

MINUTES

Meeting of the Hunter College Senate

2 March 2022

The 662th meeting of the Hunter College Senate convened at 3:35 PM via Zoom.

Presiding: Laura S. Keating, Chair

Attendance: The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those marked absent in Appendix I.

Alternate Senators were formally seated consistent with the procedures approved by the Senate for in-person meetings, and they were enabled to vote using iClicker.

Agenda: Chair Keating informed the body that the Undergraduate Academic Requirements Committee would not report today. Also, an update on the CUNY grading memo had been added on the Administrative Committee report to the agenda. The agenda was adopted as revised.

Minutes: Voting on the minutes of 5 May, 12 May, 19 May and 29 September would be postponed to the 16 March meeting.

The DRAFT minutes of 16 February will be posted on the Senate website for informational purposes.

Report by the Provost:

Chair Keating called on Valeda Dent, Acting Provost and Vice President for Student Success and Learning and John Rose, Dean for Diversity and Compliance, to present a report on the Advance Racial Equity Task Force.

There was a motion to postpone the report to the 30 March meeting, but there was no second.

There was a motion to have the presentation today and have an additional presentation to the members of the task force on a different date. There was no objection.

The presentation on the Advance Racial Equity Task Force is in Appendix II.

Report by the Administrative Committee:

a) Special Senate Election for Vacant At-large Seats

In accordance with Article IV, 2H i & ii of the Charter for a Governance of Hunter College, the Administrative Committee is presenting the names of all nominees received to date:

Student:	Jackson Rasenberger (Psychology)
	Yostina Girgis (Biology, Human Rights)
Faculty:	Jillian Schwedler (Political Science)

It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the nominees. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

b) Approved Curriculum Changes

The following curriculum changes as listed in the attached report dated 2 March 2022 have been approved as per Senate resolution and are submitted for the Senate's information. Items: US-2447 Curriculum & Teaching (New course), US-2448 Curriculum & Teaching (Change in degree program), US-2449 Curriculum & Teaching (Change in courses), GS-1392 Special Education (Change in degree program), GS-1409 Nursing (New course), GS-1410 Nursing (Change in courses), GS-1415 Nursing (New course), GS-1416 Nursing (Change in courses), GS-1411 Curriculum & Teaching (New course), GS-1413 Curriculum & Teaching (New degree program), GS-1412 Special Education (Change in degree program), and GS-1414 School of Education (Change in degree program).

c) Election of Nominees of the Chair Panel for the Search Committee for Dean of the School of Nursing

Chair Keating informed the body that the Senate Office received one nomination for the position of Chair for the Search Committee for Dean of the School of Nursing.

NOMINEE FOR CHAIR PANEL:

Mary M. Cavanaugh, Dean, Silberman School of Social Work

It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the nominee for Chair Panel. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

d) Update on the CUNY Grading memo

Chair Keating said the following:

"At the meeting on Council of CUNY Faculty Governance Leaders on February 12, I presented our concerns about the May 22, 2021 CUNY Grade memo and there was discussion. The group decided to invite the University Registrar to come to the next meeting of the Council to discuss the reasoning behind the memo and all our concerns. I will report to you after that meeting."

**Committee
Report:**

Committee on Charter Review

Chair Keating called on Professor Elke Nicolai, Chair of the Committee on Charter Review, to present a report. Professor Nicolai's report is in Appendix III.

Committee on General Education

Chair Keating called on Professor Lawrence Kowerski, Chair of the Committee on General Education, to report. Professor Kowerski said the following:

"Hi everyone. This will be brief. This is a point of information. In May 2019 the General Education Committee brought the catalog language that was meant to streamline, simplify and make our General Education requirement clear for students. Those of you familiar with our General Education requirement are probably wondering, well, it is perfectly clear as it is. However, we thought we might want to make it a little clearer. So, we clarified things in the language but we did not make any changes at that point. We just simply incorporated all of the changes that had happened over the years. As part of that process, we included the highlighted part on the screen under the Hunter Focus which says that students with the joint major in Education may fulfill their entire 12 credits with courses in Education. So, what we are talking about here is the Hunter Focus. To make it clear, the Hunter Focus at Hunter is 12 credits. It is devoted to what is now called the Language Proficiency Requirement. When students reach the fourth semester of language proficiency, they then move on to the second part of the Hunter Focus which is the Concentrated Study. Students will have various levels of Concentrated Study. The Concentrated Study will be courses that work toward a minor, second major and certificate. Certain programs, such as Nursing have come to you and made that Hunter Focus particular to their programs. Thus, students in Nursing do not take the foreign language. They fulfill

their Hunter Focus with STEM variant courses. The point here is that Education, we thought, had a similar arrangement. So, what happens in Education is that if you have a joint major in Education, the Concentrated Study part of Hunter Focus is covered by Education courses. The way we have that is not the same as the “A” exemption. So, what we have written here makes it seem like students with a combined major in Education do not need to do the Language Proficiency Requirement. That is not true. If we leave this here, we are introducing something new. This is a change that needs to go through all sorts of process. That is not what we intended. Our intention was to put in writing what is happening in practice which is if you are in Education, you do not declare anything on the Hunter Focus. Your program goes in. So, that is the background. The thing that we are going to do is simply remove “B” from the catalog language. So, under Hunter Focus, there will be an exception. We will remove that “A”, and we will simply remove all of “B”. Therefore, we have introduced no changes to the Hunter Focus in our effort to clarify things. We have not introduced inadvertently changes to the General Education requirement, and everything remains the same. We are making no changes at all. We are simply removing language that does not accurately reflect what is happening. That is what I have for your point of information. I assume I am supposed to take questions about this specific point, and I am happy to do so.”

New Business:

Professor Louisa Thompson, Theatre department, raised an issue concerning the student – advisor ratio at Hunter College. Discussion followed.

There was a motion to have the Administrative Committee investigate alternative ways to bring this issue to the Senate and report at the next Senate meeting.
The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Professor Randall Filer, Economics and Accounting department, proposed a resolution to express a message of support for Ukraine.

“The Hunter College Senate expresses its concern and sympathy for all students and their families who are affected by the current situation in Ukraine”.

There was a motion to amend as follows:

“The Hunter College Senate expresses its concern and sympathy for all students, **faculty, staff** and their families who are affected by the current situation in Ukraine”.
An attempt for unanimous consent failed.

There was a motion to amend as follows:

“The Hunter College Senate expresses its concern and sympathy for all students, **faculty, staff** and their families who are affected by the current ~~situation~~ **war** in Ukraine”.

The motion to adopt the amended resolution carried by unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Jeninsky
Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following attendance was noted from the meeting

(A) =Alternate, A=Attended, X=Absent, E=Excused

Faculty					
AFPRL	Anthony Browne	A	Mathematics & Statistics	Sandra Clarkson	A
	Milagros Denis-Rosario	(A) A			0
	Lázaro Lima	(A) A		Robert Thompson	(A) A
Anthropology	Jackie Brown	X	Medical Laboratory Sciences	Barry Cherkas	(A) X
	Leo Coleman	(A) X		Abigail Morales	A
	Milena Shattuck	(A) A		Chad Euler	(A) X
Art & Art History	Harper Montgomery	X	Music	Muktar Mahajan	(A) X
	Reiner Leist	X		Jewel Thompson	A
	Emily Braun	(A) X		Michele Cabrini	(A) X
Biological Sciences	A. K. Burns	(A) A	School of Nursing		(A)
	Ben Ortiz	X		Carolyn Sun	A
	Shirley Raps	A		William Samuels	X
Chemistry	Paul Feinstein	(A) X	Philosophy	Ellen McCabe	A
	Carmen Melendez	(A) X		Ah-Yun (Emily) Yeh	(A) X
	Gabriela Smeureanu	A		Laura Keating	A
Classical & Oriental Studies	Nancy Greenbaum	(A) X	Physics & Astronomy	Frank Kirkland	(A) X
	Brian Zeglis	(A) X		Omar Dahbour	(A) X
	Yasha Klots	A		Kelle Cruz	A
Computer Science	Joanne Spurza	(A) X	Political Science		(A) X
	Doron Friedman	(A) X			(A)
	Sven Dietrich	X		Robert Jenkins	X
Curriculum & Teaching	Felisa Vazquez-Abad	(A) X	Psychology	Jill Schwedler	(A) X
		(A)		Michael Lee	(A) X
	Lacey Peters	A		Roseanne Flores	X
Dance	Jason Wirtz	X	Physical Therapy	Darlene Defour	A
		0 (A)		Glenn E Schafe	(A) X
	Tim Farnsworth	X		Michael Lewis	(A) X
Economics	David Capps	A	Romance Languages	Leon Cohen	X
	Maura Donohue	(A) X		Thomas Holland	(A) A
		(A)			(A)
Educational Foundations & Coun	Randall Filer	A	School of Social Work	Paolo Fasoli	A
	John Quiang Li	X		Magdalena Perkowska	(A) X
	Tim Goodspeed	(A) A		Julie Van Peteghem	(A) X
English	Avi Liveson	(A) A	Sociology	Samuel Aymer	A
	Goeum Na	A		George Patterson	A
	Jeanne Weiler	(A) A		Marina Lalayants	(A) X
Film & Media Studies	Markus Bidell	(A) A	Special Education	Keith Chan	(A) X
	Sarah Chinn	A		Mark Halling	X
	Amy Robbins	X		Mike Benediktsson	(A) X
Geography	Nijah Cunningham	X	SLPA	Michaela Soyer	(A) A
	Janet Neary	(A) A		Elaine Gale	A
	Tami Gold	X		Imani Irving Perez	(A) X
German	Andrew Demirjian	(A) A	Theatre	William Longworth	(A) A
	Larry Shore	(A) X		Donald Vogel	A
	Allen Frei	X		Nancy Eng	(A) X
History	William Solecki	(A) X	Urban Policy and Planning	JungMoon Hyun	(A) A
		(A)		Louisa Thompson	A
	Elke Nicolai	A		Jonathan Kalb	X
Library	Eckhard Kuhn-Osius	(A) A	School of Urban Public Health	Claudia Orenstein	(A) X
	Aine Zimmerman	(A) A		Lily Baum Pollans	A
	Daniel Hurewitz	X		Victoria Johnson	(A) X
	Manu Bhagavan	(A) X	Women & Gender Studies	Matthew Lasner	(A) X
	Jill Rosenthal	X		Phil Alcabes	A
	Sarah Ward	A		Susan Cardenas	(A) A
	Jennifer Newman	A			0 (A)
	Mee' Len Hom	(A) A		Jennifer Gaboury	A
		(A)		Catherine Raissiguier	(A) X
				Rupal Oza	(A) X

Students

Hunter Moran	X
Nafeeza Ali	A
Ariana Ahmed	X
Ariel Glazman	X
Fariha Uddin	A
Nicole Palmetto	X
Rida Akhlaq	X
Afrin Ansary	A
Jackson Rasenberger	A
Alia Codelia-Anjum	X
Amber Javenero	A
Tabia Ahmed	A
Auroa Hom	X
Christopher Orzech	X
Nicole Kuznetsov	X
Junia Sharmin	X
Noa Hacker	X
Sabina Marra	A
Umor Uddin	A
Viet Thanh Phan	A
Luisais Taveras	A
Yostina Girgis	A

At-Large, Lecturers and Part-Time Faculty

Student Services	Kevin Nesbitt	A
	Luis Roldan	(A) X
Library	Jocelyn Berger-Barera	A
Library	Tony Doyle	A
Psychology	Stefan Schlussman	A
Economics	Kevin Sachs	A
Medical Lab Science	Hongxing Li	A
Religion	Ron Long	A
THHP	Jerry Press	X
	0	0
Special Education	Gina Riley	A
Social Work	James Mandiberg	A
THHP	Sarah Jeninsky	A
Art and Art History	Peter Dudek	X

Ex-Officio

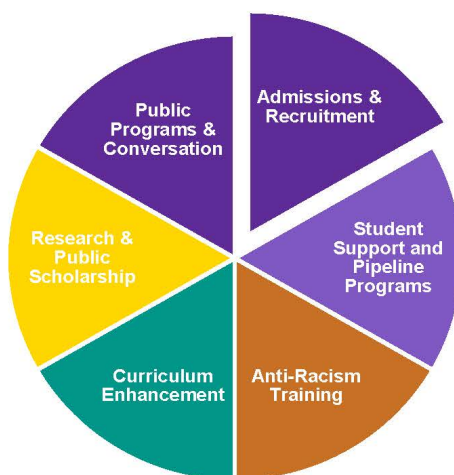
President, USG		0
Vice President, GSA	Kamalpreet Kaur	X
President Alumni Association	Barbara Poseluzny	X
President, HEO Forum	Denise Lucena-Jerez	A
President, CLT Council	Amy Jeu	X

ADMINISTRATION

Senators:		
HEO/CLA Representative	Lori Janowski	X
Vice President for Student Affairs	Eija Ayravainen	A
Provost	Valeda Dent	A
Dean, School of Arts & Sciences	Andrew Polsky	A
Dean of Education	Michael Middleton	A
Alternate Senators (3):		
Dean of Social Work	Mary Cavanaugh	X
General Counsel & Dean of Faculty	Suzanne Piper	X
School of Nursing		0

APPENDIX II

Senate Update Presidential Task Force to Advance Racial Equity <https://hunter.cuny.edu/racial-equity/>



1

Steering Committee to Advance Racial Equity

We are asking for recommendations for people to serve on this important group. It is in part through this group that the recommendations of the Task Force will be advanced.

2

Committee Recommendations & Updates

Admissions & Recruitment : Chair Erica Chito Childs, Associate Dean Kevin Nesbitt

Recommendations:

- Expand Student Ambassador membership
- Strengthen and expand scholar program for URM/ BIPOC students such as Community Scholars

So far:

- Community Scholars increased funding of over \$50,000:
 - Doubling the size of the program which specifically targets BIPOC Students whose past work displayed a dedication to their community and supplies them with annual scholarship funds, an option for a dorm room, dedicated advisors, and cohort bonding activities and leadership development.
- Investing in formal partnerships with Community Based Organizations to connect BIPOC high school students with mentoring and support while in college. (Example: iMentor)

3

Committee Recommendations & Updates

Student Support and Pipeline Program: Dr. Kelvin Black, Caitlin Ho

Recommendations:

- Enhance existing support structures for BIPOC students
- Identify areas where new and additional resources need to be created to support BIPOC students

So far:

- Affinity Space Development
- Raising funds and preparing for a massive construction project that would create dedicated affinity group lounge spaces

4

Committee Recommendations & Updates

Anti-Racism Training: Dean Mary Cavanaugh, Dean John Rose

Recommendations:

- Determine nature of community events/programs/series
- Determine nature of the follow-up work once events/programs/series wrap up
- Create working group to guide continued efforts

So far:

- Multiple anti-bias, inclusion, and micro-aggression trainings held for a variety of groups and departments across campus
- Diversity and Compliance website will be updated soon with training materials for community members use

5

Committee Recommendations & Updates

Curricular Enhancements: Chair Anthony Browne, Janet Neary

Recommendations:

- Create introductory courses for the humanities, social sciences and STEM fields geared towards critically interrogating knowledge creation, the canon, and intersectionality in each of these disciplinary areas.
- Incorporate BIPOC scholars in every area of study, within and beyond the humanities and social sciences and incorporate feedback from students using student evaluations and including student representation on departmental committees.

So far:

- Next round of ACERT Fellows to focus on developing programming and resources addressing racial equity in the curriculum and advancing equitable teaching and learning at Hunter College
- Presidential fund to support faculty creation of inclusive curricular and course offerings

6

Committee Recommendations & Updates

Research and Public Scholarship: Yarimar Bonilla, Maura Nguyen Donohue

Recommendations:

- Hub for collaborative, experimental, interdisciplinary, problem-based scholarship
- Site of convergence and professional development for scholars who can become atomized and silenced in the disciplines
- Physical space and Tech Hub for hands-on direct student involvement in research

So far:

- Art installation project “Who We Are,” displayed to the community at the Silberman School of Social Work, featuring student creative work regarding racial equity
- Continued conversations around utilizing dedicated space at the Silberman School of Social Work for Racial Equity Lab

7

Committee Recommendations & Updates

Public Programs and Conversations: Karen Hunter, Miesha Smith

Recommendations:

- Launched the creation of the Speaking of Justice Series
- Series of events that concentrate on racial injustices affecting our students
- Work with Counseling and Wellness Office to create support groups around racial inequities that are open to all students

So far:

- 68th Street between Park and Lexington will be renamed Audre Lorde Way – Special thank you to Prof. Brown and to all of our faculty and students who have shared creative ways to honor Lorde; and to Harold Holzer and Terri Rosen Deutsch for their leadership in the street renaming initiative
- Continued “Speaking of Justice” events this semester: Pauli Murray Screening (hosted by the Provost) and Op-Ed by President Raab

8

APPENDIX III

“Good afternoon. It is not the first time that I have addressed this body. Last time I reported in the Fall semester. The Senate Charter Review Committee has met several times since Fall to think about revisions to the Charter. We agreed on three revisions that we will bring to you on March 16th which will be the first reading of those revisions. Then, we need to follow a process as it is laid out in the Charter. So, March 16th has the first reading. April 13th is the Senate meeting when the second reading will occur. Then, the third reading will happen during the first meeting of the new Senate in mid-May. The last meeting in the academic year is the first meeting of the new Senate, and the first meeting in the Fall is the second meeting of the new Senate. Now I would like to go over these proposed revisions briefly. The Senate will get these revisions in writing by Friday for the Senate Admin Committee to include them when sending out the agenda.

“The first item for revision is easy to rectify. It is simply the inconsistency regarding the number of faculty alternates per department, and that is Article IV, Section 3. So, the first item for revision is that “Each department shall be allocated one seat for a faculty alternate.” The proposed language is as follows, “Each department shall be allocated two seats for faculty alternates.” This is simply an oversight that we are correcting here. The original edition of alternates was made in the Charter revision approved in 2006. These revisions were approved on the 17th of May in 2006, and here they say that there should be one alternate per department. But then, in the BOT minutes it is noted that the addition of provisions for alternates was the main change to the Charter to deal with the Perez rule along with reducing the number of Senate members from 202 to 100. Then, in 2016 the number of faculty alternates, in Article III, Section 1 was changed to two but no corresponding change was made in the broader alternate statement in Article IV, Section 3 that is here before you. So, this revision is to unify the language.

“The second revision that we will propose is the elimination of the Evening Council - Article VIII, Section 16. The issue has been talked about in the Senate Charter Review Committee at least since 2016, or maybe even prior to that. Why? Historically speaking, the Evening Session Council predates the establishment of the Senate. It has been carried over into the Charter. In 1998, it became a standing committee, and it changed its name from the “Evening Session Council” to the “Evening Council”. While the Evening Session Council used to address concerns and issues of students only attending night classes in the 70's and 80's when the student body was more clearly divided into day and night students, it has lost its function over the decades with the changing student body, adapting to changes of a more flexible employment market, etc. So, for a pretty long time the Evening Council was actually dormant because it did not really have a role. What makes the elimination of the Evening Council tricky is that the Chair of the Evening Council per definition takes one seat on the Senate Admin Committee. The committee decided to follow two steps here. As the first step, we will eliminate the Evening Council. In the second step, we will eliminate the position of the Chair of the Evening Council from the Senate Admin Committee. Article V, Section 3 in the Charter says: “The Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary of the Senate, together with the Chair of the Evening Council (Article VIII, Section 16) shall constitute the Administrative Committee of the Senate.” We propose to change the composition of the Senate Administrative Committee to the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary of the Senate who shall constitute the Administrative Committee of the Senate. The rationale would be that the Evening Council has been dissolved.

“The last item for revision took the committee the longest time to discuss. This concerns the expansion of the Senate Administrative Committee - Article V, Section 1. Please note, we do need to fill the seat that has become vacant now when the Evening Council is not in existence anymore. “At each of its annual meetings following the new elections, the Senate shall elect from among its voting members a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Secretary and such other officers as it deems necessary.” This is in the Charter. So far, we have voted for the Chair, Vice Chair, the Secretary and the Chair of the Evening Council. Now, we need to fill the seat for the Evening Council Chair, and we also want to expand the Senate Administrative Committee to seven. I think we spent at least two meetings discussing how the Senate Admin Committee should actually look like and on what terms the Senate Administrative Committee should be expanded. The committee is proposing that the Chair should be a full-time faculty member in the rank of Professor or Associate Professor on full-time appointment. The Vice Chair shall be a matriculated full-time student. We would write it into the Charter what has been practiced for at least 15 years or even longer. The Secretary and two members at-large shall be a HEO. A HEO has also been the Secretary of the Senate Administrative Committee for at least two or three terms, maybe even longer. So, we want to keep the HEO. The Secretary and the two members at-large shall be a HEO and two full-time faculty members in the rank of Professor, Associate Professor or Doctoral Lecturer on full-time appointment. There shall be one matriculated full-time student in order to get more representation from students. If that is a problem, then it should be a faculty member in the rank of Professor, Associate Professor or Doctoral Lecturer on full-time appointment. Then, there should be no more than two members coming from one division. In the past, there have been talks about the fact that the Senate Administrative Committee is not diversified enough. This has been rectified somehow by having members from other schools, from professional schools, other disciplines, other divisions to join as invited members. However, these members have not been voted in, they were invited. The committee is proposing the expansion of the Senate Administrative committee to seven members to have an uneven number. To guarantee diversification the

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committee proposes there should not be more than two faculty members from the same division. I have come to the end of my report. You will get everything in writing. You will see the proposed revisions in a template. Those of you who have been serving on the Senate for a while know that 2016 was the last time when the Charter was revised when Tom DeGloma was the Chair of the Senate Charter Review Committee.

We will meet again on March 16th for the first reading of this year's proposed revisions to the Charter. Thank you."