

Minutes for the General Meeting of the Faculty Delegate Assembly  
March 21, 2012  
1:10-3:00 PM  
Room 1203HE

1. FDA Vice President Tony Doyle, substituting for President Bernadette McCauley, called the meeting to order at 1:18.
2. He announced that the approval of the minutes of November 16, 2011, would be postponed until the April 18 meeting.
3. Prof. Doyle then gave the Executive Committee Report. His report included the following:
  - a. Social at Social Work/HPL, March 6
  - b. Social at Faculty Lounge, March 14. Hanan Ohayon's photos went on display there on that day and will remain up until next month. Also, the FDA is looking to stage exhibitions next year. He urged those present to let their colleagues know. Anyone interested in exhibiting should let the FDA know at [fda@hunter.cuny.edu](mailto:fda@hunter.cuny.edu).
  - c. Coffee is now available in the Faculty Lounge, compliments of the FDA.
  - d. Dean Erec Koch of A&S has been invited speak at the April 18 FDA meeting.

4. Forum on Pathways: Professors Pam Mills (Chemistry) and Frank Kirkland (Philosophy)

Prof. Mills, who is Chair of Hunter Senate subcommittee on General Education and also serves on the UFS Gen Ed Committee, spoke first. She went around the room and asked people what their concerns were regarding Pathways.

She announced that her mission was to preserve the Hunter gen ed requirements (GER) in the light of Pathways. Her Senate committee is redesigning the GER to fit Pathways. The changes to Hunter's GER will be minimal. She then laid out Hunter's GER. There are two components: (1) core requirements and (2) graduation requirements. The required core is 12 credits. The Gen Ed Committee only gets to say what goes in a given "bucket," not what the core itself is.

Core: Engl 120, Engl 220 (likely), Math (3 creds), Physical Sci (3 creds)

Flexible core (18 credits, 5 buckets): world culture (3 creds), US experience in its diversity (3 creds), creative expression (3 creds), individual and society (humanities and social sciences; 3 creds), and scientific world (3 creds)

Prof. Mills then spoke at length about the Hunter Common Core.

Next she raised concerns:

1. Governance: In attempting to implement Pathways CUNY has circumvented normal governance, despite its claims to the contrary. However, Hunter faculty ran the risk of losing governance if they hadn't responded to Pathways.

2. Foreign language will see some reduction

3. Although Pathways will be easier for students to understand than the current arrangement, CUNY has exaggerated the extent of the transfer problem, which is much less of a problem than it was 10 years ago. Also, there's no evidence that there is any real difference in performance between Hunter "natives" and transfers, at least in Hunter's Chemistry Department.

She wanted her audience to appreciate that she is still opposed to Pathways, since it has taken away Hunter's graduation requirements from Hunter faculty. This is a "huge loss."

Professors Mills and Kirkland responded to faculty questions.

5. Update on the University Faculty Senate: Professor Sandi Cooper, Chair, UFS

Prof. Cooper responded to a Pathways-related grievance coming from CUNY Central, namely, that senior colleges disrespect community college transfers. She responded that two thirds of community college students need remediation. At the community colleges these students pass into regular classes after only one semester, which is often before they're ready. It would be a "leap of faith" to assume that all of these students are ready for study at a four year school. The CC students are not as well prepared after two years as are natives at the senior colleges are after two years.

Prof. Tami Gold of Film and Media circulated anti-Pathways petitions. Prof. Cooper urged those present to sign.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:58.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Doyle  
FDA Vice President