

MINUTES
Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
14 May 2008

- 1 The 490th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 3:50 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.
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10 **Minutes:** The Minutes of April 16th were approved as distributed.
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12 **Report by the** There was no report.
13 **Administrative**
14 **Committee:**
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16 **Items Carried** **Resolution Re: School of Nursing**
17 **Over from Last**
18 **Meeting:** The motion on the floor was the motion to endorse the Resolution concerning the School of Nursing as
19 presented by the Provost at the last meeting (see Minutes of 7 May 2008, lines 103-177).
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21 The Provost yielded the floor to President Raab. The following is a summary statement of the
22 President's remarks. She said:
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24 "I apologize for not being here last week. Both Vita and I were at 80th Street working on the new
25 School of Public Health, which is related to the School of Nursing.
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27 I would like to go back a little bit in time to give some context to the resolution on the floor
28 regarding the School of Nursing, which to me is one of the most exciting things that we are doing
29 in the school. You probably heard that there is a nursing shortage, but I am not sure that many of
30 you really focused on the actual severity of this. We need 30,000 more nurses to be graduated a
31 year to meet the nursing crisis. 80% of the nurses who currently practice are retiring in the next
32 period and need to be replaced. Hunter can be part of the solution to this incredibly important
33 problem. It is not just that there are not enough nurses, but there is a serious shortage of
34 baccalaureate educated nurses. One of the most shocking things to me is that there is study to show
35 that the mortality rates improve when you have a baccalaureate trained nurse. We have an
36 extraordinary Nursing Program, and we have to support and to grow it, and we have to transform
37 and invest in our master's programs at the School. Many people think that there is a nursing
38 shortage because people are not interested in nursing. That is actually not true. One of our toughest
39 problems is that thousands of people come here every year wanting to be nurses. I think Shirley
40 Raps is speaking from some frustration with this because so much falls on the Biology Department.
41 We let in about 1700 freshmen and about 10% of the class, this is anecdotal, say they want to be a
42 nurse. We let in about 3,000 transfer students, 20% of them say they want to be a nurse. Last year,
43 for example, in the Anatomy and Physiology classes and labs that Shirley Raps and her department
44 so ably run, we had 1,000 students and almost all of them wanting to be nurses. Because of the
45 poor preparation of the high school system many of them cannot make it in these classes, and many
46 others are not going to make it into our Nursing Program because of lack of space. 300 people
47 applied for our Nursing Program last year and 100 were accepted because we put a lot of pressure
48 on Laurie Sherwin, who

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responded wonderfully over the last two years to grow this program from 60 students to 80 students to a 100 students. One of the reasons we cannot keep growing is lack of space, which our new Science and Health Building should solve. The other is that we don't have the nursing faculty to train more baccalaureate level nurses. In order to focus on these problems, one of the things we have done at CUNY is to create a new Doctoral Program in Nursing. In order to have a successful doctoral program we need research active faculty.

A few years ago we enlisted one of the top minds in Nursing in this country, Claire Fagin, who was a long-term Dean of the School of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania, which is consistently ranked number 1, 2 or 3 in the country. We brought her in to consult with our Nursing faculty and with Laurie Sherwin. One of the first things that Doctor Fagin said is that we need to make our Program of Nursing into a School of Nursing because it will help to recruit the faculty needed for the doctoral program so that we can add more students. It will also help to get grants, it will help improve the status in the community, and this is a key. My reaction was that this is very difficult since my predecessor merged the School of Nursing into a Schools of Health Professions. How do you then extract?

Fast forward, a few years ago the Chancellor approached me and asked if Hunter would be willing to be the site of the new CUNY School of Public Health. I thought that it was a marvelous idea and said yes. This is really moving along. As you know, we accepted our first class of doctoral students in September, and we need one of those students to receive a Doctorate. We expect that to happen within the next two years, and we need to hire faculty in the various disciplines that are required by the crediting agency, and we are busy doing that. We expect the School of Public Health to have what it needs to be accredited and to open in about two years from now. At that time, we would have a School of Nursing by virtue of the Program of Public Health becoming its own School, and it just seemed that having had that recommendation, we should move earlier to create a School of Nursing which was an eventuality in 2-2 ½ years.

The Provost and I went to consult with the Nursing faculty and Laurie Sherwen about this approach and they were utterly enthusiastic. As many of you remember, the nursing faculty was never very happy about being merged into a Schools of Health Professions and they are very happy about becoming a School again, and having their own Dean. I have a pledge of \$1M from one of our major alums to endow a Dean for a new School of Nursing. This will enable us to recruit somebody of national caliber to take the School to the next level. So, things are moving along. It is a very positive step and something the faculty in Nursing is very excited about.

I want to address one of the issues that came up last week and assure everyone that a great concern of mine is what happens to the other small programs in the Schools of Health Professions when you have a School of Public Health and School of Nursing. Those programs are Speech Pathology, Audiology, Physical Therapy, and Medical Lab Sciences. These are wonderful high quality programs that Hunter has historically been known for, and they are really thriving. Marilyn Auerbach, the Director of the Public Health Programs, has done a wonderful job as have the programs. Our choice was either close those programs or to go to the doctorate level. We just gave a doctorate in the field of Audiology and a doctorate in the area of Physical Therapy. We invested a lot in making the Doctorate Programs possible and really pushed them through CUNY because we are committed to theses programs. Medical Lab Sciences gained some faculty in the last few years because those students have jobs as soon as they are out of school. They are in a high demand. We are very committed to those programs and we are very committed to their future. What will happen to them? The answer is that right now no one knows, but we are all committed to having a discussion. Vita and I met with the four program heads, they made the request that we hire a national consultant to help us decide whether the programs stay together, go together to one of the schools, form some separate entity, or break up. All those options are on the table and we are looking at them, but be reassured that they will be invested in, they will be protected, and they will flourish through this new reorganization.

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In response to another point that came up at the last meeting, the issue of proliferation of deans, I just want to underscore that professional schools, professional programs, traditionally have deans and that we have a School of Social Work, and a School of Public Health now with a Dean. It is just a natural and a traditional sense in this country to have a Nursing School that has its own Dean. This is about a professional mission, these are accredited schools, they work with industry and as entities they really do require deans as leaders.

We would be returning to something that had been very successful at Hunter. It would continue the great work that Diane Rendon and her faculty have been doing and will get them the credit and support of the CUNY system and the external appreciation and investment that they deserve.”

After discussion the question was called and carried.

The Resolution was endorsed by voice vote without dissent.

Mellon Project Special Committee to Review the GER

Discussion of the topic “The Evolution of General Education at Hunter—Stage 1” as presented at the last meeting continued.

At 4:20 PM it was moved that the Senate dissolve into a semi committee of the whole for 30 minutes. The motion carried.

The Senate reconvened in formal session at 4:50 PM.

Undergraduate Academic Requirements Committee Report Re: Plus/Minus Grading

Professor Jason Young, a member of the Committee, presented the following report dated 7 May 2008:

The current grading system, which added weighted plus and minus grades for all grades between C and A, was initiated after Senate approval in October 1999. At the Senate meeting of November 28, 2007, UAR was asked to “revisit the issue of the C- and D+ grades and submit a plan to the Senate.” Either plan, if approved, would require clarification and amendment of the CR/NC Grading System and the Course Repeat Rule.

Current Grading System:

<u>Quality Points</u>	<u>Grade Definition</u>	<u>(GPA Index)</u>
A+	97.5 – 100%	4.0
A	92.5 – 97.4%	4.0
A-	90.0 – 92.4%	3.7
B+	87.5 – 89.9%	3.3
B	82.5 – 87.4%	3.0
B-	80.0 – 82.4%	2.7
C+	77.5 – 79.9%	2.3
C	70.0 – 77.4%	2.0
D	60.0 – 69.9%	1.0
F	0.0 – 59.9%	0.0

Amendments to the Current Grading System:

Option A:

C	72.5 – 77.4%	2.0
C-	70.0 – 72.4%	2.0
D+	67.5 – 69.9%	1.0
D	60.0 – 67.4%	1.0
F	0 – 59.9%	0.0

170 **Minutes**
171 **Meeting of the Hunter College Senate**
172 **14 May 2008**

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Option B:

C	72.5 – 77.4%	2.0	
C-	70.0 – 72.4%	1.7	
D+	67.5 – 69.9%	1.3	
D	60.0 – 67.4%	1.0	
F	0 – 59.9%		0.0

Professor Shahn moved for approval of Option B.

After discussion the question was called and carried.

It was moved that the meeting be adjourned because of the late hour. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:25 PM. (The motion to approve Option B carried over to the next meeting.)

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Gross,
Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

Faculty

Africana&PR/Latino Studies	Pedro Lopez-Adorno (A) Anthony Browne
Anthropology	Michael Steiper (A)
Art	Reiner Leist
Biological Sciences	Thomas Schmidt-Glenwinkel (A)
Chemistry	Pamela Mills "E" Namby Krishnamachari (A)
Classical & Oriental Studies	Fang Dai (A)
Computer Science	Ioannis Stamos (A)
Curriculum & Teaching	Ann Ebe (A) Sema Brainin
Economics	Howard Chernick Jonathan Conning (A)
English	Jeff Allred "E" Christina Alfar (A)
Film & Media Studies	Tim Portlock (A) Michael Gitlin
Health Sciences	Mimi Fahs (A) Jack Caravanos
History	Bernadette McCauley (A)"E"
Library	Luis Gonzales (A)
Music	David Capps (A)
Philosophy	Frank Kirkland (A) "E"
Physics/Astronomy	Ying-Chih Chen (A)
Political Science	John Wallach (A)
Psychology	Jeffrey Parsons (A) Tracy Dennis Tricia Striano
Romance Languages	Monica Calabritto (A)
SEEK	Patricia Martin (A)
School of Social Work	Bernadette Hadden Karun Singh (A)
Sociology	Charles Green (A)

Special Education	Grace Lappin Thomas McIntyre (A)
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Student Services	Reva Cohen (A)
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Theatre	Alan Sikes
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**Lecturers and
Part-Time Faculty**

Barbara Sproul (Religion) "E"
Claus Mueller (Sociology)
Aubrey Ewaroo
Case Willoughby
Jeffrey Mongrain (Art)

Administration

Vice President Eija Ayrvainen

Ex-Officio

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

Students

Jiayun Zhong
Karen Busani-Halevi
Binu Abraham (Classics, THH) "E"
Dulguun Maidar (Poli Sci)
Nicole Odom
Tonia Tiewul (THH)
Jean-Kenson Dorlouis (Biochem)
David Wexler (Poli Sci)
Senna Fan Ye (Nursing)
Jian Jie Ren
Mariya Kayumova (Poli.Sci)
Jakub R Walko (Econom)
Sera Yeysides (Econom/PoliSci)
Nia Smith (Media)
Meryam Bukhari (undeclared)
Julia Estevez (Art)