

MINUTES

**Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
13 September 1995**

	The 322nd meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:25 PM in Room W714.	1 2
Presiding:	Barbara L. Hampton, Chair	3
Attendance:	The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.	4 5
Agenda:	The agenda was adopted as distributed.	6
Minutes:	The Minutes of May 10th and May 17th were approved as distributed.	7
Report by the President:	President Caputo presented the following report:	8
	He said: "I am very pleased to stand before you this afternoon. It is an honor to have been selected for this position and I pledge my utmost effort to meeting the high expectations you have required of your presidents.	9 10 11
	First, I'd like to thank Barbara Hampton and the entire Senate for the most enjoyable reception held in my honor last Friday. It was a very nice way to begin what I truly hope will be a mutually rewarding relationship with the Hunter College Senate.	12 13 14 15
	Now, what about Hunter College? I plan to use my time at the Senate meetings to bring you up-to-date on major issues and important policies. I also want to use these meetings as an opportunity to share my views on not only higher education, but specifically Hunter College. I will begin to do that at the October 11th meeting. I hope you will join me in dialogue as each and every one of us has a significant role to play in Hunter's future.	16 17 18 19 20 21
	I also want to bring you up-to-date on two matters. We face another very uncertain budgetary year and additional reductions may be needed. We are still attempting to finalize this year's budget and hope to have that done by late next week. We are also anticipating ways we can handle any additional mid-year reductions if they become necessary.	22 23 24 25 26
	As you know, Hunter has had a long and valued tradition of presidential inaugurations. These were important to the life of the College and created a strong sense of community. I have decided and need to request your support for a different type of presidential installation. I would like to begin a new tradition next fall with the scheduling of a series of events around a "fall weekend" theme. As part of that weekend, I would like to establish a President's Convocation and for next fall as part of that convocation a presidential installation ceremony would be held. Costs would be carefully monitored yet the entire campus would have the opportunity to participate in an important and ongoing event which was carefully planned.	27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36
	Thus, I am taking the following actions:	37
	a. The funds which had been set aside for the presidential installation, will instead be used to endow a presidential scholar award for new students. Hopefully this fund will grow to a substantial sum in the years ahead and many students will benefit. I can think of no better way to mark the beginning of my presidency than to provide additional opportunities for Hunter's outstanding students.	38 39 40 41 42 43
	b. I will be appointing a small planning committee to plan the "fall weekend" and will ask Professor Hampton to suggest several individuals to represent this body on that group.	44 45 46
	I was struck when I came in seeing the blank slate on the overhead with 1995/96 academic year on it. I think in many respects that is a portent for	47 48

us that we get to fill in that slate in terms of the things that are important to us individually, and the things that are important to Hunter and to the various constituencies that you represent. I would hope that by the time we meet at the end of the second semester the overhead and the summary for 95/96 will be full of many accomplishments. I am sure it will be full of many individual accomplishments on the part of the faculty and staff and students. But I also hope it will be full of collective accomplishments in terms of making Hunter a better and more responsive community to our various constituents and needs.

In closing, let me ask for your continued cooperation and assistance. I hope you will discuss the issues before us in an open and frank manner and with the mutual respect essential if we are to succeed. I am sure I'll make decisions which you will disagree with (and possibly even some you will find acceptable), just as I am sure you will do the same, but if Hunter is to improve and grow and meet its challenges, we must all work together. As the Hunter motto says -- "my concern is for the future". Come, walk with me together as we carry the brightly burning torch of higher education into the Twenty-First Century! Our task is formidable, but our resolve is high!! Thank you."

President Caputo concluded his report by answering questions from the floor. 68

**Report by the
Administrative
Committee:**

Professor Hampton presented the Report as follows: 69

Report by the Chair 70

She informed the Senate that she would give an outline of her activities since the last meeting and that Professor Sherrill, in the Secretary's report, would give details as to content and measures that have been taken on some issues. 71
72
73

She said: "On June 6th and 7th, I attended meetings of the Board of Trustees Committees on Faculty Staff & Administration, Long Range Planning, Student Affairs, Fiscal Affairs, and Facilities & Contract Review. On June 19th I testified at the Board of Trustees Open Hearing. That testimony was placed on the Hunter list online. 74
75
76
77
78

On August 3rd I testified at a Public Hearing before the Assembly Higher Education Committee. There I addressed the problem of eliminating the Hunter College graduation requirement in quantitative reasoning. We have asked for technical corrections. They have been agreed upon here, and we are awaiting approval from 80th Street. The entire transcript of my testimony is on the Hunter list online, and hard copies are available in the Senate Office. 79
80
81
82
83
84

There are University Faculty Senate Committees that need Hunter representation. Particularly in these difficult times we need to have representatives from Hunter on the Budget Committee, Status of the Faculty Committee, Research Committee, Academic Policy Committee, and Academic Freedom Committee. Please consider service on UFS committees. 85
86
87
88
89

On September 19th the UFS will hold a meeting to discuss developments since last semester and future prospects. One of the guests will be the Chair of the Assembly Higher Education Committee, Assemblyman Ed Sullivan. Hunter's Pam Wonsek will also be a speaker. 90
91
92
93

I will end my report by introducing some of the new people who have agreed to serve with us and also some ongoing ones. Professor Michael Turner is the new Chair of the Senate's Evening Session Council; Professor John Wallach is the Parliamentarian. Ms. Renate Murray and Judith King continue to provide valuable service to the Senate Office." 94
95
96
97
98

Professor Hampton concluded her report by presenting the following resolution in honor of Ken Sherrill: 99
100

WHEREAS: Professor Sherrill has given distinguished service to the Hunter College Senate since its inception in 1971; and 101
102

WHEREAS: Professor Sherrill has served the Senate on numerous committees and as chair from 1992-1995; and 103
104

WHEREAS: Professor Sherrill has demonstrated integrity, wisdom, strength, courage, grace, charm, and uncommonly good humor in all these capacities; and	105 106 107
WHEREAS: Professor Sherrill's legislative prowess and depth of commitment to democratic principles in college governance and to educational excellence and access are exemplary; and	108 109 110
WHEREAS: Professor Sherrill has extended the reach of egalitarian participation to the realm of cyberspace; therefore,	111 112
BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Hunter College Senate recognize Professor Sherrill's achievements and gifts of service with deepest gratitude; and	113 114
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Hunter College Senate acknowledge this as a milestone in a stellar career which grows more lustrous each day and wish Professor Sherrill the best in future endeavors; and	115 116 117
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Hunter College Senate bestow upon Professor Sherrill the title of CHAIR EMERITUS with all the rights and privileges that pertain thereto.	118 119 120
The resolution carried by acclamation.	121
Professor Hampton yielded the floor to Professor Sherrill.	122
<u>Report by the Secretary:</u>	123
Professor Sherrill said: "Barbara and I went to a lot of hearings over the summer. It was a wonderful summer of transition -- a learning experience for Barbara, and an unburdening one for myself. I would like to fill you in on a couple of key events.	124 125 126 127
As you know the State Legislature passed a budget, and the Board of Trustees adopted one which was balanced by increasing tuition by \$750 for undergraduates and more for graduate and out-of-state students. At the same time the Board adopted 36 other resolutions for long-term planning and restructuring of the university. Many of these were housekeeping and we did not object strenuously. However, all of this is tied up in litigation brought by the leaders of the Professional Staff Congress, by the Chair of the University Faculty Senate, and by several other campus governance leaders. I am not a party to the suit for a couple of reasons, one of which had to do with the quantitative reasoning requirement at Hunter and the other with my judgment of the court papers. The key allegation of the law suit is that fiscal exigency was not properly declared, because at the moment that the Board retrenched everybody there was reason to assume that the budget would be in balance given the anticipated revenues from tuition and from the State. The Board went forward with its declaration and retrenchment in large part because of an assessment that between 1 and 3% of tuition revenues would not be forthcoming, and that between 1 and 3% of the funds appropriated by the Legislature would not be forthcoming. Since then the State Department Division of the Budget has withheld 3% of the first 25% that the university was to receive, which already put us at the upper limit of the amount of money withheld. The Chancellor has been told informally that they will also withhold 3% of the second 25%, which will mean that we will be at least twice as much in the hole as the amount of money that the Board has sequestered. If this is carried out for the year, it would be a cut of one eighth of the amount of money we were appropriated. There is some talk in the legislature of bringing a law suit against the Governor. This has never been litigated in the State. But all sorts of appropriated funds have not been released, including much cherished funds for specific projects in legislators' districts,	128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154
Student enrollment university wide in the senior colleges is down by 7,000 students, that is 3.25%. Even if every student who registers pays tuition we will not meet the anticipated target, and the amount put aside will be inadequate. On top of that, the Governor's Department of the Budget has just requested that the university achieve substantially more savings, presumably without touching the classroom. They have also told the university to anticipate that the Governor will want to cut as much money out of the next one or two years as was cut	155 156 157 158 159 160 161

out of this year. One of the struggles that we will have to deal with, besides trying to stop that cut, will be the question of whether or not we can in any kind of conscience raise tuition as much as we already have to recoup the monies that were lost.	162 163 164 165
The Board of Trustees will consider at its meeting on September 27th its budget proposal for next year. It is a house of cards. It anticipates enrollment growth, it requests an increase of over 9% of what we had this year, at the same time that the Governor is asking for a cut. The Chancellor's Preliminary Budget Request was made available to us yesterday. There is a copy in the Senate Office. If you wish to testify at the Board Hearing on the subject next Monday at 4 PM, you must call the Secretary of the Board by 4 PM this Friday. I would urge you to take a look at the budget request. You will see that there is money there for the Language Immersion Institute and for the Security Initiative. They would like to hire new faculty, they would like to restore faculty, but whether or not this will come to pass is unclear.	166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176
Anticipating a massive political struggle in the coming year, over the summer a group of us established a political action committee, which we have called the "The Higher Education Political Action Committee," or THE-PAC. It is state-wide committee registered with the State of New York. We will get out a mailing very soon asking you to contribute money to it. We hope to receive contributions not only from faculty, but also from alumni, from people who are friends of higher education, and from businesses. We are planning to use that money to engage in an aggressive public relations campaign to build public support for higher education, and for targeted political contributions. The Governor sped up the budget time table. Budget submissions must be in Albany by December. We do not have time to loose. It is time to get organized again.	177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187
Professor Sherrill yielded the floor to the Chair.	188
<u>Election of Committee Chairs</u>	189
Professor Hampton opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Nominating Committee.	190 191
Dr. Marilyn Rothschild (Computer Science) was nominated.	192
It was moved that nominations be closed. The motion carried by voice vote. Dr. Rothschild was elected Chair of the Nominating Committee by hand vote.	193 194
The floor was open for nominations for Chair of the Budget Committee.	195
Professor Howard Chernick (Economics) was nominated.	196
It was moved that nominations be closed. The motion carried by voice vote. Professor Chernick was elected Chair of the Budget Committee by hand vote.	197 198
The floor was open for nominations for Chair of the Master Plan Committee.	199
Professor Victor Goldsmith (Geology & Geography) was nominated.	200
It was moved that nominations be closed. The motion carried by voice vote. Professor Victor Goldsmith was elected Chair of the Master Plan Committee by hand vote.	201 202 203
<u>Election of Members for the Nominating Committee.</u>	204
The floor was open for nominations of faculty members.	205
Professor Beth Richie (School of Health Sciences) was nominated.	206
It was moved that nominations be closed. The motion carried by voice vote. Professor Beth Richie was elected to the Nominating Committee by hand vote.	207 208
The floor was open for nominations for students members, but none were received.	209 210

Committee Report:	<u>Nominating Committee</u>	
	Dr. Marilyn Rothschild, Chair of the Committee, presented the report dated September 13, 1995, as distributed.	211 212
	It was moved that the slate be approved as presented. The motion carried by hand vote and the following were elected:	213 214
	<u>Undergraduate Course of Study Committee</u>	215
	Faculty at-large: Roger Persell (Biology)	216
	Faculty Alternate: Darlene DeFour (Psychology)	217
	<u>Undergraduate Academic Requirements Committee</u>	218
	Faculty from Humanities & Arts: Virginia Held (Philosophy)	219
	<u>Budget Committee</u>	220
	Faculty from Humanities & Arts: Peter Basquin (Music)	221
	Faculty from Health Professions: Violet Malinsky (Nursing)	222
	<u>Master Plan Committee</u>	223
	Faculty from Sciences & Math.: Robert Marino (Physics & Astron.)	224
	Faculty from Humanities & Arts: Elizabeth Beaujour (Classics)	225
	Faculty from Health Professions: Janet Natapoff (Nursing)	226
New Business:	Professor Kirkland moved that the Hunter College Senate extend hearty congratulations to Professor Roslyn Petchesky on her recent receipt of the McArthur Award.	227 228 229
	The motion carried by acclamation.	230
	It was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM.	231 232

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth S. Sherrill
Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

FACULTY:

Art: Emily Braun
William Agee
Peter Dudek

Chemistry: Jack Day
Nambi Krishnamachari

Classics: Tamara Green

Communications: Gregory Morris

Curriculum & Teaching: Dolores Fernandez

Economics: Avi Liveson
Howard Chernick
Terence Agbeyegbe

Educational Foundations: Kimberly Kinsler
Linda Perkins
David Hodges

Geology & Geography: Jeffrey Osleeb
Richard Liebling

German: Eckhard Kuhn-Osius "E"
Annette Kym

Mathematics: Ada Peluso
Roy Connell

Nursing: Marie Mosley "E"

Social Work: Jayne Silberman
Malka Sternberg

Sociology: Jack Cuddihy

Theatre & Film: Dan Koetting
Alkis Popoutsis "E"

Urban Affairs: Sigmund Shipp
Stanley Moses

Dean Carlos Hortas

STUDENTS:

Miguel Muirhead
Johane Alexandre
Emmanuel Roy
Lonny Paris
Shoshana Roland
Alisha Ostacher
Kimberly Baxter
Allison Lavalas
Michael Reyes
Jesse Ambers
Rita Deleuse
Tanya Brown
Hiro Komatsubara
Shantih Brando "E"
Desire Wilson
Christine Gengaro
Tamara Gayer
Mercedes Batista
Mary Ann Dolan "E"
Anna Matkovic
Corina Vizhnay
Gary Braglia
Michael Avrut