

Minutes of the Meeting of the Faculty Delegate Assembly of Hunter College

**March 19, 2008
Room 1203, Hunter East
1:10-3:00 PM**

1. Call to order. FDA President Prof. Jason Young called the meeting to order at 1:17.

2. Approval of the Minutes of March 19, 2008. The minutes of the March 19, 2008, meeting were approved.

3. Executive Committed Report. Prof. Tony Doyle delivered the Executive Committee Report for April 2, 2008.

Prof. Young mentioned that all Middle States work groups are required to hand in their rough drafts this week. They will be posted on Blackboard, where they will remain for two to three weeks. He encouraged those present to review the components of the drafts that are of interest to them.

4. Discussion of recent University Faculty Senate items

i. Proposed CUNY Conflict of Interest Policy. When former Governor Spitzer announced ethics policies that apply to all state employees, part of the policy had to do with gifts.

The university encourages faculty to make contacts with business. But it is important to avoid conflict of interest. The proposal recommends designating on each campus a conflict officer, maybe the provost, maybe someone in her office. The establishment of a conflict officer raises the following questions: What implications might the new office have for academic freedom? Would the officer be able to investigate a professor's relationship with a company? Would the officer be able to intervene?

Prof. Young asked that FDA members share the proposed CUNY Conflict of Interest Policy (distributed to all those present) with their colleagues.

Prof. Young then entertained questions.

Prof. Young responded to a request to clarify the policy regarding student gifts. He pointed out that CUNY's General Counsel, Frederick Schaffer, asserted at a recent University Faculty Senate meeting that faculty cannot accept gifts from students even after grades have been submitted, since the gifts might cast suspicion, for instance, on the credibility of letters of recommendation that teachers might later write.

In response to a question about assigning one's own textbook to a class Prof. Young reported that Schaffer said that this was acceptable if the reason for assigning it is pedagogical.

ii. University Faculty Senate Resolution Proposing Facilities as a new PMP Category. Maintenance is generally underfinanced. Money is lacking for things like elevators and air conditioning. One of the powers that the chancellor has over the presidents is through the PMP. PMP deals with only academic matters. The vast majority of facilities money in the future will go towards maintenance. The resolution focuses on functional adequacy. For example, at Lehman some of the pipes that remove dangerous chemicals from labs are leaking. The resolution proposes that the chancellor consider improvement of facilities on the campuses in his evaluation of presidents. This would provide an additional motivation for presidents pay attention to maintenance. Ernesto Malave, Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance, thinks that there will be major cuts in 2009. Facilities is usually the first budget to be cut. However, Chancellor Goldstein doesn't want to see any cuts to facilities. The resolution will at least mean that the chancellor can keep pressure on the presidents for facilities maintenance.

5. Hunter Library Presentation on New Resources for Research and Teaching: Prof. Danise Hoover.

* Hunter subscribes to 39,000 ejournals, up from 25,000 last year. The best way to know what we have is to go to **Journal Title List** on the homepage of the library webpage. If the journal isn't available electronically, check CUNY+.

* From Faculty Services on the library homepage one can choose Journal Alerts, which supplants the old table of contents service.

* Setting up an alert in a database. It's possible in any number of databases to set your favorite search up automatically. The database will then notify you regularly about the most recent articles, given your keywords.

* New databases

- Web of Science: a descendant of Science and Social Science Citation index. It's now highly comprehensive.

- Journal Citation Reports. This database gives you a good idea of where to send your articles if you want to increase the chances of your work being cited. It will list all the journals in a sub-discipline and indicate impact factor. Journal Citation Reports is only for the sciences and social sciences.

- Roper Poll. Gives access to questions from surveys.

- Aluka. Scholarly resources on Africa. This resource attempts to consolidate material from African Archives. At present it's limited. It was developed by the same folks who provide Artstore and Jstor.
- Gale Virtual Reference and Oxford Reference. Both combine vast numbers of reference books. Gale Virtual Reference will translate pages.
- Oxford Reference Online. Has many of the Oxford Companions
- Social Explorer. Census data with interactive maps from 1940 till 2000.
- Lexis Nexis. The software has been rebuilt and revised. Finding New York sources is still possible but more difficult than with the previous version. (Prof. Hoover demonstrated how to do this.)

Prof. Hoover then responded to several questions.

6. New Business. The president and provost are hosting a social today at 5:30.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Doyle
FDA Secretary