2, 2004, to have been received. It is a favorable report.
- 3) Thirteen Hunter programs are currently engaged in Academic Program Reviews, mandated every seven years by CUNY. As part of this process, a number of departments have recently completed self-studies. Since 1998-2002 represented a period when no external reviews were completed, a considerable backlog had accumulated, but the college is catching up.
- 4) Every department submitted an annual report for the 2003-2004 academic year which included departmental goals, as well as research activities of faculty.
- 5) The Provost's office annually submits the Academic Program Planning Report required by CUNY's central administration.
- 6) A new M.S. in Accounting has been proposed to the CUNY administration by the Hunter Economics Department and a joint M.S. in nursing and public administration, proposed by Hunter Health Professions and Baruch, working collaboratively, has met with favorable response at 80th Street.
- 7) Prof. Peter Basquin of the Music Department has succeeded Prof. Roger Persell of the Biological Sciences Department as head of the Hunter branch of the CUNY Honors College. Three of the four required Honors College courses (arts, New York neighborhoods, urban problems), which meet general education requirements, were approved by the Senate last spring.

Speaker for the meeting was Prof. Joan Tronto, who explored the issue of the diminishing participation by faculty in the shared governance of the college. The situation at Hunter is apparently typical of universities nationwide, with widespread administrative disregard of faculty and university by-laws, and failure on the part of teaching faculty to hold administrators accountable for these actions. Various manifestations of the difficulties at Hunter were discussed, along with suggestions as to how they might be addressed. Suggestions were made for reinvigorating the shared governance ideal, including closer collaboration between the Senate

and the Faculty Delegate Assembly.

New business included a call for the FDA to address recent reports concerning the quality of college food services. Since food service contracts are tied to the Auxiliary Enterprise Board, it was suggested that the Assembly should invite Vice President Zinnanti along with representatives of the board for a discussion of food service-related concerns.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Woodard
Secretary