Minutes of the Hunter College Faculty Delegate Assembly February 16, 2011

Tony Doyle called the meeting to order and reported that there were no Minutes from last meeting to approve. Secretary applicated but did not offer any reasonable explanation for her failure to perform this minimal obligation.

Tony Doyle gave a brief rundown of future meeting agendas: next month panel on grants, in April President Raab and Provost Rabinowitz. Social will be March 24th from 4.30-7 in Faculty and Staff Lounge 68th Street campus.

We were joined by University Faculty Senate President Sandi Cooper. President Cooper, a historian, returns to this position after serving once before so personally and professioionally she has a historical perspective on the what is happening at the City University that should be of interest to the faculty, in particular those of us at the Senior Colleges. The report she gave was grim. The Chancellor's efforts to create what is being called a seam-less university will have harsh repercussions on the campuses as anything resembling a core curriculum will increasingly be chipped away in favor of easy breezy transfer of all sorts. The plan on the table now is for core courses but there is agreement all around that it is only a matter of time until this spread. (The Provost showed her psychology roots as she expressed concern that big majors would be next.)

The good news that Professor Cooper offered is that we have been around this block before and efforts were not successful. The powers that be claim that new technology will allow this to happen but that remains to be seen. As Professor Johnson pointed out, chairs and departments still have to sign off on courses. Very disturbing within all this is the clear split between faculty at Community Colleges and Senior Colleges and that the division is a nasty one. Professor Cooper emphasized Senior College Faculty need to get vocal and get the Chancellor's ear which the Community Faculty already has.

Presentation by Professor Stapleford of Strategic Plan was postponed because of this discussion. Lots of concern around the table and recognition that this could mean disturbing changes. What will this mean for a Hunter curriculum - and indeed degree - if this starts?

Respectfully submitted,

Bernadette McCauley