

MINUTES

**Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
23 March 1994**

	The 306th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:30 PM in Room W714.	1 2
Presiding:	Kenneth S. Sherrill, Chair	3
Attendance:	The elected members of the Senate, with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.	4 5
	The Agenda was adopted as distributed.	6
Minutes:	The Minutes of February 9th and February 23rd were approved as distributed.	7
Report by the President:	A summary statement of President Blank's report to the Senate is as follows: She said:	8 9
	"On the informational side, I think you all received the most important materials concerning the update on the presidential search and where it is. Can I rely on the fact that you all have it in writing so I don't have to explain anything more? The process seems to be moving along very efficiently. I know everybody has a justifiable complaint on the timing, and everyone could have wished that perhaps we had more time, or that we were doing it later. But this is where we are, and I think that we will nonetheless come out of it very well. I am assured that we have a very good array of candidates. For those of you who have not picked up the sheet, we expect the finalists to be with us here on the campus (with a very open kind of opportunity for people to meet) starting with the 6th of April—on dates we do not yet know—and winding down about the 18th of the month. So, I think that's probably the most important piece of information I had.	10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23
	Now, with your gracious liberty I just want to say a few editorial words about the main piece of your business, which has to do with the censure or no confidence vote of the Chancellor. First, I want to pay tribute to the fact that many minds here have dealt with this. In particular, I have had conversations with Allan Brick and with Frank Kirkland, and I respect entirely their points of view. Only a minute ago I received what I now realize is the kind of updated version of the materials, which is different from the first version. So, I want to say to you: yes, there are many things that one could complain about individually and jointly. I do not say otherwise, but I do say the following to you. I really don't think that this is the way you might want to couch this message. To want to give the chancellor well thought out advice might be more the style that I would like to see.	24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36
	I would also like to suggest that here and there, even in the latest version, there are items that are very arguable; that really throw at the feet of the Chancellor problems that in honesty she could not really address or surmount — problems that have to do with budgetary difficulties and with the fact that higher education is not everyone's first priority in America. I think those in fairness cannot be charged to the Chancellor. I think also you should remember the fact that a number of other institutions before us have gone through this exercise of censuring, no confidence, and you know as well as I do that nothing positive has resulted. Indeed, because I attend the Board of Trustees meetings, I think I can say to you accurately in spite of whatever you may pick up when you read the New York Times, that with maybe one or at the most two exceptions on the Board the tone of the meetings there is that the Chancellor has the full support of the Board. So, it is not as though these votes and this importuning has now really impressed the Board. That is not what I see and hear. So even on the basis of practicality I wonder about it.	37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53
	To me, however, the timing is the key issue here, and on timing I just want to call to your attention to the fact that the budget is up in Alba-	54 55

ny. We have one more week between here and the holiday. Hunter College has at least three very significant special items in the budget and we need the whole team and a full blooded willingness to fight for those items in Albany. And as far as I know the Chancellor does go to Albany and she does fight for the budget. I don't want anything to interfere with that, and so I worry a little about that.

I also call to your attention that we are right now at the cusp of the presidential search process. Candidates are about to come forward. I don't know that it will do us any good to have them come when there is instant critical tension observable. It strikes me as perhaps less than the best moment. I guess maybe you'll think my last objection is perhaps superficial, but it really is very important to me. I guess my major withdrawal symptoms have to be put in terms of a metaphor: I don't mind at all, in fact I really like the idea of Hunter College standing as the courageous lion alone against a herd of elephants. That's fine with me. But Hunter College as a group of piranha fish, rushing in to kill a wounded animal is not my style, and I just feel that I wanted to share that with you, because I think that's the position we would be in.

Now, there are points you could argue back and forth. I could possibly do that, but I am not going to do that. What I thought I would do now (in deference to the tradition here), what indeed seems appropriate, is to leave. You have been very gracious, and I've said my piece, and now I have to rely on your individual and collective wisdom."

**Report by the
Administrative
Committee:**

Approved Curriculum Changes

The following curriculum changes, as listed in the Report dated 23 March 1994, were approved as per Senate resolution and were submitted for the Senate's information: Items US-890 (Biological Sciences), US-892 (Physics & Astronomy), US-892 & US-893 (Computer Science), US-896 (Philosophy), US-897 (Health & Physical Education), US-898 (Romance Languages), US-902 (School of Nursing).

Consideration of the application of Senate approved criteria for voting no confidence in Chancellor

Professor Kirkland moved that the Senate go into a Committee of the Whole until 5:30 PM.

The motion carried by hand vote.

The Senate reconvened in formal session at 5:40 PM.

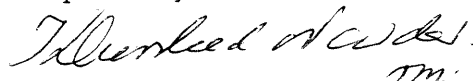
Professor Kirkland moved that further discussion for any no confidence consideration be tabled.

A quorum count was requested. The required number of senators having been present, the motion on the floor was the motion to table.

The motion carried by hand vote.

It was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Khursheed Navder,
Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

FACULTY:

Academic Skills: Trudith Smoke
Willie Wimberly

Art: Juan Sanchez
Emily Braun

Biological Sciences: David Foster

Chemistry: William Sweeney

Classics: William Mayer
Alex Alexander

Communications: James Roman

Computer Science: Thomas Wesselkamper

Curriculum & Teaching: Alene Smith
Anthony Picciano

Economics: Howard Chernick
Terence Agbeyegbe

Educational Foundations: Joan Buxbaum
Caroline Adkins

Geology & Geography: Richard Liebling
Sara McLafferty

Health & Phys Ed: Nana Koch "E"

Mathematical Sciences: Daniel Chess
Sandra Clarkson
Norma Moy

Philosophy: Sue Weinberg "E"

Physics & Astronomy: Marilyn Rothschild "E"

Psychology: Cheryl Harding "E"

Romance Languages: Marithelma Costa

Social Work: Jayne Silberman
George Getzel

Sociology: Terry Arendell
Martin Warmbrand

Student Services: Reva Cohen "E"

Urban Affairs: Sigmund Shipp

STUDENTS:

Rita Sabini
Yorel Francis
Jeanette Surita
Sarah Parrales
Lenina Nadal
Cevita Webb
Christina Molinari
Lucrece Francois
Timothy Lee
John Pastor
Antonio Lopez
Stacey Bell
Jessica Indri
Edilberto Soriano
Rebecca Perez "E"
Susanah Taylor
Christopher McGovern
Julide Gokcebay
Andrew McCann
Simon Kamara
Meg Bruck
Marc Quick
Bryan Evans
Patricia Laporte
Mahmoud Mansur
Moriah Eskow "E"
Josiah Klebaner
Debbi Sutton
Melissa Uber
Armin Patel
Henry Sirotin
David Asencio
Angela Brisnovali
Gary Braglia
Yvonne Zaharakis

Dean Susan Lees
Dean Everlena Holmes