

MINUTES
Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
24 February 2010

- 1 The 511th 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,
8 and clickers were distributed to them.
9
- 10 **Minutes:** The Minutes of December 2nd and December 9th were approved as distributed.
11
- 12 **Report by the** There was no report.
13 **President:**
14
- 15 **Report by the** **Special Election for Vacant At-large Seats on the Senate**
16 **Administrative** The Chair presented the following nomination in accordance with Article IV, Sections 2.H.i & ii, o
17 **Committee:** the *Charter for a Governance of Hunter College*: Student: Tonya Sylvester (Math & Stat)
18
19 It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the nominees. The
20 motion was approved by voice vote without dissent.
21
- 22 **Establishment of Standing Committee on Academic Assessment and Evaluation**
23 The following resolution was on the floor:
24
- 25 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hunter College Senate establish a new *Standing Committee on*
26 *Academic Assessment and Evaluation*, replacing the *Select Committee on Performance*
27 *Measures and Outcomes Assessment*. The committee will consist of:
28 1) One full-time faculty from each division of the School of Arts and Sciences
29 2) Three full-time faculty members at-large from the School of Arts and Sciences
30 3) One faculty from each of the Schools of Education, Social Work, Nursing, Health Sciences
31 4) Two students-at-large from the School of Arts and Sciences
32 5) The Director of Assessment
33 6) The Chair shall be a faculty member elected by the voting membership of the Committee
- 34 and, serving ex-officio without vote:
35 1) The Deans of the schools of Arts and Sciences, Social Work, Nursing, Education and Health
36 Sciences (or their respective designees)
37 2) The Chief Academic Officer and the Vice President of Student Affairs (or their respective
38 designees)
39 3) The Director of Institutional Research
- 40 The specific charges to the committee shall include:
41 1) To develop, implement, review, and approve all college policies and procedures related to
42 academic assessment
43 2) To seek necessary support (logistical and otherwise) for the proper implementation of
44 approved college assessment processes and policies
45 3) To coordinate with other Senate committees to ensure that all policies and procedures related
46 to academic assessment are faculty-driven
47 4) To serve as an assessment advisory committee for academic departments and programs, and
48 work with all relevant constituencies as needed
49 5) To inform the academic community about accreditation standards as presented by the Middle
50 States Commission on Higher Education
51

6) To deliver regular reports to the Hunter Senate.

It was moved that the question be called. The motion carried by voice vote.

Voting by clickers produced the following results: 62 in favor, 1 opposed, and 4 abstentions. The motion carried.

Announcements Re: Assessment

The Director of Assessment, Dr. Mosen Auryan, informed the Senate that the Office of Assessment now has a web-site: <http://www.hunter.cuny.edu/academicassessment/mission-statement>

Office of Assessment Mission Statement: The Office of Assessment strives to achieve a dynamic and integrated educational model in which the highest standards of quality drive the design and implementation of all academic initiatives at Hunter. For each of these initiatives, we will seek to partner with our colleagues across Hunter to articulate and implement a shared strategy that will continuously improve student outcomes without compromising standards of academic freedom.

Supported by the Office of the Provost and Hunter College Senate, the Office of Assessment

- Offers educational seminars and workshops on academic assessment in the context of effective teaching and learning.
- Collaborates with academic departments and schools to continuously improve curriculum design and program-level outcomes.
- Engages with faculty members to improve course-level outcomes by articulating a transparent and sustainable system of assessment.
- Provides evaluation support and expertise for grants and funded proposals.

Provost Vita Rabinowitz then made the following remarks. She said:

“I want to thank Mosen for his efforts over the past year to help us meet the assessment of academic goals. I know he has worked with many departments and he helped the entire college. It has been a strong year and we expect this coming year to be terrific. The Senate has now established a Standing Committee on Assessment and Evaluation and Mosen and I look forward to working with this committee. I also want to thank the Senate for approving the resolutions that all new courses will have specific learning goals, and that all existing courses should have specified learning goals as well. I would like our assessment discussions to take on the same character as Tech Thursdays for technology. Assessment is something that we all participate in all the time. I want to thank you, faculty, for the initiatives that belong to you that you have started and maintained. This is not something we are doing just for Middle States. It is something we are doing for our students and our institution, and I want to thank you for what you have already done. We are committed to funding assessment efforts, and we want you to be on the lookout for assessment activities. We have two workshops planned with more to come. Please keep the dialogue going. My office is of course heavily involved as is the Senate. Academic Assessment belongs to the faculty. Thank you Mosen, and thank you Sandi for your efforts.”

Committee Reports:

Select Committee on Strategic Planning

Professor Richard Stapleford, Chair of the Committee, presented the following Progress Report. He said:

“The Select Committee on Strategic Planning was established last spring by your vote. It got started last fall. Just to remind you of a couple of things. This is the first of the mandated reports. The Committee consists of a number of faculty members, two students, and a number of administrators. Its charge is to coordinate Strategic Planning for the College and to write a Strategic Planning document, something that Middle States felt was a serious lack in the college. We have a deadline, which was partly imposed by them and partly by ourselves, of completing this process by the end of the Spring semester of 2011. We can move into September-October to give us a little extra time if we need it. The process will include an outreach to all parts of the college, meaning not only students, faculty, and administrators, but also the sub-units and various schools and departments of the college, to present to us ideas that should govern this college’s role and its future. The Strategic Plan is envisioned to last for 10 years as a document that will guide us in our decisions, something that is very important, particularly, in times of fiscal exigency. At the moment the Strategic Planning Committee is hiring a facilitator, someone who is a professional.

117 We have interviewed and I think the process will draw to a close next week. We are also re-
 118 considering the Mission Statement. Once it is finished by us, we will bring it to the floor of the
 119 Senate, and the Senate will have the opportunity to go over the mission statement, make additions
 120 and corrections as appropriate. This will then be the document upon which the Strategic Plan is
 121 based. Our plan is to finish that very quickly and I hope you will see me again soon. That basically
 122 is where we are.”
 123

124 **Update on Turnstiles**

125 Chief Operating Officer, Len Zinnanti, presented the following update. He said:

126 “I am here to share some information with you on the progress of the installation and activation of
 127 our security system at the 68th Street campus. As many of you have noticed, installation has
 128 begun for the access devices by the subway entrance, in the North Building on 69th Street, and by
 129 the Kaye Theatre, and they will be coming to the West Building shortly. Installation should be
 130 finalized by April, but they will not be operational until after the Spring semester. The devices are
 131 not really turnstiles, they are technologically competent machines that you pass your card by and
 132 there is no barrier to getting in. As long as the card is accepted, you walk. If anyone tries to get
 133 into the college who does not belong here and who does not have a card then the barrier will come
 134 up preventing you from entering. So, they are not really turnstiles. The doors on Lexington
 135 Avenue for Thomas Hunter Hall and the doors for the East Building will have swipe access to get
 136 in. The entire system will operate on a separate system. If there is a power failure or fire alarm,
 137 they will remain open for egress. They are independent of any system we have. Again, they will
 138 be operational after the Spring semester. Therefore it is important for everybody to get valid ID
 139 cards beginning in the Summer session. Faculty and staff can get their ID cards at the Welcome
 140 Center on the first floor of the North Building, and students at the Oasis on the second floor of the
 141 North Building.
 142

143 In the West Building lobby we are building a Visitors’ Center which will accept visitors and
 144 guests of the college. It will be a place where people can pre-register visitors. It will contain
 145 maps of the campus and directions for information. Also, there is a software program, which is
 146 called “Easy Lobby.” If your visitor comes with a driver’s license, it will turn into a visitor’s pass
 147 in something like 20 seconds.
 148

149 There are quite a few people who have different roles here. We have Saturday programs, we have
 150 Continuing Education, we have IELI, and we are in the process of trying to accommodate
 151 everyone and provide appropriate IDs to all of those who deserve them. For delivery people, for
 152 example if the same fellow shows up to deliver water, he will get an ID. FedEx, where they have
 153 different delivery people, will not get an ID. So you would have to go down to the Visitor’s
 154 Center or make other arrangements to pick up your deliveries. Most importantly, the coffee
 155 service will be relocated to the Lost & Found in the West Lobby where it was many years ago.”
 156

157 Mr. Zinnanti concluded his report by answering questions from the floor.
 158

159 **New Business:**

160 Professor Alan Hausman raised a question as to whether classroom computer access to the internet can
 161 be limited or faculty can ban computers from the classroom.

162 Chief Information Officer for ICIT, Frank Steen, stated that there is currently no technological solution
 163 for limiting classroom access to the internet in general.
 164

165 It was pointed out that faculty are in charge of their classrooms and that they should clearly
 166 communicate and state their expectations and standards in the syllabus.
 167

168 It was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 4:35
 169 PM.

170 Respectfully submitted,
 171

172
 173 Philip Alcabas,
 174 Secretary
 175

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

Faculty:

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

Anthropology Tom McGovern (A)
 Ruchi Chaturvedi (A)
 Art Paul Ramirez
 Chemistry Pamela Mills
 Dixie Goss (A)

Computer Science Saad Mneimeh (A)
 Ioannis Stamos (A)

Curriculum & Teaching Bede McCormack (A)
 Jody Polleck
 Nadine Bryce (A)

Economics Timothy Goodspeed (A)
 Avi Liveson
 Howard Chernick

Film & Media Tim Portlock
 Peter Parisi (A)

German Eckhard Kuhn-Osius

Health Sciences Stacey Plichta (A)
 Jack Caravanos

History Richard Belsky (A)
 Michael Turner

Library Lisa Finder (A)
 Danise Hoover (A)

Mathematics & Statistics Dana Draghicescu (A)

Nursing Peggy Schuber (A)

Physics & Astronomy Ying-Chih Chen (A)

Political Science John Wallach (A)

Psychology Peter Moller 'E'

Romance Languages Guisepe DiScipio (A)

SEEK Patricia Martin (A)

School of Social Work Kenny Kwong (A)
 Willie Tolliver (A)

Sociology Thomas Degloma (A)

Special Education Angela Mouzakitis

Lecturers and

Part-Time Faculty

Dana Reimer (Geography)
 William Sakas (Comp Sci)
 Christa Acampora (Philosophy)
 Barabara Sproul (Religion)
 Makram Talih (Health Sci) "E"
 Bernadette McCauley (History)

Administration

Bill Zlata "E"
 Dean Jacqueline Mondros (A)

Ex-Officio

Deborah Francois, USG Pres.
 George Wallace, CLT Council President
 Theodore Ryo, GSA Pres.

Students

Valentine Sanders (Classics)
 Ian Katz (English)
 Umar Khan (Poli Sci)
 Leticia Ribeiro (Math)
 Jonathan Morales (Anthropo/AFPRL)
 Ayman Ahmed (Comp Sci)
 Cristian Vergara (undecl)
 Dhariana De La Cruz (Psych)
 Mariya Yefremova (Poli Sci/Engl)
 Sarah Alshawish (undecl)
 Andrew Rice (undecl)
 Angelo Rosado (History)
 Raphael Tomkin (Film/Poli Sci)
 Leanne Tory-Murphy
 Luard Dilja (undeclared)
 Kyle Sabo (Grad)
 Marta Petryna (Biology)
 Norman Kennard (Anthropo)
 Ginna Moreano (Psych)
 Camille Lampel (Archaeo)
 Lauren Saenz (Pre-law)
 Jennifer Liu (undecl)