

# MINUTES

## Meeting of the Hunter College Senate

### 26 October 2016

- 1 The 589<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 3:47 PM in HW room 714.  
2
- 3 **Presiding:** Thomas DeGloma, Chair  
4
- 5 **Attendance:** The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those marked absent in Appendix I.  
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7 Alternate Senators were formally seated in accordance with the procedures approved by the Senate,  
8 and clickers were distributed to them.  
9
- 10 **Minutes:** The minutes of September 21<sup>st</sup> were approved pending corrections to the attendance sheet and a  
11 statement in New Business.  
12  
13
- 14 **Senate Chair's** Professor Thomas DeGloma said the following:  
15 **Open Remarks:**
- 16 • Professor DeGloma congratulated President Raab on her induction into the American
  - 17 Academy of Arts and Sciences
  - 18 • Clarified procedural issues regarding the committing the Resolution on the BoT Proposed
  - 19 Resolution on Freedom of Expression and Expressive Conduct to the Administrative
  - 20 Committee
  - 21 • March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1973 Senate rule require meeting materials be sent out ten days in advance of
  - 22 the meeting or circulated in a prior meeting. If introduced at the meeting without going out
  - 23 it cannot be act upon until the next meeting.
  - 24 • Expressed the Senate's condolences Earnest Tubbs family and acknowledge his
  - 25 contributions to Hunter College over his thirty plus years of service.
  - 26 • Acknowledged error in regards to the President reporting to the Senate as per a September
  - 27 1973 agreement where the President gave up voting rights to be able to address the Senate
  - 28 each meeting.  
29  
30
- 31 **Report by the** Professor DeGloma, presented the report as follows:  
32 **Administrative**  
33 **Committee:**
- 34 a) **Special Senate Election for Vacant At-large Seats**  
35 In accordance with Article IV, 2H i & ii of the *Charter for a Governance of Hunter College*,  
36 the Administrative Committee is presenting the names of all nominees received to date:
- 37 Students: Matthew LoCastro  
38 Faculty: Jacqueline Brown (Anthropology)  
39
- 40 It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the nominee.  
41  
42 The motion passed by voice vote without dissent.  
43
- 44 b) **Approved Curriculum Changes**  
45 The following curriculum changes as listed in the attached Report dated 26 October 2016 have  
46 been approved as per Senate resolution and are submitted for the Senate's information. Items:  
47 US-2090 Geography (Change in Course), US-2091 Human Biology (Change in Degree  
48 Program), US-2092 Film & Media (Change in Course), US-2093 Philosophy (New Courses),  
49 US-2095 Political Science (Change in Minor).  
50

51 **Minutes**  
 52 **Meeting of the Hunter College Senate**  
 53 **26 October 2016**

54  
 55 **Report by the** Below is a summary of President Raab's report:  
 56 **President:**

57 "I know you have a long agenda, so I will touch on a few small issues. Tom thank you, I wanted to  
 58 assure you all about the concerns we have with the faculty dining room. We have some strategic  
 59 thoughts on how we are going to address them and Rob has asked me to request that the Senate  
 60 defer action until after Thanksgiving, when we will have an update on our plans. We have certain  
 61 relationships and contracts with this space that we have to look at We regret that it was closed for a  
 62 few days.

63  
 64 I wanted to touch on the interdisciplinary programs and efforts with departments and schools  
 65 working across lines to work together. The Provost and I have talked about this and have decided to  
 66 create a Presidential Task Force on this. I have seen over the years that this has been effective in  
 67 engaging the community and having a series of conversations with departments and schools. We  
 68 did this when I first arrived when we looked at Student Services, and we now see the strength of the  
 69 unit. The same goes for the Presidential Task Force on the Library, which has been strong. We want  
 70 to look at how interdisciplinary programs can serve both the school and community as a whole. We  
 71 are interested in engaging all of you and anyone who wishes to help on this; please let us know. We  
 72 plan to move ahead next month with naming members and issuing the charge."

73  
 74

75 **Old Business: Resolution on the BoT Proposed Resolution on Freedom of Expression and Expressive**  
 76 **Conduct**

77  
 78 Professor John Wallach read the following into the record:  
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80  
 81

**RESOLUTION ON BoT PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON FREEDOM OF  
 EXPRESSION AND EXPRESSIVE CONDUCT:**

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 83

84 We, members of the Hunter College Senate, applaud the protections for freedom of speech and  
 85 expressive conduct noted in the BoT's proposed new Freedom of Expression and Expressive  
 86 Conduct policy.

87  
 88

89 However, the proposed policy places its enforcement against "prohibited conduct" (described  
 90 in Sections 2 & 3 of the BoT Resolution) solely in the hands of "the President [of each  
 91 educational unit of CUNY] or his or her designee, in consultation with the Director of Public  
 92 Safety or designee" [4.1], thereby excluding faculty, students, and staff from practical authority  
 93 in determining violations of academic freedom, along with freedom of expression and  
 94 expressive conduct.

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 96

97 Insofar as the character of Hunter College as an academic institution is a community of  
 98 administrators, faculty, staff, and students dedicated to advancing critical, historical, and  
 99 scientific thinking, along with global learning, and the Senate is the most widely representative  
 100 legislative body at Hunter, we believe that a Senate representative of these constituents of the  
 101 college community ought to be officially involved in determining violations of the code of  
 102 freedom of expression and expressive conduct.

103  
 104  
 105

109 Because of the practical obstacles to having a range of representatives consulted, we  
110 recommend  
111 -- that the Chair of the Hunter College Senate as a representative of the Hunter College  
112 community be officially involved, with the President and Director of Public Safety or their  
113 designees, in citing prohibited activities under this policy as members of a newly constituted  
114 Freedom of Expression and Expressive Conduct Enforcement Committee, aka the FEECE  
115 Committee;  
116 -- that the Chair of the Senate make a report to the Senate of any enforcement against  
117 "prohibited conduct" authorized by the FEECE Committee.  
118

119 It was moved to amend as follows:  
120

121 Because of the practical obstacles to having a range of representatives consulted, we recommend  
122 -- that the Chair of the Hunter College Senate **or his or her designee** as a representative of the  
123 Hunter College community be officially involved, with the President and Director of Public Safety  
124 or their designees, in citing prohibited activities under this policy as members of a newly  
125 constituted Freedom of Expression and Expressive Conduct Enforcement Committee, aka the  
126 FEECE Committee;-- that the Chair of the Senate make a report to the Senate of any enforcement  
127 against "prohibited conduct" authorized by the FEECE Committee.  
128

129 The questions was called and carried. The amendment carried by voice vote without dissent.  
130

131 The question was called and carried.  
132

133 Voting by clicker produced the following results: 38 in favor, 34 against, and 7 abstentions.  
134

135 Motion to approve the amended resolution failed.  
136

137  
138 **Report by the**  
139 **Committee**  
140 **on Academic**  
141 **Assessment**  
142 **and Evaluation:**  
143

137 Professor Wendy Hayden, Chair of the Committee, said the following:  
138

139 "I just want to address the committee charge. We are tasked with review policies regarding  
140 academic assessment and evaluation of programs. The committee has faculty members across  
141 the school as well as the college Director of Assessment. Maureen Erickson is the new Director  
142 but is unable to be here today.  
143

144  
145 The committee has spent the past three semesters working drafting the Academic Assessment Plan  
146 in front of you for 2016-2021, which outlines current and future engagement regarding student  
147 learning outcomes. I am not going to go into much detail with the plan but will provide you with  
148 some highlights. The plan advises our continuing faculty driven assessment process and  
149 recommend that decision regarding assessment is made by faculty in their respective fields."  
150

151 A copy of the draft Assessment Plan is available in the Senate Office.  
152

153  
154 **Report by**  
155 **Graduate**  
156 **Student**  
157 **Association:**  
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154 Ms. Meghann Williams, President of the Hunter College Graduate Student Association, provided a  
155 report on the GSA's goals for the coming year. A copy of her report is attached in Appendix II.  
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158  
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165 **Report by** Mr. Matthew LoCastro, Vice President of the Hunter College Undergraduate Student Government,  
166 **Undergraduate** presented a PowerPoint Presentation on the USG goals for the year and spoke in regards to a  
167 **Student** resolution passed by the USG Student Senate, which will be presented to the Committee on  
168 **Government:** Charter Review. The resolution is attached in Appendix III.

170  
171 **Report by Ad-hoc** Professor Sarah Chinn, co-chair of the Ad-Hoc Committee, reported the following:  
172 **Committee on**  
173 **Hiring Practices:** "I can make this very quick. Our committee met last week and we are going to put together a  
174 survey on the faculty hiring process to get feedback on where department chairs feel there is not  
175 enough transparency or a hold up. We are looking to have this survey done by the Thanksgiving  
176 break. We will report more as we do more."

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178  
179 **New Business:** **Conversation on the Governance of Interdisciplinary Programs**  
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181 The Senate Chair requested that with the ten minutes remaining the body move into a quasi-  
182 Committee of the Whole to have a brief discussion on the Governance of Interdisciplinary  
183 Programs at Hunter College.

184  
185  
186 Due to the late hour, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried, and the meeting  
187 adjourned at 5:25 PM.

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189  
190  
191 Respectfully submitted,

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193  
194 Dana Reimer  
195 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
	Denis Milagros	(A) A		Verna Segarra	A
Anthropology		(A)		Pat Burke	(A) X
	Jackie Brown	A		Rob Thompson	(A) A
Art & Art History	Mike Steiper	(A) X	Medial Laboratory Sciences	Chad Euler	E
	Marc Edelman	(A) X		Robert Raffaniello	(A) X
Biological Sciences	Lynda Klich	A	Music	Dean Johnston	(A) X
	Paul Ramirez Jonas	X		Jewel Thompson	A
	Susanna Cole	(A) X			(A)
	Nebahat Avcioglu	(A) X		Michele Cabrini	(A) X
Chemistry	Derrick Brazill	X	School of Nursing	Christine Ganzer	X
	Shirley Raps	A		Abigail Kotowski	X
Classical & Oriental Studies	Paul Feinstein	(A) X	Philosophy	Lynda Olender	(A) X
	Maria Pereira	(A) X		Omar Dahbour	A
Computer Science	Akira Kawamura	X	Physics & Astronomy	Laura Keating	(A) A
	Gabriela Smeureanu	(A) A		Christa Acampora	(A) A
Curriculum & Teaching	Nancy Grennbaum	(A) X			
	Joanne Spurza	A		Ying Chen	(A) X
Dance	David Petrain	(A) X	Political Science	Kelle Cruz	(A) A
	Alex Elinson	(A) A		Jill Schwedler	X
Economics	Lie Xie	A	Psychology	John Wallach	(A) A
	Felisa Vasquez-Abad	(A) X		Peter Serrano	X
		(A)		Jonathan Rendina	A
	Jody Polleck	X	Physical Therapy	Rebecca Huselid	(A) X
Jason Wirtz	A	Chris Braun		(A) A	
Educational Foundations & Cou	Stephen Demeo	(A) X		Herb Karpatkin	X
	Ben Shuldiner	X			(A)
English	David Capps	A	Romance Languages	Milo Lipovac	(A) X
	Betsy Cooper	(A) X		Julie Van Peteghem	X
Film & Media Studies	Kathleen Isaac	(A) X	School of Social Work	Rolando Perez	(A) X
	Avi Liveson	A		Monica Schinaider	(A) A
Geography	Tim Goodspeed	X		Terry Mizrahi	A
	John Li	(A) X			(A)
German	Veronica Muller	X	Sociology	Samuel Aymer	(A) X
	Alexander Fietzer	(A) A			
History	Janet Neary	(A) A		Mark Halling	X
		(A)	Special Education	Mike Benediktsson	(A) A
Library	Leigh Jones	A			Michaela Soyler
		(A)	Speech-Language Pathology and Audiolo	Elizabeth Klein	A
	(A)	Donald Vogel		(A) X	
Mathematics & Statistics	Sarah Chinn	A		Michelle MacRoy-Higgins	E
	John Keegan	(A) X		Carol Silverman	(A) X
Medial Laboratory Sciences		(A)	Theatre	Jonathan Kalb	X
	Larry Shore	A			Mia Rovegno
Music	Sissel McCarthy	(A) A	Urban Policy and Planning	Claudia Orenstein	(A) X
	Isabel Pinedo	(A) X		Jill Gross	(A) X
School of Nursing	Haydee Salmun	A		Stanley Moses	X
	Jochen Albrecht	(A) A	School of Urban Public Health	Victoria Johnson	(A) A
School of Social Work		(A)			Phil Alcabes
		(A)	Women & Gender Studies	Steven Trasino	X
	(A)			Jennifer Gaboury	(A) A
Special Education	Elke Nicolai	A		Catherine Raissiguier	X
	Eckhard Kuhn-Osius	(A) A			
Speech-Language Pathology and Audiolo		(A)			
	Rick Belsky	A			
Theatre	Manu Bhagavan	(A) X			
	Eduardo Contreras	A			
Urban Policy and Planning	Mee' Len Hom	A			
	Sarah Ward	A			
Women & Gender Studies	Adina Mulliken	(A) A			
	Danise Hoover	(A) A			

**Students**

Darcie Dominianni	A
Maria Pia Sifuentes	A
Stephanie Barragan	A
Albiona Aga	X
Sandra-May Flowers	A
Mila Adelman	A
Joy Nuga	A
Sara Shanaj	A
Erica Fu	X
Noam Sohn	A
Shannon O'Rourke	A
Asheley Siewnarinie	X
Demi Moore	E
Anna Ozbek	X
Sheana Budhoo	X
Stephany Graces	X
Samuel Genchikmakher	X
Ahmed Elsaeyed	X
Emaad Khwaja	X
Omar Elwany	X
Charles Bachmann	X
Mustafa Gadelrab	X
Jyothisraj Johnson	X
Sarah Lamsifer	X
Michael Mazzeo	X
Meghann Williams	A
Hieu Dang	X
Cara Fitzgerald	A
Melanie Lozier	A
Nicole Parker	X
Jawwaad Alam	X
Marie Mazzeo	X
Sarah Mathew	X
Elyas Amin	X
Edward Friedman	A
Adam Hobbins	X
Daniel Smith	X
Jennifer Uolla	X
Lena Suponya	X
Soumya Misra	A
Stephon Odom	A
Matthew LoCastro	A

**At-Large, Lecturers and Part-Time Faculty**

Student Services	Brain Maasjo	E
	Shannon Silenas	(A) X
Mathematics & Statistics	Bill Williams	A
Geography	Dana Reimer	A
Library	Jocelyn Berger-Barrera	A
Classical & Oriental Studies	Shawna Leigh	X
Medicial Lab Science	Hongxing Li	X
Philosophy	Ian Blecher	A
Dolciani Math Center	Barbara Barone	E
Sociology	Thomas DeGloma	A
Urban Affairs & Planning	Elaine Walsh	A
Urban Affairs & Planning	Laxmi Ramasubramanian	E
History	Bernadette McCauley	A
THHP	Sarah Janinsky	A

**Ex-Officio**

President, USG	Melany Balaguera	X
Vice President, Graduate Student Association		X
President Alumni Association	James Amodeo	X
President, HEO Forum	Denise Lucena-Jerez	A
President, CLT Council	Amy Jeu	X

**ADMINISTRATION**

<b>Senators:</b>		
HEO/CLA Representative	Marilyn Daley-Weston	E
Vice President for Student Affairs	Eija Ayraainen	A
Vice President for Administration	Robert Pignatello	A
Provost, Acting	Lon Kaufman	A
Dean, School of Arts & Sciences	Andrew Polsky	A
<b>Alternate Senators (3):</b>		
Dean of Education	Michael Middleton	X
Special Counsel to the President & Dean	Laura Hertzog	A
School of Nursing	Dean Gail McCain	X

**Appendix II**  
**Meghann Williams, President of the Graduate Student Association Senate Remarks**

“Thank you for having me here today. As president of the Graduate Student Association here at Hunter, I am very interested strengthening the connection between students and faculty through the democratic forums on campus. By sharing our concerns with each other, we realize with are not alone in our struggles and can work more effectively to shape our campus community.

“First, I thought I’d tell you a little bit about the GSA. We have many functions here on campus. We administer travel grants for graduate students to attend conferences--\$200 for attendees and up to \$500 for presenters. We charter all graduate clubs and allocate funds according to their budget requests. And in case you are wondering, our entire budget comes from student activity fees. There is some oversight on how we spend these funds according the CUNY bylaws article 16.8 The Fiscal Accountability Handbook.

“As president of the GSA, I serve on a number of committees including the College Association, the body that reviews club and government budgets, the Auxiliary Enterprise Corporation, the body that administers the revenue taken in by the cafeteria and bookstore, as well as the University Student Senate, a body composed of student government officials from across CUNY. Oh and who could forget, this body, the Hunter College Senate.

“I am happy to have a couple board members who have been consistently showing up to meetings of the Senate. It’s my hope that we can encourage more student participation. If you have any graduate students who would be interested in serving, please let me know. We intend to form a kind of caucus and present a unified message built on our consensus as graduate students.

“Tonight, I expect our board to approve an ambitious participatory budgeting initiative. Such an initiative would task the Hunter community with collectively deciding how a portion of GSA funds are spent. The students we are working with have run a similar process at Queens College and have a deep understanding of how to work within the structure of the CUNY bylaws to administer these funds.

“Our board is especially concerned about a few issues. My main concern personally, as I am sure this body is aware, is the Board of Trustees Policy on Expressive Conduct. We hold the same opinion as most people at the University Student Senate—this policy is unnecessary. Further, it suggests the central administration harbors a real fear of CUNY students. The truth is no CUNY official has been able to give a satisfactory explanation as to why the policy is needed in addition to the Henderson Rules. Hopefully, the board of trustees will reconsider before they discuss the issue in January, if students and faculty come together to denounce the policy. I would also like to note how the board feels it necessary to discuss this issue at the end of the term when fewer students and faculty are around. Last time they discussed the policy was in June. As far as I know, they will be addressing it again in January.

“We are also troubled about the rising costs of attending graduate school. Here at Hunter, we train many professionals that go on to work toward the public good right here in New York City: nurses, social workers, urban planners, teachers. Why should tuition become a barrier that keeps people from getting training in the very professions that would benefit New York City the most? This is not a perfect world. We struggle everyday here at Hunter to keep going under the conditions of austerity imposed by the state. But I don’t think the solution to our problems here is to start charging students more money when that revenue should be coming for the state. It is the GSA’s opinion that the strategy of capitulation on this issues is not working. We need to stand together and demand a free CUNY.

“Finally, the board of the GSA would like to examine issues of academic freedom and how they relate to the use of common space on campus. Though we are opposed to the Board of Trustees policy, we do think that the Hunter community should reconsider how certain situations are handled, so that students and faculty have more input on how shared spaces are used.

“Once again, thank you for having me here today to tell you a little about GSA and to share what it is we are thinking about as graduate students. I never really thought I’d become head of a student government (I’m not really the type) but I am glad I did. I’ve found a real commitment to the democratic forum here at Hunter and the graduate student association wants to do our part to foster that commitment further.

“I’d now like to give open up the discussion for questions. Thanks!”

Appendix III



Resolution: Hunter College's Undergraduate Student Government Representation in the Hunter Senate

BE IT RESOLVED, that the USG urges the Senate and Senate Charter Review Committee to revise the charter for the governance of Hunter College so that procedures for undergraduate representation are in line with those adopted for graduate student representation. This means that the 25 Senate seats reserved for full-time undergraduate students, other than students in the SEEK Program, shall be filled as follows:

A. All undergraduate student positions shall be filled by the Undergraduate Student Government of Hunter College (USG) in cooperation with the Senate Vice Chair according to the representational requirements outlined below and in Article III.1 and Article IV.4.B.

In the event that the USG decides not to put forth a sufficient number of students to fulfill the representational requirements outlined in Article III.1 and Article IV.4.B, of the College Charter, or fails to do so by the first regularly scheduled meeting of a new Senate (at the end of the spring semester), nominations can be made by the Senate Administrative Committee or any seated Senator during a regular Senate meeting. In addition, candidacy at-large can be declared by filing a petition meeting the requirements established by the Senate. From the pool of such candidates, undergraduate student representatives shall be elected by a vote of the full Senate during a regular meeting.

The 25 Senate seats reserved for full-time undergraduate students shall be filled as follows:

- (i) 5 seats shall be filled by undergraduate student government representatives who have been elected to the USG.
- (ii) There shall be 15 seats reserved for the undergraduate student body at large. The undergraduate student body shall be made aware of these seats through the resources of the USG. Undergraduates may then apply and nominations will be submitted to the Hunter Senate upon the recommendation of the USG.
- (iii) There shall also be 5 seats reserved for undergraduate students involved in a Hunter College scholars program. The undergraduate student body shall be made aware of these seats through the resources of the USG. Undergraduates may then apply and nominations will be submitted to the Hunter Senate upon the recommendation of the USG.