

THE  
FACULTY  
VOICE  
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COLLEGE  
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NEWSLETTER



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Office of The General Faculty  
& The Faculty Delegate Assembly  
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**Upcoming FDA events**

**FDA General Meetings**

*\*Wednesday, March 19, 1:15-3:00, 1203  
Hunter East*

This will be a joint event with the Hunter  
Chapter of PSC-CUNY.

Featured speaker: Stephen Leberstein, Chair,  
PSC-CUNY Academic Freedom Committee

Coffee, tea, and cookies will be served.

*\*Wednesday, April 30, 1:15-3:00, 1203  
Hunter East*

The FDA will be presenting a panel of  
Hunter book authors. They will be  
discussing their most recent book as well as  
how they went about finding a publisher.

Panelists will include:

Professor Christa Acampora (Philosophy),  
author of *Contesting Nietzsche*

Professor Terrie Epstein (Curriculum and  
Teacher), author of *Interpreting National*

*History: Race, Identity, and Pedagogy in  
Classrooms and Communities* (Routledge)

Professor Nicholas Freudenberg (Urban  
Public Health), author of *Lethal but  
Legal: Corporations, Consumption, and  
Protecting Public Health* (Oxford)

Coffee, tea, and cookies will be served.

**FDA Faculty Social**

Wednesday, March 26 (tentative), 4:30-  
6:30, Faculty/Staff Lounge, 8<sup>th</sup> floor, Hunter  
West

Wine and snacks will be served.

**Recent FDA Activities**

**FDA General Meeting, November 2013**

President Raab was the featured speaker at  
the FDA's November meeting. She devoted  
much of her talk to Hunter's periodic review  
for Middle States. The point of the review,  
which began in the fall, is for Hunter to  
indicate its progress since the last Middle  
States accreditation report, issued in 2009.  
The college needs to show that it is  
implementing the strategic plan offered by  
Middle States. Middle States is particularly  
interested to see that Hunter is engaged in  
assessment, that the college's approach to  
assessment meets the requirements laid out  
in the strategic plan, and that faculty are  
participating in the implementation of the  
plan. The review is due in June.

The president next discussed the importance  
of interdisciplinarity and collaboration  
among faculty. She lamented the fact that  
faculty in different departments can have  
similar research projects and yet never be  
aware of the fact. She offered the Human  
Rights Program at Hunter as a model of

cross discipline collaboration. This program includes full-time faculty members from 14 departments and programs in the humanities and social sciences.

President Raab also expressed concern about retention and graduation rates. After a decade of steadily improving numbers, the latter has plateaued lately. Regarding retention in particular, the administration would like to know what the connection is between grades and the likelihood that a student will leave Hunter. Would early intervention and tutoring help retain more students? A partial solution to both challenges, the president suggested, might be to offer more fully online classes.

Another topic the president broached was the new student advising offices, which will occupy the 7<sup>th</sup> floor of Hunter East. The offices will include the following: pre-law, pre med, pre-health, and pre-business.

She concluded with a slide show of Hunter's facilities beyond the main campus, including the Kennedy Child Center, Roosevelt House, and the coming science and nursing building, which will be by the East River between 73<sup>rd</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> Streets.

#### Joint Meeting with Hunter PSC-CUNY, December 2013

The FDA and the Hunter Chapter of the PSC-CUNY hosted a joint meeting in December. The featured speaker was Barbara Bowen, President of PSC-CUNY. Professor Bowen opened with criticism of CUNY's June 2013 policy on "expressive activity." She reminded attendees that academic freedom is a term and condition of employment. The contract preserves it, and the CUNY board has signed off on it as well. However, the June policy implies that academic freedom is not a term and

condition of employment. Professor Bowen argued that the denial is motivated by the administration's wish to expand the issues that are on the table during the current contract negotiations.

The second policy, which supersedes the June policy, is slightly more liberal. However, it continues to imply wide-ranging discretion on behalf of the university to curb dissent. For instance, the new policy still asserts the university's right to call the police if it deems a protest disruptive. ("Why else hold a protest?" Professor Bowen asked rhetorically.) The effect of even the more liberal policy would be to chill dissent considerably. PSC-CUNY has called on the university to withdraw the policy.

Professor Bowen then moved on to the contract itself. She pointed out that Mayor de Blasio faces a tough job: scores of city union contracts have expired, and Mayor Bloomberg left no money in the budget for raises. Adjuncts are a particular concern for the union. PSC-CUNY is looking to provide greater job security for part-timers in the next contract. She also deplored the total lack of symmetry between the hiring of adjuncts and the hiring of full-timers. She drew a contrast between the fact that departments are sometimes constrained to hire an adjunct overnight, while it can take a year to hire a tenure-track professor to teach the same courses.

Before closing Professor Bowen discussed two other issues. First, she urged that Hunter PSC-CUNY, the Senate, and the FDA have a chance to meet with the president's reviewers. Second, she discussed the PSC-CUNY's lawsuit against Pathways.

Thanks to Professor Tami Gold, of Film and Media, and the Hunter Chapter Chair of

PSC-CUNY, and Mr. David Pavlosky, also of Film and Media, for helping to make this event a success! Thanks to Professor Gold for the great holiday carols!

### **Search for a New Chief Information Officer (Director of ICIT)**

A Senate committee to fill the current CIO vacancy has been established. Its first meeting was on February 13. The committee is chaired by Acting Associate Provost Brian Duffy.

The committee will recommend three candidates to President Raab. The committee expects to be able to make its recommendations before the end of the spring semester.

Other members of the committee are:

#### Faculty:

Jochen Albrecht, Geography  
 Tony Doyle, Library  
 Mark Halling, Sociology  
 Yang Hu, Curriculum and Teaching  
 Gustavo Mercado, Film and Media  
 Rob Thompson, Mathematics and Statistics

#### Staff:

Renate Laine, Communications  
 Denise Lucena-Jerez, Registrar  
 Stephen Sukhra, ICIT

#### Students:

Coleen Cash  
 Diana Howard  
 Taylor Oshan

### **Welcome to the Newest FDA Executive Committee Member**

The FDA would like to welcome Professor Ann Gaba of Urban Public Health to the FDA's Executive Committee! Professor

Gaba was elected in the fall to a two year term.

### **Executive Committee Vacancy**

The FDA is seeking to fill one open seat on its Executive Committee. We are accepting nominations for these openings, including self-nominations, until **Friday, February 28, 2014**. The FDA is Hunter's sole faculty-only governance body. Our chief missions are to inform faculty about campus and CUNY issues at regular meetings, and to advocate for the faculty with the administration. Nominations from all schools and departments are welcome. However, we particularly encourage nominations from the Brookdale and Social Work, both of which are currently not represented on the Executive Committee.

**Duties:** The FDA Executive Committee meets for an hour once a month to plan FDA events and to set FDA priorities. It also meets occasionally with top Hunter administrators. Serving on the Executive Committee is a great opportunity to meet and work with colleagues outside of your department and to learn about an array of campus and CUNY matters.

Nominees must be full-time faculty but need not be FDA delegates. Please submit nominations to [fda@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:fda@hunter.cuny.edu).

### **FDA annual dues**

Once again, the FDA is asking for a modest contribution from faculty. Your contributions buy the refreshments at our regular meetings, our semesterly socials, and at other FDA-sponsored events. They also support our afternoon coffee, tea, and cookie service in the Faculty/Staff Lounge on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of Hunter West. Look for our mailing in your mailbox.

### **Get in touch**

We seek input from all faculty. The best

way to get in touch is to call us at 212-772-4123 or to email us at [fda@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:fda@hunter.cuny.edu). Please don't hesitate to send your concerns, complaints, or suggestions along. We will address them promptly.

### **FDA Spaces**

#### *1413 Hunter East*

The Faculty Conference Room, located at 1413 Hunter East, has wireless internet and is available for use, first come, first served. To see when the space is available go to <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/fda/fda-resources/meeting-event-rooms/the-solarium>. To book contact Ms. Shemeika McLaren or Mr. James Regan at [fda@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:fda@hunter.cuny.edu), 212-772-4123, or in HE 1414.

#### *The Faculty/Staff Lounge*

The FDA faculty lounge is open to all faculty and staff Monday through Friday, 1:00 to 6:00, and at other times when it is not booked (see below). The lounge provides a comfortable, quiet space to read or meet with colleagues. Tuesday through Friday, 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM, throughout the spring semester, the FDA provides free coffee, tea, and cookies. Also, check out the latest issue of the *Chronicle of Higher Education* while you're there. The lounge on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of Hunter West, next to the Faculty Dining Room. The space is also available for small events (except between 1:00 PM and 6:00 PM, Monday through Friday). To reserve the space go to <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/fda/fda-resources/meeting-event-rooms/the-faculty-lounge>. To reserve get in touch with . To book contact Ms. Shemeika McLaren or Mr. James Regan at [fda@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:fda@hunter.cuny.edu) or 212-772-4123.

### **The FDA Executive Committee:**

**Bernadette McCauley** (History), President (through 2015; on leave 2013-14)

**Tony Doyle** (Library), Vice President (through 2015); Acting President (2013-14)

**John Toth** (Curriculum and Teaching), Treasurer (through 2015)

**Debbie Sonu** (Curriculum and Teaching), Secretary (through 2015)

**Siochain Hughes** (Art). Part Time Representative (through 2015)

**Ann Gaba** (Urban Public Health) Daytime Representative (through 2015)

Evening Representative: **Vacant**

### **Administrative Assistants:**

We would like to welcome Shemeika McLaren! She joins James Regan in the FDA office, HE1414.