

## MINUTES

### Meeting of the Hunter College Senate

### 6 MAY 1998

1 The 365th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:20 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 **Minutes:** The Minutes of April 1<sup>st</sup> and April 22<sup>nd</sup> were approved as distributed.

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11 **Report by the** Professor Hampton presented the report as follows:

12 **Administrative**

13 **Committee:**

14 She informed the Senate that President Caputo is attending the meeting of the Committee on Academic Program Planning at 80<sup>th</sup> Street, and that he would try to be here later.

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16 She then read the following resolution, which is currently being considered by the Board of Trustees' Long Range Planning Committee at a meeting that started at 3 P.M:

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19 RESOLVED, That all remedial course instruction shall be phased out of all baccalaureate degree programs at CUNY senior colleges as of the following dates: September 1999 for Baruch, Brooklyn, Queens, and Hunter Colleges; September 2000, for Lehman, John Jay, Staten Island, New York City Technical, and City Colleges; and September 2001, for York and Medgar Evers Colleges. Following a college's discontinuation of remediation, no student who has not passed all three Freshman Skills Assessment Tests, and any other admissions criteria which may exist, shall be allowed to enroll and/or transfer into that college's baccalaureate degree programs. Students seeking admission to CUNY senior colleges baccalaureate degree programs who are in need of remediation shall be able to obtain such remediation services at a CUNY community college, at a senior college only during its summer sessions, or elsewhere as may be made available. This resolution does not apply to ESL students who received a secondary education abroad and who otherwise are not in need of remediation; and be it further

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22 RESOLVED, That the Interim Chancellor and the senior college presidents shall, after consultation with the faculty, present a detailed plan for implementation of this resolution at the respective colleges to the Remediation and Long Range Planning Committees by September 1998.

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24 She informed the Senate that the outcome is not yet known since the meeting is still in progress. A Public Hearing is scheduled for Monday, May 18 at 4 P.M. in Room 104, and the next Board of Trustees Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 26 at 4:30 P.M. in Room 104.

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26 Professor Gilpatrick moved that the Senate affirm its one-semester remediation policy.

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28 The question was called and carried. The motion carried.

#### 29 Approved Curriculum Changes

30 The following curriculum changes, as listed in the Report dated 6 May 1998, were approved as per Senate resolution and were submitted for the Senate's information: Items UR-1063 (Film & Media Studies), US-1036 A&B (Romance Languages), US-1037, US-1054A, US-1055, and US-1056 (Film & Media Studies), US-1049 (Economics), US-1050A (Political Science, and US-1057 (Romance Languages).

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50 **Committee**

#### 51 Charter Review Committee – Continuation of Second Reading of Charter Amendments

52 **Reports:**

53 Professor Richard Stapleford, Chair of the Committee, presented the revised Report dated 6 May 1998, as distributed.

54 Provost Schor moved the following Amendment on behalf of President Caputo:

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56 "The Senate shall have 202 members (p.2, Article III, Sec.1). The administration will have 5% of these seats, totaling 11 (p.7, Article IV, Sec.2G), and Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors and Instructors on full-time appointments will have 44 % of the seats, totaling 89 (p. 4, Article IV, Sec. 2. A). The other numbers and percentages remain the same."

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58 After discussion Professor Matthews moved that the Amendment be amended by adding the following:

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60 "one of whom shall be in the title series of HEO or CLT"

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62 After discussion the question was called and carried.

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64 Professor Matthews amendment was approved by hand vote (38 in favor, 16 opposed), and became part of the main motion on the floor.

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After discussion the question was called and carried. The amendment, as amended, was approved by hand vote with 41 in favor and 11 opposed.

The motion on the floor was the total package as amended.

The question was called and carried.

The proposed Amendments to the *Charter for a Governance of Hunter College* were approved by hand vote with 54 in favor and 1 opposed.

**Report by the Provost on CPI**

Provost Schor said that she had prepared charts from data collected at Hunter and at the CUNY Central Office. She then presented the charts on the overhead projector. The charts are reproduced in Appendix II.

**Report by the President:**

A summary statement of President Caputo's report to the Senate is as follows. He said:

"Let me tell you briefly about the meeting at 80<sup>th</sup> Street. People have always told me that CUNY was different. Today's meeting was certainly different and perhaps it set new highs and new lows depending on your vantagepoint. The Mayor had a press conference this afternoon and announced that he has appointed a new commission to study CUNY community colleges. However, he did indicate that CUNY in general would be included. Benno Schmidt, the former president of Yale and now a member of the Edison Institute, is the chair of the commission. Richard Schwartz who was a political advisor to the Mayor is on it, and so is Heather MacDonald. We had hoped that there would be some reconciliation, or at least not an attempt to continue to turn up the flames under CUNY, but that did not happen. The key thing that happened at this Long Range Planning meeting, and this was all carefully orchestrated at the press conference, was a proposal by Vice Chair Badillo which, if passed, would eliminate or reduce our first year class next Fall by about 47%. The proposed resolution says that there will be no remediation at the senior colleges beginning in 1999, and that students have to pass all three Freshman Skills Assessment Tests before they are allowed to enroll. The way the resolution was introduced there was no effort to keep SEEK students from the requirement. The Vice Chair did say that this would not cover them. Also, the resolution does not apply to ESL students who received a secondary education abroad and who otherwise are not in need of remediation. After two hours of discussion the end result was that the committee voted against the resolution. However, the Chair pointed out to the committee that they could vote whatever way they wanted to vote, but this would still be the subject of a public hearing and that she was taking it to the meeting of the Board of Trustees in May. There was ensuing discussion and every President there, who spoke, spoke against the resolution with only one arguing that the Board needed to do something. Most of us took the position that the resolution that was on the floor was in fact inappropriate and not helpful. There was an attempt by Trustee Morning to introduce a resolution calling for the Chancellor to come back with a resolution, which in essence would have three ingredients to it. That there would be individual autonomy at the campuses to go from one semester to one year with the understanding that there would be an attempt to reduce the amount of remediation on each campus, and that there would be accountability in terms of each of the Presidents. That appeared to have a 6 to 2 affirmative vote. But as the meeting began to wind down people got confused and tired, and it was not taken as a formal vote. There was a move to adjourn with the understanding that this could come to the floor at the May Board meeting, but since it had not been voted on by the committee it cannot be a calendar item. There is some confusion whether or not this would then become an item for the public hearing. Needless to say it was a very interesting meeting and well attended by the media. I had to decide do I do a media interview or come here, and I decided to come over here because the suspense about the Charter amendment was killing me. I know at times people have said why aren't the presidents speaking out. The presidents were most eloquent in terms of opposing just about every aspect of what was on the table with this. Where we go from here will depend on what the subject of the public hearing is. Even the Vice Chair indicated that his proposal, which had been defeated but is still going forward, was an attempt to find out the worst case scenario and that there would be modifications.

As far as the budget goes, I don't think that there will be a successful attempt to override. Now the key point is whether or not there will be a supplementary budget request since the Governor has vetoed most of the increases including the new faculty lines. It appears that basically for next year we will have this year's budget, which means a 3 to 7% reduction because of inflation, etc."

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

It was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Mills,  
Secretary.