

THE FACULTY VOICE

Newsletter for Hunter College

Vol. II, Number 9, New Series, June 18, 1990

We wish to express our sympathy to Dean Rafael Ferrer for the loss of his wife, Graciella Ferrer, who died on Wednesday, June 13, after many years of suffering from Lupus. Funeral services were held Monday, June 18, 1990 in Chappaqua, N.Y.

New Full-Time Appointments

Curriculum & Teaching: **D. Fernandez, I. Kanis, A. Parrino.**
Art: **W. Agee, A. Blum, J. Carreiro, J. Sanchez T. Weaver.**
Classical & Oriental Studies: **R. Koehl.**
Religion: **R. Forman.**
Romance Languages: **M. Paynter**
School of Nursing: **S. Baumann, M. Dacenay**
Biological Sciences: **M. Filbin, R. Persell**
Geology & Geography: **S. Ahearn**
Anthropology: **J. Friedlander** (new Dean of Division)
Economics: **S. Craig, J. Kohlase.**
Psychology: **J. Young.**
Sociology: **M. Gottdiener.**
Urban Affairs & Planning: **S. Shipp.**
School of Social Work: **J. Ivry, A. Paulino.**
Library: **A. Gunn** (new Chief Librarian).

Thirteen substitute appointments have been made:

Academic Skills : **B. Bronie, R. Ross.**
Educational Foundations: **S. Lee.**
Theatre & Film: **S. Nelson.**
School of Health Sciences: **J. Baumstein.**
Economics: **H. Bramble-Bryant, T. O'Reilly**
History: **M. Boes.**
Political Science: **C. Natale.**
Sociology: **M. Curry.**
School of Social Work: **G. Rosenbaum.**
Biological Sciences: **M. Abarno**
Physics and Astronomy: **K. Adamic**

B. Jansson will be Visiting Moses Professor in the School of Social Work.

Office of Ombudsman

During the turmoil of the late 60's it became clear that faculty, staff, and students needed a mentor non-aligned with faculty, administration, or the PSC, a person who could advise individuals regarding work related difficulties. In 1971, in the same document that established the Senate, the Office of Ombudsman was created. Professor **Louis J. Massa** (Chemistry) served as the first Ombudsman, then Professor **Charles Sherover** (Philosophy) and Professor **Sam Korn** (Psychology). Professor **Alfred Bennick** (Physics and Astronomy) is now serving his second term.

The Ombudsman reports that usually 85% of the counseling and investigative work in a year concerns students and the remaining 15% concerns faculty and staff members. In the wide range of problems brought by students, most involve occasions in which oral statements contradict written regulations. The Ombudsman reports that often if the regulations were carried out literally, justice would not be fulfilled. Then the Ombudsman can be particularly effective in working out a solution satisfactory to both the student and the Administrative Offices. Student complaints often concern grades, for which Hunter has a well established grade appeals process. After the Ombudsman counsels the student, he or she proceeds to lodge the grade appeal with the Department involved.

Occasionally there are complaints regarding faculty members' abuse of power when students feel that have not received a full course's value, if their teacher came late to class regularly, missed conference hours and/or class hours, or seemed to have a hostile or discriminatory attitude toward individuals in a class. The Ombudsman investigates these circumstances and communicates with the faculty member, often discovering that the alleged offenses were quite unintentional. When these complaints concern a senior faculty member who is unresponsive, the Ombudsman's task is difficult, indeed.

Staff complaints usually concern differences with supervisors. The Ombudsman is able to speak in confidentiality with the staff or faculty member, discussing possible options and strategies to deal with the difficulties. The Ombudsman acts to refer individuals to the Professional Staff Congress when he perceives that a grievance procedure should be considered.

Faculty complaints often involve questions regarding clarification of college rules, election procedures appropriate in department meetings, and questions regarding the grading system. In one case this year the Ombudsman was called upon to act as mediator between a faculty member and a Department Chairperson. In all cases, concerning faculty, staff, or students, the Ombudsman sees his task as one of negotiation, respecting confidentiality and using knowledge of the Hunter College Community and its networks to help individuals cope constructively with a complicated bureaucracy.

Special Counsel to the President Appointed
Linda T. Chin will assume the position of Legal Counsel to the President on Monday, June 18, 1990. She is an attorney with the Corporate Law Department of Consolidated Edison Company of New York. She has served as Counsel to the New York State Judicial Commission on Minorities.

Sexual Harassment Panel

The Panel on Sexual Harassment has submitted its annual report to President LeClerc for the academic year 1989-90. The panel has three main functions: research on academic sexual harassment; education and training in sex equity; and the investigation of informal and formal complaints of sexual harassment.

Three grants totaling \$6,431 were received by the research collective associated with the panel (directed by Professors Paludi and DeFour); three undergraduate and three graduate students received training in research this year. A book on sexual harassment on campus, Ivory Power, edited by Michele Paludi, with contributions from a number of panel members, is scheduled for publication by SUNY Press in Dec. 1990. A resource manual written by Professors Paludi and Barickman, the coordinators of the Panel, is also in press with SUNY. In addition, four articles on sexual harassment by panel members appeared in scholarly journals this year.

Panel members have conducted workshops at a number of colleges including NYU, Sienna, William Paterson, and Gerrysburg and have made presentations at 11 conferences, including the annual meeting of the American Psychological Associations and the Associates for Affirmative Action, and the International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women, held at Hunter this June. An article on the Panel's work appeared in the Chronicle of Higher Education last fall.

End of Part I.

Note re: Nota Bene

To publish announcements in **Nota Bene**, send materials to Maria Teronne, Room 1212E, x4068. Next publication is planned for September 1990.

Wendell Stacy Johnson

On Saturday, June 16, 1990 Wendell Stacy Johnson died at Southampton Hospital, Long Island, N.Y. A Victorian Scholar of international reputation, Professor Johnson has taught at Hunter since 1962, published eleven books and many articles in the field of Victorian Scholarship. Winner of Hunter's Presidential award for Excellence in Scholarship in 1984, **Wendell Stacy Johnson** was regarded with deep affection and respect as teacher, scholar, colleague, and friend. His funeral will be held Wed. June 20th at 11am in Saint John's Church on Main Street in Southampton, N.Y.

HUNTER EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Forty-four Hunter College students will participate in the National Student Exchange (NSE) Program during Hunter's first year as a member of the NSE (1990-91). Eighty-seven public colleges and universities from across the U.S. currently participate in the NSE, a consortium which enables students to study for a semester or a year at a member campus of their choice while still paying tuition at the home college. Hunter students will attend 25 schools across the US in this first year.

The NSE is an outgrowth of the Junior Year in N.Y. Program (JYNY), in which visiting students in the humanities, arts, and social science came to study at Hunter for their junior year. Through the NSE, Hunter now offers its own students the opportunity to explore a new environment while continuing their studies. (While applicants from schools not participating in the NSE can still be accepted as visiting students under the JYNY Program, the JYNY is no longer being actively promoted.)

Applications for exchange during the academic year 1991-1992 are available in Hunter's NSE Office. For information about the exchange, contact: Lucy Holland, Janet Hulstrand, Robert Landsman, NSE Program, 1432 Hunter West, 772-5004.

THE FACULTY VOICE is sponsored by the Office of the General Faculty and the Faculty Delegate Assembly. Executive Committee Members: Nancy Dean, Pres.; Frank Kirkland, Vice-Pres.; Milagros Garcia, Treas.; Marnia Lazreg, Secretary; Joan Tronto, Day Session Representative; Jane Matthews, Evening Session Representative; Cecile Insdorf, Part-Time Faculty Representative. This newsletter was prepared on QUARK Xpress in the Faculty laboratory of the Academic Computing Services with the help of Andrew Blaner, Microcomputer Specialist.