

MINUTES

Meeting of the Hunter College Senate

1 May 2024

- 1 The 690th meeting of the Hunter College Senate convened at 3:59 PM in HW 714.
2
- 3 **Presiding:** Sarah Chinn, Chair
4
- 5 **Attendance:** The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those marked absent in Appendix I.
6
7 Alternate Senators were formally seated in accordance with the procedures approved by the Senate for in-
8 person meetings, and they were enabled to vote using iClicker.
9
- 10 **Chair**
- 11 **Announcement:** Chair Chinn informed the body that the Senate office is accepting nominations for the Ad Hoc Committee
12 to Foster Dialogue about the Israel-Palestine Conflict and for the Senate Administrative Committee. The
13 elections will take place at the next Senate meeting. The Senate Chair also announced that the meeting on
14 8 May is cancelled.
15
- 16 **Agenda:** The agenda was adopted with the provision that Old Business be moved to after the SPARC update.
17
18
- 19 **Report by**
20 **the President:** Chair Chinn invited Interim President Ann Kirschner to report.
21 Interim President Kirschner said the following:
22
23 “The briefest of the reports today is in keeping with our speedy, abbreviated meeting. The first item is to
24 welcome you back from Spring break.
25
26 “The second is to say that we have created a study area in the West lobby where, in addition to tables and
27 chairs, there will be power strips. We are hoping that students will use the lobby as a space to study for
28 finals. We are also looking at creating additional seating in other areas. I have to say that since the minute
29 I started here, I have been daydreaming about what the bridges would look like if they were lined with
30 benches. If you look at the “From the Bridge” newsletter that you got this morning, you will see some
31 renderings of what that might look like.
32
33 “Lastly, we are moving towards commencement. Our Honorary Degrees will be approved by the CUNY
34 Board of Trustees. We have some fabulous people who will be attending commencement. I just came
35 from a meeting with the CEO of Deloitte and attended by students. I was reminded, all over again, how
36 interesting, talented, and articulate, our students are. They were absolutely fabulous and really impressed
37 the people from Deloitte. Welcome back everybody, and I look forward to talking to you.”
38
- 39 **Update on**
40 **SPARC:** Chair Chinn invited Interim Provost Manoj Pardasani to provide an update on the SPARC.
41 Interim Provost Pardasani said the following:
42
43 “There is not much of an update other than to say that the teams are working incredibly hard to make sure
44 that the swing space for the School of Nursing, Speech-Language Pathology, Physical Therapy and
45 Medical Lab Sciences will proceed according to the timelines that have been established. So, nobody is
46 moving until next summer, but we are still working on making sure that everybody has the space they
47 need, and it is oriented and developed in the way they need to run the program smoothly. We will have
48 more updates as they come up.”
49
- 50 **Old Business: The Governance Committee**
51 On behalf of the Governance Committee, Chair Chinn presented the revised “Guidelines for By-laws for
52 Non-Departmental Academic Units”. The Guidelines are available on the Senate website.

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57 The Guidelines were approved by unanimous consent.
58

59
60 Report by the
61 Administrative
62 Committee:

63 a) Approved Curriculum Changes

64 The following curriculum changes as listed in the attached reports Part I dated 1 May 2024 have
65 been approved as per Senate resolution and are submitted for the Senate’s information. Items:
66 UR-2689 Film & Media (Routine change in courses), UR-2691 German (Routine change in
67 course), and UR-2693 Political Science (Routine change in courses).
68

69 Task Force
70 on Civility &
71 Controversy

72 Chair Chinn invited Dean Andrew Polsky (School of Arts & Sciences), Chair of the Presidential Task
73 Force on Civility and Controversy, to present an update on the Task Force’s work.
74

75 Dean Polsky said the following:

76 “Good afternoon, I am Andy Polsky. I am the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, and I am the Chair
77 of the Search Committee for the Dean of Education, but today I am here in my capacity as the Chair of
78 the Task Force on Civility and Controversy. We have other members here today, as well. Sandi Clarkson
79 and John Rose who serve on the Task Force are here.
80

81 “We have been having a series of meetings, and I am going to read to you a short introduction that we
82 begin all of our listening sessions with. “In the wake of the October 7th Hamas attack and the ongoing
83 Israeli assault on Gaza, Hunter College like many colleges and universities has found itself tense and
84 divided. We have found it difficult to have civil conversations about the issues. Many students, faculty,
85 and staff feel themselves to be under threat. Some hesitate to express their opinions in or outside of the
86 classroom, and some are afraid even to be present on our campus. At the same time, Hunter College as
87 the institution of higher learning has an educational responsibility to explore complicated issues and
88 encourage students to think critically about their world and their own assumptions. We have not been able
89 to do so this year.
90

91 “Interim President Kirchner has commissioned a task force to examine what this year has revealed about
92 our struggle to address conflict constructively, and it is an incoming President Nancy Cantor in working
93 to create a climate and authority and hopefully discussion. The members of the Task Force see our work
94 unfolding in two phases. In the first phase, which we are in midst of now, we want to listen to members
95 of the community, students, faculty, and staff of all backgrounds and viewpoints to hear their thoughts on
96 what has happened this year, and their suggestions on how we might proceed in the future, including how
97 we might deal with divisions that have emerged within our community. This will take some time, but we
98 are nearing the end of this phase of the process.
99

100 “In the second phase, the Task Force hopes to incorporate these perspectives into a set of
101 recommendations about a process to develop steps to promote community, repair wounds, and lay a
102 foundation for how to better deal with controversy in the future. We expect to focus on a project that will
103 include representation of all segments of our campus community that will continue next year under the
104 new President leadership rather than on conclusive immediate actions.”
105

106 “Now, we would like to hear your thoughts. I will just mention briefly that other groups we have talked
107 to include the Undergraduate Student Government, the FDA, and various groups of faculty of different
108 perspectives. We thank them for taking the time to speak to us. Some of the meetings will continue over
109 the next couple of weeks. So, as I say, we are here to listen and to hear anything you have to say to us
110 about what has happened this year and suggestions you might have about the future.”
111
112

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117 **New Business:** There was a motion from the floor to propose a Resolution to Urge the Hunter College Administration to
118 take a legal action against unauthorized use of Hunter’s logo, photos, and intellectual property. It was
119 seconded.

121 Resolved, that the Hunter College Senate urge the CUNY and Hunter College Administrations to
122 investigate, report, and take legal action against defamatory use of Hunter and CUNY’s logos, photos,
123 and intellectual property, and report to the Senate at its May 15 meeting.

125 Discussion and debate followed.

127 There was a motion to amend as follows:

128 Resolved, that the Hunter College Senate urge the CUNY and Hunter College Administrations to
129 investigate, report, and take legal action against defamatory use of Hunter and CUNY’s logos, photos,
130 and intellectual property, ~~and report to the Senate at its May 15 meeting.~~

133 **Also, be it resolved, that the Hunter College Senate receive regular reports starting at the May 15**
134 **meeting.**

136 It was seconded.

138 There was an amendment to the above amendment as follows:

140 Also, be it resolved, that the Hunter College Senate receive ~~regular~~ reports starting ~~beginning~~ at the May
141 15 meeting **and on an ongoing basis or as requested by the Senate.**

143 The amendment to the proposed amendment carried by unanimous consent.

145 There was a motion to adopt the original amendment. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

148 There was motion to count the quorum.

150 iClicker produced the following results: 52 Senators present.

152 Voting by iClicker to adopt the Resolution carried by unanimous consent.

157 The meeting was adjourned at 5:02PM.

160 Respectfully submitted,

163 Sarah Jeninsky
164 Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following attendance was noted from the meeting

(A) =Alternate, A=Attended, X=Absent, E=Excused

Faculty					
AFPRL	Anthony Browne	A	Mathematics & Statistics	Sandra Clarkson	A
	Milagros Denis-Rosario	(A) X			0
	Lázaro Lima	(A) A			
Anthropology	Jackie Brown	A		Robert Thompson	(A) A
	Stephanie Levy	(A) X	Medical Laboratory Sciences	Barry Cherkas	(A) A
	Milena Shattuck	(A) A		Chad Euler	X
		Steven Einheber		(A) X	
Art & Art History	Itam Uchenna	A		Muktar Mahajan	(A) X
	Dave McKenzie	X	Music	Michele Cabrini	E
	Chitra Ganesh	(A) X		L. Poundie Burstein	(A) X
Emily Braun	(A) X			(A) X	
Biological Sciences	Ben Ortiz	A	School of Nursing	William Samuels	A
	Jesus Angulo	A			0
	Paul Feinstein	(A) X			Stephen Yermal
Chemistry	Carmen Melendez	(A) X		Deidre O'Flaherty	(A) X
	Gabriela Smeureanu	A	Philosophy	Laura Keating	A
	Nancy Greenbaum	(A) X		Daniel Harris	(A) X
Brian Zeglis	(A) X	Omar Dahbour		(A) A	
Classical & Oriental Studies	Nadya Kobko-Litskevitch	X	Physics & Astronomy	Kelle Cruz	A
	Yasha Klots	A		Yuhang Ren	(A) X
	Frederick Rogals	(A) A		Ying-Chih Chen	(A) X
Computer Science	Doron Friedman	(A) X	Political Science	Lina Newton	A
	Justin Tojeira	X		Charles Tien	(A) X
	Raj Korpan	(A) A		Michael Lee	(A) A
Curriculum & Teaching	Saptarshi Debroy	X	Psychology	Roseanne Flores	A
		0 (A)		Darlene DeFour	A
	Edgar Troudt	A		Glenn E Schafe	(A) A
Dance	Stephen Demeo	X	Physical Therapy	Peter Serrano	(A) X
	Maverick Zhang	(A) A		Jaya Rachwani	A
	Tim Farnsworth	X		Milo Lipovac	(A) X
Economics	Maura Donohue	X	Romance Languages	Chad Woodard	(A) X
	Ana Nery Fragoso	(A) X		Magdalena Perkowska	A
	David Capps	(A) X		Monica Calabritto	(A) X
Educational Foundations & Counseling Programs	Tim Goodspeed	X	School of Social Work	Julie Van Peteghem	(A) X
	Michelle Liu	A		Jonathan Prince	A
	Kenneth McLaughlin	(A) A		George Patterson	X
English	Avi Liveson	(A) X		Marina Lalayants	(A) X
	Sarah Bonner	(A) A	Sociology	Keith Chan	(A) X
	John Keegan	(A) A		Mark Halling	E
Sarah Chinn	A	Mike Benediktsson		(A) X	
Film & Media Studies	Angie Reyes	X	Special Education	Michaela Soyer	(A) X
	Mark Miller	A		Salvador Ruiz	A
	Janet Neary	(A) A		Melissa Jackson	(A) X
Geography & Environmental Sci	Larry Shore	A	SLPA	Kathryn Furlong	(A) A
	Tami Gold	(A) A		Donald Vogel	A
	Gustavo Mercado	(A) X		Nancy Eng	(A) X
German	Allan Frei	X	Theatre	JungMoon Hyun	(A) A
	William Solecki	(A) X		Louisa Thompson	X
	Sun Shipeng	(A) X			0
History	Christina Mekonen	A	Urban Policy and Planning	Claudia Orenstein	(A) A
	Elke Nicolai	(A) X		Lily Baum Pollans	A
	Aine Zimmerman	(A) A		Victoria Johnson	(A) X
Library	D'Weston Haywood	A	Nutrition and Public Health*	vacant	(A)
	Manu Bhagavan	(A) A		Susan Cardenas	X
	Aaron Welt	A		Khursheed Navder	(A) A
Women & Gender Studies	Iris Finkel	A	Women & Gender Studies	Steven Trasino	(A) X
	Ajatshatru Pathak	A		Jennifer Gaboury	A
	Mee' Len Hom	(A) A		Catherine Raissiguier	(A) X
			Rupal Oza	(A) X	

Students

Nicole Palmetto	A
Ariadna Pavlidis-Sanchez	A
Aysha Khan	X
Ronette Johnson	X
Olivia Massey	X
Lorraine Santana	X
Ermina Chowdhury	X
Nishat Raihana	A
Hridika Tasnim	A
Viet Thanh Phan	E
Veronica Witkowski	X
Ariana McNab	A
Juan Sebastian Barahona	X
Ahmed Tabbakh	X
Gabriela Covaria	X
Labiba Iqra	X
Aliyah Harrison	X
Susana Sanchez	A
Rachel Weng	X
Rosa Rivera	X
Shannon Benjamin	A
Jasmina Rustamova	A
Iman Meawad	A
Hafsa Naseer	X
Roseline Olumuyide	A
Deni Espinoza	X
Joanna Ng	X
Tyler Etienne	X
Raitah Jinnat	X
Johanna von Maack	X
Kanishka Awasthi	X
Isabella Grullon	X
Priscilla Jimenez	A
Naushin Sakirah	X
Ezra Hubbard	X

At-Large, Lecturers and Part-Time Faculty

Student Services	Burhan Siddiqui	X
	Luis Roldan	(A) X
Library	Jocelyn Berger-Barera	A
English	Donna Paparella	X
Psychology	Stefan Schlussman	X
Social Work	James Mandiberg	X
Medical Lab Science	Hongxing Li	X
Religion	Wendy Raver	A
Political Science	Rosa Squillacote	X
English	Priscilla Yamir	A
Special Education	Gina Riley	A
Registrar	Jennifer Dennington	A
THHP	Sarah Jeninsky	A
Art & Art History	Peter Dudek	X

Ex-Officio

President, USG	Bushir Juwara	A
Vice President, GSA		0
President Alumni Association	Elizabeth Wilson-Anstey	X
President, HEO Forum	Denise Lucena-Jerez	A
President, CLT Council	Amy Jeu	X

ADMINISTRATION

Senators:		
HEO/CLA Representative	Irina Ostrozhnyuk	X
Vice President for Student Affairs	Eija Ayravainen	X
Provost	Manoj Pardasani	A
Dean, School of Arts & Sciences	Andrew Polsky	A
Dean of Education	Jennifer Tuten	X
Alternate Senators (3):		
Dean of Social Work	Mary Cavanaugh	X
Assistant Vice President for Student Aff:	Joseph Fantozzi	A
Dean of Nursing	Ann Marie Mauro	X