

**Minutes of the Meeting
of the Faculty Delegate Assembly
Wednesday, September 21, 2005**

The semester's first meeting was called to order at 1:25 by Pres. Jason Young, who introduced modifications to the format traditionally followed by the FDA, including a segment billed as "Shameless Promotions" (announcements of interest to the entire faculty).

The meeting agenda was approved, as were the minutes of the May, 2005 meeting. In an effort to further streamline the proceedings, the report on the most recent FDA Executive Committee meeting had already been distributed electronically to delegates.

Provost Richard Pizer delivered his last Academic Update, as he leaves Hunter to assume new responsibilities at the CUNY Graduate Center, where he will assist its new President, William P. Kelly. Dr. Pizer enumerated an impressive list of institutional accomplishments achieved during the past three years:

- **Hiring:** 150 new faculty were hired during that period, bringing to a close a number of years of relatively little hiring.. The ranks of untenured junior faculty have greatly expanded.
- **Faculty productivity:** The latest annual report to the University Chancellor, outlining each college's goals and plans, included a "Faculty Scholarship Report." Full participation was not achieved, due to short time frame in which information was solicited but roughly 500 participated. Of the 206 full professors reporting on their grant activity, 178 had grants on which they were the PI, for total of \$25 million in funding. According to the Provost, this indicates that the college is promoting and tenuring the right people. Journal editorships are held by 31 full professors, 8 associates, and 4 assistants.
- **Graduate student enrollment:** Goal is to have 25% of student body be grad students (slightly more than 5,000 students). Increase in graduation application fees, as well as higher tuition for graduate courses could have had a negative impact on enrollment, but Hunter expects to come very close to the goal. Anne Priscoe should be given credit for her work on this.
- **Outcomes assessment:** We have not moved as quickly as we would have liked, due to personnel changes and other factors. The professional schools have made more rapid progress. There has been a significant change in personnel addressing this issue. Maria Cantarella, Associate Dean of Arts & Sciences, and David Potash, of the Provost's Office, will be the point people in this discussion. At any rate, chairs of each department were polled about assessment activities in which they would like to engage. Some 50% of the departments participated. Two important issues remain to be addressed: GER requirements and writing-intensive courses.
- **DegreeWorks and TIPS:** Progress continues on DegreeWorks, which evaluates transcripts online. It must be programmed with all academic requirements (departmental and college-wide). The program is currently authenticating Hunter's catalog (making sure it contains no inconsistencies). The next step is answering question that emerged from authentication process. Credit should be given to Peggy Tirshwell and Peggy Beveridge for implementing DegreeWorks. The most current estimate is that we're on schedule for a December, 6, 2005

rollout. These are really important developments, which will lead to substantial improvement in advisement for Hunter's undergraduates. It will greatly facilitate the work of counselors and faculty advisers.

- **New degree programs:** Hunter's commitment to the health professions is greater than that of any other campus in CUNY. This has been an extremely productive time in terms of new degree programs planned and proposed. The Graduate Center has approved an unprecedented number of new degree programs. These new degrees, including several doctorates, are based at the Health Professions School, and congratulations are due to Dean Laurie Sherwen and her faculty. The degrees include 1) a doctorate in clinical audiology (the first class was admitted this fall); 2) a doctorate of physical therapy (awaiting New York State approval); 3) a doctorate of nursing science (proposal completed and awaiting CUNY Graduate Center approval); and 4) a doctorate of public health, which is a collaborative effort among Hunter, Brooklyn and Lehman (at the "letter of intent" stage).
- **Personnel changes in the Provost's office:** Prof. Vita Rabinowitz, Chair of the Psychology Department, will serve as Acting Provost. David Potash, new Associate Provost, has joined Hunter from Baruch. Peggy Tirshwell is now Acting Associate Provost.

The Provost responded to questions from faculty. To a question concerning an apparent lack of new initiatives in undergraduate education, Dr. Pizer responded that initiatives in new programs come from the faculty, not from the Provost's Office, and cited several additional new programs: the MSMPA, bioinformatics, a certificate in Nursing Ed, degree in women's studies. Initiative in new programs comes from faculty, not from Provost's Office. To a question concerning apparent escalation in minimal degree requirements in several health-related fields, Provost Pizer stated that this is driven by changes instituted on the part of accrediting and licensing organizations (in audiology and physical therapy, specifically).

Provost Pizer expressed his thanks to Prof. Jason Young and the Faculty Delegate Assembly for the successful collaboration he has enjoyed during his tenure at Hunter. Prof. Charles Guzzetta (School of Social Work) expressed gratitude on behalf of the faculty for the "competence, dignity, commitment" brought to the Provost's Office by Dr. Pizer.

Prof. Vita Rabinowitz, who is to assume the title of Acting Provost, addressed the Faculty, thanking Provost Pizer for serving with "distinction and integrity." Prof. Rabinowitz expects to address faculty development issues, in the service of scholarship and research, as well as teaching concerns and service commitments. Outcomes Assessment looms large this year and the Provost's office will be examining how to implement it in ways that make sense for HC. Prof. Rabinowitz stated that, "The concerns of the faculty are the concerns of the Provost."

Prof. Joan Tronto, Chair of the Hunter College Senate, observed that Outcomes Assessment that Senate has been made part of the new GER. A Senate Committee, chaired by Prof. Sandi Clarkson, has been formed to address the issue. Outcomes Assessment has to be a faculty concern, if it is going to work. A serious, concerted effort, undertaken by the entire college, will be required for fair assessment.

Prof. Lynn McCormick, Urban Affairs and Planning, was nominated and elected to the office of Vice President of FDA. Since the FDA Executive Committee still has two openings, Secretary Patricia Woodard “shamelessly promoted” service on the body. President Jason Young explained FDA’s purpose: while students and administrators may come and go, faculty usually stay. FDA exists to identify and pursue faculty interests. Two of our primary goals for this academic year are 1) to help faculty get the resources they need; and 2) to focus on faculty development issues. FDA Executive Committee positions that are open are Evening Session representative and Part-time Faculty representative. Currently the social sciences are well represented on the Executive Committee. Expanded representation of the sciences, as well as arts and humanities would be desirable. Further information items:

- Minutes of FDA Executive Committee meetings will no longer be read aloud. They will be sent via e-mail, so that they may be reviewed by delegates prior to full FDA meetings.
- The most recent issue of the “Faculty Voice” is being assembled, and will contain among other information, a list of all new faculty, along with promotions and tenure announcements. Contributions are solicited via e-mail (fda@hunter.cuny.edu).
- Each month’s FDA meeting will have a targeted discussion. Today we focus on new faculty and their research interests. We hope to mitigate the isolation many faculty feel in their departments and schools. Next month’s meeting will focus on Hunter’s students. Representatives of student government, along with administrators who are responsible for their well-being, will be invited to address delegates.
- The Executive Committee meets monthly with President Raab. Please suggest questions that you would like to have addressed, or issues that you wish to have raised. We will communicate those concerns to the President. Minutes of these meetings are being taken, and they will be distributed via the FDA Delegates’ listserv. If you have suggestions concerning the next meeting between the Executive Committee and the President, it is scheduled for Oct. 5th.
- FDA hopes to leverage the resources of other offices on campus and to team with other organizations to address faculty development issues.
- A faculty survey will be undertaken this year. While the University Faculty Senate took during the spring ’05 semester (claiming a 40% response rate), we feel that one is needed which specifically targets Hunter faculty concerns and issues. We want to reach faculty members whose voices usually are not heard. Next Wednesday (Sept. 29th) there will be a meeting in room E1413 to discuss the survey. We are currently considering a series of short surveys targeting different areas of the college, but a final decision will be made next Wed. All are invited to participate both in the meeting and in the survey itself. Matters that have been suggested for inclusion are: the physical plant, the importance of faculty governance, student services (retention, blocks, ORSEM, advisement), decision-making authority (academic decisions made by student services and the friction caused), SEEK (ORSEM, block programming, immersion programs), faculty perceptions of libraries (serving faculty/student needs?), how faculty felt as new faculty (their perceptions, increasing/decreasing administrative support for new faculty), quality of life (space, cleanliness, computers and printing, photocopying), and bridging the distance between schools.

- Informal FDA socials will be held periodically in the Faculty Lounge. These are intended as mixers across schools, as one of the goals of the year for the FDA is to promote interaction among faculty from different campuses, schools and departments. Short programs may eventually be part of socials.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to introductions of new faculty and old, including brief presentations of their research interests. The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Woodard
Secretary