

HUNTER COLLEGE  
City University of New York  
OFFICE OF THE HUNTER COLLEGE SENATE

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M I N U T E S

Regular Meeting of the Hunter College Senate  
16 September 1975

The <sup>644</sup>forty-ninth meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened 1  
at 4:45 p.m. at the Playhouse. 2

Presiding: Charles M. Sherover, Chairman 3

Attendance: The elected members of the Senate, with the exception of those 4  
noted by the Secretary as listed in Appendix I. 5

Minutes: The Minutes of May 13th and May 20th, 1975 were approved as 6  
distributed. 7

Report by the President: A summary statement of President Wexler's Report to the Senate 8  
is attached as Appendix II. 9

Report by the Administrative Committee: Prof. Elie de Comminges, Secretary of the Senate, presented the 10  
following report: 11

1. Reminded the body that the Senate's reception for the new 12  
Provost will be held at Roosevelt House on September 23rd 13  
at 4:30 p.m. 14
2. Advised the Senate why the October 14th Senate meeting was 15  
being postponed to October 21st. 16
3. Presented the following resolution, which was submitted for 17  
presentation to the Administrative Committee by Prof. Rena 18  
Gropper on September 16th: 19

WHEREAS the current fiscal crisis in New York City has necessi- 20  
tated budget cuts in the City University of New York such that 21  
student fees were increased on short notice, precluding financial 22  
planning by students for immediate educational expenses, and 23

WHEREAS the same budget cuts forced Hunter College to drop 24  
courses and sections after students had registered therein, 25  
forcing students to change their programs whether they so desired 26  
or not, 27

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that, without prejudice to the larger 28  
issue of the aforementioned increased student fees and decreased 29  
course offerings, the Hunter Senate recognizes the hardships 30  
imposed upon the students and wishes to insure that these hard- 31  
ships not be compounded. It, therefore, requests the President 32  
of the College to direct the Bursar's Office to return full 33  
tuition to those students who are forced to withdraw from the 34  
College because of financial problems. The Senate further 35  
requests the President to direct the Bursar's Office to refrain 36  
from imposing the change of program fee on those students who 37  
are forced to change their programs because of courses and sec- 38  
tions dropped by departmental decisions, and 39

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate request the President to 40  
issue the aforementioned instructions so that they cover the 41  
students retroactively from September 8, 1975, to date. 42

The floor was open to discussion. 43

After discussion Mr. Weissman moved that the resolution be 44  
amended by adding: "that this information be posted in all school 45  
newspapers." 46

Ms. Cohen moved the following substitute motion, which was 47  
seconded: 48

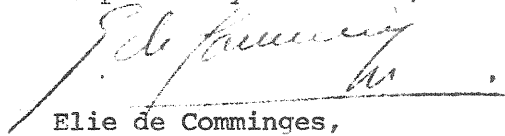
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all prepaid students be given 49  
until the eighth week of classes to pay that part of their 50  
tuition that they have not already paid, due to the increase, 51  
and without penalty. However, any student who does not either 52

|                |  |     |
|----------------|--|-----|
|                | pay the increase by the eighth week of class officially            | 53  |
|                | withdraws, forfeits all pre-paid fees and will be dropped from     | 54  |
|                | the class registers, and   | 55  |
|                | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Office posts the facts   | 56  |
|                | concerning fee refunds for financial reasons outside the           | 57  |
|                | Bursar's Office, and that all newspapers carry said facts.         | 58  |
|                | After further discussion the Chair suggested that both resolutions | 59  |
|                | be tabled and that Dean Fleiss report back on this matter at the   | 60  |
|                | next Senate meeting.   | 61  |
|                | Ms. Cohen requested that the second part of her motion (lines 56   | 62  |
|                | to 58 above) be kept on the floor.                                 | 63  |
|                | The Chair then offered personally to take on the responsibility    | 64  |
|                | of handling the matter. This was accepted by the mover.            | 65  |
|                | A motion to table the two resolutions then carried by voice vote.  | 66  |
| Report by the  | <u>Nominating Committee</u>  | 67  |
| Nominating     | Prof. Josephine Kirsch, Chairman of the Committee, presented its   | 68  |
| Committee:     | report as distributed, and the following were elected:             | 69  |
|                | <u>Undergraduate Course of Study Committee</u>                     | 70  |
|                | <u>Students:</u> Nina Cranton - Day                                | 71  |
|                | Warren Nagel - Day   | 72  |
|                | <u>Graduate Course of Study Committee</u>                          | 73  |
|                | <u>Students:</u> Linda Carney - Education                          | 74  |
|                | Humphrey Husbands - At-large                                       | 75  |
|                | <u>Committee on Undergraduate Academic Requirements</u>            | 76  |
|                | <u>Students:</u> Lorraine Kaufman - Day                            | 77  |
|                | Neil Callender - SGS   | 78  |
|                | <u>Committee on Evaluation of Teaching</u>                         | 79  |
|                | <u>Students:</u> Carol Ann Rabolt - Science & Math. - Day          | 80  |
|                | Anne Benyaminowich - Social Science - Grad.                        | 81  |
|                | Linda Carney - Education - Grad.                                   | 82  |
|                | <u>Committee on the Budget</u>                                     | 83  |
|                | <u>Students:</u> Sam Catechis - Day                                | 84  |
|                | Jocelyn Berman - Day   | 85  |
|                | <u>Nominating Committee</u>  | 86  |
|                | <u>Faculty:</u> Ruth Gonchar - Communications                      | 87  |
|                | <u>Student:</u> Frank Reis - Day                                   | 88  |
|                | <u>Master Plan Committee</u>                                       | 89  |
|                | <u>Chairman:</u> William Bryar - Philosophy                        | 90  |
|                | Prof. Kirsch then urged the body that anybody who is interested    | 91  |
|                | in serving on any committees that have vacancies (as listed in     | 92  |
|                | the Report), please contact her or the Senate Office.              | 93  |
| Facilities and | <u>Committee on Facilities and Services</u>                        | 94  |
| Services Comm. | Prof. Pierre Oberling, Chairman of the Committee, presented its    | 95  |
| Report:        | Report as distributed, and moved:                                  | 96  |
|                | that, starting in September 1975 only authorized persons be        | 97  |
|                | allowed to enter the building of Hunter College, except            | 98  |
|                | on occasions when public functions are held.                       | 99  |
|                | After discussion, Dean Eisenberg moved:                            | 100 |
|                | that the motion be tabled with instructions to the Committee       | 101 |
|                | that they explore in detail the feasibility of enforcing           | 102 |
|                | the resolution.  | 103 |
|                | The question was called, and the motion to table with instructions | 104 |
|                | to the Committee carried by voice vote.                            | 105 |

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| Graduate Course of Study Committee Report: | <u>Graduate Course of Study Committee</u>   | 106                             |
|  | Prof. Joan Buxbaum, Chairman of the Committee, presented  | 107                             |
|  | the routine items (G-88, G-90) of the Report dated September 16th 1975, and moved for Senate approval of non-routine items G-83 (Art), G-91 (Educational Foundations, Curriculum & Teaching), G-87 (Physics & Astronomy), G-85, G-86, & G-89 (Sociology). | 108<br>109<br>110<br>111<br>112 |
|  | After discussion a motion to close debate passed by voice vote.   | 113<br>114                      |
|  | The motion to approve G-83, G-91, G-87, G-85, G-86, and G-89 was unanimously approved by voice vote.  | 115<br>116                      |
| Undergraduate Course of Study Committee:   | <u>Undergraduate Course of Study Committee</u>  | 117                             |
|  | Prof. Nancy Dean, Chairman of the Committee presented   | 118                             |
|  | routine item U-192 of the Report dated 6 May 1975, and moved for approval of non-routine items U-194 (Physics & Astronomy and Geology & Geography), U-191 (Psychology), U-189 (Sociology).  | 119<br>120<br>121<br>122        |
|  | The motion to approve U-194, U-191, and U-189 unanimously carried by voice vote.  | 123<br>124                      |
|  | Prof. Dean then moved for approval of U-198 (Proposal for an Interdisciplinary Program in Women's Studies).   | 125<br>126                      |
|  | After discussion Prof. Tannenbaum moved that U-198 be recommitted.  | 127<br>128                      |
|  | After further discussion the question was called, and the motion to recommit carried by hand vote with 35 in favor and 26 opposed.  | 129<br>130<br>131               |
|  | A motion to adjourn the meeting carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.   | 132<br>133                      |

Respectfully submitted,

  
Elie de Comminges,  
Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following people were noted as absent from the meeting:

FACULTY:

Academic Skills: Milagros Garcia  
Michael Escott  
Adaeze Otue  
Anthropology: Thomas Moylan  
Biology: Robert Grant  
Business Ed.: Bernadette Metzler  
Harry Buckler  
Chemistry: Horst Hoyer  
Communications: Ruth Gonchar-"E"  
James Aronson-"E"  
Curriculum & Teaching: Antonio Simoes  
Andre Thibodeau  
Mae Gamble  
Educ. Foundations: David Hodges  
Geol. & Geog.: John Boylan  
German: George Nordmeyer  
Health & Phys. Ed.: Thomas Burke  
Home Economics: Kathryn Logan  
Barbara Maksymowicz  
Music: Louis Martin  
Ruth Anderson  
Sylvia Kinney  
Physics & Astron: Randy Fenstermacher  
Political Science: Malcolm Valentine  
Kenneth Erickson  
Stephen Xydis  
Romance Lang.: Joan Spitzer  
Dean Marvin Seiger

STUDENTS - GRADUATE

Programs in Education:  
Theresa Slesinsky  
Nadine King  
Linda Carney  
Sciences & Mathematics:  
Julia Yeung  
Jean Chee  
Social Sciences:  
Ruth McCarthy  
Matriculated - At-large:  
David Amico  
John Fink

STUDENTS - DAY SESSION:

Jeff Gross - Urban Affairs  
Elizabeth Serrano - Business Ed.  
Agnes Chin - Home Economics  
Carol Smith - Psychology  
Deborah Rooks - Health & Phys. Ed.  
Kathleen Quinn - Anthropology  
Evelyn Seda - Health Science  
Irtis Brown - Psychology  
Neil Friedman - Communications  
Steven Rondell  
Bonnie Gardner  
Jocelyn Berman

STUDENTS - EVENING SESSION:

Howard Crim - Communications  
Stanley Sachs - Education  
I.J. Neubart - Psychology  
Bernadetta Piscitello - Rom. Lang.  
Jonathan Block  
Carole Franklin

"E" = Excused

PRESIDENT WEXLER'S ADDRESS TO THE SENATE

Welcome:

I want to commend the Chairman for his attempt to start on time. Perhaps if we continue to do that, everyone will realize that the meetings start at the time designated.

With all of our difficulties and with all of the problems we are living with, I would like to express my gratitude to this body... as indeed I shall to every group I meet this Fall...for an extraordinarily good start for Hunter College under circumstances we could not have imagined in our worst dreams turning into nightmares.

Since November of last year I have reported to you that I believed the fiscal crisis would be severe. I continued to insist that it was imperative for us to prepare for those contingencies as carefully as we could so that the administration would not be characterized as wielding a machete in August when most of the legislative leaders were not at the College.

Our preparations for what we considered to be the worst contingency proved to be less than half as severe as the final reality. We had prepared for a Contingency I saving one million dollars, and for a contingency II saving two million dollars. The actual savings which by the end of August we had to effect was 4.7 million. This College has opened this semester with two very important things preserved: we did indeed honor every faculty contract, even at the 4.7 million stage, and we did not seriously cut the curriculum offerings. Course eliminations were very minor in the cutback. That does not mean that the decisions we made were easy, or even tolerable in the long haul. It is that item I want to begin speaking to today as we begin this new year.

I believe that the bottom line that we have to work for is a viable institution of higher education for the extended population of New York. I know no other way to say less than that or more than that. The bottom line that I will stand for is a viable institution of higher education for an extended population. I think we have reached the point of severely diminishing returns with this budget, with the number of students that we have and with the income that we have. I think that to go beyond this would be to begin knowingly to move away from a viable institution of higher education. What that means is subject to many political vagaries. We, within this institution, have to be extraordinarily open in our discussions with faculty persons and with students in our efforts to see what options might be available to us and what are the tradeoffs implied in those options. I have not said that my bottom line is a City University, though I hope there would remain a City University. But if we were caught with options which meant a viable institution of higher education for the whole people, and if it meant some kind of legislation and some new kind of backing, I, as your chief executive officer, would plead with you that we must look at all those options. We ought to know the consequences of what the options might mean for us before we become backed into a corner in which this University is so aborted of its quality that what we would be saving would not be worth the saving.

I have stood very strongly for free tuition. I shall continue to stand for free tuition if it is in the realm of salvation for the University. But if that free tuition institution is not worth the going to, I could not stand for that kind of an institution.

I have stood for open admissions. And I have stood with this body for open admissions with standards. You have supported the legislation for entrance examinations for placement so that we could place students in the kinds of courses in which they would get the assistance they needed, not to punish them but to help them. You stood with the legislation even when we, as an institution, lost on the automatic transfer principle established by the Board. You stood as a legislative body, and we stood strongly with you, that

(over)