

MINUTES

Meeting of the Hunter College Senate 21 October 1998

The 371st meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:15 PM in Room W714.

Presiding: Pamela Mills, Chair

Attendance: The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.

Agenda: The agenda was adopted as distributed.

Report by the President: A summary statement of President Caputo's report to the Senate is attached as Appendix II.

Report by the Administrative Committee: The Chair presented the report as follows:

Expansion of Select Committee on the Distribution Requirement

Professor Mills presented the following report dated 21 October 1998 as submitted:

The Select Committee on the Distribution Requirement was reactivated on October 2, 1996 by the Hunter College Senate. The Select Committee was composed of a Chair, six faculty members, three students and the Chair of the Undergraduate Course of Study Committee who served ex-officio. During the first year, the Select Committee chose to focus its attention on the "actual operation of the present distribution requirement." The committee noted the significant growth of transfer students in the college and that transfer students currently comprise more than fifty percent of the undergraduate student body. Furthermore, it is the transfer students who "are most likely to experience the distribution requirements and the pluralism and diversity requirement as a burden".

During the second year of deliberations the Select Committee considered mechanisms for alleviating the burden experienced by transfer students due to the distribution requirement. The committee recommended, and the Senate passed, a resolution to enable departments to grant distribution credit for courses with no course equivalent at Hunter College and to empower the Admissions Office to apply these transfer evaluations to subsequent students' transcripts. This mechanism should attenuate some of the difficulties experienced by transfer students.

In addition to addressing the problems faced by transfer students, the Select Committee, in its September 10, 1997 report, suggested that the College engage in a conversation about the distribution requirement without considering a radical overhaul of the requirement. In this spirit, the Committee suggested re-examining the overreliance on introductory level courses to meet the distribution requirement and suggested considering a process of incremental reform that might result in the reduction of the distribution requirement.

To encourage the College community to engage in a serious conversation about the distribution requirement that might result in its reduction, the Administrative Committee recommends filling vacant seats and expanding the membership of the Select Committee to achieve broader college-wide representation. The Administrative Committee and the Nominating Committee recommend that the *Select Committee on the Distribution Requirement* be expanded to include the following membership: (*indicates current members)

Chair: *Marten denBoer (Physics & Astronomy)

Faculty: *Kimberly Kinsler (Educational Foundations)
*Regina Linder (School of Health Sciences)
*Jonathan Kalb (Theatre)
Harriett Johnson (English)
Maria Paynter (Romance Languages)
Rick Churchill (Mathematics)
Caroline Somerville (Political Science)
Bernadette McCauley (History)
Howard Chernick (Economics)

Ex-officio: *Roger Persell (Chair, Undergraduate Course of Study Committee)
Dean Ann Cohen (School of Arts & Sciences)

3 Students: (Student nominations to follow)

After brief discussion it was moved that the report be approved. The motion carried by hand vote.

Committee Reports: **Nominating Committee**
Dr. Marilyn Rothschild, Chair of the Committee, presented the Report dated 21 October 1998 as submitted.

71
72
73 **Minutes**
74 **Meeting of the Hunter College Senate**
75 **21 October 1998**
76
77

78 It was moved that the entire slate be approved. The motion carried and the following were elected:
79

80 Undergraduate Course of Study Committee

81 Student: Juliet Chin (Psychology)
82

83 Undergraduate Academic Requirements Committee

84 Faculty from Sciences & Mathematics: Sandra Clarkson (Mathematics & Statistics)

85 Faculty from Social Sciences: Jason Young (Psychology)

86 Faculty from Humanities & Arts: Alan Hausman (Philosophy)

87 Faculty from Education: Rena Subotnik (Educational Foundations)

88 Faculty at-large: Alicia Ramos (Romance Languages)
89

90 Graduate Course of Study Committee

91 Faculty Alternate: Jeffrey Mongrain (Art)
92

93 Budget Committee:

94 Faculty from Humanities & Arts: Barbara L. Hampton (Music)

95 Faculty from Social Sciences: Juan Battle (Sociology)
96

97 Master Plan Committee

98 Faculty from Social Sciences: Charles Tien (Political Science)

99 Faculty from Humanities & Arts: Jane P. Bowers (English)

100 Faculty from Sciences & Mathematics: David R. Mootoo (Chemistry)

101 Faculty from Education: John O'Neill (Educational Foundations)

102 Faculty Alternate: Steven Greenbaum (Physics & Astronomy)
103

104 Committee on Computing and Technology

105 Faculty from Sciences & Mathematics: Rodney Varley (Physics & Astronomy)

106 Faculty from Social Sciences: Ken McLaughlin (Economics)
107

108 Teacher Evaluations Committee

109 Faculty Alternate: Barbara L. Hampton (Music)

110 Student: Sterling Robinson (Sociology)
111

112 Select Committee on Pluralism & Diversity Requirements

113 Faculty from Education: Yvone DeGaetano (Curriculum & Teaching)
114

115 Graduate Academic Requirements Committee

116 Faculty from Humanities & Arts: Yvone Margulies (Film & Media Studies)

117 Faculty from Education: Deborah Eldridge (Curriculum & Teaching)
118

119 Departmental Governance Committee

120 Faculty from Education: Phyllis Rubinfeld (SEEK)

121 Student: Sterling Robinson (Sociology)
122

123 Evening Council

124 Faculty from Sciences & Mathematics: Jane Matthews (Mathematics & Statistics)
125

126 Report by the Vice President for Institutional Advancement

127 Vice President Timothy Harwood presented an overview of the Office of Institutional Advancement and
128 the responsibilities of each area as outlined in Appendix III.
129

130 It was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 4:55 PM.
131
132
133

134 Respectfully submitted,
135
136

137
138 Barbara L. Hampton
139 Secretary
140
141