

MINUTES

Meeting of the Hunter College Senate

11 October 2006

- 1 The 472nd meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 3:45 PM in Room W714.
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- 3 **Presiding:** Richard Stapleford, Chair
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- 5 **Attendance:** The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.
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7 Alternate Senators were formally seated in accordance with the procedures approved by the Senate,
8 and clickers were distributed to them.
9
- 10 **Agenda:** The agenda was adopted as distributed with the addition of a new item 2.d "Re: Provost Search
11 Committee Membership."
12
- 13 **Report by the** A summary statement of President Raab's report to the Senate is as follows. She said:
14 **President:**
- 15 "There is a terrible accident at 524 E. 72nd Street and York. A helicopter or small plane collided
16 with a major tower, probably between twentieth and fortieth floor. We have not heard of any
17 casualties, but obviously that part of the city is being blocked off. We are keeping classes going
18 for the rest of the day. The subway is still open and the buses are running. So, we made a decision
19 to continue with classes at all of the campuses. If there is any further information we will put out
20 an e-mail. The police is reporting that as far as they know right now it is an accident.
21
- 22 We do want to reconvene school-wide Committee on Compact Spending which met last year, and
23 I want to ask the Senate to suggest alternate members to this committee. I will also ask the FDA,
24 the HEO Forum, Student Governments, and other parts of the college. As you know, we are
25 presented by CUNY with various categories in which we should use our new money, and
26 suggested amounts within each of these categories, and than various sub-categories within those.
27 Many of the Presidents have come together to ask CUNY for more flexibility within these
28 categories, and as a result we have the ability this year to shift moneys between categories and a
29 new category, Facility Maintenance and Technology, was added. Last year, as you know, we
30 received an additional \$4.5M which was our allocation. Of that we had to raise a half a million in
31 philanthropy which we have done. Some of that money was spent on the new work in the Library
32 that I hope many of you have seen. We had a celebration last week of the marvelous new
33 circulation desk which was paid for with the generosity of one of our colleagues, Ada Peluso, the
34 Chair of the Math Department. Her donation as an alum was a very fitting tribute to her mother
35 who told Ada to come to Hunter in the first place. Another one of our alums, Helene Gallant, also
36 gave a philanthropic contribution to our half a million. And then we have to generate about
37 \$600,000 internally from what is called productivity, which is really shifting resources from the
38 administrative side to the academic side. So, in terms of new funds arriving on the campus, it is
39 closer to three million. We used the report of that Compact Committee, and we also relied very
40 heavily on the annual reports that each department provides. We use those very carefully as
41 planning documents. So, I hope all of you will be participating in the next set of those reports
42 within your department. We ask for very specific goals: where are the hiring needs, where are the
43 facilities from new items to repairs and renovations to program support, to scholarship support,
44 and we very much used those as road maps, as well as departments' self studies, external reviews
45 of the self-studies and accreditation reports that are coming from the professional programs and
46 professional schools.
47
48

55 So, you will see a lot of new hiring going on, new purchasing of equipment and renovation of
56 facilities as we are hoping to go through these rounds again. The Chancellor is very optimistic
57 about our chances of having the Compact continue into the next year. There is a level of caution,
58 however, since we will have a new Governor. We have often found when we have new executives
59 that there tends to be rethinking and tightening up initially of spending. We are hoping to not only
60 have that \$4.5M which is really three million dollars of new money allocated to us, but an
61 increase of that money as well. We will know more by January-February. But in the mean time, we
62 are planning optimistically to both continue the work we have been doing originally, and then
63 adding on some other new initiatives with additional funding. We will also know at that time
64 what will happen with tuition which was part of the Compact, and it was approved by the Board
65 of Trustees including the student representative on the CUNY Board of Trustees. Last year the
66 Governor felt that it was not necessary to raise tuition and they were able to fund the whole
67 Compact from State resources without turning to a tuition increase. We all hope the same will
68 happen this year but we will know more about that in January and February when the new
69 Administration comes in.
70

71 Many of you may have seen some very exciting news. We had been working rather quietly at the
72 Schools of Health Professions with the Chancellor's office on a concept of opening a School of
73 Public Health in CUNY, which would be housed at Hunter. The Chancellor pleasantly surprised
74 all of us about a week ago when he announced in a speech that we are going to proceed with it. I
75 think many of you saw the article in *The New York Times*. It was a very passionate speech about
76 the need for more attention by the public university to important issues of public health and
77 disease particularly in urban areas, and that City University of New York needs to create a new
78 Graduate School of Public Health, and asked President Raab at Hunter College to take the lead.
79 We are going to site that new graduate school at Hunter College. We are very excited and this fits
80 into the plans to build a new building that would be able to house this new state-of-the-art School
81 of Public Health. We look forward to working with all of our colleagues in the public health
82 programs as well as other parts of the university to design this curriculum and to move ahead.
83

84 I also want to announce that the Provost has been very active in thinking about the conversations
85 about Academic Freedom on campus and has asked Richard Stapleford to recommend Senate
86 members who would like to attend the Academic Freedom Conference at Harvard which is going
87 to take place in November. Through Richard's recommendations and volunteers, and trying to
88 cover various disciplines, we have the agreement of Dean Scott, William Sakas from Computer
89 Science, Diana Conchado from Romance Languages, Phil Alcabes from the School of Health
90 Sciences, and Sarah Chinn from the English Department to attend this conference. We are looking
91 forward to having them come back from the conference to report on some of the discussions and
92 help inform discussions on our campus."
93

94 **Report by the**
95 **Administrative**
96 **Committee:**

The Chair presented the report as follows:

Election of Ombudsman

The *Voting Procedures for the Election of Ombudsman* were presented as distributed.

97
98
99 Professor Stapleford informed the Senate that only one candidate had submitted a platform statement
100 and resume, and had signed the "Agreement Re: the Office of Ombudsman" that was reached with the
101 President.
102

The candidate, Professor Kathryn Rolland (School of Health Sciences), presented a brief statement.
103
104

105 Professor Tronto moved to forego the formal voting procedures and to instruct the secretary to cast a
106 single ballot in favor of the candidate. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

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113 **Special Election to fill vacant seats on the Senate**

114 In accordance with Article IV.2.H.i & ii of the *Charter for a Governance of Hunter College* the
115 Administrative Committee is presenting the names of all nominees received to date:

116
117 **Alternate Student Senators (21 vacancies):**

118 Siobhan Cawley (Psychology)
119 Tithi Ghosh (Mathematics & Statistics)
120 Channell Mellish (Poli .Sci/AFPRL)

121
122 It was moved that the entire slate be accepted. The motion carried by voice vote.

123
124 **Resolution Re: Student Membership on Nominating Committee and Special Committees**

125 The Chair presented the report dated 11 October 2006 as distributed. The following resolution was on
126 the floor:

127
128 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that in conformity with the recent Charter amendments for Standing
129 Committees of the Senate, student representation on the following committees be changed to 2
130 students and 2 student alternates: Nominating Committee, Select Committee on Performance
131 Measures & Outcomes Assessment, Select Committee on the First year Experience, Select
132 Committee on Academic Integrity.

133
134 It was moved that debate be closed. The motion carried by voice vote.

135
136 The resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote.

137
138 **Re: Membership on Provost Search Committee**

139 The Chair yielded the floor to President Raab, who asked the Senate to allow her to appoint 6 faculty
140 members to the Provost Search Committee from the slate of eight faculty submitted to her, instead of
141 only 4 faculty as required by the "College-wide Search Procedures." She explained that this would
142 allow for broader representation, and she would be able to choose one faculty member from each of
143 the three divisions of the School of Arts & Sciences and one faculty member from each of the three
144 professional schools.

145
146 It was so moved and seconded.

147
148 After discussion the question was called and carried.

149
150 Voting by clickers produced the following results: 46 in favor, 19 opposed, and 2 abstentions. The
151 motion failed to receive the required number of 51 votes.

152
153 **Item Carried**

Undergraduate Academic Requirements Committee Re: Undergraduate Catalog Time Limit

154 **Over:**

The following resolution was on the floor:

155
156 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that all students who are readmitted to Hunter College after an absence of 10
157 or more years must adhere to the Undergraduate Catalog in effect at the time of their readmission
158 at Hunter College; and, in addition they are required to consult their major department concerning
159 changes in course/degree requirements.

160

161 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this policy be implemented for students readmitted
162 beginning Fall 2007.

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170 Professor Stapleford presented the Committee's recommendation for an amendment which would read
171 as follows (new wording is underlined):

172
173 BE IT RESOLVED, that all students who are readmitted to Hunter College after an absence of 10
174 or more years must adhere to the Undergraduate Catalog requirements in effect at the time of
175 their readmission to Hunter College, and they are required to fulfill their major department's
176 current course/degree requirements; and,

177
178 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this policy be implemented for students readmitted
179 beginning Fall 2007.

180
181 After discussion the question on the amendment was called and carried. The amendment was
182 unanimously approved by voice vote and became part of the mail motion on the floor.

183
184 Voting by clickers on the main motion as amended produced the following results: 58 in favor, 4
185 opposed, and 2 abstentions. The motion carried.

186
187 At this point Professor Tronto moved that the motion concerning the President's request to appoint 6
188 faculty members to the Member-Panel of the Provost Search Committee be reconsidered.

189
190 She then provided the following reason: "This is a motion to reconsider the vote to change the size of
191 the Search Committee, from four to six faculty members. That is what the President asked us to do.
192 The vote failed to receive the required number of 51 votes with 46 in favor, 19 opposed, and 2
193 abstentions. I really believe that this body should follow the majority rule regardless of Perez v.
194 CUNY, and hope that this will set the precedent when there is an overwhelming vote on one side or the
195 other that other members of the Senate in the spirit of comity agree to revote. I am willing to think
196 about changing my vote on this motion and that is why I moved to reconsider. "

197
198 After discussion the question was called and carried.

199
200 Voting by clickers produced the following results: 54 in favor, 6 opposed, and 3 abstentions. The
201 President's request to appoint 6 faculty to the Member-Panel of the Provost Search Committee was
202 approved.

203
204 **Committee**
205 **Reports:**

Calendar Committee

206 Professor Shirley Raps, Chair of the Committee, presented the report dated 11 October 2006. She
207 informed the Senate that the Calendar Committee is recommending Senate approval of the proposal
208 from the FP&B Bell Schedule Committee to modify the current Bell Schedule, which has already been
209 approved by the full FP&B.

210 She explained that the proposed scheduling matrix :
211 maintains the current number of 3 hour courses meeting 3 times per week
212 increases the number of options for 3 hour courses meeting twice per week
213 adds a scheduling option for 4 hour courses.

214
215 The proposed bell seeks to provide a system for responding to the majority of our course structures. It
216 is anticipated that, by providing such a matrix, students will be better able to create a schedule. We

217 recognize that no matrix will respond to every possible scenario. Therefore, options for courses off
218 the proposed bell will be reviewed by the Dean of the appropriate school.

219
220 After discussion the question was called and carried.

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225
226 Voting by clickers produced the following results: 55 in favor, 2 opposed, and 2 abstentions. The
227 motion carried. (The modified Bell Schedule and the Schedule Matrix for Fall 2007 are attached as
228 Appendix II).

229
230 It was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:10
231 PM.

232
233
234
235 Respectfully submitted,

236
237
238
239 Jill Gross,
240 Secretary

APPENDIX 1

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

Faculty			Bernadette Hadden
Africana & P.R. /Latino Studies	Pedro Lopez-Adorno (A)	Special Education	Dona Matthews
Art	Maria Antonella Pelizzari (A) Reiner Leist	Urban Affairs	Stanley Moses (A)
Biological Sciences	Thomas Schmidt-Glenwinkel (A)	Lecturers and Part-Time Faculty:	
Chemistry	Pamela Mills Dixie Goss (A)	Rossi Hassad (Psychology)	
Computer Science	William Sakas (A)	Joshua Grumet (Film&Media)	
Curriculum & Teaching	David Lee Carlson (A)	Matthew Oles (German)	
Economics	Purvi Sevak	Tami Gold (Film & Media)	
Geography:	Mohammed Ibrahim	Monica Calabritto (Rom. Languages)	
English	Trudy Smoke (A)	Robert Koehl (Classics)	
Film & Media Studies	Tim Portlock (A) Michael Gitlin	David Hodges (Anthropology) "E"	
Health Sciences	Jack Caravanos (A)	Ex-Officio:	
History	Angelo Angelis (A)	Ahmed Tigani, USG President	
Mathematics & Statistics	William Williams (A)	Sarit Levy, GSA President	
Music	Barbara L. Hampton (A) David Capps	Agnes Violenus, Alumni Assoc. Pres.	
Nursing	Judith Aponte "E" Leighsa Sharoff "E"	Jason Ares, CLT Council President	
Physics/Astronomy	Ying-Chih Chen (A)	Students:	
Psychology	Jeffrey Parsons (A)	Charles Blumenthal (Poli Sci.)	
Romance Languages	Michael Taormina Virginia Santos	Shira Hon (Sociology)	
SEEK	Maria Rodriguez "E"	Anthony McRae (Music)	
School of Social Work	Robert Salmon (A)	Ruami Lee-Hampell (Film&Media)	
		Jessica McCloskey (Economics)	
		Nicole Odom "E"	
		Sivia Naimer (Economics)	
		Aubrie Dillon (PoliSci/Women's Studies)	
		Christopher Kenny (Poli.Sci.)	
		Sean Kivlehan (THHP)	
		Cecilia Lazarro (undeclared)	
		George Ra'cz (Film & Media Studies)	
		Harrison Richarz (Music)	
		Sharlene Hamlet "E"	
		James Wagstaff (Graduate)	
		Gary Henkle (undeclared)	
		Marina Matatov (BA/MA)	
		Julia Daly (undeclared)	
		Anna Kouremenos (BA/MA)	
		Alexander Kipp (Grad.Theatre)	
		Christina Davis (undeclared)	
		Heidi Boisvert (Graduate)	
		Simone Delgado (Grad.)	
		Kwame Coleman (BA/MA)	

