

MINUTES

Meeting of the Hunter College Senate

24 September 2008

1 The 493rd 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.

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10 **Report by the President:** The following is a summary statement of President Raab's report to the Senate. She said:

11
12 "Good afternoon and welcome back. I am very happy to report great progress on our new building
13 in East Harlem for the School of Social Work. It will also house our new Program in Public
14 Health and the Centro Library. We are waiting to hear from the Governor's Office about when he
15 would like to announce this new building. The building will be built by a private developer. This
16 is a very exciting prospect because the private developer will be able to operate with more
17 independence and procurement in construction. He also has the incentive that he will be able to
18 build on the property he is purchasing, which is on our 79th Street building, as soon as the new
19 building is completed. We have hired the architects who have been working with us on our Master
20 Plan. They also happen to be the architects that built the new Columbia School of Social Work.
21 The Social Work faculty are scheduled to meet with the architects soon. They will be working
22 very closely with them and they are very pleased to have someone with such experience in their
23 area.

24
25 At the last meeting we had hoped to introduce to you the Founding Dean of the CUNY School of
26 Public Health and our new Acting Dean of the School of Health Professions, Dr. Ken Olden,
27 whose appointment was approved on Monday by the CUNY Board of Trustees. The creation of
28 this school is moving along with the great support and leadership of our faculty. It is a consortia
29 school, and the faculty from Brooklyn, Lehman, and the Graduate Center are involved, but we are
30 the lead role in creating and operating and governing the school. We are making great progress
31 towards the various components of creating the School of Public Health which are highly
32 regulated and prescribed. We have great talent in some of the individual areas and in others we
33 need to recruit faculty. Before we call ourselves a school we are required to grant one Doctorate in
34 Public Health. We just admitted our second class of students in the doctoral program. We are
35 doing very well with the first class. We have good retention. We need one of these students to
36 come back with the Doctorate in about two years so that we can call ourselves a school.

37
38 We have also recruited a wonderful new Dean of Nursing. Having come to this body in the Spring
39 and asked for your approval for the creation of free-standing School of Nursing we were able to
40 recruit a founding Dean, Doctor Christine Gebbie, who spent twelve years as a named Chair at
41 Columbia University Nursing School. Prior to that she was an aide in the Clinton Administration,
42 and before that she was the first Secretary of Public Health in the State of Washington. She
43 combines a wonderful background in Academic Nursing and a great public service in the area of
44 Public Health. She was not able to be here today, but we are looking forward to introducing her to
45 the community.

46
47 I want to introduce two other new members of our community and have them talk about their
48 portfolio briefly.

54 I am very happy to introduce to you to Dr. Robert Greenberg who is our new Associate Dean for
55 Undergraduate Education and Academic Opportunities in the School of Arts & Sciences as well as
56 a Professor in Anthropology. He has a PhD from Yale in Slavic Languages and Linguistics. He is
57 quite a scholar and he has a long history of working in the area of student engagement and
58 working with students on getting the most prestigious fellowships in the country. We know he is
59 going to do the same at Hunter College, and we are very happy to welcome him.
60

61 President Raab yielded the floor to Dr. Greenberg, who said:

62
63 “Thank you very much for the very gracious introduction. I am delighted to be here in front of the
64 Senate and look forward to meeting all of you at some point during the coming weeks. I have
65 already met some people here during this semester.
66

67 I want to put a plug in for student opportunities; I am very excited to be here and to try to get
68 Hunter a lot more recognition for the excellence that our students have to show. I have already
69 met some of the students. I have met the Director of our Thomas Hunter Program as well. We
70 have talked about getting more involved in the Marshall, the Rhodes, the Truman and other
71 scholarships. I know we had our first Truman scholar. There are only about eighty in the whole
72 country, and to me that is a sign that we can get other scholarships at Hunter like the Marshall and
73 even the Rhodes. So, my plug in for you all is to send me e-mails with names of any outstanding
74 students that you have in your classes. I want to start recruiting for these scholarships early. We
75 have a lot of students who don’t really look beyond New York City. There are opportunities
76 outside of New York City that they compete for and do well at, and I enjoyed working with
77 several of them already this year. But to really succeed in this we have to work together as a
78 community. Just send me names of students, e-mail me, call me, tell me about them, and have
79 them come see me, make appointments in my office 815E. I will be happy to meet the students
80 and work on their applications and help write the nomination letters for President Raab to sign and
81 get these students nominated into the competition. You may know that we had two Marshall
82 Finalists last year, which was a first for us. In a long time we haven’t had that success. Once you
83 get to the interview, you get very close to getting one of those scholarships.
84

85 I am also working with the Undergraduate Fellowship Programs, Marc, Pre-Health, Pre-Law and
86 others. If there are any ideas you have, any thoughts please let me know. I am very interested in
87 getting your feedback, and also on anything to do with things like registration, appeals, and those
88 other types of things which are not as much fun, but I do have to deal with them as well. I am
89 happy to work with anybody who would like to work with me. Again, thank you so much and I
90 look forward to working with all of you and meeting you in the weeks and months to come.”
91

92 Dr. Greenberg yielded the floor to President Raab, who said:

93
94 “I think the only person happier than I am to announce the appointment and to introduce Dr.
95 Mosen Auryan as Hunter College’s first Director of Assessment is Dr. Sandi Clarkson who is
96 actually, Hunter’s first Director of Assessment, unpaid. Dr. Auryan did a wonderful job in a
97 similar mission at Baruch College, and we are happy to welcome him.”
98

99 President Raab yielded the floor to Dr. Auryan, who said:

100 "Thank you President Raab, and thank you Provost Rabinowitz and the Search Committee for
101 giving me the opportunity to come here and serve in this sensitive position. I really mean it. It is a
102 sensitive position, and this topic doesn't bring joy to many people. But I hope to be able to work
103 with all of you on two fronts. One is the Middle State visit in April. I promise that I will do my
104 best to help you, and together we will do well. But I hope to also show that we can use assessment
105 to help our faculty in their teaching and to help our students in their learning; assessment as part
106 of excellence in teaching and learning; that would be my pitch to you. My view of assessment is
107 not the typical view of assessment that you normally hear about; I hope over time I will be able to
108

114 clarify that. I can't be more thankful to the people that I have met so far at Hunter. They have been
115 so nice and welcoming. Thank you."

116
117 Dr. Auryan yielded the floor to President Raab, who said:

118
119 "I was asked by Bill Sakas to remind everyone that the deadline for proposals to the Mellon
120 Committee has been extended to October 3rd, and we hope that everyone will participate.
121

122 A quick word about the budget which I know is in everyone's mind. Most of you know that
123 CUNY was required to take a \$50M cut by the Governor this summer. Fortunately, the results of
124 the various financial crises were not unexpected and much planning had gone on over the summer
125 in terms of finding these resources. We have been working on setting aside reserves. CUNY
126 Central has taken a very pro-active and helpful role and has absorbed a fair amount of the cuts on
127 the central level. We have worked very carefully in this round to hold the academic side of the
128 house harmless and to absorb the cuts as much as possible on the administrative side. We are all
129 concerned about the future and I don't have any other information right now, but we will report as
130 soon as I do.
131

132 We are working very hard to increase our philanthropy and to support the areas where we had to
133 take decreases. For example, one of the areas where the Provost was asked to absorb some cuts
134 within the budget that supports much of our tutoring enterprise. Fortunately, we raised an
135 endowment which is now starting to build up in the area of supporting the Reading and Writing
136 centers. So, we have been able in various ways to use philanthropy to support some of these
137 missions, and we are also very excited that we will be having our first official Hunter Gala in
138 October, a hotel event with two major honoraries and alums. We are beginning to really raise
139 some nice amounts of money and we are very optimistic that this will also give us a nice cushion
140 because this is all unrestricted money that we will be able to use to support needs in the year
141 ahead.
142

143 On a lighter note you all noticed that there is a very large and wonderful sculpture being attached
144 to the bridges. It is part of a new exhibit opening up in our Leubsdorf Gallery on 68th Street and in
145 our Gallery on 41st Street. It is about contemporary representations of the night. It was curated by
146 some students with Joachim Pissarro, the Director of our Galleries, who has recently left Moma.
147 While he was still with Moma as one of their top curators, he did the new exhibit that just opened
148 on Van Gogh and representations of the night. So, he did Van Gogh and the Night for Moma,
149 contemporary representations of the night for Hunter, and one of the pieces of art is the sculpture
150 that is going on the bridges that repeats in large neon letters "Day for Night for Day for Night."
151 We hope it will bring a lot of attention to the phenomenal art program that we have here and we
152 hope to attract a lot of attention tomorrow when we officially flip the switch and light the
153 sculpture. Everybody is invited. We are going to have a lovely party in the West Lobby. We hope
154 you will all be there to see the exhibit, to see the sculpture officially lit, and to celebrate art at
155 Hunter College."
156

157 The President concluded her report by answering questions from the floor.
158

159 **Report by the**
160 **Administrative**
161 **Committee:**

The Chair presented the report as follows:

Special Election to fill vacant seats on the Senate

162 In accordance with Article IV.2.H.i & ii of the *Charter for a Governance of Hunter College* the
163 Administrative Committee presented the names of all nominees received to date for the at-large seats:
164

Students:

165 Kaveh Tabatabaie (Political Science)

166 Claudia Caceres (Freshman)

167 Johanna Guzman (Freshman)
168

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175 Glenda Holland (Sociology)
 176 Christina Podkalicki (ELA)
 177 Peter Cardenas (Psychology)
 178 Zain Saeed
 179 Kareem Devonish
 180 Darius Carr
 181 Jessica Torres
 182 Lorena Sanchez
 183

184 **Faculty:**
 185 William Sakas (Computer Science)
 186

187 It was moved that the entire slate be accepted. The motion carried by voice vote without dissent.
 188

189 **Election of Ombudsman**

190 The Chair informed the Senate that Professor Bill Williams (Mathematics & Statistics) had declared
 191 his candidacy.
 192

193 The floor was open for further nominations, but none were made.
 194

195 **Committee**
 196 **Reports:**

197 **Mellon Project Special Committee to Review the GER**

198 The Chair informed the Senate that the report was postponed to the next meeting.
 199

200 **Select Committee on Performance Measures & Outcomes Assessment**

201 Professor Sandra Clarkson, Chair of the Committee, presented the following report, as distributed:
 202

203 During the 2007-2008 Academic year, a great deal was accomplished on the Assessment front. A
 204 big THANK YOU goes to the President and Provost, the Deans and the Chairs of departments.
 205 All of them have been very helpful. Some of the highlights are listed below:

- 206 • Dean Shirley Clay Scott continues to be a champion for this effort, requesting and receiving
 207 Outcomes Assessment update reports from all departments/programs in the Arts and
 Sciences.
- 208 • Two Assessment Breakfasts, one in December 2007 and one in April 2008, were sponsored
 209 by the Committee and attended by more than 50 participants, some attending both Breakfasts.
 210 At those events, presentations were made by a number of Hunter faculty and staff. Comments
 211 seem to suggest the meetings were useful and appreciated.
- 212 • Members of the Committee met with faculty, both individuals and groups, in almost all the
 213 departments in Arts and Sciences to discuss assessment efforts. These meetings were initiated
 214 primarily by the departments and resulted in many successful assessment efforts.
- 215 • President Raab pledged \$100,000 toward assessment efforts; to date, that has resulted in the
 216 funding of more than 20 separate projects in 14 different departments. More than half that
 217 money has been spent, with new initiatives to be funded in the coming months.
- 218 • A national search for a Director of Assessment resulted in the successful hiring of Dr. Mosen
 219 Auryan, formerly at Baruch College. Dr. Auryan started in this position at the end of August
 220 2008 and has already made a significant impression in the Hunter community. In his position,
 221 he reports to the Provost. If you have not already met him, you will soon. This Committee is
 222 very pleased to have such an excellent partner to assure that Hunter's assessment efforts will
 223 have a positive effect on student learning.

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229 Future Plans:

230 We are co-sponsoring, with Dr. Auryan, an Assessment event, *Learning about Learning*, to be
 231 held this Friday, September 26, from 9 to 1pm in the Chanin Center. For this event, there is a
 232 targeted audience: Chairs and their Assessment teams. We are hoping for a good turnout. So, if
 233 you are involved in Assessment within your department and you don't know about the event but
 234 would like to attend, let us know after this meeting; you are certainly welcome to attend.
 235

236 Thank you to the entire community for your help in our assessment effort. As many of you know,
 237 for the Middle States (MSCHE) self study, assessment is a major focal point. Jason Young, Chair
 238 of the Faculty Delegate Assembly reports that at a meeting, Vice Chancellor Logue mentioned
 239 that, of eight CUNY colleges that have recently gone through Middle States review, seven of them
 240 received 'unsatisfactory' reviews on 'Standard 14,' which deals with learning outcomes
 241 assessment." We are working very hard to have Hunter's performance be in line with the MSCHE
 242 needs.
 243

244 I thank you ahead of time for your cooperation in this effort. You will be hearing more from us
 245 soon.
 246

247 **RE: Middle States**

248 Professor Phil Alcabes, Co-Chair of the Middle States Steering Committee, presented the following
 249 Timetable for Middle States Re-accreditation Initiative - Oct 08 through April 09
 250

- 251 • In mid-October, the co-chairs will hand over a draft report on self study to the steering committee.
 252 The committee will suggest revisions.
 253
- 254 • Also in mid-October, the co-chairs will send the draft report to President Raab and to a consultant
 255 who is a former Middle States official with whom we have already contracted. The consultant will
 256 read and make recommendations to the steering committee. Both the President and the consultant
 257 will be asked to return recommendations for urgent changes to the steering committee by the end of
 258 October; other suggestions can arrive later.
 259
- 260 • At the beginning of November, the steering committee will submit a revised draft report to the
 261 college community and President Raab.
 262
- 263 • On November 6th, the co-chairs will send the revised draft report to the evaluation team chair,
 264 President Earl Richardson of Morgan State University.
 265
- 266 • Between Nov. 3rd and 19th, one or more open forums will be conducted, at which members of the
 267 college community can comment on the self-study report.
 268
- 269 • On November 20th, President Richardson will spend the day at Hunter College. The steering
 270 committee has asked President Raab to meet with him. He will also meet with a representative of
 271 the CUNY Board of Trustees and, of course, the steering committee.
 272
- 273 • From late November through mid January, the steering committee will continue to solicit
 274 comments from constituencies throughout the college, and will revise the self-study report.
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- 276 • Through December and January, based on Pres. Richardson's comments and the comments of
 277 constituencies around the college, the steering committee will draft a further revision to the report.
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- 279 • In late January, the committee will send the new version of the report to the consulting for editing
 280 and polishing.
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- In late February the consultant will return an edited version of the report to the steering committee. It will be circulated around the college community.

- In the first week of March, a final version of the report will be submitted to MSCHE, with copies to the President and Board of Trustees.
- By mid April the steering committee will have prepared the Chanin Room to serve as a resource room for the evaluation team.
- April 26-29, the evaluation team visits Hunter College.

It was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Alcabes,
Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

Faculty:

Africana&PR/Latino Studies	Pedro Lopez-Adorno (A)
Art	Reiner Leist (A) Paul Ramirez
Chemistry	Pamela Mills Dixie Goss (A)
Computer Science	Ioannis Stamos (A) Virginia Teller
Curriculum & Teaching	Ann Ebe (A) Sema Brainin
Economics	Howard Chernick Jonathan Conning (A)
Educational Foundation	Peggy Chen (A)
Film & Media Studies	Michael Gitlin Tim Portlock (A)
Geography	Haydee Salmun (A) "E"
German	Annette Kym "E"
Health Sciences	Mimi Fahs (A)
Mathematics & Statistics	Makram Talih (A)
Nursing	Judith Aponte Donald Smith "E"
Philosophy	Frank Kirkland (A)
Physics & Astronomy	Marilyn Rothschild "E" Noel Goddard (A)
Political Science	Joan Tronto
Psychology	Tracy Dennis
SEEK	Maria Rodriguez Patricia Martin (A)
School of Social Work	George Paterson Lorraine Tempel
Sociology	Claus Mueller (A)

Lecturers and

Part-Time Faculty

Barbara Sproul (Religion)
Constantin Radis (Sociology)
Carmela Scala (Romance Lang)
Aubrey Ewaroo
Jeffrey Mongrain (Art)

Administration

Acting Dean Ken Olden (E)

Ex-Officio

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

Students

Jiayun Zhong
Karen Busani-Halevi
Binu Abraham (Classics, THH)
Kristine Jagdeo (Sociology)
Maria Arettines "E"
Ana Martigny (Geography)
Diana Rojas (Romance Lang)
Tithi Ghosh (Math)
Jean-Kenson Dorlouis (Biochem)
Tonia Tiewul (THH)
Dulguun Maidar (Poli Sci)
David Wexler (Poli Sci)
Meryam Bukhari (undeclared)
Jenny Alcaide
Julia Estevez (Art)
Tamon Charles (Biochem)
Francesca Manieri (SEEK)
Natalia Urrea (grad.-Romance Lang)
Ian Christner (Grad. Sociology)
Miguel Suero (Grad.-Theatre)
Jakub Walko (Econom)
Sera Yesides (Econom/Poli Sci)
Nia Snith (Media)