

MINUTES

**Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
16 September 1992**

	The 279th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:35 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
Minutes:	The Minutes of the meetings of May 6th, May 13, and May 20th were approved as distributed.	6 7
Report by the President:	President LeClerc asked the Senate to pause for a moment of silence to recollect the memory and the many contributions of Mrs. Anne Jones who sadly died this August, and who is survived by her two sons Billy and John who work at Hunter.	8 9 10
	The Senate observed a moment of silence.	11
	A summary of President LeClerc's report to the Senate is as follows. He said:	12
	"Good afternoon and welcome back to Hunter.	13
	The Senate has before it this afternoon a matter of great consequence for us as an institution, namely the continuing consideration of a curricular change relative to issues of pluralism and diversity.	14 15 16
	We as a community, and not simply as a Senate, have a lot riding on a successful outcome of this debate and this meeting. In conformity with its Charter and with recommendations made at the last meeting of the Senate, a group of individuals met over the course of the summer to come up with a series of recommendations that accommodated the objectives of a number of amendment makers at that last meeting. Many of us were concerned about the phenomenon we witnessed at the last two meetings of the Senate, where a major curricular reform at Hunter started to be cobbled together, being changed word by word, on the floor of the Senate. I believe that Professor Sherrill will speak more about the laudable steps he took to bring a bit more order to the process by which we decide how the college's curriculum in this important area will evolve.	17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28
	What I wish to emphasize to the Senate today is the full endorsement of this administration of the proposals that will be put before you this afternoon. These proposals may not reflect any one person's conception of an ideal requirement. But I suspect that <u>no</u> constellation of courses, <u>no</u> formulation of this kind of distribution requirement, would meet with universal approbation, would include everyone's particular agenda. The proposals you will be asked to consider do in my view accommodate the most important issues I believe are now involved in the debate over cultural pluralism. The compromises embedded in the proposals were hard won and are neither trivial nor superficial. These are, in short, a series of proposals that I will be happy, in my role as President, to recommend that the Board of Trustees approve. I hope that the Senate endorses them today."	29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40
Report by the Administrative Committee:	Professor Sherrill presented the report as follows:	41
	He said: "First, as President LeClerc has just alluded to, the Administrative Committee held a series of meetings over the course of the summer, bringing together the authors of the principal amendments and substitute resolutions to the Pluralism & Diversity Requirement proposed at the last meeting, to see if working together rather than independently it would be possible to find some common ground. Article V, Section 3, of the Governance Charter says that the Administrative Committee will assure the continuity of the Senate's business between meetings, and that has for the last 21 years	42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49

of the Senate's existence been used to enable the Administrative Committee to continue the work of the Senate.	50 51
I would like to thank all of the various amendment makers who sat in through these meetings, but particularly President LeClerc and Provost Strumingher for coming to these meetings. There were at least five very lengthy meetings. In my twenty six years at Hunter I have never known a president or provost to show such interest in the College's academic and intellectual activity. Beyond lending us the moral support of the presence of their offices, underlining the importance of this endeavor, this kind of commitment of time was rather extraordinary, and I think we are all in their debt for that. I hope that this opened the door to a long-term friendly collaborative relationship between the Senate and the College Administration in the development of academic policy.	52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62
There are two other things I would like to report to you about and one election that we must conduct.	63 64
In the course of the summer I was invited to attend two meetings in my capacity as Senate Chair. One was at the Board of Trustees on the subject of the College Preparatory Initiative. We began to discuss the procedures we will have to follow to implement the College Preparatory Initiative which is mandated by the Board. In the near future the Administrative Committee will name a committee to assume this responsibility.	65 66 67 68 69 70
There was a meeting last Friday of College governance heads, called by the University Faculty Senate. Much of the time was spent reviewing the impact of the current range of budget cuts. Over 500 staff members are no longer at the University, and at the same time there has been a 10% increase in community college enrollment and a 5% increase in enrollments at the senior colleges of the university. The Chancellor has appointed a blue-ribbon task force of a few college presidents, a few distinguished professors, and a few other people to consider program revision for the University. A report of that committee is in the works. We were given a summary of a presentation given at another meeting. It is conceivable that there will be some reallocation of programs. Not everything offered at every college will continue to be offered at every college. One example that was used is a consideration of whether or not it is necessary to have a French major at every college in the University. Questions of this sort are on the table. The goal is to teach everything we now teach but not to do so as widely. Decisions will be based in part on geography, in part on the basis of academic capability, and in part driven by anticipated needs of the New York work force. Here we would have to ask whether vocational concern would override more traditional academic concerns. Here we also have to worry about the potential of turf battles among campuses. The question of whether or not colleges will have the right to accept or reject programs that are reallocated to it has not yet been resolved. The current plan is to handle this in a fashion similar to the CPI, in which there will be a series of forums. These forums will be used to inform the members of Central Administration and the Task Force of our ideas and thinking, but these will not be referenda. We will have an opportunity to hear what they have to say. They will have an opportunity to hear our reactions, but we will not be allowed to vote this proposal up or down."	71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98
The next item on the Agenda was the election of <u>Chair for the Nominating Committee.</u>	99 100
The floor was open for nominations. Dr. Marilyn Rothschild (Physics) was nominated.	101 102
It was moved that nominations be closed, and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the nominee.	103 104
The motion carried by hand vote, and Dr. Rothschild was elected Chair of the Nominating Committee.	105 106

The floor was open for nominations of faculty members for the Nominating Committee, and the following were nominated: 107
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Prof. Jose Hernandez (Black & Puerto Rican Studies) 109
Prof. Carol Silverman (School of Health Sciences) 110

It was moved that nominations be closed, and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the nominees. 111
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The motion carried by hand vote, and Professor Hernandez and Silverman were elected. 113
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The floor was open for nominations for faculty alternate. None were offered. 115

The floor was open for student members for the Nominating committee. None were offered. 116
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**Items Carried
Over From Last
Meeting:**

Continued consideration of Pluralism & Diversity Requirement Proposal 118

The motion on the floor was the following paragraph # 2 of the Undergraduate Course of Study Committee proposal: 119
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2. a course that considers the contributions of diversity to the United States of America, with a focus on the perspectives and contributions of one or more ethnic groups in the U.S. which have traditionally been disadvantaged and underrepresented in the curriculum (e.g., Native Americans, African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans); 121
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Professor Kirkland moved that the motion be amended by substituting the following: 126
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2. a course that focuses on the perspectives and contributions of one or more of the following groups in the United States of America: African Americans, Asian Americans, Latino Americans, and Native Americans; 128
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After discussion the question on the motion to substitute was called and carried. 131

The motion to substitute was approved by hand vote. 132

The motion on the floor was Prof. Kirkland's substitute amendment. 133

Professor Linton moved that the motion be amended by substituting the following: 134
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2. a course that focuses on scholarship that reflects the perspectives and contributions of one or more groups in the United States which have traditionally been underrepresented in the curriculum due to discriminatory policies and practices. Courses in African American Studies, Asian American Studies, Latino American Studies, Native American Studies, Gay and Lesbian Studies and Disability Studies are course in the curriculum that can fulfill this requirement. 136
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After discussion the question on the motion to substitute was called and carried. 143

The motion to substitute was defeated by hand vote with 45 opposed, 21 in favor, and 6 abstentions. 144
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The motion on the floor was Prof. Kirkland's substitute amendment. 146

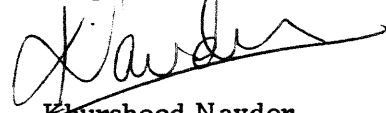
Prof. Petruszewicz moved that the motion be amended by inserting the words "ethnic" before the word "groups", and "e.g." before "African Americans." 147
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At this point it was moved that the meeting time be extended to 6 PM. The motion carried. 149
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After discussion, Professor Clarkson moved that the amendment be amended by adding the words "and others". 151
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After discussion the question was called and carried on Professor Clarkson's amendment. The amendment was defeated by hand vote.	153 154
After discussion the question was called and carried on Professor Petruszewicz's amendment. The amendment was defeated by hand vote.	155 156
The motion on the floor was Prof. Kirkland's substitute amendment.	157
After discussion the question was called and carried.	158
The motion was approved by hand vote, and paragraph # 2 now reads as follows:	159
2. a course that focuses on the perspectives and contributions of one or more of the following groups in the United States of America: African Americans, Asian Americans, Latino Americans, and Native Americans;	160 161 162
Paragraph # 3 was on the floor and will be considered at the next meeting.	163
The meeting was adjourned at 6 PM.	164

Respectfully submitted,



Khursheed Navder
Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

FACULTY:

Anthropology: William Parry
Thomas McGovern
Gerald Creed

Art: Ulka Bates
Andrea Blum

Black & P.R. Studies: Pedro Lopez-Adorno "E"

Chemistry: Lou Massa

Classics: Alex Alexander

Communications: Tami Gold

Computer Science: Virginia Teller "E"

Curriculum & Teaching: Tony Picciano

Economics: Howard Chernick

English: Sybil Brinberg

Geology & Geography: Richard Liebling

German: Eckhard Kuhn-Osius "E"
Suzanne Osborne

Health Sciences: Ida Susser

Library: Pamela Wonsek

Mathematics: Barry Cherkas
Barbara Barone

Music: Paul Mueller "E"
Susan Kagan "E"

Nursing: Marie Mosley

Psychology: Peter Moller

Social Work: Jayne Silberman

Sociology: Naomi Kroeger
John Cuddihy "E"

Special Education: Marsha Lupi

Student Services: Madlyn Stokely

Theatre & Film: Daniel Koetting
Ellen Sumter

Urban Affairs: Stanley Moses

STUDENTS:

Robert Nisonoff
Michael Luciano
Kristine Mancenido
Efua Morgan
Michael Joseph
Ian Yeager
Rafael Hernandez
Sigrid Cotto
Victoria Kern
Debra Robertson
Winston Brewster
Simon Kamara
Lewanda Hernandez
Jose Ramos
Damaris Nunez
Rebecca Perez
Dierdre Foudy "E"
Edilberto Soriano
Kyle Williams
Helen Pouliasis
Judy Smith
James L. Painter
Michael Muyot
Erica Petersen
Arlene King
Alicen Willis
Amy Kossoy
M. Pauline Herrmann
Tara Maloney