

MINUTES

Meeting of the Hunter College Senate

18 March 1998

- 1 The 362nd meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:15 PM in Room W714.
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- 3 **Presiding:** Barbara L. Hampton, Chair
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- 5 **Attendance:** The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.
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- 7 **Agenda:** The agenda was adopted as distributed.
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- 9 **Report by the** A summary statement of President Caputo's report to the Senate is attached as Appendix II.
10 **President:**
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- 12 **Report by the** Professor Hampton presented the report as follows:
13 **Administrative**
14 **Committee:** Approved Curriculum Changes
15 The following curriculum changes, as listed in the Report dated 18 March 1998, have been
16 approved as per Senate resolution, and were submitted for the Senate's information: Items
17 GR-444 (Music), GS-438 (School of Health Sciences/Physical Therapy), GS-439 and GS
18 440 (Romance Languages), and GS 441- (English).
19
- 20 Professor Hampton read the following letter addressed to Dr. Anne Paolucci, dated March
21 16th, which was signed by Comptroller McCall, and State Assemblymembers Aubry, Glick,
22 Perry, Ramirez, and Sullivan:
23
- 24 Dear Dr. Paolucci:
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- 26 We wish to again express our concern about the various aspects of the Comprehensive
27 Action Plan (CAP) for remedial education that you are advancing.
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- 29 We understand your interest in making changes to bring up standards, but we respect-
30 fully request that before proceeding full bore [sic] with this plan, you first address the
31 concerns we have raised about access. You should know that we will not be able to
32 support this plan without assurances that it will not have the unintentional effect of
33 denying opportunity to many who are interested and capable of benefiting from higher
34 education, but need additional help.
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- 36 As we have already indicated to you, as CAP evolves there must be opportunities for
37 review and revision. We had hoped and expected that you would allow us the opportu-
38 nity for substantial discussion *before* going forward with broad-scale changes about
39 which we had expressed reservations.
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- 41 It is distressing that directly after we expressed our concerns to you – instead of pausing
42 to consider your plans in the context of the issues we raised – you instead rushed to
43 include additional changes which may even further jeopardize the City University's
44 historic mission of access. A public hearing concerning the issue was hastily arranged
45 and we were not informed in a timely manner, despite knowing that we are intensely
46 concerned about this issue. While this hearing may satisfy legal requirements for notice
47 and comment before moving forward with a Board of Trustees resolution, it does not
48 satisfy us.
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- 50 Given your evident preference to proceed at full speed with this plan, we must now ask
51 for an immediate formal meeting on the topic. We will contact you shortly to arrange a
52 time, but this is a matter we insist on discussing with the Board before your meeting on
53 March 23rd, at which time you apparently plan to adopt the CAP proposal.
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On behalf of the Administrative Committee she then presented the resolution on Remediation dated 18 March 1998, as distributed.

After discussion it was moved that the motion be amended by deleting the following wording on lines 10 and 11: "based on an 89% pass rate in remedial courses."

The amendment was approved by hand vote.

After discussion Professor Shahn moved that the motion be further amended by deleting lines 24, 25, and part of 26, so that the resolution would read: "Be it Further Resolved, that Hunter College will continue to reexamine and adjust its remediation policy as the preparation of the students improves, and"

The amendment was approved by hand vote.

Professor Wallach moved that the motion be further amended by deleting lines 18 and 19, and the word "Further" on line 26.

After discussion the question was called and carried. The amendment was defeated by hand vote.

After discussion Professor Shahn moved that the motion be further amended by inserting the following words on line 18: "...reaffirms the necessity of retaining at least its one-semester..."

After discussion the question was called and carried. The amendment was approved by hand vote.

Professor DenBoer moved that the motion be further amended by adding the following words to line 10: "...courses, for example the Summer Immersion Program for English courses had an 89% pass rate."

After discussion the question was called and carried. The amendment was defeated by hand vote.

It was moved that the complete motion, as amended, be approved. The motion was approved by hand vote, and reads as follows:

Resolution on Remediation

WHEREAS, the Undergraduate Academic Requirements Committee (UARC) of the Hunter College Senate has been engaged in reevaluating the remediation policies of Hunter College since September 1995; and

WHEREAS, the Senate, after investigation by UARC, voted to endorse a one-semester remediation policy on 5 March 1997, phasing it in from a two-semester policy adopted 6 December 1995; and

WHEREAS, preliminary data suggest that the one-semester policy is effective in moving most students into college level courses; and

WHEREAS, full implementation of CPI is not expected in the New York City schools until the year 2004 and the central administration has not made public a procedural mechanism for advising us of students' level of preparedness in a timely manner; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hunter College Senate reaffirms the necessity of retaining at least its one-semester remediation policy which derives from careful and thoughtful deliberation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hunter College Senate emphatically opposes the precipitous elimination of remediation at Hunter College; and

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133 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Hunter College will continue to reexamine and
134 adjust its remediation policy as the preparation of the students improves; and

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136 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that any further changes in the remediation policy will
137 require the formal installation of an administrative mechanism to expedite the testing and
138 processing of test results of new students; and

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140 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Hunter College Senate remains dedicated to the
141 one hundred twenty-six year mission of the College to provide a high quality education for
142 the citizens of New York City.
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144 **Committee**
145 **Reports:**

Charter Review Committee

146 Professor Richard Stapleford, Chair of the Committee, presented Part I and II of the First
147 Reading of the proposed Amendments to *The Charter for a Governance of Hunter College*, in
148 accordance with the amendment procedure approved by the CUNY Board of Trustees (Calen-
149 dar, April 23, 1979, No.6B).

150 He informed the Senate that the purpose of the First Reading is discussion without vote.
151 Amendments may be proposed and voted on at the Second Reading on April 22nd, and the
152 adoption vote will take place by written ballot at the May 20th Senate meeting. Professor Sta-
153 pleford requested that amendments to the proposed Amendments be submitted in writing to the
154 Senate Office in Room E1018, or by fax at 772-4206, by Friday, March 27th. The Charter
155 Review Committee will consider amendments at its meeting on April 3rd. Amendments will
156 then be voted on by the Senate at the April 22nd meeting.
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158 After discussion it was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried, and the
159 meeting adjourned at 5:40 P.M.
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163 Respectfully submitted,
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166 Pamela Mills
167 Secretary
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