

MINUTES

Meeting of the Hunter College Senate

23 September 2009

- 1 The 505th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:00 PM in Room W714.
2
- 3 **Presiding:** Sandra Clarkson, Chair
4
- 5 **Attendance:** The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.
6
7 Alternate Senators were formally seated in accordance with the procedures approved by the Senate, and
8 clickers were distributed to them.
9
- 10 **Minutes:** The Minutes of May 6th and May 20th were approved as distributed.
11
- 12 **Report by the** The following is a summary statement of President Raab's report to the Senate. She said:
13 **President:**
- 14 "Welcome back to the new semester. I want to thank Sandi Clarkson for her years of service now
15 culminating in her moving up to the Chair of the Senate. It is an extraordinary amount of work and
16 service and we appreciate that Sandi is taking the helm. A little birdie just told us that it was
17 Sandi's birthday yesterday, so let's have a short little round of "happy birthday". Congratulations.
18
- 19 Congratulations are also in order for Hunter College having been ranked in the top fifty in US
20 News & World Report: America's Best Colleges, and number forty-five in the Best Universities
21 Master's North category. We are also ranked tenth in the US News & World list of top public
22 universities in the North. We are number one in the country among master's universities whose
23 students graduate with the lowest debt burden, and fourth for diversity in that category. This is
24 really very exciting. It is a well deserved credit to all faculty, students and administrators here who
25 made this possible. In addition to being number eight in the Princeton Review list for best value in
26 public colleges last spring, Princeton Review this year included us in the 2010 version of its annual
27 Guidebook of the Best Colleges in the country. Then, very excitingly, the American Council of
28 Alumni and Trustees in a newly created ranking system based on what students are required to
29 learn, put Hunter in one of seven schools in the nation to get an "A" for our undergraduate
30 curriculum. So we are very excited about those achievements.
31
- 32 We are looking forward to bringing the PMP to the Senate, which is our performance evaluation
33 that we submitted to the Chancellor's office, which received extremely positive feedback this sum-
34 mer. We would like to review with all of you what our goals were for last year, how we did, and
35 then talk about the goals going forward.
36
- 37 Thankfully, this is a year of a fair amount of construction because many facilities projects are
38 moving forward. Probably, one of the largest and most exciting is the work being done on our new
39 School of Social Work, Public Health, and Centro Library which is being built on 118th Street to
40 119th Street on 3rd Avenue in East Harlem. Demolition is completely on schedule, and there will be
41 an official groundbreaking with the Governor in November. We are very excited about staying on
42 track to have classes begin in the year 2011 in East Harlem.
43
- 44 We will be inviting all of you in December to the official opening of Roosevelt House, our historic
45 town house which is being completely renovated and refurbished to include a number of seminar
46 rooms, a conference room, and a big public space for our new Public Policy Institute. Renovations
47 will be completed by the end of this year, and this is also very exciting.
48
49

55 We are pleased to tell all who reside in Thomas Hunter Hall and all who look at the scaffolding
56 that the long-planned project for major exterior renovation is underway. We are doing the bidding,
57 and construction will start in March. We will be replacing all windows and this will require a fair
58 amount of compromise for all who are in that building. We are asking for your indulgence, but the
59 end result will be that the scaffolding will finally come down, and the building will once again feel
60 like a lovely city landmark.

61
62 Regarding other renovations, our animal facility is almost complete and many of the scientists here
63 have been waiting for that. Many of you will be glad to hear that we are going to start
64 refurbishment of all escalators by late spring or summer next year. Our organic chemistry lab has
65 been completely updated. We have two new classrooms on the 6th floor in the area that was empty
66 hall space, which the husband of an alum who passed away a few years ago funded in her honor.
67 We are moving ahead with the security project to create access control for all of the buildings, and
68 much of the wiring and work has been done. We will be sending out regular e-mails about the
69 progress of this project and we will continue to provide information so that people will know when
70 the access controls will be in place and how they will work. We are trying to make this as seamless
71 as possible. We have been investing in a number of projects to support expansion of services to
72 students, particularly building a new Graduate Admissions Office that will be continuous with the
73 Undergraduate Admissions Office, and to expand the space for our Financial Aid counselors which
74 is now a great priority.

75
76 I want to thank all of you who have volunteered to serve on the two Search Committees that will be
77 discussed today. I know that with your very busy schedules it is a lot to ask you to participate in
78 these processes, but I also hope that all of you will join me in seeing this as an exciting opportunity
79 to find a new Dean for the School of Education and a Chief Librarian. Many of you know that our
80 own David Steiner, Dean of our acclaimed School of Education was recruited to be the new State
81 Commissioner of Education. We are sad to be saying goodbye to a wonderful veteran of Hunter
82 College, Louise Sherby, who has begun her long and very well deserved sabbatical. We are going
83 to be having a toast to her today right after the Senate meeting in the Faculty Dining Room, and we
84 hope that as many of you as possible will come and celebrate Louise's great contributions to
85 Hunter College.

86
87 I also want to ask all of you to keep your eye out for information about the H1N1 projected impact
88 on New York City and on Hunter College, and I want to assure all of you that we are doing all we
89 can to help protect our students and to deal with what the experts predict could be a crisis in the
90 city. You will be seeing hand sanitizers and information about keeping safe and preventing the
91 spread of infection throughout the building and in your e-mail. We are working very hard to
92 become a site in which we can offer all of you the vaccine. We have asked CUNY and the Health
93 Department to provide us with the maximum amount of vaccine available, but we don't know yet
94 what these doses will be and when they will be here. We will be sending out information, but there
95 will be prioritization. It is our goal to be able to offer the vaccine to as many of you as possible,
96 but if you have alternate venues to get the vaccine I wouldn't necessarily say that you wait for us.
97 In addition, Dr. Kristine Gebbie, our wonderful Dean of Nursing, and Dr. Neal Cohen who is a
98 Distinguished Lecturer in the School of Social Work and Public Health and was the Commissioner
99 of Health and Mental Health of New York City about ten years ago, are consulting regularly with
100 us about the best actions to take. Both of them highly advise that everyone be vaccinated for
101 H1N1. They also highly recommend that everybody gets vaccinated for the seasonal flu, which is
102 different than the H1N1. We have traditionally offered regular flu vaccine to our students and our
103 faculty, and we are again going to try to provide as much of that vaccine as we can.

104
105 I would like to take a minute to recognize Dr. Sherryl Graves who agreed to serve as our Acting
106 Dean of School of Education, and Dr. Clay Williams who agreed to serve as Acting Chief Librar-
107 ian.

108
109 I know that budget issues are on people's minds. We are all aware of the State budget crisis and I
110 want to reassure everyone that while funds are very tight this year we are moving ahead with the

111 **Minutes**
 112 **Meeting of the Hunter College Senate**
 113 **23 September 2009**

114
 115 hiring that we discussed with most of the departments. Last year we had the highest number of
 116 faculty hires within the CUNY system, and we are doing all that we can to work within the
 117 constraints on the budget to provide academic departments and student affairs with the funds
 118 needed to maintain the record of academic quality. As we discussed last year, as a result of the
 119 tuition increase CUNY has returned a certain amount of money to each campus, and Hunter
 120 received about \$6M. Most of the funds are highly prescribed in categories and I was very relieved
 121 to find that most of the funding is aimed at supporting our students through tuition waivers,
 122 through the hiring of new financial aid counselors, through support of textbook purchases and a
 123 number of other initiatives. There is also a considerable amount of money given to our new School
 124 of Public Health, and I am very pleased to report that we just recently submitted our preliminary
 125 report to our accrediting agency so that the school is well on its way. There are some discretionary
 126 funds within categories for students and academic initiatives that are part of the consultation
 127 compact process. We are meeting with the committee that we discussed with Dr. Clarkson for
 128 consultation, consisting of the head of the Senate, the head of the FDA and the head of the HEO
 129 organization. After that meeting I will come with a fuller presentation about how the \$6M will be
 130 allocated.

131
 132 Again, I thank you very much for all that you have done to make Hunter College receive all these
 133 accolades, and I wish you a wonderful semester.”
 134

135 **Report by the**
 136 **Administrative**
 137 **Committee:**

The Chair presented the report as follows:

Special Election for Vacant At-large Seats on the Senate – Fall 2009

The Chair presented the following nominations in accordance with Article IV, Sections 2.H.i & ii, of the *Charter for a Governance of Hunter College*:

141 Students: Dorota Botwina (Psychology)
 142 Marta Petryna (Biology)
 143 Norman Kennard (BA/MA Anthropology – BA Archaeology)
 144 Melinda Cornwell (Psychology/Special Honors)
 145 Ginna Moreno (undeclared)
 146 Faculty: Christa Acampora (Philosophy)
 147 Barbara Sproul (Religion)
 148 Makram Talih (School of Health Sciences)
 149

150 It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the entire slate. The
 151 motion was approved by voice vote without dissent.

152
 153 Clickers were distributed to the newly elected senators.

Election of Committee Chairs

The floor was open for nominations for Chair of the Budget Committee.

158 Professor Randall Filer (Economics) was nominated.

159
 160 It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the candidate. The
 161 motion carried by voice vote without dissent.

162
 163 The floor was open for nominations for Chair of the Master Plan Committee.

164 Professor Barbara Sproul (Religion) was nominated.

165
 166 Professor Sproul was elected by voice vote without dissent.

167
 168 The floor was open for nominations for Chair of the Nominating Committee.

169
 170 Dr. Marilyn Rothschild (Physics & Astronomy) was nominated.
 171

172 **Minutes**
 173 **Meeting of the Hunter College Senate**
 174 **23 September 2009**

175
 176
 177 Dr. Rothschild was elected by voice vote without dissent.

178
 179 The floor was open for nominations for Chair of the Charter Review Committee.

180
 181 Professor Pamela Mills (Chemistry) was nominated.

182
 183 Prof. Mills was elected by voice vote without dissent.

184
 185 **New Members for Mellon Project Special Committee to Review the GER**

186 Professor Clarkson informed the Senate that the Mellon Project Special Committee to Review the GER
 187 had requested Senate approval for adding the following faculty members to the committee to replace
 188 Professors Sandra Clarkson, Jim Gordon, Derrick Brazill:

189
 190 Ahmed Bawa (Physics & Astronomy)
 191 Manu Bhagavan (History)
 192 Adrienne Alaie (Biological Sciences)

193
 194 Professors Bawa, Bhagavan, and Alaie were elected by voice vote without dissent.

195
 196 **Election of Search Committee for Dean of the School of Education**

197 The Chair presented the following list of nominees as distributed:

198
 199 **Nominees for Chair-Panel:**

200 Professor David Hodges (Anthropology)
 201 Professor Lucille Croom (Mathematics & Statistics)
 202 Professor Lisa Finder (Library)

203
 204
 205 **Nominees for Member-Panel:**

206		<u>FACULTY:</u>	<u>STUDENTS:</u>
207	Curriculum & Teaching:	Anne Ediger	(Names will follow)
208		Abby Jewkes	
209		Jenny Tuten	
210		Marcia Knoll	
211		Sema Brainin	
212	Educational Foundations:	Jeanne Weiler	
213		Priscilla Hambrick-Dixon	
214		Mario Kelly	
215		Elizabeth Cardozo	
216		Gess leBlanc	
217	Special Education:	Ellen Trief	
218		Timothy Lackaye	
219	SEEK:	Sandra Granizo Cruz	

220
 221 After discussion it was moved the entire slate be presented to the President so that she may choose a
 222 Search Committee representing all areas.

223
 224 The motion was approved by voice vote.

225
 226 **Election of Search Committee for Chief Librarian:**

227 The Chair presented the following updated list of nominees:

228
 229 **Nominees for Chair Panel:**

230 Christa Acampora (Philosophy)
 231 Laxmi Ramasubramanian (Urban Affairs)

232

Nominees for Member Panel:

FACULTY

STUDENTS

1. Humanities & Arts:

- Lisa Anderson (German)
- Pedro-Lopez Adorno (AFPRL)
- Sarah Chinn (English)
- Reuben Blundell (Music)

August Wojtkiewicz (Classics)

2. Social Sciences:

- Mark Hauber (Psychology)
- Carolyn Somerville (Political Science)
- Marta Petruszewicz (History)
- Howard Lune (Sociology)

David Wexler (Poli.Sci)

3. Sciences & Mathematics:

- David Foster (Biological Sciences)
- Ara Basmajian (Mathematics & Statistics)

4. School of Education:

- Sandra Wilde (Curriculum & Teaching)

5. Library:

- Philip Swan (Social Work Library)
- Steven Kowalik
- Sarah Laleman Ward
- Bryan Lym

6. School of Health Sciences: Diana Romero (Urban Public Health)

School of Nursing: Joyce Griffin-Sobel

School of Social Work: George Patterson

Adrian Costello (Graduate)

The updated list was approved by voice vote without dissent.

After discussion it was moved that the entire slate be presented to the President so that she may choose a Search Committee in accordance with the provisions of the College-wide Search Procedures.

The question was called and carried. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Resolution Re: CUNY School of Public Health at Hunter

The Chair presented the resolution as distributed.

After discussion the Chair clarified that the Administrative Committee has corrected the proposed resolution by adding the words "at Hunter" wherever the "School of Public Health" is mentioned. The resolution on the floor reads as follows:

WHEREAS the planned CUNY School of Public Health at Hunter will bear the college's name, occupy a Hunter College facility, have a majority of programs developed and taught by Hunter faculty, be administered by a Hunter Dean and the Hunter President, and receive financing through the college, and

WHEREAS plans for the governance and structure of the planned School of Public Health at Hunter, and curricula for programs at the School of Public Health, are now in preparation, and

294 **Minutes**
295 **Meeting of the Hunter College Senate**
296 **23 September 2009**
297

298 WHEREAS the Hunter College Senate charter grants to the Senate oversight over the by-laws and
299 curricula of all academic units of the college, therefore

300
301 BE IT RESOLVED that the governance plan for the School of Public Health at Hunter, including
302 the School's administrative structure and by-laws, must be approved by the Hunter College Senate,
303 and,

304
305 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hunter College Senate's curriculum committees,
306 undergraduate and graduate as appropriate, must approve new curricula and curricular changes at
307 the School of Public Health at Hunter.
308

309 After discussion Professor Wallach moved to amend the resolution by deleting the words “at
310 Hunter” in the “Be it resolved” and by deleting the “Be it Further Resolved” part of the
311 resolution.
312

313 After discussion the question was called and carried. The motion to amend was defeated by voice
314 vote.
315

316 The question on the main motion was called and carried. The motion was approved by voice vote
317 without dissent.
318

319 **New Business:**

The Children's Learning Center

320 Ms. Luz Schreiber presented the material distributed for the meeting.
321

322 Ms. Melinda Cornwell then presented the following resolution:
323

324 WHEREAS, On May 19, 2009 Dean Eija Ayravainen announced the appropriation of Room
325 209 Hunter North from the Children's Learning Center in order for the college to use the
326 space for administrative purposes; and
327

328 WHEREAS, Hunter College has a historical tradition of serving women and a diverse student
329 body; and
330

331 WHEREAS, The Children's Learning Center is an accredited program that provides high
332 quality education and care to the children of Hunter student-parents on campus; and
333

334 WHEREAS, The Children's Learning Center provides extremely affordable childcare for
335 Hunter student-parents and is of major importance to them to attend Hunter; therefore
336

337 BE IT RESOLVED, that the service of childcare must be promoted at Hunter College so that
338 Hunter student-parents are made aware of the existence of such services
339

340 RESOLVED, that if possible more space be allocated to expand services and serve the needs
341 of Hunter student-parents on campus; and be it further
342

343 RESOLVED, that room 209 must be maintained for the sole use of The Children's Learning
344 Center.
345

346 The question was called but did not carry. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.
347

348 The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 PM because of the late hour.
349

350 Respectfully submitted,
351

352
353 Philip Alcabes,
354 Secretary
355

**Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
23 September 2009**

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

Faculty:

Anthropology	Tom McGovern
Art	Paul Ramirez
Chemistry	Pamela Mills Dixie Goss (A)
Computer Science	Saad Mneimeh (A) Ioannis Stamos
Curriculum & Teaching	Jody Polleck
Economics	Howard Chernick Avi Liveson Timothy Goodspeed (A)
Film & Media	Tim Portlock
Geography	Peter Marcotullio (A)
German	Eckhard Kuhn-Osius (A)
Health Sciences	Stacey Plichta (A)
Library	Lisa Finder (A) Danise Hoover (A)
Nursing	Elizabeth Simon (A)
Physics & Astronomy	Ying-Chih Chen (A)
Psychology	Peter Serrano (A)
Romance Languages	Guisepppe DiScipio (A) Michael Taormina « E »
SEEK	Patricia Martin (A)
School of Social Work	Kenny Kwong (A) Willie Tolliver (A)
Sociology	Claus Mueller (A)
Student Services	Nicole Wright-Gordon (A)

Lecturers and

Part-Time Faculty

Stuart Ewen (Film&Media)
Matthew Knip

Administration

Bill Zlata
Dean Sherryl Graves (A)
Dean Kristine Gebbie (A)

Ex-Officio

Deborah Francois, USG Pres.
Jason Ares, CLT Council President
Nadine Young, HEO Forum Pres.
Sarit Levy, GSA Pres.

Students

Rosemary Beato (Psych)
Leticia Ribeiro (Math)
Saba Abdulla (History)
Jenny Jenkins (Film&Media)
Scott Powell (Chemistry)
Nieves Veras (Spanish/Engl)
Glenda Holland (Sociol)
Raihan H Mirza (Med)
Sarah Alshawish (Undecl)
Jordan Diminich (Poli Sci)
Jane Dzielsky (Math & Stat)
Daniel Fried (Math&Stat)
Kyle Sabo (Grad) "E"
Runako Taylor