Telephone: 772-4200

## **MINUTES**

### Meeting of the Hunter College Senate 5 February 1997

1		The 341st meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:10 PM in Room W714.
2 3	Presiding:	Professor Barbara I. Hampton, Chair
4 5	Attendance:	The elected members of the Senate, with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.
6 7 8	Agenda:	The agenda was adopted as distributed.
9 10	Minutes:	The Minutes of November 20, December 4, and December 11 we approved as distributed.
11 12 13	Report by the President:	A summary statement of President Caputo's report to the Senate is attached as Appendix II.
14 15	Report by the Administrative	Professor Hampton presented the report as follows:
16 17	Committee:	She presented the following nominations for seats currently vacant on the Senate:
18 19 20		Students: Francesca L. Fiore Gus Altberg
21 22		It was moved that nominations be closed. The motion carried.
23 24		It was moved that the nominations be approved. The motion carried.
25 26		Voting cards were distributed to the newly elected senators.
27 28 29 30 31 32		Re: Proposed Transfer of Film Program and Renaming of Departments  Professor Hampton presented Provost Schor's statement (see Appendix III) concerning 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, to be effective September 1997.
33 34 35		It was moved that the Senate dissolve itself into a quasi committee of the whole. The motion carried.
36 37		The Senate reconvened in formal session at 5:05 P.M.
38 39 40		Professor Felner informed the Senate that certain issues concerning space and curriculum needed to be worked out before a formal transfer occurs.
41 42 43 44	New Business:	After discussion of the possibility of issuing student vouchers for book purchases outside the college, it was suggested that recommendations and advice be sent to Vice President Gizis for submission to the the Auxiliary Enterprise Board.
45 46		It was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, —

Ken Sherrill, 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 Willliam Agee Peter Dudek

**Biological Sciences:** 

Black & P.R. Studies:

Jce Toney

Pedro Lopez-Adorno

Chemistry:

Charles Michael Drain Lynn Francesconi Richard Franck

Classical & Oriental Studies:

Alex Alexander "E"

Communications:

Computer Science:

Curriculum & Teaching:

Dolores Fernandez Anthony Picciano Rosa Boone

Economics:

Avi Liveson Howard Chernick Temisan Agbeyegbe Nashwa George

**Educational Foundations:** 

Simi Linton

English:

Trudy Smoke Sylvia Roshkow Richard Barickman

Geography:

German:

Health Sciences:

Beth Richie

History:

Library:

Mathematics & Statistics:

Ada Peluso Barbara Barone

Music:

Susan Gonzalez

Nursing:

Philosophy:

Laura Keating "E"

Physics & Astronomy:

Robert Marino

Political Science:

Ken Sherrill "E"

Psychology:

Phil Ziegler

Romance Languages:

Paolo Fasoli "E" Giuseppe Di Scipio "E"

SEEK:

Bernice Baxter Maria Rodriguez "E" Phyllis Rubenfeld William Wimberly

Social Work:

Eleanor Bromberg Malka St ernberg

Sociology:

Special Education:

Student Services:

Theatre & Film:

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Urban Affairs:

Sigmund Shipp

Administration:

Dean Erwin Fleissner

Vice President Evangelos Gizis

STUDENTS
Jean Lemaitre

Clarissa Canadas David Wallach Ramiro Campos Asad Rahman Kim Conroy Liangela Cabrera Michael Hernandez Diana Frye Karen Waithe Michael Cesare Lisette Ruiz Orlando Rodriguez David Siroonian Brad Stoller Danira Munari Hyon K. Kim Gary Braglia Minutes
Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
5 February 1997

# APPENDIX II Report by the President

A summary statement of President Caputo's report follows:

He said: "Let me begin on a sad note today. I think most of you know that Trustee Charles Inniss passed away last week. We all share his loss. There will be a memorial service on February 28 at Medgar Evers in his honor.

I would like to welcome everyone back to this refurbished facility -- the seventh floor West. Congratulations to Vice President Gizis, Julio Vasquez, and to everyone in physical facilities who made this happen. It is almost complete. You will be glad to know that as part of this project 1000 new chairs were purchased for various classrooms on this floor and throughout the college. We hope to be able to do similar type projects on a regular basis. This was an experiment to see how much could be done in the slower period of January. We almost got everything done on time for the start of classes. For those of you who were asked to reschedule for a day or two our apologies, but I think the end result is worth it.

I want to remind everybody that February is Black History Month. Please note that *Do Lord Remember Me* by James DeJong is presently playing at the Sylvia and Danny Kaye Playhouse through February 16. Keep a close eye out for announcements of other events related to Black History Month.

#### Re: Budget

I want to turn to the budget right now. It is a complicated situation and certainly not a good one. Let me explain it to you. You have in front of you the January 31 memorandum from Vice Chancellor Rothbard to the senior college presidents which talks about the proposed reductions. There are several aspects to the budget proposal which the Governor has proposed this time around. This will probably complicate matters for us in the sense that we have to get a broader array of support in several different areas. The first column on page 3 shows you that the adjusted base budget for Hunter College is slightly over \$65M. To that the Governor has proposed a 5% reduction in our base budget. That amounts to a total of \$3,270,000, leaving us then with a new base budget of \$62M+. From that there is also a proposal which calls for a \$400 tuition increase. The CUNY position today is that we are opposed to that tuition increase. However, without the \$400 tuition increase we would lose another \$2,870,000 in revenues, based on Fall 1996 enrollment figures. That would then leave us with a base of \$59M. The remaining 2M+ is what is called unfunded mandates. These are requirements which are either imposed by the State, or they are things built into the present contractual agreement for raises and other things. The end result is that Hunter's share of the reduction -- unless tuition goes up and the 5% reduction is restored -- would total \$8,203,000. It gets even more complicated because a large number of our students would be affected by the proposed reduction in TAP. Table II shows you the impact of some of the proposed changes for the Tuition Assistance Program. Hunter College currently has 4972 students who qualify for a \$11, 230,000 in TAP assistance. Under the Governor's proposals 968 of these students would no longer be eligible, leaving 4,004 students who would be eligible for TAP, but at a rate of only \$6M. So the net loss to the College would be 968 students and \$5,230,000. Let me add one thing. This 968 does not represent all the students who would be affected. Some of the remaining 4,004 students would have their benefits decreased. In the final column the figure of 854 represents the estimated number of students who are receiving some sort of public assistance who are going to be affected by the new welfare reform legislation. We have no idea as to what that impact will be. We do know that it will not be a positive one for these students in terms of the changes in benefits and how those benefits can be used. The difficulty is in trying to figure out what the impact of the TAP cuts and the welfare changes might be on our overall enrollment. We assume that if TAP decreases and welfare reform measures go into place we will suffer a significant decline in enrollment on campus. We also know that we will suffer a decline in enrollment if tuition goes up. I have been asked to come up with some possible ways for the college to respond to a budget cut of approximately \$10 - \$12M if all the things were to happen. In this regard I have met with a broad base group of faculty and I will continue to meet with them in the future. Now, clearly, the college will not be able to absorb a \$10-12M budget cut. We are really not able to absorb any sort of a cut and, in fact, we have argued as the Chancellor has for a modest increase in the budget.

Where does that leave us? Well, it means that we must re-double and re-triple our efforts and try to convince the public and also the elected representatives and leadership about the need to restore aspects of this budget so that we do not get into this dire budget situation. This is where it gets more complicated, however. Remember I talked about the 5% base reduction. I have talked about a tuition increase, and I also talked about the possibility of a series of events in terms of reductions with TAP. It is