

MINUTES

Meeting of the Hunter College Senate

17 May 2006

1 The 470th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:15PM in Room W714.

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3 **Presiding:** Joan Tronto, 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 **Agenda:** The agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.

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9 **Report by the** A summary statement of President Raab's report to the Senate is as follows. She said:

10 **President:**

11 "I have some very short announcements. First of all, we are very happy that we have just received a
12 \$1M gift from the Petrie Foundation. The money is earmarked for student emergencies, and it is
13 broadly defined so that we will be able to help students who have lost a job and need emergency
14 funds to stay in school, or students who don't have the appropriate clothes to interview with. Eija
15 and I are working out an announcement to be sent out in the next few weeks to all faculty. We will
16 keep reminding you that students in your classes who have an emergency need and are really short
17 on funds will be able to apply for this money, which is an endowment. We will have \$50,000 a year
18 in cash to help support students in need, and we will be reaching out to students.

19
20 I want to thank everyone who participated in the Diversity Conference, and I want to thank the
21 Senate for their participation. We had a lot of very thoughtful ideas and recommendations coming
22 out of the Conference with a plan for further discussions next year. We will be working on
23 disseminating those recommendations this summer so that we can begin this initiative when we
24 come back in the Fall.

25
26 We are in the final stages of two searches for Deans. We will be meeting with the Social Work
27 Search Committee this afternoon to get their recommendations. I had received four
28 recommendations from the Arts & Science Search Committee, and I have asked all four candidates
29 to come back to campus a second time. I have been meeting with them and other groups have been
30 meeting with them. Our last candidate will be here tomorrow and then we will be close to a decision
31 on both of those searches. We will have an announcement as soon as possible thereafter.

32
33 Graduation is on June 1st at Radio City Music Hall and we congratulate all those graduating. Our
34 honorary degree recipient will be Gloria Steinhem and our speaker will be Fareed Zakariah who is
35 the publisher of Newsweek International and a very popular and well known figure on many news
36 shows.

37
38 I wish you all a wonderful summer."

39
40 **Election:** Election of Senate Officers

41 The floor was open for nominations for Chair of the Senate.

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43 Professor Richard Stapleford (Art) was nominated.

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45 It was moved that nominations be closed. The motion carried by voice vote.

46
47 It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the nominee. The motion
48 carried by voice vote without dissent and Professor Stapleford was elected Chair of the Senate.

51 **Meeting of the Hunter College Senate**
52 **17 May 2006**

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57 The floor was open for nominations for Vice Chair of the Senate. The following were nominated:

58 Ms. Jessica McCloskey (Economics Major)
59 Ms. Kelle Jacob (undeclared)

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62 After a brief statement by each candidate, voting by clicker produced the following results:

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64 Jessica McCloskey: 34 votes
65 Kelle Jacob: 105 votes.

66
67 Ms. Jacob was elected Vice Chair of the Senate.

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69 The floor was open for nominations for Secretary of the Senate.

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71 Professor Jill Gross (Urban Affairs) was nominated.

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73 It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the nominee.
74 The motion carried by voice vote without dissent.

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76 The floor was open for nominations for Chair of the Evening Council of the Senate.

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78 Professor Sandra Clarkson (Mathematics & Statistics) was nominated.

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80 It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the nominee.
81 The motion carried by voice vote without dissent.

82
83 **Resolution:**

84 Professor Pam Mills presented the following resolution:

85
86 Whereas, Professor Tronto is completing a three-year term as Senate Chair; and,

87
88 Whereas, the Senate has been more active as a result of her leadership than at any time in recent
89 memory; and,

90
91 Whereas, Professor Tronto exemplified the best qualities of the academy by leading, in difficult
92 times, with integrity and forthrightness; therefore,

93
94 Be it resolved, that the Senate extends to her its deepest gratitude and best wishes in her future
95 endeavors in the College.

96
97 The motion carried by acclamation followed by a standing ovation.

98 **Report by the**
99 **Charter Review**

100 **Third Reading of the Proposed Charter Amendments**

101 Professor Richard Stapleford, Chair of the Committee, presented the Report dated 17 May 2007 for the
102 Third Reading and adoption vote of the proposed Amendments to the "*Charter for a Governance of
103 Hunter College.*"

104
105 Voting by clickers produced the following results: 121 in favor, 13 opposed, and 4 abstentions. The
106 Amendments (see Appendix II) were adopted.

107 **Report by the**
108 **Administrative**
109 **Committee:**

110 The Chair presented the report as follows:

111 **Senate Meeting Schedule for Fall 2006 and Spring 2007**

112 The following Senate meeting schedule for the following Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:25 P.M. was
113 adopted:

114 **Meeting of the Hunter College Senate**
115 **17 May 2006**

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Fall 2006
September 13 and 27
October 11 and 25
November 8 and 15
December 6 and 13

Spring 2007
February 14 and 28
March 14 and 28
April 11 and 25
May 2 and 16

124 **List of Candidates for Diplomas and Degrees**

125 Professor Tronto moved for the ceremonial adoption of the list of candidates for diplomas and degrees
126 to be awarded in June 2006. The motion carried by voice vote without dissent.

127
128 **Approved Curriculum Changes**

129 The following curriculum changes, as listed in Parts I and II of the Report dated 17May 2006, were
130 approved as per Senate resolution and were submitted for the Senate's information: Items UE-1475 and
131 US-1456 (English), US-1452 and US-1459 (Geography), US-1461 and US-1463, Economics), US-
132 1464, US-1465, US-1466, GS-669, GS-670, GS-672, and US-1467/GS-671 (Mathematics & Statistics),
133 US-1470, US-1471, and GS-674 A&B (Music), US-1472 (Romance Languages), GS-668 (School of
134 Health Sciences), GS-673 (Psychology), US-1460 and US-1474 (Computer Science).

135
136 **Items Carried**
137 **Over:**

138 Professor Tronto reported that she would not bring before the Senate at this time the motion to table the
139 renewal of the motion to approve the Recommendations of the Select Committee on Academic Freedom.
140 She reported that another session of mediation with Chairs, the Senate Administrative Committee, the
141 President, the Provost, and Counsel and Special Assistant to the President had taken place. The meeting
142 was productive and the discussion very useful. She thanked all for their participation in it.

143 **Committee**
144 **Reports:**

145 **Undergraduate Academic Requirements Committee**

146 Professor Tronto informed the Senate that the following resolution, as distributed, would be postponed
147 to the first meeting in the Fall, and that the committee is asking the Senate to forward any recommen-
148 dations concerning the resolution to the Senate Office:

149 BE IT RESOLVED, that all students who are readmitted to Hunter College after an absence of 10
150 or more years must adhere to the Undergraduate Catalog in effect at the time of their readmission at
151 Hunter College; and,

152 BE IT FURTHR RESOLVED, that this policy be implemented for students readmitted beginning
153 Fall 2007.

154 It was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM.

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Respectfully submitted,

Stuart Ewen,
Secretary

APPENDIX I

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168 *The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:*
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Faculty

Classical/Oriental Studies	Lawrence Kowerski "E"
Computer Science	Virginia Teller "E"
English	Sylvia Roshkow
Film & Media Studies	Tim Portlock Joe McElhaney Joshua Grumet Tami Gold
German	Matthew Oles
History	Angelo Angelis
Music	David Capps
Physics/Astronomy	Ying-Chih Chen
School of Social Work	Robert Salmon Annette Mahoney Bernadette Hadden Michael Fabricant
Sociology	Claus Mueller "E"

Administration

Laura Schachter
Paul Kurzman "E"
Laurie Sherwen "E"

Ex-Officio

Dan Ross
Agnes Violenus

Students

Danilda Abreu	Jonathan Alexandratos
Laura Dillon	Abdelhafid Toury
Keith Yu	Jose Longo
Mohammad Saleem	Marina Matatov
Lindsay Moran	James Wagstaff
Laurie Dionne	Min Huang
Emmanuel Palatulan	

APPENDIX II
Report by the Charter Review Committee:

THIRD READING
Of the Proposed Amendments to the
Charter for a Governance of Hunter College

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

- 1. Amendments to Articles III and IV: Reduction in the Number of Senators and the Addition of Alternates** (The faculty-student-administration ratio remains the same.)

The New York State Court of Appeals ruling in *Perez v. CUNY* requires the Hunter College Senate to conform to the New York State Open Meetings Law, which is construed to apply the quorum and majority requirements of Section 41 of the General Construction Law. Since the Hunter College Senate is currently a very large legislative body and has no system for alternate members, the change in the membership makes it possible for the Senate to conduct its business in a way that still provides broad representation to the College community.

Our original thought was to divide the 200-member Senate in half and transform the other half of the number into alternates. After consulting with Vice Chancellor Schaffer, General Counsel, we passed a compromise solution to lower the number of Alternates from 100 to 56 to address his concern. He had written to us: "any system of alternate members of a governing body should be structured so as not only to ensure a quorum, but also to ensure that both members and alternates attend meetings on a regular basis and are knowledgeable about the matters under consideration. If different people show up at each meeting there is no continuity and no real accountability. I view alternate members of a faculty senate like alternate jurors.

Both members and alternates need to be there to hear the debates; the alternates are merely a safeguard in case a limited number of members cannot attend. It seems to me that the proposal to have 100 alternates will have the opposite effect. It will remove from the members and the alternates any sense of responsibility to attend every meeting they can and will not provide any practical mechanism to inform members and alternates of the issues to be discussed and voted upon."

Under this amendment and in keeping with the concept of broad representation inherent in the Charter one faculty alternate would be allocated to each department. The faculty-student-administration ratio would be preserved. The total number of faculty alternates may vary if there is a change in the total number of departments in accordance with Article IV. 1. B. (i). Currently, there will be: 32 faculty alternates (57%), 21 student alternates (38%), 3 administration alternates (5%).

Alternates will have full floor rights, but may only vote and be counted in the quorum when properly seated according to Senate procedures. The current Senate rules require attendance and participation. Senators who miss three consecutive meetings without excuse are dismissed. The Senate extended this policy to include Alternates. Thus, membership and participation are regularized and expected.

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- 2. Amendment to Article VIII, Section 1: Addition of New Sections C and D**

The language in Section C clarifies an ambiguity in the Charter. The language in Section D defines the status of alternate committee members.

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- 3. Amendments to Article VIII, Section 3A, B, D, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, and 17: Change in Number of Student Representation on Committees including the Addition of Alternates**

The New York State Court of Appeals ruling in *Perez v. CUNY* requires the Hunter College Senate's committees to conform to the New York State Open Meetings Law, which is construed to apply the quorum and majority requirements of Section 41 of the General Construction Law. Reducing the number of student seats conforms with the practice in which few students have served on committees throughout the Senate's thirty-five years. This change permits students to continue to exercise voice and to vote as members of committees, but it changes the quorum requirements so that committees may function more effectively.

In reducing the number of student seats, note that the seats remaining are more than have been historically filled by students. The goal is not to keep students from serving, but to make Senate committees function more effectively under the quorum rules.

4. Amendment to Article VIII, Section 3A and 4B: Merger of Graduate Course of Study Committee and Graduate Academic Requirements Committee

This change brings the Charter into conformance with current practice; these committees have functioned as one since an approved Senate change on December 13, 2000.

5. Amendment to Article VIII, Sections 8, 9, 11, 14 and new Section 17

This change adds a faculty representative from the School of Social Work to committees that are relevant to the College's function. It removes a representative from the Calendar Committee whose business does not concern the School.

6. Amendment to Article VIII, Section 15: Committee on Computing & Technology

This change brings the Charter into conformance with current practice; a representative from the Provost's Office has served *ex officio* for several years. Given the increasing importance of technology as an academic concern, the Provost's Office should be included in this committee's deliberations.

7. Amendment to Article VIII: Addition of New Section 17 – Standing Committee on the Library

This change brings the Charter into conformance with current practice; this committee was approved by the Hunter College Senate as a Standing Committee at its meeting of May 19th, 1990.

Excerpts from the *Charter for a Governance of Hunter College*

(Note: new wording is underlined – old wording is crossed out)

ARTICLE III

Section 1

The Hunter College Senate shall have ~~202 members~~ **100 Senators and Alternates sufficient in number to provide one faculty alternate for each department**, ~~all of them with full voting rights in the Senate~~, being composed of 57% faculty members, 38% students and 5% representatives of the administration, with seats reserved in the following proportions:

- 44% Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors, and Instructors on full-time appointments.
- 13% Lecturers (full-time), Lecturers (part-time), Adjunct faculty Lecturers, and all other part-time members of the teaching faculty who are not also serving in full-time appointments, and non-faculty department member in the title series College Laboratory Technician and Higher Education Officer.
- 14% Full-time Undergraduate students, other than students in the SEEK Department.
- 11% Part-time Undergraduate students.
- 2% Undergraduate students – SEEK Department.
- 11% Graduate students.
- 5% Administration.

Section 2 (New)

Senators shall have full voting rights in the Senate. Alternates may vote and be counted as part of the quorum only when properly seated according to Senate procedures.

Section ~~(2)~~ 3 (Re-numbered)

Section ~~(3)~~ 4 (Re-numbered)

ARTICLE IV

Section 2

A. The ~~89 Senate seats~~ **44 Senate seats** reserved for representatives in the ranks of Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, and Instructor on full-time appointments shall be filled as follows:

- (i) All departments shall be rank-ordered by the number of such faculty in the department. Each department shall be allocated ~~2 seats~~ **1 seat**, and the remaining seats shall be allocated by assigning one additional seat to each department from the top of the list down, until the available number is exhausted.
- (ii) Each department will fill its allocated seats by nominations from and elections by its faculty members in the ranks of Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, and Instructor on full-time appointments.
- B. The ~~26 Senate seats~~ **13 Senate seats** reserved for representatives in the ranks of Lecturer (full-time), Lecturer (part-time), Adjunct **faculty Lecturer**, any other part-time members of the teaching faculty who are not also serving in full-time appointments, and department members in the title series College Laboratory Technician and Higher Education Officer shall be filled as follows:
- (i) One seat shall be reserved for Student Services, and shall be filled by nomination and election among the department members in these ranks.**
- ~~(ii) All departments shall be rank ordered by the number of the department's members in such positions. Each of the first 10 departments 5 departments in this list shall fill 1 seat by nominations and election from among and by these members.~~
- (ii) In each of the ~~remaining~~ departments that include members in these ranks, the latter shall make nomination for, and elect from among their number, one nominee for one of the ~~16 remaining~~ **12 remaining** Senate seats.
- (iii) The remaining **12** seats shall then be filled by an at-large election from among the nominees selected according to paragraph B (ii) above. In this election, votes shall be cast only by the members of the departments to which B (ii) applies who are in the ranks of Lecturer (full-time), Lecturer (part-time), Adjunct **faculty Lecturer**, any other part-time members of the teaching faculty who are not also serving in full-time appointments, or department members in the title series College Laboratory Technician and Higher Education Officer.
- C. The ~~28 Senate seats~~ **14 Senate seats** reserved for Full-time undergraduate students, other than students in the SEEK Department, shall be filled as follows:
- (i) Of these seats, ~~17 shall~~ **9 shall** be reserved for Full-time department majors. Toward their election, each department will elect, from nominations made within its own ranks, ~~2 nominees~~ **1 nominee** for these seats. All Full-time Seniors, Juniors, and Sophomores who have declared their major will elect the required number of representatives by an at-large vote among these nominees.
- (ii) The remaining ~~11 Senate seats~~ **5 Senate seats** shall be reserved for Full-time Freshmen and Sophomores who have not as yet declared their major. Candidacy at-large shall be declared by filing a petition meeting the requirements established by the Senate. From the pool of such candidates, the Full-time Freshmen and non-major Sophomores will elect the required number of representatives by an at-large election.
- D. The ~~22 Senate seats~~ **11 Senate seats** reserved for Part-time undergraduate students shall be filled as follows:
- Candidacy at-large shall be declared by filing a petition meeting the requirements established by the Senate. From the pool of such candidates, the Part-time undergraduate students will elect the required number of representatives by an at-large election.
- E. The ~~22 Senate seats~~ **11 Senate seats** reserved for graduate students shall be filled as follows:
- (i) ~~15 seats~~ **6 seats** shall be filled by graduate students matriculated in programs offered in the various divisions (as defined in Article IV.1.B.ii) and the School of Social Work; one seat to each division and the School of Social Work ~~and the remainder shall be allocated in proportion to the total number of matriculated students enrolled. Such allocations shall be recalculated every January, starting in 1982.~~
- (ii) There shall be 4 representatives who are matriculated graduate students and are elected by the matriculated graduate students in an at-large election.
- (iii) There shall also be ~~2 non-matriculated~~ **1 non-matriculated** graduate student representatives, elected by the non-matriculated graduate students in an at-large election.

- F. ~~Four~~ **Two** Senate seats shall be filled by nominations and elections from among and by the students in the SEEK Department.
- G. ~~11 representatives~~ **5 representatives** of the administration, one of who shall be in the title series HEO or CLT, shall be appointed by the President of Hunter College.
- H. (i) A Senate seat reserved for faculty members with specific rank, or other qualifications (as outlined in Article IV, Sections 2A and B), that remains vacant after the elections scheduled for such seats, shall be filled for the remainder of the regular term by a faculty election conducted by a process approved by the Senate.
- (ii) A Senate seat reserved for students with specific major-non-major, graduate-undergraduate or other qualifications (as outlined in Article IV, Sections C, D, E, and F) that remains vacant after the elections scheduled for such seats, shall be filled for the remainder of the regular term by a student election conducted by a process approved by the Senate.

Section 3 (New)

Each department shall be allocated one seat for a faculty alternate. The faculty alternates shall be elected in accordance with the specified nomination and election procedures of Article IV. The student alternates shall be elected by a process approved by the Senate. The administration alternates shall be appointed by the President.

Section 3 ~~4~~ (Re-numbered)

Section 4 ~~5~~ (Re-numbered)

Section 5 ~~6~~ (Re-numbered)

ARTICLE VIII

Section 1 (New C and D)

- A. All committees of the Senate shall preserve the spirit of equity regarding sessional, divisional, and other representation of students and faculty, and in the scheduling of meetings. Committee membership shall be open to all members of the faculty and to all students who are eligible for membership on the Senate. They shall be elected by the Senate from among nominations made by a Nominating Committee (Article IX) and/or nominations from the floor.
- B. When a committee vacancy cannot be filled with a faculty member or student with specified qualifications, that vacancy shall be first reported to the Senate and then may be filled by a faculty member or student, respectively, without regard to the qualification specified.

C. Senate committees report to the Senate

D. Alternate members on committees may only vote and be counted in the quorum when regular members are absent.

Section 2

In reorganizations of the Hunter College administration, Academic Administrators designated to serve ex-officio on standing committees of the Senate shall have responsibility, as nearly as possible, for the same functions as those who are currently designated to serve in such capacity.

Section 3

In the exercise of its responsibility for the design and modification of Hunter College curricula the Senate shall establish two Committees on Course of Study, one graduate and one undergraduate. These committees shall be constituted as follows:

A. The Graduate Course of Study and Academic Requirements Committee

Six faculty members who teach in the graduate program, at least one faculty member from each of the divisions (as defined in Article IV.1.B.ii); ~~one graduate student from each of the divisions~~ **2 graduate students and 2 graduate student alternates...**

B. The Undergraduate Course of Study Committee

One faculty representative from each of the divisions (as defined in Article IV.1.B.ii) and two from the divisions serving at-large; ~~one student from each division~~ **3 students and 3 student alternates...**

C. Both of these Committees shall be chaired by faculty members, elected by the voting members of the Committee.

D. There shall also be Committees on Curriculum in the School of Arts and Sciences, the Division of the Schools of Health Professions, and the School of Education. These committees shall be composed of the dean (with vote) and one faculty member ~~and one student~~ from each department in the school or division, elected by the department as it may decree in its By-laws (see Article XI), and 3 students and 3 student alternates...

Section 4

B. The Graduate Course of Study and Academic Requirements Committee shall review all Master's Programs and graduate courses to be listed in the Hunter College Bulletin on graduate studies, whether on the Master's or the Doctoral level.

Its functions shall also include the review and coordination of graduate academic requirements, the formulation of policy, for adoption by the Senate, regarding the methods of grading, admissions, attendance, withdrawal, maintenance of academic standards, accreditation of work done at other institutions. The Director of Admissions, Vice President for Student Affairs (or designee), and other resource persons as deemed necessary, are requested to attend all meetings of the committee concerning graduate academic requirements as non-voting members.

Section 5

There shall be a **Committee on Undergraduate Academic Requirements** consisting of one faculty member from each of the divisions (as defined in IV.1.B.ii), and two faculty from the divisions serving at-large; ~~5 students~~ 3 students and 3 student alternates...

Section 8

There shall be established a **Master Plan Committee** of the Senate, consisting of one faculty member from each division (as defined in IV.1.B.ii), and the School of Social Work; ~~an equal number of students~~ 3 students and 3 student alternates

Section 9

The Senate shall establish a **Committee on the Budget**, consisting of one faculty member from each division (as defined in IV.1.B.ii) and the School of Social Work; the Director of SEEK; ~~an equal number of students~~ 2 students and 2 student alternates...

Section 10

The Senate shall establish a **Committee on Grade Appeals**, consisting of 4 faculty members, and 3 students and 3 student alternates...

Section 11

The Senate shall establish a **Committee on the Calendar**, consisting of one faculty member from each of the divisions (as defined in IV.1.B.ii), ~~one faculty member from the School of Social Work~~, and 2 students and 2 student alternates ~~an equal number of students~~...

Section 12

There shall be a **Committee on Departmental Governance**, consisting of one faculty member ~~and one student~~ from each division (as defined in IV.1.B.ii), 2 students and 2 student alternates

Section 14

The Senate shall establish a **Committee on Charter Review**, consisting of one faculty member from each division (as defined in IV.1.B.ii); ~~an equal number of students~~ 3 students and 3 student alternates...

Section 15

The Senate shall establish a **Committee on Computing and Technology**, consisting of one faculty member from each of the divisions (as defined in IV.1.B.ii), the School of Social Work, the Library, and one faculty member at-large who conducts research that depends on computers and who complements and diversifies the knowledge base of the committee; and ~~one student~~ 2 students and 2 student alternates. Two members of the staff, the Director of OICIT, and the Provost (or designee) shall serve without vote...

New Section 16

The Senate shall establish an **Evening Council**, consisting of one faculty member from each of the divisions (as defined in Article IV. 1. B. ii) and two faculty members from the divisions serving at-large who teach a course(s) in the evening; one faculty member from the Library; ~~an equal number of students~~ **2 students and two student alternates...** .

Section 17 (New)

The Senate shall establish a Committee on the Library, consisting of one faculty member from each of the divisions (as defined in Article IV. 1. B. ii), the School of Social Work, Main Library, Branch Library, 2 students and two student alternates, and the Chief Librarian who shall serve ex-officio without vote.

The Committee shall function in an advisory capacity to the Chief Librarian and as a liaison between the Library and the College community. It shall encourage periodic review of immediate and long-term needs of the Library and library needs of individual departments and disciplines. The committee shall review an annual summary of the status of library resources and services to be provided by the Chief Librarian, and report on it to the Senate in the Fall semester.