

Office of The Hunter College Senate

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of The Hunter College Senate
24 September 1974

The forty⁸⁴-third meeting of The Hunter College Senate was convened 1
at 4:50 p.m. at the Hunter College Playhouse. 2

Presiding: Charles M. Sherover, Chairman 3

Attendance: The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those 4
noted by the Secretary as listed in Appendix I. 5

Minutes: The Minutes of May 7th and May 21st 1974 were approved as 6
distributed. 7

Report by the President: After a brief greeting, President Wexler spoke to the Senate about 8
(1) CUNY and Hunter involvement in the City and State elections 9
this year; (2) the revision of the Governance Charter of the 10
Hunter College Senate; and (3) the importance of the academic 11
integrity of the College seen as a standard to be kept in view 12
always. 13

Everyone at CUNY feels it would be desirable to become politically 14
active during these months preceding the City and State elections. 15
President Wexler announced the formation of a Political Steering 16
Committee to aim at (1) full voter registration at Hunter and 17
(2) the stands of the various candidates on issues and legisla- 18
tion that have a direct bearing on the academic life of Hunter 19
College and City University. It was noted that the combined 20
students, faculty and alumni and their families of C.U.N.Y. 21
comprise 25% of the population of New York City. We are poten- 22
tially as big a lobby as any potential lobby in this city could 23
be. This is particularly relevant since most agree that we are 24
now at a steady state, at a point where our enrollments are 25
leveling off or declining, and yet the fiscal responsibility of 26
the institution is constantly rising. There is no projectable 27
FTE increase. Mrs. Wexler pointed out that we must impress upon 28
the candidates the threat to the whole university if the base 29
budget is in any way cut back. 30

President Wexler pointed out the important work accomplished by 31
the committee for revising the Governance Charter. She noted 32
that Hunter is one of few institutions with a Senate of faculty 33
and students that is not simply advisory but a real, legislative 34
body. In her position as "possible persuader," the President 35
emphasized (1) consolidation of the gains we've made; (2) con- 36
tinued protection of the academic integrity of the institution; 27
and (3) favor of a combination of at-large and departmental 28
elections to the Senate. 29

Finally, Mrs. Wexler maintained that academic integrity and 30
standards ought to continue to be the norm which guides all our 31
future work. The degree has to be worth it, in substance and in 32
image, to those within the College and to those outside. 33

Report by the Ombudsman: Ombudsman Louis Massa informed the Senate that the Charter Review 34
Committee now has a first draft of a revised Governance Charter. 35
Aspects of the first draft have recently been circulated among 36
portions of the community. Negative reactions on two particular 37
issues have halted progress on the revision process in producing 38
an entirely acceptable Charter. These two issues are: (1) the 39
apportionment percentages among students, faculty, and administra- 40
tion, and (2) the proposed method of election of students to the 41
Senate. Specifically, the student percentage has been raised by 42
two percent, the faculty percentage has been reduced by one percent 43
and the administration representation has been lowered by one 44
percent. It has been proposed that student elections be run on 45
on an at-large basis rather than by representation by department 46
as is presently the case. The rationale for this change is based 46
on the fact that student participation on a departmental basis is 47

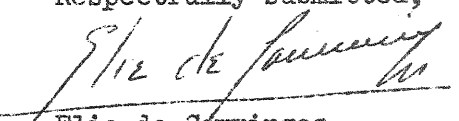
	considered by many to have been a "failure." Prof. Massa is scheduling a meeting with the leadership of the College constituencies to explore the areas of give and take with reference to the two issues mentioned above.	48 49 50 51
Report of the Administrative Committee:	Prof. Elie de Comminges, Secretary of the Senate, presented its report as follows:	52 53
	1. Yielded the floor to Prof. Jeanine Plottel, Chairman, Committee on Student Standing.	54 55
	Prof. Plottel moved for ceremonial adoption of the list of candidates for diplomas and degrees to be awarded in September 1974, and stated that this list is available at the Senate Office for inspection.	56 57 58 59
	The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.	60
	2. Prof. de Comminges informed the Senate that there are a number of vacancies on Senate Committees and urged the members to fill out Committee Preference Sheets, so that the Nominating Committee may be able to bring in slates at the next Senate meeting.	61 62 63 64 65
	3. Proposed the following resolution:	66
	WHEREAS, 27 seats of The Hunter College Senate are presently vacant; AND WHEREAS, the Senate ought to function with a full complement of active members; THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that special elections be held under the supervision of the Senate Administrative Committee for all such seats now vacant.	67 68 69 70 71 72
	The resolution carried unanimously by voice vote.	73
Other Committee Reports:	<u>Nominating Committee</u>	74
	Prof. Josephine Comito, Chairman of the Committee, presented its report as follows:	75 76
	1. Asked for acceptance of the following resolution:	77
	WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Teacher Evaluations Committee in accord with Senate resolutions has reported the inability of the Committee to function because of a perpetual continuing lack of quorum, AND WHEREAS, he has had to resign as Chairman of this Committee; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Committee be declared vacant, and the Nominating Committee be requested to bring in a slate of nominees at the next Senate meeting.	78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85
	The resolution carried unanimously by voice vote.	86
	2. Announced vacancies on the following Senate Committees:	87
	Undergraduate Course of Study Committee - 4 students	88
	Committee on Undergraduate Academic Requirements - 1 SGS faculty- 1 SGS student	89 90
	Committee on Student Standing - 1 SGS faculty	91
	Master Plan Committee - 3 students (Day, SEEK, Graduate) and Chairman to be elected by Senate	92 93
	Budget Committee - 2 students	94
	Committee on Sessional Equality - 1 Day student	95
	Committee on Registration Procedures - 1 student	96
	Transportation Committee - 1 student, 1 faculty	97
	Committee on Departmental Governance - 1 SGS student	98

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Prof. Comito urged Senators to please sign up to fill these vacancies.	99 100
3. Announced 1 student vacancy on the Nominating Committee.	101
The floor was opened for nominations and Miss Teresa Mantenfel and Mr. Morris Johnson were nominated.	102 103
Mr. Morris Johnson was elected by majority hand vote.	104
4. Announced:	105
a. that the Chairman for the Master Plan Committee is to be elected by the Senate at the next meeting (Prof. Goldzweig resigned).	106 107 108
b. that the Chairman for the Budget Committee is to be elected or re-elected by the Senate at the next meeting.	109 110
<u>Undergraduate Course of Study Committee</u>	111
<u>Re: Veterans' Proposal</u>	112
The Chair stated that the next item on the Agenda was the unfinished business of the Senate meeting on May 21st.	113 114
The item on the floor is Resolution B of the Sub-Committee's Report with two amendments already approved and which the Chair would read after Mr. Nagel had an opportunity to make a statement.	115 116 117 118
Mr. Warren Nagel expressed his disappointment in the way the Veterans' request was handled, and moved:	119 120
"that the matter be postponed indefinitely."	121
The motion to postpone carried by handvote with 44 in favour, 10 opposed, and 23 abstentions.	122 123
<u>Ad-hoc Committee on Transportation</u>	124
Miss Judy D'Ambrosi, Chairman of the Committee, presented the Interim Report as distributed.	125 126
It was suggested that the Committee report back to the Senate with more detailed information as to the number of students involved and the budget involved.	127 128 129
<u>Ad-hoc Committee on Student Rights</u>	130
Prof. Sam Korn, Chairman of the Committee, moved for acceptance of the report as submitted with the following amendment to Section I, 6, which should read:	131 132 133
"Students have the right to periodically review their academic, medical and disciplinary records, and to appeal for removal of items improperly included."	134 135 136
Prof. Tannenbaum moved that this be further amended by adding:	137
"If the appeal fails, the student has the right to include a written rebuttal in his file."	138 139
This was accepted by the mover as part of the main motion.	140
After discussion, the motion carried with 66 in favour, 2 opposed, and 3 abstentions.	141 142
The Report as amended, but without footnotes, is attached as Appendix II.	143 144

<u>Committee on Registration Procedures</u>		145
Prof. Michael Jaworskyj, Chairman of the Committee, moved for acceptance of the report as submitted, but with an additional resolution.		146
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The Chair suggested that the report and a resolution be voted on separately. There being no objection it was so ordered.		149
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The report was accepted by voice vote.		151
The item on the floor was the proposed resolution.		152
After discussion, the Chair suggested that this item be laid over to the next meeting so that further thought can be put into formulating the resolution.		153
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There being no objection it was so ordered. Dean Barrett and Professor Jaworskyj agreed to present a joint resolution at the next Senate meeting.		156
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<u>Committee on Departmental Governance</u>		159
Dean Joachim Weyl, Chairman of the Committee, moved for acceptance of the report as submitted.		160
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After discussion, Prof. Korn moved that Article I, Section 2, No. 2 be changed to read:		162
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"Four program coordinators appointed by the Chairman to manage programs in Health, Dance, Physical Education and Co-curricular Activities."		164
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This was accepted by the mover as part of the main motion.		167
The motion carried by voice vote.		168
New Business:	Mr. Johnson moved, and it was seconded, that the Senate Committee on Facilities and Services be charged to look into the problems of the new elevator system and report to the Senate on this matter at the next meeting on October 8th.	169
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The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.		173
There being no further business, the Chair asked for a motion to adjourn, which carried unanimously by voice vote.		174
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The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.		176

Respectfully submitted,


Elie de Comminges,
Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following people are noted as absent from the meeting:

Alicea, Hector
Amico, David
Basquin, Peter - Music
Beveridge, David - Chemistry
Bryar, William - Philosophy
Burckle, Lloyd - Geology & Geog.
Chee, Doris
Chee, Jean
Chiang, Faye
Chiang, Janice
Chiang, Jean
Chin, Agnes
Cohen, Mark - Philosophy
Conant, Francis - Anthropology
Connell, Roy
Contente, Sarah
Cooper, Anita
Danna, Robert
De'Riesthal, Mark
Diamant, Julia
Diamond, Judy
Dobroff, Rose - School of Soc. Work
Fink, John
Fried, Robert - Psychology
Gillis, Verna
Goldstone, Loreeta
Gourevitch, George - Psychology
Grant, Robert - Biology
Grevious, Carole - Psychology
Hartley, Alice
Hasson, John
Hecht, Charles - Chemistry
Heywood, Maurice - Sociology
Hodges, David - Ed. Foundations
Kassamali, Jaffer - Black & P.R. Studies
Keane, Mary - Nursing Ed.
Kearin, Thomas
Leikarites, Mary - Health & Phys. Ed.
Leoff, Eve - English
Lisenco, Michael
Mackler, Bernard - Curric. & Teaching
McNeil, Juanita
Neubart, I.J.
Oberlin, Russell - Music
Piscitello, Bernadetta
Quinn, Kathleen
Rosenfeld, Lawrence - Communications
Sanchez, Jose Luis - Black & P.R. Studies
Savarese, John
Schreiber, Paul - School of Soc. Work
Scott, Marvin - Sociology
Slesinsky, Theresa
Smith, Carole
Sorensen, Sybil
Stafford, Walter - Urban Affairs
Tendler, Diane - School of Soc. Work
Turnier, Jocelyne
Tryon, Edward - Physics & Astronomy
Von Cseh, Irene - Home Economics

A P P E N D I X I I

STATEMENT ON THE RIGHTS OF STUDENTS

Preamble

"Academic institutions exist for the transmission of knowledge, the pursuit of truth, the development of students, and the general well-being of society. Free inquiry and free expression are indispensable to the attainment of these goals... Freedom to teach and freedom to learn are inseparable facets of academic freedom."

Students "have a distinctive role...which qualifies them to share in the responsible authority on campus; the exercise of the authority is part of their education...Joint efforts among all groups in the institution---students, faculty, administration, and governing board--is a prerequisite of sound academic government...Joint effort, to be effective, must be rooted in the concept of shared authority. The exercise of shared authority in college and university government, like the protection of /student and faculty/ academic freedom, requires tolerance, respect, and a sense of community."

"The responsibility to secure and to respect general conditions conducive to the freedom to learn is shared by all members of the academic community."

Students' rights are not limited by what is enumerated in this statement. The purpose of this statement is to outline some basic principles and guidelines, many of which are now met. Specific implementation will have to be continuously adjusted as conditions in the college change.

I. Academic and Personal Files

- 1) Improper disclosure, even within the college, of academic, personal, and disciplinary records is a serious invasion of privacy. To minimize risk of improper disclosure, academic, personal and disciplinary records should be kept in separate files.
- 2) All files may be made available only to specially authorized college staff. Express consent of the student involved is otherwise required.
- 3) Academic records and transcripts should contain only information about scholastic achievement.
- 4) No records should be kept which reflect the political and off-campus activities or beliefs of students.
- 5) Non-current medical and disciplinary records should be periodically destroyed.
- 6) Students have the right to periodically review their academic, medical and disciplinary records and to appeal for removal of items improperly included. If the appeal fails the student has the right to ~~include~~ *append* a written rebuttal in ~~his file.~~ *to his record.*

II. Classroom, Grades, Etc.

- 1) Students have the right, within the limits of available facilities, to pursue any course of study for which they are eligible according to college standards.
- 2) In order to permit eligible students unhindered access to courses, the costs of required materials should be kept within reasonable limits.
- 3) Students have the right to know, at the start of each course of study, the basis to be used by the instructor in determining grades.
- 4) Students' grades should be based solely on academic criteria, not on opinions or conduct in matters unrelated to academic standards.
- 5) Students should have the opportunity to take reasoned exception to facts or points of view offered in any course of study, but they are responsible for meeting the academic standards of any course of study for which they are enrolled.

- 6) Students should have the protection through formally established procedures against prejudiced or capricious academic standards and evaluations.

III. Participation in Academic Affairs

- 1) Students have the right, individually and collectively, to express their views on matters of general interest to the student body, including institutional policy, curriculum and personnel decisions.
- 2) Students have the right to participate in the formulation and application of institutional policy affecting academic and student affairs.
- 3) Students should share in the formation of policies regarding degree requirements, courses and curriculum, academic grading systems, standards of academic standing, and calendar arrangements.
- 4) Students should have the opportunity, individually and collectively, to assess the value of a course and to express their views on the form and conduct of a class which they have taken.
- 5) The results of an institutional mechanism used for students to assess courses and faculty, such as evaluation questionnaires, should be accessible to all members of the college community, and should be weighed in all decisions affecting faculty status and curriculum.

IV. Extra-Curricular Activities

- 1) Students should be free to form and join associations to promote their common interests.
- 2) Students have the right to express their opinions, individually and collectively, and to support causes in a manner that does not disrupt the orderly operation of the college.

V. Standards of Conduct

- 1) Students should participate in the formulation of standards of behavior which are considered essential to the educational mission and community responsibilities of the college.
- 2) The code of conduct, as a set of regulations and procedures should be clearly stated and published in a handbook or other generally available set of institutional regulations.
- 3) In all cases, disciplinary procedures should protect the student from capricious and prejudicial application of the rules of conduct. Such procedures should also satisfy the requirements of procedural due process, including written notice with details of charges, sufficient time to prepare a defense, right to assistance in the defense, right to cross-examine witnesses and to present evidence, and the right to appeal the decision.