

MINUTES

Meeting of the Hunter College Senate

15 October 2008

- 1 The 494th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 3:45 PM in Room W714.
2
- 3 **Presiding:** Richard Stapleford, Chair
4
- 5 **Attendance:** The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.
6
7 Alternate Senators were formally seated in accordance with the procedures approved by the Senate, and
8 clickers were distributed to them.
9
- 10 **Minutes:** The Minutes of September 10th were approved as distributed.
11
- 12 **Report by the** The Chair presented the report as follows:
13 **Administrative**
14 **Committee:** **Election of Ombudsman**
15 Professor Stapleford informed the Senate that only one candidate had been validated and had submitted all
16 required documentation.
17
18 The candidate, Professor Bill Williams (Mathematics & Statistics), presented a brief statement.
19
20 It was moved to forego the formal voting procedures. The motion carried and Professor Williams was
21 unanimously elected by voice vote without dissent.
22
- 23 **Special Election to fill vacant seats on the Senate**
24 In accordance with Article IV.2.H.i & ii of the *Charter for a Governance of Hunter College* the
25 Administrative Committee presented the names of all nominees received to date for the at-large seats:
26
- 27 **Students:**
28 Mariya Yefremova (Poli.Sci/English/THHP)
29 Tobi Jaiyesimi (Poli.Sci/Englis/THHP)
30
- 31 It was moved that the entire slate be accepted. The motion carried by voice vote without dissent.
32
- 33 Clickers were distributed to the newly elected senators.
34
- 35 **Committee** **Nominating Committee**
36 **Reports:** Professor Stapleford presented the following nominations on behalf of the Nominating Committee:
37
- 38 **Undergraduate Course of Study Committee: (Tuesdays 12-2)**
39 Faculty from Humanities & Arts: Chong Chon-Smith (English)
40 Faculty from Social Sciences: Ann Cohen (Political Science)
41 Faculty from Education: Laura Eidietis (Curriculum & Teaching)
42 Faculty Alternate: Harry Rodriguez (AFPRL)
43
- 44 **Graduate Course of Study & Academic Requirements Committee**
45 Faculty from Health Professions: Kathy Nokes (Nursing)
46
- 47 **Undergraduate Academic Requirements Committee**
48 Faculty from Humanities & Arts: Elinor Richter (Art)
49 Faculty Alternate: Judith Jablonka (Theatre)

50 **Minutes**
 51 **Meeting of the Hunter College Senate**
 52 **15 October 2008**
 53
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55 **Student Standing Committee**

56 Faculty: Ilene Drapkin (Student Services)
 57

58 **Master Plan Committee**

59 Faculty from Sciences & Mathematics: Pam Mills (Chemistry)
 60 Faculty Alternate: Elizabeth Beaujour (Classics)
 61 Student: Steven Beard (Political Science)
 62

63 **Teacher Evaluations Committee**

64 Faculty: Jewel Thompson (Music)
 65 Student: Mariya Kayumova (PoliSci/French)
 66

67 **Committee on Computing & Technology**

68 Faculty from Humanities & Arts Larry Shore (Film & Media Studies)
 69 Faculty from Social Sciences: Jim Gordon (Psychology)
 70

71 **Evening Council**

72 Faculty At-large: Hannah Alcasio (Library)
 73

74 **Standing Committee on Academic Freedom**

75 2 Alternates: Cristina Alfar (English)
 76 Haydee Salmun (Geography)
 77 Student: Steven Beard (Political Science)
 78

79 **Select Committee on the First Year Experience**

80 2 Faculty: Rebecca Connor (English)
 81 Denise Simmons (SEEK)
 82 Student Alternate: Steven Beard (Political Science)
 83 Student Services Staff: Madlyn Stokely (Associate Dean)
 84 Angela VanDijk (Director of First year Advising)
 85 Alta Mercedes (First Year Advisor)
 86

87 **Grade Appeals Committee**

88 Student: Steven Beard (Political Science)
 89 Jennifer Molenda

90 **Budget Committee**

91 Faculty Alternate: Peggy Schuler (Nursing)
 92

93 **Calendar Committee**

94 Faculty from Humanities & Arts: Milagros Denis (AFPRL)
 95

96 **GER Appeals Committee**

97 Faculty: Sandra Granizo Crus (SEEK)
 98

99 **Select Committee on Performance Measures & Outcomes Assessment**

100 Faculty from Education: Tim Farnsworth (Curriculum & Teaching)
 101

102 **Library Committee**

103 Faculty Alternate: Barbara Bosch (Theatre)
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105 **Nominating Committee**

106 Faculty Alternate: Mary Lefkarites (Curriculum & Teaching)
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108 The slate was approved by voice vote without dissent.
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Minutes
Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
15 October 2008

Report by the President: A summary statement of President Raab’s report to the Senate is as follows. She said:

“Last time I had hoped to introduce Dr. Kenneth Olden who is our Founding and Acting Dean of the new CUNY School of Public Health, as well as Acting Dean of our Schools of Health Professions. It is a pleasure to be able to do so today. Dr. Olden is a highly regarded cancer researcher whose 37-year career has included appointments at Harvard University Medical School, The National Cancer Institute, and most recently the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in North Carolina. He is one of the most respected experts in the field of Environmental Health Science and we are extremely lucky to have someone with such a commitment and passion for Public Health in the urban environment help us to really envision and create this wonderful School of Public Health, which is based at Hunter College. Dr. Olden, it is pleasure to see you and to introduce you to our community.”

President Raab yielded the floor to Dr. Kenneth Olden, who said:

“It is a great honor to be here, and I want to thank President Raab and Provost Rabinowitz for the opportunity to play a very small role in realizing their vision for City University and Hunter with respect to a School of Public Health with an urban focus. I can think of nothing more important to do at this point in terms of the potential impact that three global trends are going to have on the Public Health Enterprise. One is urbanization. It is very clear that people are moving from the countryside into the cities looking for better opportunities, and urbanization is really going to impact our Public Health Enterprise for a good part of the 21st Century. The population that is moving in is also aging. Population aging is another important factor that is going to impact our Public Health Enterprise. Finally, the population that is migrating from the rural areas into the cities is also impoverished. Disparity socio-economically, population aging, and urbanization are the three global forces that are going to have a huge impact on our nation’s and cities’ Public Health Enterprise. The President is to be congratulated in having this vision and I can think of nothing more exciting to do. I said earlier to the CUNY Board of Trustees that I ran a Laboratory for 40—some years and was a Director of an Institute in the National Institutes of Health for 14 years. What we are undertaking here at Hunter has the potential to have a much greater impact and it is much more exciting than anything that I have ever done in my life.

I want to thank all of you for your kindness in welcoming me here. I have been here now about five weeks and you have been very warm and helpful. Public Health is an inter-disciplinary enterprise and in this case it is inter-institutional, and we are going to have to reach out. Your help and support will be greatly appreciated. Thank you very much.”

Dr. Olden yielded the floor to President Raab, who said:

“I want to announce that we are very pleased to have retained a senior science advisor to the President and the Provost, Dr. Jeffrey Laurence, who is a Professor at the Medical College of Cornell and an expert in AIDS Research. He has been part of our RCMI Advisory Board since 1992. We have in various times at Hunter had and tried Deans of Research, and I have talked about the need for this type of support for the faculty to pursue their work in research, obtaining research grants, spurring collaborations, and working in particular with new faculty. We are very pleased to have this opportunity to have the services of Dr. Laurence on a part-time basis, to become a part of our community and to serve in this important way.

The final good piece of news this week is that the Social Work/Public Health project documents have been signed. We are still waiting for a public announcement which will be organized by the Governor’s office, and we will let you know as soon as that is planned. Representatives of the Social Work faculty on their Building Committee, representatives of the School of Public Health and of Centro met just yesterday with the architects. The general massing of the building has been developed with interior spaces. It is an extremely exciting project. There was very positive feedback from the

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faculty who have been interviewed by the planners and architects about their needs and their wish lists and dreams for

Minutes
Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
15 October 2008

this building. They were very positive yesterday and we are hoping to bring plans soon for the wider part of the community to see.

I was asked to let everyone know that the new salary schedules that were implemented as part of the new PSC contract will be implemented in the first week of November. Your November 6 paycheck should reflect the salary increases which are retro-active to September 27.

Finally, I am going to ask Gail to say a few words about a very important piece of federal legislation which is going to require that faculty provide information regarding required text books before students register for classes. There is both Federal legislation and State legislation pending. I want to assure everyone that we will be providing information as it becomes available. This is mostly going to be done through the CUNY General Counsel, but we will also keep a very close look at things locally.

President Raab yielded the floor to Gail Scovell. The followings is a summary of her report on State and Federal legislation

- New legislation relating to Higher Education was enacted at both the State and Federal level this summer.
- State legislation takes effect July 2009; Federal July 2010.
- Federal – Higher Education Opportunity Act
 - New Reporting and Disclosure Requirements imposed on Colleges and Universities that participate in Title IV federal student financial aid programs.
 - Because the requirements are linked to Title IV participation, Secretary of Education is authorized to take administrative action, including fines for noncompliance.
 - Many of the requirements affect only administration such as provisions requiring new disclosure about Drug and alcohol abuse, tuition rates, graduation rates, campus safety, fire safety and various other general institutional disclosure requirements.
 - There are also new reporting requirements specific to Schools of Education which I will be discussing with Dean Steiner.
 - There are also extensive requirements relating to financial aid and student loans.
 - Most important to this body, however, and the thing I want to focus on here, are the provisions relating to textbooks.
 - Provisions are in response to student complaints that they do not have access to information that allows them to find cheaper sources for required texts
 - Imposes disclosure requirements on both publishers and institutions
 - Most significantly, the law requires that to the extent practicable, institutions disclose on their internet course schedules the International Standard Book Number and retail price information of required and recommended course materials. If no ISBN number is available, must provide author, title, publisher and copyright date for each item.
 - Colleges must also include on written course schedules a notice that textbook information is available on the internet course schedule and provide the corresponding internet address.
 - Requires that upon request of the bookstore, colleges provide a variety of information to them relating to course schedules, course materials, and number of students.
 - The federal law also encourages colleges to distribute information concerning available programs for used textbooks, buy back programs, rental programs, alternative content delivery and other cost cutting strategies.
 - Publisher Requirements
 - Publishers will be required to provide faculty with written information concerning
 - Price to be charged
 - Copyrights dates of three previous editions
 - Description of the revisions made between editions

- 228 • Information on other formats in which the materials may be available and price
229 of those other formats

230 ▪

231 **Minutes**
232 **Meeting of the Hunter College Senate**
233 **15 October 2008**

Page 5484

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237 ▪ Publishers also will be required to sell college textbooks and supplemental materials as
238 separate unbundled items (eg if you don't want the accompanying CD-ROM, they must
239 sell the text without it)

- 240
241 • **NY State Law – Textbook Access Act**
242 ▪ I also want to spend a quick minute on the more vague provisions of the NY state law –
243 referred to as the Textbook Access Act – that takes affect this summer.
244 ▪ I think it is significant to note that both State and Federal legislators perceived this issue as
245 important and felt the need to take action.
246 ▪ The law includes a blanket prohibition on faculty receiving any compensation in connection
247 with choice of textbooks. This includes an explicit prohibition against faculty or staff selling
248 sample copies, review copies, or instructor's copies or similar items.
249 ▪ The new State law also encourages universities to institute policies to encourage faculty
250 members to order course materials early to enable the use of used books and alternate formats.
251 ▪ Finally, like federal law, the state law requires publishers to provide faculty price information
252 and to require that texts be sold in the same manner as ordered by faculty.
253 • Implementation

254
255 The office of Legal Affairs will be working with the Provost's Office, Student Affairs, Registrars,
256 Department Chairs , and of course, CUNY Legal on how to implement the required disclosures. As
257 we get more specific, you will no doubt be hearing more.
258

259 Gail Scovell yielded the floor to President Raab.

260
261 The President invited everyone to tonight's event. Ted Sorensen, the renowned former Counselor to
262 President Kennedy and speechwriter, will be interviewed by Jack Rosenthal of the New York Times.
263 He will discuss his recent book "Counselor." The event will end in time for people to get home for
264 the Presidential Debate. The Debate will also be shown in the Cafeteria with refreshments courtesy of
265 the President's Office working with the Political Science Department. All are invited.
266

267 President Raab concluded her report by answering questions from the floor.
268

269 **Committee** **Undergraduate Course of Study Committee Re: On-line Course Information**

270 **Reports:** Professor Derrick Brazill, Member of the Committee, presented the following report as distributed:

271
272 On 26 April 2006 the Hunter College Senate requested that the Undergraduate Course of Study
273 Committee discuss the issue of providing students with timely access to course information before
274 registration, and to present recommendations to the Senate.

275
276 On-line registration often forces students to make important decisions concerning their academic
277 programs in a very narrow time frame, especially when they find themselves closed out of classes.
278 This can lead to students choosing classes that do not fit with their academic goals and may have a
279 negative effect on student success.

280
281 We have been informed by Acting Associate Provost for IT, Dr. Manfred Kuechler, that it will now be
282 possible to post on-line course information to students through a special column in the "On-line
283 Schedule of Classes" each semester.

284
285 Therefore, the Undergraduate Course of Study Committee is requesting Senate approval for the
286 following "Course Information Guide for the On-line Schedule of Classes" to be distributed to faculty

287 and departments, together with a guide for uploading the information to encourage them to submit the
288 requested information before the start of registration:
289

290 **Minutes**

Page 5485

291 **Meeting of the Hunter College Senate**
292 **15 October 2008**

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295 **Course Information Guide for the On-line Schedule of Classes**
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297 It is recommended that the following information be made available to students in the On-line
298 Schedule of Classes:
299

- 300 a. bibliographical information on textbooks or other books or articles to be read, if known.
301
302 b. writing requirements for the course,
303
304 c. sample syllabus (not binding in any way),
305
306 d. other information that would help a student make an informed decision before registering for
307 the course.
308

309 Professor Manfred Kuechler gave a demonstration about the posting of course information in a special
310 column in the "On-line Schedule of Classes."
311

312 After discussion, the question was called and carried.
313

314 The motion (lines 126-143) was unanimously approved by voice vote without dissent.
315

316 **Mellon Project Special Committee to Review the GER**

317 Professor William Sakas, Chair of the Committee, presented an Interim Activities Report. He gave the
318 following Power-Point presentation:
319

320 **Recent Past: The state of the current GER is sound!**

- 321 • Large-scale participation
322 - Approx. 300 faculty members participated in open forums
323 • The three stage structure is pedagogically sound
324 - No recommendation for substantial restructuring
325 • Caretaking structure has been addressed
326 - Committee is investigating the need for a standing committee on GER
327 • Curriculum development/review is crucial
328 - Initiated piloting programs for Hunter Seminars
329 • Summer weekly meetings
330 • Enhanced pre-major advising
331 - Brochure for students: Simplification and Why bother?
332 - Brochure Show and Tell. B1 B2 B3
333 • Two day GenEd Summit (focus on Science and QR)
334 - 52 Hunter faculty members, end of June
335 - Consensus for a core science course (Stage I)
336 - Consensus for science for non-majors (Stage II)
337 - Consensus for science capstone experience (Stage III)
338 - QR integrated into Stage I science, and again at a higher level
339 • Lani Guinier / Johnetta Cole event:
340 - Kicks-off college-wide discussion of P&D
341

342 **Present**

- 343 • Simplification of current departmental constraints on existing GER
344 - 5 constraints to 1 (w 2 subparts)
345 • Course development for first year Hunter Seminars
346 - Pilots slotted to run in Spring '09

- 347 - Interdisciplinary: Faculty from Philosophy, History, Sociology and English
- 348 - All writing-intensive, all involve “transition-to-college” component
- 349 - Common set of well-articulated goals and objectives

Minutes

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15 October 2008

- 355 • Course development for first year Science Course
 - 356 - Pilots slotted to run in Spring ‘09
 - 357 - Interdisciplinary: Faculty from all science departments and Math/Stat
 - 358 - Common set of well-articulated goals and objectives
- 359 • Calls for Participation
 - 360 - Course development Spring\Summer ’09
 - 361 - To be piloted Fall ‘09
 - 362 - Hunter Seminars at all 3 stages (To date 41 proposals)
 - 363 - Science Proposals at all 3 stages (Due Nov 7th)

Immediate Future

- 366 • Bring legislation to the Senate on simplifying departmental constraints
- 367 • Examine the role of the minor at Hunter
 - 368 - Review data from past surveys
 - 369 - Goals and objectives overlap with Focused Exposure (Stage 3)?
 - 370 - Reconsider Major/Minor departmental control
- 371 • Increase multiple pathways for students
 - 372 - Open discussion on expanding the Literature requirement (Stage 2)
 - 373 - Open discussion on expanding the American History requirement (Stage 1)
- 374 • Pluralism and Diversity
 - 375 - Begin college-wide discussion on re-invigorating P&D (Fall)
 - 376 - Establish goals, objectives and implementation of a new P&D requirement (Spring)
- 377 • Writing
 - 378 - Writing subcommittee developing a three-stage writing curriculum to be integrated into the
 - 379 GER
 - 380 - Begin college-wide discussion - open faculty meeting in the works for this fall

A little Further Down the Road

- 383 • Bring legislation to the Senate re History, Literature and the minor
- 384 • Open discussion on organization, goals and objectives of Stage 2 categories (beyond Literature)
- 385 • Open college-wide discussion of Focused Exposure
- 386 • Pilot courses running, Course development for Fall 2009 pilots

Long Term Objectives

- 389 • 2009 – 2010
 - 390 - Assess Spring ‘09 Pilots
 - 391 - Run mid-level, capstone pilots
 - 392 - Continue discussion on Focused Exposure
 - 393 - Bring legislation on First Year Hunter Seminars, Writing, P&D, Core Science
- 394 • 2010 - 2011
 - 395 - Assess ‘09 - ‘10 mid-level, capstone pilots
 - 396 - Bring legislation on Focused Exposure and Mid-level Hunter Seminars

398 After discussion it was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by voice vote and the
399 meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM

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403 Respectfully submitted,
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Phil Alcabes,
Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

Faculty

Africana&PR/Latino Studies Pedro Lopez-Adorno (A)

Art Reiner Leist (A)
Paul Ramirez

Chemistry Pamela Mills
Dixie Goss (A)

Computer Science Ioannis Stamos (A)

Curriculum & Teaching Ann Ebe (A)

Economics Howard Chernick
Jonathan Conning (A)

Educational Foundation Peggy Chen (A)

English Amy Robbins "E"

Film & Media Studies Michael Gitlin
Tim Portlock (A)

German Annette Kym

Health Sciences Mimi Fahs (A)

History Bernadette McCauley (A)

Library Luis Gonzalez (A)
Mee-Len Hom

Mathematics & Statistics Ada Peluso

Nursing Judith Aponte

Philosophy Frank Kirkland (A)

Physics & Astronomy Marilyn Rothschild
Noel Goddard (A)

Political Science Charles Tien (A)

Psychology Tracy Dennis (A)

Romance Languages Sam Diiorio

SEEK Patricia Martin (A)

School of Social Work George Paterson

Sociology Claus Mueller (A)

Theatre Louisa Thompson (A)

Lecturers and

Part-Time Faculty

Barbara Barone (Math&Stat)
Constantin Radis (Sociology)
Carmela Scala (Romance Lang)
Aubrey Ewaroo
Jeffrey Mongrain (Art)
Matthew Knip "E"

Administration

VP Eija Ayravainen
Dean Jacqueline Mondros (A)

Ex-Officio

Jason Ares, CLT Council President
Nadine Young, HEO Forum Pres.
Sarit Levy, GSA Pres.
Patricia Rudden, Alumni Assoc. Pres.

Students

Jiayun Zhong
Karen Busani-Halevi
Binu Abraham (Classics, THH)
Kimberly Maurice (Theatre)
Kristine Jagdeo (Sociology)
Maria Arettines
Ana Martigny (Geography)
Diana Rojas (Romance Lang)
Tithi Ghosh (Math)
Jean-Kenson Dorlouis (Biochem)
Tonia Tiewul (THH)
Kaveh Tabatabaie (PoliSci)
Claudia Caceres
Johanna Gurman
David Wexler (Poli Sci)
Meryam Bukhari (undeclared)
Jenny Alcaide
Julieta Estevez (Art)
Glenda Holland (Socio)
Christina Podkalicki
Peter Cardenas (Psych)
Zain Saeed
Tamon Charles (Biochem)
Francesca Manieri (SEEK)
Natalia Urrea (grad.-Romance Lang)
Ian Christner (Grad. Sociology)
Miguel Suero (Grad.-Theatre)
Nia Snith (Media)
Kareem Devonish
Darius Carr
Jessica Torres
Lorena Sanchez