

**Meeting of the Faculty Delegate Assembly
Minutes of September 17, 2003**

The meeting was called to order at 1:20PM by Prof. Kuhn-Osius.

Prof. Kuhn-Osius introduced the members of the executive committee of FDA.

The minutes of FDA meeting of May 21, 2003 were reviewed and, with the omission of one line from the Academic Update, approved unanimously.

Election of Treasurer and Secretary of the FDA took place. Names of Professors Cynthia Degazon and Namby Krishnamachari were proposed and elected to the posts of Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

Prof. Patricia Woodard read executive Committee report for Sep 3, 2003.

Academic Update: Provost Pizer

Forty-nine new faculty members (excluding substitute lines) have been hired for the academic year 2003.

Hunter College's ranking in *The US News and World Report* is currently 66. This is the highest rank in the last five years. We are in the middle of Tier II. Last year Hunter's rank was 87. While Hunter ranks higher in peer evaluations than any other college in Tiers II, III, or IV, the high weight given to issues of retention and graduation in the ranking makes it hard for us to compete with small, residential colleges.

A proposal has been drafted for Outcome Assessment task force. This will be adopted and parts to be implemented. Outcomes Assessment is routinely done in the Schools of Nursing, Education, and Social Work. There has been Outcomes Assessment in Student Services, the Block program, and GER advising. The School of Arts and Sciences needs to work hardest in this area.

Middle States wants a periodic review report; the last one was issued in 1997 after the Self Study. We have to respond to this request for the report and address issues raised there. Individual committees will be set up soon and asked to work on certain aspects of the document. This document is due early June; it is hoped that the first version will be ready in January for review and comment. Four main parts of the document will be: i executive summary, ii description of Hunter College and changes in recent years, iii issues from the Middle States report, and iv Outcome Assessment, finances, etc. The report is to be about 120-150 pages plus appendices (catalogues, brochures, internal reports etc.). The next full Self Study will be in four years.

The Senate adopted a modified version of General Education Requirement. It liberalized “Stage 3 – Focused Exposure”. Writing-intensive and Stage 3 requirements have now been separated. “Focused Exposure” courses need not all be writing intensive. There were practical problems with implementing this combination in most departments and students need more writing practice earlier in their careers to help them pass the CPE examination. A task force on advising will be set up and will be responsible for dissemination of accurate information to students. All departments need to look at their texts in the College Bulletin and will be asked to comment on their texts, clarify prerequisites etc. The Provost thinks this issue is tied to retention and graduation rate and hopes that a certain standardization with respect to the type of information offered in the catalogue is desirable.

Invited presentation and discussion: Eija Ayraavainen – Acting Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students.

There has been one hire this year in Student Services -- Director of Advising Linda Carlson.

Regarding Academic Integrity issues, 80 cases have been reported to Dean Escott in the last academic year.

All the rooms in the dormitory are used very well. 612 students are in the dormitory.

Advising task force. A Committee on college-wide advising has recommended the formation of permanent Committee on advising.

New Business

There was a brief discussion about obtaining the text of the latest contract and about the food services at Hunter and Brookdale campuses.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20PM

Respectfully submitted,

Namby Krishnamachari
Secretary.