

Office of the Hunter College Senate

Room 1018 East Building

Phone: 772-4200

MINUTES**Meeting of the Hunter College Senate****3 November 2004**

The 446th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:10 PM in Room W714.

Presiding: Joan Tronto, Chair

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

Agenda: The agenda was adopted as distributed.

Minutes: The Minutes of October 13th were approved with a correction for lines 54 and 56, which should read as follows: "...Master Plan Committee."

Report by the President: Since President Raab had informed the Senate that she would be delayed the Senate moved on to the next item of business.

Report by the Administrative Committee: The Chair presented the report as follows:

Approved Curriculum Changes

The following curriculum changes, as listed in the Report dated 3 November 2004, were approved as per Senate resolution and were submitted for the Senate's information: Items US-1416 and US-1417 (CUNY Honors College), and UE-1414 (Romance Languages).

The Chair the stated that the Administrative Committee had met with the President. There was a frank discussion, and we are looking forward to our next meeting on November 30th.

Committee Reports: **Nominating Committee**

Dr. Marilyn Rothschild, Chair of the Committee, presented the report dated 3 November 2004, as distributed. The following were nominated:

Undergraduate Course of Study Committee

Student: Cristina Rincon (Sophomore)

Grade Appeals Committee

Student Alternate: Niccole Odom (Sophomore)

GER Appeals Committee

Faculty: Gita Rajan (German)

Select Committee on Performance Measures & Outcomes Assessment

Student: Nyasha Tindall (undeclared)

It was moved that the nominations be approved as a packet. The motion carried by voice vote.

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62 **Budget Committee**

63 The following is a summary statement of the report by Professor Manfred Kuechler, Chair of the
64 Budget Committee. He said:

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66 “The Budget Committee just started again with mostly new members. I have agreed to the
67 request to give an early report based on the idea that we should try to make Senate meetings more
68 information filled. We know that the Charter is set up so that the actual work that is done in the
69 committees rather than here in the plenary sessions, and I want to give you a sense of what the
70 Committee has agreed to do, but will not be able to provide specific conclusions at this time. I
71 think it is a good idea because it gives everybody a chance to have some input by making
72 suggestions about what the committee should look into, rather than waiting until some resolution
73 comes up.
74

75 Obviously, the Budget Committee is a very important committee because we all know everything
76 rests on budget. We can think of a lot of good things that we want to do, but if we don't have the
77 funds it just won't work. What we decided to look into are a number of things. The first one is to
78 review the way in which CUNY allocates money between colleges. As a committee we will
79 probably not have much impact in making CUNY change its ways, but it is important that we
80 understand the allocation model that CUNY uses, and that we are aware of certain budgetary
81 implications on decisions that we make in other areas. So far we were able to ascertain that the
82 key allocation model is driven by enrollment, and we all know that Hunter faces serious problems
83 in this area because of space limitations. While it would be very easy to get the Senate to agree to
84 limit enrollment because smaller classes mean better learning and teaching, we also need to be
85 aware of what that could mean in terms of money allocations. One thing is clear. It is not easy to
86 understand the allocation model that CUNY uses. If we want to be effective as a committee we
87 need to work together. I am very encouraged by the response that we have received from the ex-
88 officio members of the committee, Provost Pizer and Vice President for Finance &
89 Administration Zinnanti. Both of them have been very cooperative.
90

91 The second aspect is that we want to look into all sources of income, including fundraising
92 through the Hunter College Foundation, and income that is generated by auxiliary enterprises.
93 For instance, you can run the Bookstore in order to minimize the prices for the student so that
94 there is hardly any profit, or we can say that we should try to make some money with these
95 enterprises and then give it back to the students in other ways. There are some advantages and
96 disadvantages, and all I am saying at this point is that we need to look into this and carefully
97 consider the advantages and disadvantages.
98

99 We heard a lot from the President at the last meeting about the upcoming fundraising drive, and
100 we need to ask about the Hunter College Foundation. A preliminary look at the figures suggest
101 that fundraising has dropped quite a bit from where it was in the late nineties with fund raising
102 figures of almost 500,000 that went back to just a little over 200,000, but the latest information is
103 not yet available. It is important to look at changes and trends over time to see what is behind
104 these trends and what we can do to improve things. As the President pointed out, fund raising is
105 not something that one person alone can do. It requires the input of the whole community. It is
106 not an issue that the committee sees as faculty against administration, but as an area where we
107 need to see how we can work together and how we can maximize our cooperation for the benefit
108 of all.
109

110 The third aspect that is important is that we do not have much input in what CUNY does and
111 how CUNY distributes the money, but we can have an input in how we internally allocate the
112 funds. It is not realistic to expect that we would receive more tax money, and that all of a sudden
113 the State will shower money on CUNY. That is not going to happen. For the time being, the

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committee decided to look into two aspects, but that may change as we go along in our deliberations. One is the adjunct budget. That sounds much easier than it is in reality, because there is a lump sum adjunct allocation that comes down from CUNY. But we can look at the expenditure side and how adjuncts are paid and whether there are other sources of income by which they are paid, like research money. We understand that there is no one single document that will tell us all, and we will need the advice of the Vice President for Finance & Administration. Despite his very heavy schedule, he will be at our second meeting, and we will have a chance to learn from his wisdom and get his advice on what would be the best documents to look at in order to consider these questions fully.

The second aspect is something that the Senior Vice Chancellor Allan Dobrin touched on during his visit at Hunter last spring. What he said was that we are trying to look at the structure to see if more money can be made available for teaching and learning and services directly related to it, and to try to minimize expenses in the administrative area. So, we want to look at expenditures here at Hunter and at possible productivity gains. We want to look at these expenditures. We have received some of the information that we asked for, like the executive pay plan that covers certain people. The focus will not be on individual salaries, but on overall budget allocations and shifts in funds that go directly into teaching and learning and into administrative functions.

These are the things that we have identified so far. We are well aware that most of these questions cannot be easily answered. They require that we look at quite a number of documents and we are counting on the Office of the Vice President for Finance & Administration to advise us and help us in locating the required documents.”

**Report by the
President:**

Because President Raab had not yet arrived the Chair outlined different ways in which to proceed when Dean Schachter moved that the meeting be adjourned.

The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony Picciano, *TM*
Secretary

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APPENDIX 1

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

Faculty

		Political Science	John Wallach "E" Ken Sherrill "E"
Africana & P.R./Latino Studies	Juan Flores	Psychology	Tracy A Dennis Cheryl Harding Peter Moeller Rossi Hassad
Anthropology	Jonathan Shannon William Parry	SEEK	Ruby Tsang Denise Simmons
Art	Brian Wood Reiner Leist Eleanor Richter	School of Social Work	Paul Kurzman Gary Mallon
Biological Sciences	Ezra Shahn	Sociology	Randi Rosenblum Ruth Sidel
Chemistry	Bill Sweeney "E" Pam Mills "E"	Special Education	Dona Matthews
Classical & Oriental Studies	Joanne Spurza "E" Tamara Green Rivka Friedman	Theatre	Louisa Thompson Laura Drake
Computer Science	Ioannis Stamos William Sakas	Administration	Nadine Young
Curriculum & Teaching	Janell Drone	Ex-Officio	Miles Gerety William Allen Jackie Wilson
Economics	Michael Schleifer Howard Chernick Avi Liveson	Students	
Educational Foundations	Priscilla Dixon Elizabeth Cardoso Jeanne Weiler	Onyeana Osuaguru Marcus Dargen Kelly Lewis Kathrin Ewald-Latham Carmen Lopez Valeria Treves Alisha Outridge Jorge Vasquez Sangram Katoch Luminitz Belecciu Salut Asmal Roberta Bongianino Eriko Horiuchi Matthew Hallex Junette Alayo "E" Rori Picker "E" Jessica Arielle-Roberts Elizabeth Maglieri "E" Spencer Dennis	Stanley A. Diaz Ania Wrona Lisa Davis Ariel Tal Fabio Blasina Laura Musich "E" Pierre Hypolite Jessica Ross Shannon Miller Leah Moss Bryce Dixon Daniel Berger Helen Puckett Valentine Sanders James Hsiao Charles Blumenthal
Film & Media Studies	Michael Gitlin		
Geography	William Solecki Haydee Salmun		
Health Sciences	Anahi Viladrich Frances Scheffler		
Mathematics & Statistics	Makram Talih Sandra Clarkson		
Music	Brad Stoller Barbara L. Hampton Mark Spicer		
Physics	Gregory Foster		