

# MINUTES

## Meeting of the Hunter College Senate 19 February 1997

The 342nd meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:15 PM in Room W714.

**Presiding:** Professor Barbara L. Hampton, Chair

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

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

**Report by the President:** Second Annual State of the College Report

President Caputo's *Second Annual State of the College Address*, *New Presidential Initiative for 1997-1998*, and *1996 Presidential and College Initiatives: An Update*, are reproduced in Appendix II.

President Caputo concluded his report by answering questions from the floor.

**Report by the Administrative Committee:** Professor Hampton presented the following report for the Senate's information:

At the Board of Trustees meeting, held on 10 February 1997, two resolutions were presented. One would have the effect of giving the Trustees more control over the CUNY asking and executive budgets. The other would have the effect of delaying the implementation of the ACE or "rising junior" examination until after further consultation with the faculty.

The most recent draft, which I understand to be the final one, of the Course Coordination and Scheduling Report represents two substantial changes in the original version. First, the administrative component will focus on providing accurate and timely information, rather than reaching into the academic realm. Second, the faculty appropriately retain decision-making functions with respect to the academic components. Thanks are due to the department chairs who cooperated in the Senate's effort to correct errors in the equivalency guide and to all who participated in the 6 December 1996 University Faculty Senate conference on the topic of Course Coordination and Scheduling.

The Hunter College lobbying days in Albany were 10-11 February 1997. On each day we took a bus and emphasized three points:

- a) rescind the \$400 tuition increase
- b) restore \$57 million to the base budget
- c) restore \$74.7 million to funding of the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)

The legislators or their representatives seemed to understand the TAP request, but considerable effort will be required to convince them of the other two points. We will begin the letter-writing campaign early next month and ask for the cooperation of all students, faculty and staff at the college.

During the January inter-session Queens College presented to the Board of Trustees a proposal to establish a degree program in Applied Social Sciences. Several years ago Queens College entered into a partnership with Hofstra University to offer courses to union members in urban studies. Subsequently, Hofstra University left the partnership. In order to offer the degree, the State Education Department required them to establish a campus, thus the proposal was also to establish a Queens campus in Manhattan at 25 West 43 Street. The Governance Leaders from the Manhattan-based CUNY senior colleges had the following concerns about the proposal:

- a) advance notification was not given to the Manhattan-based CUNY senior colleges.
- b) duplication of programs would seem to contravene the direction that the Chancellor has taken in recent years.
- c) expansion plans of the Queens College, Manhattan campus would have adverse effects on existing Manhattan-based CUNY programs.

While it was determined that notice was given about 6 years ago to all the Manhattan-based colleges, the resolution of this issue by vote of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

- a) The rule of 2 years advance notification must be observed in the case of all future proposals. If more than two years elapse between notification and the issuance of the proposal, a second notice is required.
- b) The proposed program will be limited to a focus on labor studies and related issues that are not currently covered by existing Manhattan-based CUNY programs.

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c) The Queens College, Manhattan campus is not authorized to extend its student population beyond he categories of students that it currently serves at 25 West 43 Street.

Committee  
Reports:

Calendar Committee  
In the absence of the Committee Chair, Professor Hampton presented the university-wide College Calendar for 1997-1998, issued by the CUNY Central Administration, as distributed.  
After discussion it was moved that further discussion be postponed to the next meeting.  
The motion carried by voice vote,  
It was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Ken Sherrill, *ms*  
Secretary

APPENDIX I

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

**FACULTY**

Anthropology:	William Parry Ida Susser Marc Edelman Nancy Flores
Art:	Emily Braun William Agee Peter Dudek
Biological Sciences:	Ezra Shahn "E"
Black & P.R. Studies:	
Chemistry:	Richard Franck
Classical & Oriental Studies:	Alex Alexander
Communications:	Peter Parisi
Computer Science:	
Curriculum & Teaching:	Anthony Picciano Rosa Boone
Economics:	Avi Liveson Howard Chernick Temisan Agbeyegbe Nashwa George
Educational Foundations:	Kimberly Kinsler Simi Linton
English:	Sylvia Roshkow
Geography:	Jeffrey Osleeb Peter Combs "E"
German:	Dorothy James "E"
Health Sciences:	Deborah Blocker Dava Waltzman
History:	
Library:	Robert Laurich
Mathematics & Statistics:	
Music:	Susan Gonzalez Richard Stieffel
Nursing:	Marie Mosley "E" Maura Ryan
Philosophy:	
Physics & Astronomy:	Robert Marino
Political Science:	
Psychology:	Cheryl Harding
Romance Languages:	Diana Conchado "E" Paolo Fasoli "E"
SEEK:	William Wimberly
Social Work:	Eleanor Bromberg Malka Sternberg
Sociology:	
Special Education:	
Student Services:	
Theatre & Film:	Dan Koetting Richard Tomkins
Urban Affairs:	Stanley Moses
Administration:	Dean Carlos Hortas Dean Erwin Fleissner

**STUDENTS**

Jean Lemaitre  
Clarissa Canadas  
Andres Demegret  
David Wallach "E"  
Ramiro Campos  
Joseph Severino  
Kim Conroy  
Liangela Cabrera  
Diana Frye  
Michael Cesare  
Lisette Ruiz  
Rachel Laforest  
Gur Altberg  
Orlando Rodriguez  
Marie Benoit  
David Siroonian  
Brad Stoller  
Danira Munari  
Hyon K. Kim  
Gary Braglia

# 1996 Presidential and College Initiatives: An Update

State of the College Address  
February 19, 1997



*President David A. Caputo*  
*Hunter College*  
*The City University of New York*  
695 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10021  
212-772-4242  
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PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVES

As part of the presidential accountability promised in last year's presidential address, here is a brief summary of what has been achieved since the Presidential Initiatives were announced in February, 1996.

- 1) **Student Scholarships**  
More than \$250,000 has been added to the scholarship and loan base. The emphasis is now on seeing that the College maximizes the awarding of various scholarships and that we maximize scholarship use to continue to attract the best prepared students.
- 2) **Office of Urban Outreach**  
The search continues for an appropriate Director of Urban Outreach. An appointment is anticipated by late spring or early summer.
- 3) The first **Millennium Forum** was held on October 18, 1996 with the Honorable Carl McCall as the Millennium speaker. The next Millennium Forum will be in the fall of 1997.
- 4) **Presidential Faculty Incentive and Teaching Grants**  
There have been two Presidential Faculty Incentive and Teaching Grant competitions which produced 46 applications and 25 awardees. A total of \$13,000 has been awarded to date in this competition. Award winners have applied their grants toward the development of innovative teaching methods and start-up support for new and continuing research projects. These successful competitions will continue to be held twice each academic year.
- 5) **Development Opportunities for College Staff**  
There have been two Presidential Initiative Staff Development competitions which produced 90 applications and 35 awardees. A total of \$11,000 has been awarded to date for this competition. This program has allowed staff throughout the college to develop their skills and broaden their professional and educational experiences. Award winners have used their grants for professional conference registration, educational seminars, coursework, and textbooks. These successful competitions will continue to be held twice a year.

- 6) **Student Oriented Continuous Quality Improvement Program**  
In an effort to attain an even greater commitment to student oriented service and responsiveness, a Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) pilot program was implemented at Hunter College beginning August 28, 1996. Eight training sessions were held, including a special supervisory training session for unit heads, at a total cost of \$9,000. Representatives from the offices of Admissions, Financial Aid, Human Resources, Athletics, Bursar, Registrar, Sciences and Math, Student Services, and the President's Office participated in these training sessions. The responses by the participants of the CQI training were very positive: 61% rated the overall effectiveness of the program "very good" and 30% rated the overall effectiveness as "fairly good". 61% of the participants felt the objectives of the course were very relevant to the requirements of their job while 34% felt the objectives were fairly relevant. Participants noted that the CQI program resulted in improved telephone skills and better communication skills in working with students. CQI training will continue and will include all college staff as well as refresher courses for past participants. Continuation of the CQI approach should permit Hunter to maintain and improve the quality of student services.
- 7) **Private and Corporate Development**  
Partnerships, including the Hunter College Corporate Advisory Council, have been started. Emphasis has been on seeking long term relationships for the College.
- 8) **Enhanced Campus Communications**  
The new campus newsletter, Hunter Today, began this past year and continues to be published monthly. In addition, wiring projects at both the School of Social Work and at Brookdale were completed. The staffs and faculties at both locations now have or will shortly have access to the campus network and the Internet. Additional computers were supplied throughout the campus. This remains a high priority for the College.
- 9) **Presidential Accountability**  
In addition to this report, I have continued the monthly open hours for staff and faculty, had more than a dozen open sessions for students, and have held extensive budget briefings and other open meetings at all locations.

COLLEGE INITIATIVES

Here is a brief summary of what has been accomplished since the College Initiatives were announced in February, 1996. These proposals were introduced to the community for discussion.

- 1) **Reinvestment** -- I withdrew the proposal when we began the retrenchment process last Spring. Under the appropriate budgetary conditions (non retrenchment situation), I will consider implementing the program
- 2) **Enhancement of the Undergraduate Experience** -- The First Year Experience Committee is considering many of the points raised here
- 3) **Student Retention** -- The First Year Experience Committee is considering this issue
- 4) **Reorganization** -- In the past year, there has been movement towards a merger of the School of Health Sciences and School of Nursing. In addition, two departments are in the process of being reorganized: a major proposal involving reorganization of our information technology efforts is to be implemented April 1, 1997, the Office of Financial Aid was transferred to the Vice President for Administration's area, and there is a plan being implemented to provide one stop shopping to meet most student needs. Additionally, I have a major proposal before the community to consider merging the Divisions of Humanities and Arts, Social Sciences, and Sciences and Mathematics to a single Arts and Sciences unit. The proposal also includes a new reporting arrangement for the interdisciplinary programs. The discussions will continue in the spring of 1997 and the reorganization proposals should be ready for the implementation process in the fall of 1997.
- 5) **Campus Aesthetics** -- More work is required in this area as the committee structure in this area needs to be reconsidered. This is being done at this time.

APPENDIX II (continued):

New Presidential Initiatives for 1997-1998

State of the College Address  
February 19, 1997



President David A. Caputo  
Hunter College  
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In addition to continuing the COI student oriented program, the Faculty Development Incentive Grants, the Staff Development Grants, and the Millennium Forums which began last year, eight new initiatives will be put in place during the next year. Each is meant to provide a stimulus in an important area. The programs are expected to continue for an indefinite period.

1) Hunter College must continue to foster its ethnic, racial, cultural, and intellectual diversity as well as its sense of community. In order to help keep this need in the community's frame of reference, the College's administrative officers will be working with faculty, students, and staff to develop programs which will foster understanding and the openness so important for the intellectual life of a community where ideas, rather than prejudice or suspicion, must be dominant. Look for a series of announcements for events during the 1997-1998 academic year. Our common theme for the year will be "celebrating community".

2) In the past few years, Hunter students have had to endure shrinking instructional budgets, increased tuition, and other difficulties. During that time we have had to reduce student services far below what they should be. Without significant new funding, it will not be possible to renew all the eliminated service, but we are going to focus on one student service where we can provide a significant benefit for our students. The Vice President for Student Affairs will be developing a series of new programs, including a wellness and prevention program focusing on health and health related services for our students. We need to provide an expanded array of services for our students including refurbishing our health office as well as trying to increase health staffing levels. I am also asking that a program be developed which would make referrals to other health professionals easier and would involve the active participation of our students from the various health related fields. I would like our student health services to be an example for the rest of the university and indeed for the rest of the public urban colleges in the United States. Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Sylvia Fishman will be implementing these changes as well as organizing a student task force which will advise and participate in this area. This will be

a high priority for the reallocation of college funds.

3) A new position, Dean of Research, will be established when the divisional reorganization takes place. The position will have the responsibility for working with the faculty to develop research proposals, assisting in resolving research problems, establishing research links with private and foundation sources, and working to develop campus-wide research initiatives. If Hunter is to remain a research leader and if our students are to benefit from research and the significant contributions it makes to undergraduate instruction, this office needs to be successful.

4) New Research and Teaching Initiatives - It is clear that Hunter College and its faculty have had to deal with serious financial shortages. One result of these shortages is our inability to develop new research and teaching initiatives as it has been difficult to find resources to begin new programs or emphases. For 1997-1998, up to four new research and teaching initiative grants will be available. The maximum award will be \$25,000 and can be used to fund released time or other needs associated with the project. Individual faculty, interdisciplinary, or joint team proposals are encouraged. Full guidelines will be announced by March 15th and the first competition will be held this spring. Up to \$100,000 in private funds will be made available for creative and imaginative proposals in (but not limited to) the areas of new media, cooperative teaching, language acquisition, instructional computing, or integrated approaches to professional education. The emphasis will be on creative and imaginative proposals requiring "seed" money.

5) In today's fast paced and increasingly cyber-spaced world, higher education is faced with a unique dilemma. Hunter faculty have advanced knowledge and mastery of that knowledge but many have not had the opportunity to develop computer assisted instructional teaching materials. These materials, which would further enhance their teaching, require the development of teaching tools such as on-line interactive websites, class bulletin boards and other tutoring possibilities to name a few. On the other hand, many of today's students are on the cutting edge of technology application by nature of their exposure to computer technology. By working on their own individual systems or in

college provided facilities, many of these students can implement very complicated and sophisticated technological applications.

In order to bring these two sets of individuals and the resources they have together, the President's Office is pleased to announce a new grant program (up to eight grants worth \$5,000 each), utilizing funds allocated to the President by the Hunter College Foundation, for the following purposes:

- a) To enhance the development of undergraduate related computer assisted instructional materials to be utilized in various Hunter College courses, and
- b) To foster increased faculty/student interaction in working together to develop new computer assisted instructional material.

This competition will be announced by March 15th.

6) In years past, Hunter College had a recognition program for staff who completed milestone years of service. Within the next few months, I will be announcing a new program which will involve recognition for faculty and staff. This program will provide the recognition our faculty and staff have earned for their hard work and dedication to Hunter College.

7) In order to assist the College in attracting and retaining the very best students, the Hunter College Honors Program will be provided with \$10,000 on a recurring basis to be used as scholarship funds to both attract and retain students. The funds will be provided from private gifts.

8) The College will be developing a Continuing Education program. Vice President Evangelos Gizis, working with the Provost's office, has been asked to develop a comprehensive continuing education program. This program is to begin as soon as possible and be fully developed by the Fall of 1998. Its purpose will be to provide non-credit and continuing education courses to the general public as well as the Hunter community. It is expected that the offerings will have considerable breadth and interest and will enhance the College's visibility.

APPENDIX II  
Report by the President

Second Annual State  
of the College  
Address

February 19, 1997



*President David A. Caputo*

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Hunter College is clearly at a critical point in its history. Buffeted by major political, economic, and social changes in the society it both serves and to which it must be responsive, Hunter College must both change as well as influence society to change. Accountability and responsiveness must be increased and the Hunter College community must meet the requests for decreased funding with resolve and determination. At the same time, the college must use its resources wisely and not only protect its most highly valued programs, but invest wisely in new programs and developing areas which will enhance our students' education as well as provide increased opportunities for them in the next century. Our goal must remain the same, to provide the best possible urban education of any college or university in the United States.

Currently we have major change underway at Hunter College. Health Sciences and Nursing are completing their merger proposal. We are moving to implement changes in financial aid as well as one stop service for our students and how we organize and deliver information technology. The community is considering a major change regarding the Arts and Sciences, as well as undertaking a major Middle States Accreditation review. This has taken considerable time for all of us and will continue to do so, but change at Hunter College, just as in all of higher education, must be seen as a normal part of our experience. We must work together to find ways to expedite change and to see its benefits come to fruition sooner. Failure to do so will make us more vulnerable to the outside forces which assail our inability to adapt and meet changing expectations and demands. Hunter College must continue to be the intellectual and academic leader it has been over the years. Failure to do so would be a violation of the trust and the mission we have been given.

Within the next year, Hunter College will begin a comprehensive academic program planning enterprise. Our timing could not be better - we will have completed the Middle States process, our master plan planning process should be completed, and the major reorganization changes will have been discussed and will be in the process of being implemented. The academic program planning process will enable us to plan for our future and the emphasis our academic programs will receive. It will be a difficult and often all consuming process for each of us, but without it, Hunter cannot make final preparations for the next century and the goals we want to pursue. There will be more information on this discussion and the need for us all to participate and contribute to it in the early fall. Let me highlight one of the many reasons why this academic program planning enterprise must be completed by the end of the 1997-1998 academic year.

In the past four years, Hunter College, largely due to our budgetary problems, has seen its number of full time faculty decrease from 570 to 497. This represents a drop of nearly thirteen percent! We must make every effort to restore the financial cuts, but in reality they have weakened us considerably. Thus we must deal with them by establishing strengths and priorities as well as the ability to develop new programs. The academic planning process, to begin next year under the Provost's direction, will establish priorities, recommend strategic investment strategies, and help us all chart the College's future course.

I want to focus on several key programs which will be initiated during the next year. It is clear that it is becoming more difficult for our active researchers to undertake their research. Grant competition is increasing, grant awards are being reduced, and the cost of equipment and lab space is increasing. In spite of these developments the Hunter College research community continues to be very competitive and the quality of our research and training is second to none.

In order for Hunter faculty to be able to remain competitive and in order for the College to provide the funding needed to assist these efforts, the College will create a new office with the sole responsibility of encouraging research and finding ways to fund it. This office will serve as the creative interface for both individual research and for group efforts across the campus. It will assist individuals with their research planning and funding, as well as provide support for those faculty who are engaged in interdisciplinary research and training. The office will foster greater contact with funding agencies as well as attempting to develop research links with other funding sources in the corporate and foundation world. This office will also work to develop new and creative public/private relationships which could include incubator opportunities for new research entrepreneurs as well as increased training opportunities for our faculty and students.

As the current reorganization proposals are considered and then put into place, I will be proposing a new position of Dean of Research utilizing the anticipated savings. I am hopeful we can attract a talented and imaginative individual from within our ranks or as the result of a national search to take this position. More details about these plans will be forthcoming in the near future, but clearly if Hunter is to continue its strong presence in research, we must invest in developing new ideas and new approaches to the research enterprise. My proposal will help Hunter College achieve even greater research strength as well as help to resolve a variety of pressing needs.

We all know the importance of technology as an aid in both research and teaching. In the past year, Hunter has made considerable strides forward -- we have connected two additional campus locations to the 68th street network, purchased more computers than in the past, and are moving towards the completion of distance learning and downlinked satellite capabilities. Despite these efforts, more must be done. I will be working to identify funds which can be used to meet:

- Library efforts to meet the technological needs of information processing must remain a high priority.
- Establishment of one new public access computer lab per year at an annual cost of \$100,000 as well as improving the various public access learning labs on campus.
- Purchase of at least 100 new computers a year to be used for faculty teaching and research.
- Significant improvements in our campus networking capabilities.
- Development of educational opportunities for our faculty, staff and students regarding the new technology and its application.
- A new and innovative faculty and student interactive grant program will be introduced.

In addition to these initiatives, there will be other major initiatives including a new continuing education program, improved health services for our students, several new and innovative faculty and staff grant programs, and a major year long emphasis on our community and its rich and diverse ethnic, racial, and social diversity.

These proposals and plans are ambitious, but limited due to financial realities. There are many other things which must be done, but we are limited by the availability of funds. We must work to restore the proposed cuts we face and then to invest those and other funds we receive wisely. If we fail to do either, our future plans will be limited. These plans will not be successful nor will they lead to a stronger Hunter College without all of us coming together and continuing to work to build the community.

Hunter College needs to nurture diversity and we need to realize that the College continues to undergo rapid change. We must not continue to be simply reactive. We must attempt to forge a future which supports our core values of access and excellence and a future where our students are given the opportunity to develop as they need to be free of concern for political correctness or censorship.

Our collective task is to provide the leadership needed to lead Hunter College through these difficult but exciting times. We cannot expect to remain strong if we do not collectively work together. Your continued cooperation, hard work, and dedication to the ideals which have always guided Hunter College will help us all achieve our collective goal -- a Hunter College which provides the best public urban education in this country.

We have made strides towards that goal in the year past, but our journey remains an arduous one. So please join me as we work to continue to secure Hunter College's rightful place as a leader in higher education. We must not settle for anything else. I will not and I look forward to your continued cooperation and assistance as we work together to gain this shared vision. With your collective talents and strengths focused on our shared vision, success will be ours.

**Appendix II (continued):**

imperative in any discussion you have with the public, friends, neighbors, members of the legislature, or others, that you stress the fact that it is CUNY's position and Hunter's position that there be no tuition increase, that the legislature restore the \$400 back into the base budget, and that the 5% reduction not be permitted to happen and, finally, that the changes in TAP be restored so that our students do not lose the opportunity to pursue a college degree. Those most affected would be our lower income students. Now, how successful we will be and when that will be is hard to say at this point. There are reasons to be optimistic, there are also reasons to be guarded, and there are reasons to be pessimistic. The bottom line is that this is going to be a long process. It is likely to be mid-summer before the budget is acted on in the legislature. We will have to wait and see.

The point is not to despair, and not to decide that there is nothing that can be done. There are many things that can be done. Let me tell you several. First, the CLAC group is planning a two-day trip to Albany next week. They will go up both Monday and Tuesday. If you are free and interested in going, please talk with them about that. They will be visiting various legislators to try to convince them about this tripartite type arrangement that is needed for restoration. Second, we will be asking individuals to write to legislators, to visit district offices, and so forth. As you hear about that, please assist us in any way that you can. Finally, you need to do everything you can in talking with friends, neighbors, and others to make sure that they understand the severity of what these cuts would mean to the college, but more importantly what they would mean to our students. That is where we stand in terms of the budget. I am going to be in Albany on the 10th, and I am planning to be there on a regular basis every week or so after that. I will also work within the borough and across the city to talk to members of the legislative delegation. Since President Clinton has argued at the national level that his second term is going to be built around education, and there is specific mention of higher education, I am hopeful that some of the opposition will decide that they can not really be in the position of opposing higher education. So we will see. But that is where we are at this point. There is no retrenchment committee in place yet, and no decision has been reached as to whether or not the college will be asked to go into a retrenchment mode because of fiscal exigency. I am hopeful that we will not be asked to do so. We will simply have to wait and see.

**Update on Searches**

The finalists for Security Director and the SEEK Director are being interviewed this week. The Urban Outreach Search continues, it has not been closed. I want to point out that the campus interviews for Security Director and the SEEK Director were purposefully scheduled for the beginning of the semester to maximize the opportunity for the FDA and the Senate to have people involved in that process.

**Update on Personnel**

Many of you know that Peter Salins of Urban Planning has been granted a leave of absence to become the Acting Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs of the State University of New York system. This is quite a compliment to Peter, and we will miss him. Associate Provost Genie Birch has asked that she be permitted to return to her faculty position in Urban Planning effective March 3, 1997. She will continue to chair the Middle States Self-Study. She agreed to see this process through for us. Acting Dean Steve Zoloth has been appointed Acting Associate Provost effective March 3. A search for Associate Provost will commence shortly with full faculty involvement. Finally, Professor David Kotelchuck has been appointed Acting Dean for Health Sciences. No permanent search is anticipated due to the merger of Health Sciences and Nursing which, we hope, will be accomplished by the fall. However, that could change depending upon what happens to the reorganization proposals. As I understand it both schools are reviewing a final set of proposals, and those will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. These are changes that I wanted to bring to your attention.

Let me mention one other thing on a slightly more mundane level, but nonetheless interesting. At the beginning of January I sent a letter to all non-faculty staff in the college, inviting them to submit their names to be included in the possibility of my spending an hour with them in their job. We made it very clear that this was not part of the evaluation process, but that I am interested in learning more about what is involved in the various jobs across this campus. To date I have received 54 responses. Obviously there is a great deal of interest in this. The deadline for responses is February 15. So, if you see me around the college dressed slightly different or sitting behind a desk when you come to pick something up, it is an attempt to try to learn more about the problems different individuals have, and what their jobs entail. I will report periodically to you. I am not making the selection. We are going to put all responses into a bowl and occasionally draw two or three to set up a schedule. I am looking forward to this. I think it will be very interesting.

**Update on Policy Matters**

First, the reorganization proposals which were presented back in October continue to be discussed. The various committees are meeting. You need to be an active part of that discussion, and I expect the discussion to increase as the semester goes along. Both the Arts and Sciences Committee and the Faculty Replenishment Committee will have their reports to us late in the semester. We will have extended discussion not only at that time, but throughout the semester as we consider the various possibilities.

**Appendix II (continued):**

Also, you should know that I have asked the Provost to implement a one-semester remediation policy effective with the Fall 1997 academic year. I realize that there are concerns in this area, and those concerns were presented in your discussion and also in the resolution that was passed. The Provost's policy should be very responsive to these concerns. I am sure she will be discussing it with you in the near future. I am convinced that it is the right policy for Hunter and that we can make it work. So, I am asking for your cooperation as we implement it.

I also want to inform you that in the next few days, as soon as the appropriate training is completed, the Security Officers throughout the College will be issued four items as part of a requirement to make sure that the college does not become liable. These items are hand cuffs, pepper spray, collapsible batons, and a safety vests. A legal opinion which was presented to us through the Chancellor's Office explains that if these items are not issued the college may be financially liable in case of legal action or lawsuits. I feel that this is important, and that you understand it. The memo will be available for you to read, and I will be glad to take questions on that at the next meeting.

Now for some other news. First, I am pleased to announce that the Eugene Lang Foundation has once again provided support for two grant programs. One for faculty development and one for student-faculty collaboration. Both programs will be announced in the next few weeks, and you will be receiving specific details and application materials at that time.

I also want to mention that I traveled to Sarasota, Florida several weeks ago to be present at the Sarasota Alumni Chapter's 10th Anniversary party. It was indeed a celebration with over 125 alumni present. I mention this because of the consistency of the comments at these meetings. Invariably, the thing which is most cherished and also mentioned the most is the impact that individual faculty members made on our alumni. So, remember, you are having an impact which would transcend this century and carry well over into the next century. I compliment each and everyone of you on that.

Let me close by mentioning several upcoming events. On February 19, two weeks from today, Professor Hampton and the Senate have graciously given me an hour for a State of the College Address. I plan to make this an annual event every mid-February, and I appreciate the opportunity to present a series of things at that time. The week of March 24, will be devoted to academic excellence, and Provost Schor and Vice President Fishman will be coordinating a wonderful series of events, stressing academic excellence throughout the college. It is something that I am sure our students and our faculty will be proud of and want to be part of. Wednesday, October 15 through Saturday, October 18 have been set aside for the second annual Hunter College Fall Celebration. More details will be forthcoming. I hope you will block those dates and join us. Two important points. The theme this Fall will be "Celebrating Community." I think that it is a very wonderful selection. Finally, let me mention that we are continuing the Presidential Round Table series this Spring semester. The first one is scheduled for Thursday, February 27 at 12:30 in the Faculty Lounge. Professor Zentella of Black and Puerto Rican Studies is our speaker. Her topic will be "Language Politics in the United States: Laws on Education in the Work Force." It is certainly an important and hot topic. Four Round Tables have been scheduled for this semester. Details will appear in the next issue of *Open Line*, and will also be posted around the college."

President Caputo concluded his report by answering questions from the floor.



Minutes  
Meeting of the Hunter College Senate  
5 February 1997

APPENDIX III

Office of the Provost  
Phone (212) 772-4150



January 22, 1997

TO: Hunter College Faculty Senate  
FROM: *Laura S. Schor*  
Laura S. Schor, Provost  
RE: The proposed transfer of film faculty and CLT to the Communications Department and the subsequent renaming of the new unit, Department of Film and Media Studies, effective September 1997

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President Caputo has requested your comments on the proposed transfer. To facilitate discussion, I have listed below some of the events of the past year which led me to recommend this action to the President.

1. The chairs of the respective departments met with me and Dean Hortas in February. They communicated their desire to pursue the possibility of merging Film and Media Studies. They explained that students would be better prepared for professional work in New York and elsewhere with significant exposure to theory and practice of both Film and Video. They also reported that faculty in both areas were working together in professional presentations and in academic journals. Increasingly, the boundaries between the two disciplines were eroding. And, increasingly, to be employable, students needed the skills of both areas. The Dean and I encouraged the chairs to continue the discussion.
2. Regrettably, the academic discussion was overshadowed in the ensuing months by concerns raised about the viability of the Theatre department in the climate of retrenchment. An acrimonious discussion ensued prolonged by the uncertainties of the budget. In Fall 1996, both departments had full meetings in which the alternatives were discussed and finally, in early October, the P&B of the Communications faculty voted unanimously to accept all of the film faculty and the film CLT into their department. At the same time, the Theatre and Film department reported the sense of their P&B to be three in favor of the transfer and one member recommending a merger of the two departments. This suggestion led to another round of meetings of the full departments, culminating with a meeting of all involved in early November to review all of the issues raised by the proposals for transfer and/or merger.
3. After reviewing all the notes on the various meetings and the letters which came in response to my request for individual comments from the faculty involved, it was clear to me that the time had come for a decision. I recommended to President Caputo that the transfer be recommended to the Board of Trustees. My reasons are simple: the film faculty and the media studies faculty after long and arduous debate have agreed to work together to create an outstanding program in Film and Media Studies which will prepare students in the production and analysis of a wide range of media at an extremely high level. Living in the capital of the media industry of the United States, it is especially important that we provide students with the best education in this burgeoning field. Finally, it is the intention of all involved, the Chairs, the Dean, and me, that the Theatre Department, long a star in the Hunter firmament, remain strong.