

MINUTES

Meeting of the Hunter College Senate

7 October 2009

- 1 The 506th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 3:45 PM in Room W714.
2
3 **Presiding:** Sandra Clarkson, 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 **Report by the** There was no report.
11 **President:**
12 **Report by the** The Chair presented the report as follows:
13 **Administrative**
14 **Committee:** **Special Election for Vacant At-large Seats on the Senate – Fall 2009**
15 The Chair presented the following nominations in accordance with Article IV, Sections 2.H.i & ii, of
16 the *Charter for a Governance of Hunter College*:
17
18 Students: Leanne Tory-Murphy (THHP)
19 Joseph Gradate (Economics/Political Science)
20
21 It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the nominees. The
22 motion was approved by voice vote without dissent.
23
24 Clickers were distributed to the newly elected senators.
25
26 **Approved Curriculum Changes**
27 The following curriculum changes as listed in Parts I and II of the Report dated 7 October 2009 were
28 approved as per Senate resolution, and were submitted for the Senate's information: Items UE-1593
29 (Mathematics Minor and Statistics Minor), UE-1603 (Chemistry Minor), UE-1604 (Asian American
30 Studies Minor), UE-1606 (Africana and Puerto Rican/Latino Studies Minor), US-1605 (Macaulay
31 Honors College: Change in Program Name & Course Prefix), GR-812 (Music: Change in Course #
32 MUS 720), UR-1609 (Political Science: Change in course number PLSC 220, 221).
33
34 **Items Carried** **The Children's Learning Center**
35 **Over:** The following resolution proposed by Ms. Melinda Cornwell at the last meeting was on the floor:
36
37 WHEREAS, On May 19, 2009 Dean Eija Ayravainen announced the appropriation of Room
38 209 Hunter North from the Children's Learning Center in order for the college to use the
39 space for administrative purposes; and
40
41 WHEREAS, Hunter College has a historical tradition of serving women and a diverse student
42 body; and
43
44 WHEREAS, The Children's Learning Center is an accredited program that provides high
45 quality education and care to the children of Hunter student-parents on campus; and
46
47 WHEREAS, The Children's Learning Center provides extremely affordable childcare for
48 Hunter student-parents and is of major importance to them to attend Hunter; therefore
49

54 BE IT RESOLVED, that the service of childcare must be promoted at Hunter College so that
 55 Hunter student-parents are made aware of the existence of such services
 56

57 RESOLVED, that if possible more space be allocated to expand services and serve the needs
 58 of Hunter student-parents on campus; WHEREAS, On May 19, 2009 Dean Eija Ayravainen
 59 announced the appropriation of Room 209 Hunter North from the Children's Learning Center
 60 in order for the college to use the space for administrative purposes; and
 61

62 WHEREAS, Hunter College has a historical tradition of serving women and a diverse student
 63 body; and
 64

65 WHEREAS, The Children's Learning Center is an accredited program that provides high
 66 quality education and care to the children of Hunter student-parents on campus; and
 67

68 WHEREAS, The Children's Learning Center provides extremely affordable childcare for
 69 Hunter student-parents and is of major importance to them to attend Hunter; therefore
 70

71 BE IT RESOLVED, that the service of childcare must be promoted at Hunter College so that
 72 Hunter student-parents are made aware of the existence of such services
 73

74 RESOLVED, that if possible more space be allocated to expand services and serve the needs
 75 of Hunter student-parents on campus; and be it further
 76

77 RESOLVED, that room 209 must be maintained for the sole use of The Children's Learning
 78 Center.
 79

80 After discussion Professor Sproul moved that the motion be amended by deleting the following: "and
 81 be it further RESOLVED, that room 209 must be maintained for the sole use of The Children's
 82 Learning Center."
 83

84 After discussion the question was called and carried on the motion to amend.
 85

86 Voting by clickers produced the following results: 35 in favor, 40 opposed, and 3 abstentions. The
 87 motion did not carry, the required numbers of 51 votes not having been achieved.
 88

89 After further discussion the question was called and carried on the resolution.
 90

91 Voting by clickers produced the following results: 46 in favor, 28 opposed, and 4 abstentions. The
 92 motion did not carry, the required numbers of 51 votes not having been achieved.
 93

94 **Committee**
 95 **Reports:**

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

97 Professor William Sakas, Chair of the Committee, presented the following progress report in a
 98 PowerPoint presentation:

99 **Interim Activities Report**

100 **Recent Past:**

101 **The state of the current GER is sound!**

- 102 • The three stage structure is pedagogically sound
- 103 - No recommendation for substantial restructuring
- 104 • Hunter is one of 7 schools to receive a grade of A from the American
 Council of Trustees and Alumni
- 105 - Based on a thoughtful 55 page report on General Education
- 106 • The GER received "good marks" from Middle States review
- 107 • GER curriculum development/review is crucial
- 108 - Initiated piloting programs for Hunter Horizons Courses
- 109 • Caretaking structure has been addressed
 110

- 114
 115
 116 - The committee is working with President Raab to establish a full-time administrative position to
 117 oversee the GER
 118 - Committee is investigating the need for a standing committee on GER

119 Changes in the Minor Requirement

- 120 - Minor is optional for students
 121 - Minor department determines Minor Requirement
 122 - Minor is optional for departments
 123 - Currently there are 34 minors on the books
 124 - Terrific effort on the part of Undergraduate Course of Study

125 Science for non-majors

- 126 - Articulated learning goals
 127 - Currently running two biology courses: CSI Hunter, and Human Biology
 128 - Physics piloting a virtual lab for Astronomy and assess if it meets Science GER learning goals

129
 130 **Present:**

131 Hunter Horizons Courses: Where First-Year Orientation, Engagement and Rich Academic Content Meet

- 132 - For first-year freshman and transfer students
 133 - Academically content-rich
 134 - Fulfill at least one GER or graduation requirement
 135 - All involve transition to college (T2C) components (online library tutorial, visits from student
 136 services, etc.)
 137 - Curricular and co-curricular student engagement activities
 138 - Spring 2010 we will run between 7 and 9
 139 - Instructors attend monthly meetings, discuss integration of T2C elements, share syllabi and
 140 assessment plans
 141 - Faculty receive a small stipend for course development, money is also available to sponsor
 142 student-engagement activities
 143 - Courses currently being funded through CUNY grant mechanism that's part of the CUE program
 144 - Currently running 3 Horizons Courses

145 Hunter's P&D Requirement

- 146 - Many public and subcommittee meetings
 147 - Tremendous amount of useful input from over 40 faculty members
 148 - Mellon Steering Committee Preliminary report and recommendations on P&D will be circulated
 149 this week among faculty who were involved in P&D discussions for feedback
 150 - Final report will be released to the Senate early November

151 Hunter's Writing Requirement

- 152 - Herculean work over two years by the Mellon Writing Subcommittee under the leadership of Dean
 153 Clay-Scott
 154 - Subcommittee Report received accolades during Middle States Review
 155 - Steering Committee final report and recommendations on Writing is nearly complete
 156 - Would like to add Trudy Smoke to the Steering Committee to help finalize and present the report
 157 to the Senate in late November.

158
 159 **Immediate Future (Spring 2010)**

- 160 • Increase multiple pathways for students
 161 - Open discussion on expanding the Literature requirement
 162 (Stage 2)
 163 - Open discussion on expanding the American History requirement
 164 (Stage 1)
 165 - Bring legislation to the Senate concerning both requirements
 166
 167 • Finalize learning goals of science requirement and work with departments to increase the number
 168 of science for non-majors courses
 169
 170 • Consider how to implement the recommendations of the Senate Technology Committee within the
 171 GER and the Major

172 **Minutes**
173 **Meeting of the Hunter College Senate**
174 **7 October 2009**

- 176
- 177 • Convene a subcommittee on an oral communication competency requirement – needed for an area
- 178 of the GER Middle States Standard
- 179
- 180 • Open college-wide discussion of learning goals and structure of Hunter’s Focused Exposure
- 181 requirement.
- 182

183 **Long Term Objectives: 2010 – 2011**

- 184 – Establish a standing committee on GER policy
- 185 – Review assessment data from Spring ‘10 Horizons Pilot Courses
- 186 – Run new pilot Focused Exposure courses
- 187 – Bring legislation on First Year Hunter Seminars, technology and oral communication requirements
- 188

189 It was moved that Professor Trudy Smoke (English) be added to the Committee in accordance with the
190 Committee’s recommendation.

191
192 The motion carried by voice without dissent.

193
194 The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 because of the late hour.

195
196
197
198 Respectfully submitted,

199
200
201
202 Philip Alcabes,
203 Secretary
204

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

Faculty:

Africana&PR/Latino Anthropology	Pedro Lopez-Adorno (A) "E" Tom McGovern Ruchi Chaturvedi (A)
Art	Paul Ramirez Richard Stapleford
Chemistry	Pamela Mills Dixie Goss (A)
Computer Science	Saad Mneimeh (A) Ioannis Stamos
Curriculum & Teaching	Bede McCormack (A) Nadine Bryce (A)
Economics	Timothy Goodspeed (A) Avi Liveson
English Film & Media	Michael Thomas Tim Portlock
Geography	Peter Marcotullio (A) Frank Buonaiuto "E"
German	Annette Kym
Health Sciences	Stacey Plichta (A) Phil Alcabes
History	Michael Turner Richard Belsky (A)
Library	Lisa Finder (A) Danise Hoover (A)
Mathematics & Statistics Music	Dana Draghicescu (A) Jewel Thompson (A)
Nursing	Elizabeth Simon (A)
Physics & Astronomy	Ying-Chih Chen (A) Noel Goddard (A)
Psychology	Peter Moller Tricia Striano (A) Thomas Preuss « E »
Romance Languages	Guiseppe DiScipio (A)
School of Social Work	George Paterson Willie Tolliver (A)
Sociology:	Claus Mueller (A) Mark Holling Thomas Degloma (A)

Lecturers and Part-Time Faculty

Joanne Spurza (Classics)
Stuart Ewen (Film&Media)
Case Willoughby (Student Serv)
Matthew Knip

Administration

Dean Sherryl Graves (A)
Dean Kristine Gebbie (A)

Ex-Officio

Deborah Francois, USG Pres.
Jason Ares, CLT Council President
Nadine Young, HEO Forum Pres.
Sarit Levy, GSA Pres.

Students

Rosemary Beato (Psych)
Saba Abdulla (History)
Jenny Jenkins (Film&Media)
Scott Powell (Chemistry)
Nieves Veras (Spanish/Engl)
Glenda Holland (Sociol)
Raihan H Mirza (Med)
Sarah Alshawish (Undecl)
Jordan Diminich (Poli Sci)
Jane Dzielsky (Math & Stat)
Daniel Fried (Math&Stat)
Kyle Sabo (Grad)
Dorota Botwina (Psych)