

MINUTES

**Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
16 September 1987**

	The 225th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:10 PM in Room W714.	1 2
Presiding:	Prof. F. Fulton Ross, Chair	3
Attendance:	The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.	4 5
Minutes:	The Minutes of May 6th, May 13th, and May 20th were approved as distributed.	6
Report by the President:	A summary statement of President Shalala's report to the Senate is attached as Appendix II.	7 8
Report by the Administrative Committee:	1. Prof. Bill Mayer, Secretary of the Senate, presented the first part of the as follows:	9 10
	<u>Approved Curriculum Changes</u>	11
	The following changes, as listed in the report dated 16 September 1987, were approved as per Senate resolution and were submitted for the Senate's information: Items UR-663 (Latin American & Caribbean Studies), US-655 (Geology & Geography).	12 13 14 15
	2. <u>Report on Presidential Search Committee</u>	16
	Prof. Fulton Ross, Chair of the Senate, presented the following report:	17
	"By now you should all have received the letter signed by David Hodges, President of the General Faculty and its representative body the Faculty Delegate Assembly, and by me as Chair of the Senate. You may also have observed that the letterhead contained the name of the Executive Committee of the FDA and the Administrative Committee of the Senate."	18 19 20 21 22
	In view of the fact that a number of faculty had not yet received it, Prof. Ross read the letter to the Senate.	23 24
	He then said: "I would like at this time to give you the chronology of how David and I came to sign that letter. Provost LeMelle received a letter from Vice-Chancellor Bloom dated July 1, 1987, wherein Mr. Bloom requested that the faculty at Hunter elect three members to the Search Committee for President, and that the two students and the alumnus be selected as soon as feasible in accordance with the Board Guidelines." Prof. Ross then read the exact wording of the Board of Trustees Guidelines in relation to faculty, student and alumnus selection: " <u>Faculty</u> --three faculty members from the college, elected by the faculty of the college concerned; <u>Students</u> --two students from the college, generally the presidents of student governing bodies, such as Day Session and Evening Session Student Governments; <u>Alumni</u> --one alumnus from the college, generally the president of the Alumni organization of the college concerned..."	25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37
	Prof. Ross continued his report and said: "On July 30th, Provost LeMelle called David Hodges, Nancy Dean, Vice President Sylvia Fishman and me to his office to discuss the Vice Chancellor's letter and the Guidelines. At that time he instructed that the Administrative Committee of the Senate and the Executive Committee of the FDA sit down together as quickly as possible to work out a procedure for the election of three faculty to the Presidential search committee that would meet the guidelines of the Board of Trustees. The Provost held a follow-up meeting at the end of August which was attended by the same people who were at the first meeting with the addition, at my request, of Professor Rena Gropper. He again urged that we act with all due haste since the Board awaits the names of our electees. The earliest meeting time that could be scheduled for the meeting of the FDA Executive Committee and the Senate Administrative Committee was September 4th. Senate Vice-Chair Nina Katzander was asked not to sit with us since the task as instructed by the Board	38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52

of Trustees was to determine election procedures for electing three faculty by faculty. After three and one half hours at the September 4th meeting, we all agreed on the procedures which you have read in the letter sent to you., together with additional procedural instructions which will be given to all faculty by department chairs, and by Deans in the cases of the professional schools. We are pleased with the procedures agreed on and feel that they provide for the broadest possible representation for this very important committee. We were also pleased with the opportunity to work together with the Executive Committee of the FDA on something vital to the entire Hunter College community. Both organizations took as the highest priority insuring that the Hunter College faculty operate as one mind in electing faculty to the Search Committee." Prof. Ross then opened the floor to questions.

Committee Reports:

Departmental Governance Committee

Prof. Al Bennick, Chair of the Committee, presented the revised By-laws of the English Department for Senate approval.

After brief discussion, the motion to approve the revised English Department By-laws carried by voice vote.

A motion to adjourn carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



William Mayer,
Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted absent from the meeting:

FACULTY:

Academic Skills: Hector Martinez

Anthropology: Sally McLendon
John Oates

Art: Susan Peterson

Black & P.R. Studies: Joanne Edey-Rhodes
Jose Morales

Chemistry: Klaus Grohmann
William Grossman

Curriculum & Teaching: Andre Thibodeau

Educational Foundations: Sherryl B. Graves

English: Allan Brick

Geology & Geography: Charles Heatwole

Health & Physical Ed.: Tom Burke

History: Naomi Miller
Dolores Greenberg

Health Sciences: Jack Caravanos

Music: Clayton Westermann

Nursing: Joan Sayre "E"
Mary Dee McEvoy

Political Science: Andrew Polsky
Priscilla Handelman

Psychology: Gerald Turkewitz

Social Work: Yvonne Asamoah "E"
Gary Anderson

Sociology: John Cuddihy
Vladimir Nahirny

Special Education: Marsha Lupi
Katherine Garnett
H. Roberta Arriga "E"

Theatre and Film: Steven Nelson
Dick Tomkins

Administration: Dean Carlos Hortas
Dean Erwin Fleissner "E"
Dean Hugh Scott "E"
Vice Pres. Sylvia Fishman
Dean Everlana Holmes
Asst. Dean Polly Breland "E"

STUDENTS:

Don Weiner
Elizabeth Petry
Chris Kikis
Karen Jacoby
Lidolfo Franco
Dennis Bianco
Aleza Ross
Ghennady Khareyn
R.V. Phoewhawn
Felicia Banks
Rose Heredia
Sheri Love
James McKeever
Thomas Riegel "E"
Jorge Ortiz-Aleman
Francis Torres
Daniel Quinn
Amanda Matthews
Marsha Frankel
Rhonda Fountain "E"
Lois Goldberg "E"
Neil Apostolakis
Sonia Tirado
Mary Prime "E"
Kimberly Slade
Patrick Jeremiah
Amy Pearsall
Frederick Fu
Rosa Nunez
Susan Conrad
Karin Koehn
Norma Moy
Chris Littleton
Marc Mizrahi
Peter Gallert
Jennifer Williams

APPENDIX II

Report by President Shalala

President Shalala said that she would not give a farewell speech, but instead get on with the business of the College. There will be time for appropriate farewell speeches later. She said that she would not leave here without continuing her acting career, and that she had a date with Alan Alda downstairs to be an extra in his movie. Alan Alda, whose wife is a Hunter graduate, had asked if he could film part of his new movie at Hunter. The President assured the Senate that this kind of visibility in a film, which will probably be rated PG, is the best publicity one can get.

Re: Budget: The President said that she will be here through the most important part of the first semester, and that she will follow through with the Governor's Office to make sure that Hunter gets the strongest budget possible. She assured the Senate that she would not leave until that part of the 1988-1989 budget process is finished.

The current budget is basically the same as last year. There are some new lines, and most of those went into the academic areas. There is an increase in adjunct monies, and some money for graduate initiatives and childcare. There are also some problems in that there is no additional money to cover the telephone deficit which we have rolled over for a number of years. CUNY has never been adequately funded in this area. Since we introduced the new telephone system at Hunter, our telephone budget has been stabilized, and there have not been significant increases. Controlling the telephone budget is one thing, not having money to cover the deficit which we have been rolling over and which we can no longer roll over, is quite another. We have therefore decided to balance the budget this year by taking money off the top and by anticipating the deficit. This will put us in a stronger position to argue for more monies for the instructional budget in January. It is a strategy that we think will work. Rather than arguing for more telephone money, we think that a stronger argument would be for more money because our enrollments have held and because our student/faculty ratio is high.

On Construction: We have a serious problem with construction costs, not only for this institution but city-wide. There is so much construction going on in the city that it is their market and the bids are high. We will have to shift some money within our construction budget to cover projects that have already begun. It is a growing problem and the concern is that we will not get the additional money required. We have therefore made a set of decisions about future construction at the College that will help to keep the momentum going. The School of Social Work program is going ahead. It is financed and will be completed within a year. It is in good shape from both a financial and management point of view. The Brookdale Center needs substantial renovation over a long period of time and some dramatic moves are needed to get things finished. The College is planning to make a request for a change in the master plan arrangements and ask that the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York take over the Brookdale buildings, because they can bond for financing and can therefore assume the difference between estimates and bids. This would mean that they would maintain it as well as renovate it. It would allow us to take a giant step toward that renovation project. We will continue to use the renovation and the rehabilitation budgets of CUNY for the North Building and concentrate our management on those contracts. The President said that she feels that this is the only way to go. It means that there will not be a competition for renovation between the faculty at Brookdale and the faculty here since we will be using different pots of money.

Finally, regarding our 1988-1989 budget request, we put in for the first time a Christmas tree request. This means a whole set of new initiatives recommended by a variety of different constituencies in the College, including initiatives for an Asian American education, an endowment for the Blumenthal Memorial Lecture, a new center for the study of the gifted associated with the campus schools, and continued support for the Library.

On Enrollments: Fall enrollments are slightly lower by plan, about 300 students, in an effort to hold down non-metrics to make sure that we have enough space, classes and sections for the students who come here to get degrees. We still have a very strong senior citizen group with 900 students. But we have to concentrate our resources on part-time and full-time students who are working on degrees.

On Retention: For the first time in our registration period we can see the result of our efforts for retention. For the last three or four years the SEEK program has seen a

success with their new focus and new concentration on retaining students. We can now see in the regular college programs that more students are re-registering and staying in the College. We just had the largest commencement in our history, and we are not only retaining more students, we are also graduating more students. It means that we are doing something right. Credit belongs particularly to the Provost who, together with a variety of faculty and staff has made an enormous effort regarding retention. Retaining a student, supply the needed services, courses, and help them through graduation in a reasonable period of time is what we really ought to do as opposed to being a revolving door for people to slip in and out. Our effort in this regard are beginning to show.

Re: Library Hours: Upon recommendation last year that the Library hours be extended, we have completed a demonstration project to see if extended library hours would really be used. The figures indicate that during the spring 1987 semester over 10,000 students used the Library between 8 and 9 PM, and over 5,000 students between 9 and 10 PM. We think the demonstration was a success and have built the extended hours into our budget. We will be reviewing weekend hours, but this would necessitate an increase in full-time lines. For now the Library will be open until 10 PM Mondays through Thursdays.

Announcements: The Blumenthal Memorial Lecture will be on December 8th, and the lecturer is Eleanor Holmes Norton, the former head of the Equal Employment Commission. We have scheduled a January Commencement on January 28th in the Auditorium. President Shalala said that she will be here for the Fall semester until sometime in December and that she will not commute to Wisconsin during this time. She is planning to tie up all loose ends.

Re: Presidential Search: The President said that she approved the ad-hoc agreement that was worked out, and that she will not be involved in the process with one exception. She has accepted an invitation from the Chair of the Search Committee to tell the committee how difficult the job is, and describe what in her opinion the characteristics ought to be. She said that the process will in fact determine the quality of the candidate, that is the process of how the college behaves, how the university behaves, and whether it becomes a political football. President Shalala said that because of the mess of the last Hunter search she had actually turned down the committee, telling them that it was the most unprofessional and demeaning process she had ever been through for two reasons: (1) because it became a political football with public arguments in the press, and (2) because of her interviews at the college, where she was asked questions that could only be answered after having spent a career at Hunter. She reminded the Senate that she was no one's candidate, except that Bob Kibbee thought she had potential. President Shalala said: "So I leave you with that without coming to any conclusion, and with an indication that it is getting harder and harder to get college presidents...How the College behaves, and I have obviously great faith in all of you, will really determine the quality of the candidates. People are very reluctant to take college presidencies now, and very reluctant to come to New York and get into the political arena, as we are finding out in the search for a new school's chancellor. So, I expect not to be disappointed. This is a very high class institution and I think you and I have made this job attractive enough that lots of people of high quality will want it. I will be working from the outside as the process unfolds."

President Shalala concluded her report by opening the floor to questions. There were none.

The Senate thanked the President for her report with applause.