

**Office of the Hunter College Senate**  
**MINUTES**  
**Meeting of the Hunter College Senate**  
**14 February 2001**

1 The 400th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:15 PM in Room W714.

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3 **Presiding:** Pamela Mills, Chair

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5 **Attendance:** The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.

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7 **Agenda:** The agenda was adopted as distributed.

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9 **Minutes:** The Minutes of December 13<sup>th</sup> were approved as distributed.

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11 **Report by the** A summary statement of President Gizis' report is attached as Appendix II.  
12 **President:**

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14 **Report by the** Professor Mills presented the report as follows:

15 **Administrative**  
16 **Committee:**

**Special Election to fill Vacant Senate Seats**

17 In accordance with Article IV, 2.H. i & ii of the *Charter for a Governance of Hunter College*,  
18 she presented the following nominations to fill vacant seats reserved for students:

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20 Astra Williams (Political Science)  
21 Shane McEvoy (Full-time Undergraduate)  
22 Tamiaka Byer (Full-time Undergraduate)  
23 Danelco Moxey

24  
25 It was moved that the nominations be accepted. The motion carried.

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27 **Resolution Re: No Confidence in BoT**

28 Professor Mills presented the following resolution for Senate approval:

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30 **Whereas**, the qualifications for the position of the President of Hunter College were adver-  
31 tised as requiring demonstrated experience with managing large and complex institutions,  
32 some demonstrated experience with fund raising, and/or significant experience other than at  
33 the student level of participation in an academic institution; and,

34  
35 **Whereas**, the Board of Trustees of the City University of New York voted 10-6 at its Janu-  
36 ary 29 meeting to select Ms. Jennifer Raab as President of Hunter College, the one candi-  
37 date without the above qualifications, despite the recommendations of the entire Hunter  
38 College community, its faculty, its students, and its administrators, as well as the Chancellor  
39 of the City University of New York and the Chair of the Presidential Search Committee in  
40 favor of more qualified candidates; and,

41  
42 **Whereas**, the selection of this candidate almost certainly resulted from political intimidati-  
43 on rather than substantial academic concerns (NY *Times*, Jan. 30, 2001, the Chronicle of  
44 Higher Education, Feb. 9, 2001); and,

## Minutes

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**Whereas**, the Chair of the Board of Trustees, Herman Badillo, cited as the *major qualifications* of the candidate only her education and her knowledge of the New York City political scene and stated that her leadership is necessary to deal with the "enormous problems we are going to have at Hunter College"; and,

**Whereas**, it appears that the search procedures were severely compromised and members of the committee were misled by the degree and nature of the support for Ms. Raab; therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hunter College Senate has NO CONFIDENCE in the CUNY Board of Trustees as a body and in the Chair of the Board in particular to make decisions based upon academic rather than political considerations; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Hunter College Senate expresses its outrage and despair at the contempt shown for the work and wishes of so many of the Hunter community in the selection process; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Hunter College Senate condemns the political patronage that has resulted in the appointment of an untried candidate to the Presidency of Hunter College; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Hunter College Senate applauds Chancellor Goldstein and the six Board members (Trustees Anglin, Cook, Crimmins, Marino, Morning, and Schmidt) who supported a qualified candidate endorsed by all constituencies at Hunter, and recognizes that such support requires courage and personal integrity.

Professor Sherrill moved that the motion be amended by adding the following:

Be it further resolved; that the Hunter College Senate call for the immediate enactment of strict conflict of interest laws prohibiting the appointment to the CUNY Board of Trustees of any person whose employment or financial well-being is dependent on the pleasure or good will of any of the appointing authorities, including the Mayor of New York City or the Governor of New York State and that there be serious penalties for any effort to exercise improper influence over members of the Board of Trustees; and

Be it further resolved, that the Hunter College Senate call for the enactment of legislation creating independent and nonpartisan screening panels to assure the qualifications of candidates for appointment to the Board of Trustees.

After brief discussion it was moved that Professor Sherrill's amendment be tabled. The motion to table carried by hand vote.

The main motion was on the floor.

Professor Matthews moved that the motion be amended by deleting the following words from the fifth "whereas": "and members of the committee were misled by the degree and nature of the support for Ms. Raab."

After discussion the question was called and carried. The amendment was approved by hand vote and became part of the main motion on the floor.

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Professor Matthews moved that the motion be further amended by changing the last "resolved" to read: "... Schmidt) who showed courage and personal integrity in their action."

The amendment was approved by hand vote and became part of the main motion on the floor.

Professor Gilpatrick moved that the motion be further amended by deleting the last "resolved."

After brief discussion the question was called and carried. Professor Gilpatrick's amendment was approved by hand vote.

The main motion as amended was on the floor.

It was moved that the meeting time be extended to 6:00 P.M. The motion was approved by voice vote.

After discussion it was moved that the resolution be approved as amended, and that the Administrative Committee be requested to further edit the resolution taking into account suggestions and recommendations that were made.

The question was called and carried. The motion carried by hand vote.

It was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Alan Hausman, *me*  
Secretary

**APPENDIX I**

*The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:*

**Faculty**

Anthropology	Sally McLendon Timothy Bromage	Romance Languages	Marta Bermudez "E" Alicia Ramos "E" Paolo Fasoli "E"
Art	Katy Siegel Nari Ward Gabriele Evertz "E"	SEEK	Willie Wimberly
Biological Sciences	Augustin Pita	Sociology	Sharon Sassler
Black & P. R. Studies	Veronica Gregg Juan Flores "E"	Student Services	Terry Wansart
Classical & Oriental Studies	Nadya Peterson Rivka Friedman	Urban Affairs	Lynne McCormick
Economics	Howard Chernick Michael Schleifer Avi Liveson Mark Weinstock	Administration	Vice Pres Timothy Harwood
Educational Foundations	Gess Le Blanc Jeanne Weiler	<b>Students</b>	
English	Richard Barickman Nico Israel	Barry Jacobs Gregory Newman Cornelia Jervis Cameron Kelly Verusak Cantelli Irene Neofotistos Stering Robinson "E" Deborah Van Doren Alejandro Cantagallo Gretchen Johnson Peter Lee	
Film & Media	Joel Zuker		
German	Traci O'Brien Elke Nicolai "E"		
Health Sciences	Arlene Spark Kathryn Rolland		
Library	Andrea Copeland		
Music	Brad Stoller		
Nursing	Pamela Dole		
Philosophy	Sue Weinberg		
Psychology	Sara Durand		

## APPENDIX II Report by the President

The following is a summary statement of President Gizis' report to the Senate. He said:

Good afternoon. I hope that you had a productive intercession break and that you are back into the swing of the spring 2001 semester.

I would like to take some time to talk about some new and ongoing initiatives as well as some upcoming events and activities. Before I do, I want to thank the faculty, students and staff who participated in planning and participating in the winter 2001 Commencement on January 25. I have received some very positive feedback about the ceremony. Our honorary degree recipient and guest speaker, Bel Kaufman, provided a most poignant address and I was proud to present the presidential proclamation to Professor Clayton Westermann, Director of the Hunter Symphony, and the president's medal to alumna and Professor Emerita Ethel Berl. Most importantly, I believe this year's event was a memorable one for our graduates and their families.

As you have seen from the many announcements on Hunter-I and in the display cases and t-stands, there are many exciting events planned during the next few weeks to celebrate Black History Month. I am confident that there will be wide participation from faculty, staff and students in these events, all which promote the rich diversity on our campus.

### Grants

I am pleased to announce the following five grants and fellowship initiatives:

We have received a \$105,000 NIH grant for the renovation of the animal facility. Also, thanks to the efforts of Dean Adjie Henderson, Professors Max Diem, Martin Den Boer, Robert Dottin and other faculty members, an additional grant application has been submitted to NIH for the renovation of the facility. This \$1.5 million grant requires matching funds. The University has promised \$150,000 to \$300,000 towards the match and we have requested a decrease in the required match from NIH.

Ana Celia Zentella, Black and Puerto Rican Studies, is the Co-Principal Investigator with a colleague from the Graduate Center for a \$264,000 National Science Foundation grant entitled *Interaction of Language and Dialect Contact*. Funding began in January for a 3-year period.

The National Science Foundation has also awarded Hunter a \$269,000 grant for *Scholarships in Computer Science and Math*. Professor Ada Peluso is the Principal Investigator for this grant, which begins in September 2001 for a 2-year period.

Based on preliminary information, Professor Steven Greenbaum, Physics and Astronomy, has received a \$120,000 equipment grant from the Department of Defense Office of Naval Research for *Solid State Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Studies of Battery and Fuel Cell Materials*.

Professor Linda Perkins, Educational Foundations, has received a \$35,000 fellowship from the Spencer Foundation for *The Search for Talented Negro Youth; the National Scholarship Service and the Fund for Negro Students, 1947-68*.

### **Performance Measures**

In July 2000 the College submitted performance goals and targets to the University to support the 2000-2001 goals and objectives of the University. Over the past few weeks, I have been reviewing the status of our targets with groups on campus including my senior staff, cabinet, and FP&B. I am pleased to report that to date, we have made outstanding progress in achieving our goals. I anticipate that we will receive the University's 2001-2002 goals some time in March or April. I will share them with you as soon as they are received.

### **Budget**

Thanks to our strong enrollment and maintenance of effort in faculty appointments, Hunter College has not received any budget cuts for this fiscal year. In light of the cuts received by some of our sister institutions, this is certainly good news. In addition, we have received a \$450,000 allocation out of a total \$3 million in capital funds for replacement of antiquated computer equipment and technology enhancement.

The executive budget for FY 2002 provides \$9.1 million in additional funds, and retains in CUNY's budget approximately \$20 million of cancelled legislative additions and rentals.

### **Enrollment**

Our spring enrollment remains strong. It is our expectation that enrollment will reach 19,200 as of the spring census date. This is approximately 150 higher than last spring's enrollment.

Thanks to the efforts of Admissions Director William Zlata and the Multiple Admissions Committee, we have put together a comprehensive plan to manage the University's new multiple admissions policy. An open meeting was held in January, at which time Bill Zlata outlined the plan for faculty, counselors and other staff members. We have received our Phase 1 and Phase 2 allocations of applicants from CUNY and are planning a series of recruitment events on campus. We are inviting applicants who indicated Hunter College as their first choice and applicants with an index of 301 or higher OR an SAT score of 1100 or higher who indicated Hunter as their second or third choice. These events will demonstrate to applicants and their families that Hunter College is the right choice.

There are 2,318 applicants in Phase 1, including 25 SEEK students. 1,150 applicants have indicated Hunter as a first choice, 751 applicants have indicated Hunter as a second choice and 417 applicants have indicated Hunter as a third choice. There are 3,831 applicants in Phase 2. 1,911 applicants have indicated Hunter as a first choice, 1,233 applicants have indicated Hunter as a second choice, and 687 applicants have indicated Hunter as a third choice

I am pleased that Hunter College has received 400 applications for the University Honors College – the second highest number in the University. The University originally indicated that we could offer admission to a maximum of 20 students. They have since advised us that we can offer admission to as many students who meet our criteria, as long as the average total SAT score of those offered admission is at least 1250. We are in the process of evaluating applications. Diversity and recruitment of students from high schools participating in College Now are very important considerations.

### **Prelude to Success**

Prelude to Success has been extremely successful, and I would like to thank Assistant Provost Eija Ayravainen and Ellen Roth for their tireless efforts. From the fall 2000 class: 138 students enrolled, 113 (82%) succeeded to exit remediation; 20 (14%) failed one or more test, and 5 (4%) received a W or WU. Of the 113 who completed the program, 109 have enrolled at Hunter.

### **CPE**

The results of the CPE exam are also positive. Out of 290 participants, 249 passed.

### **Construction**

Finally, I would like to provide an update on the construction projects on our campuses. The Brookdale renovation will commence this semester. The Brookdale Center on Aging will be temporarily housed in the Grace Building on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street in order to create swing space. Construction of the new heating and air conditioning plant at the 68<sup>th</sup> Street campus is moving along according to schedule.

In closing, I want to emphasize that we are a strong college with motivated, well prepared students, excellent faculty, many with a national reputation, and dedicated staff. I am confident that our facilities issues will be adequately addressed in the next 5 – 10 years with the funding of the approved master plan, beginning in the 2003-2004 fiscal year. Although we are under-funded in the operating budget, there are signs that some improvement in funding might be in sight. Thank you.

### APPENDIX III

#### NO CONFIDENCE IN CUNY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Whereas**, extreme political interference and intimidation of members of the CUNY Board of Trustees severely compromised the procedures in the search and selection of a qualified candidate for the President of Hunter College (NY Times, 30 January 2001; Chronicle of Higher Education, 9 February 2001); and,

**Whereas**, the CUNY Board of Trustees' selection of Ms. Jennifer Raab is a result of that interference and intimidation and is against the recommendation of the entire Hunter College community -- administration, chairpersons, faculty, non-instructional staff, students, and alumni -- as well as Dr. Matthew Goldstein, Chancellor of CUNY, and Dr. Benno Schmidt, Vice-Chairperson of the CUNY Board of Trustees, all of whom attested to the superior qualifications of the other finalists; therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hunter College Senate has NO CONFIDENCE in the CUNY Board of Trustees as a whole and, specifically, in the Chairman of the CUNY Board of Trustees, Herman Badillo, to make institutional decisions affecting the educational life at CUNY with circumspection and prudence; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Hunter College Senate expresses outrage at the CUNY Board of Trustees for its reckless disregard and contempt shown toward the work and trust of so many of the Hunter community in CUNY's search and selection process for the Hunter presidency; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Senate calls for the enactment of strict conflict of interest laws that would prohibit anyone whose employment or financial well-being is dependent on the good will and pleasure of the Mayor or the Governor from serving as a member of the CUNY Board of Trustees.