

# MINUTES

## Meeting of the Hunter College Senate

### 9 March 2016

1 The 582<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 3:41 PM in HW room 714.  
2

3 **Presiding:** Sandra Clarkson, Chair  
4

5 **Attendance:** The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those marked absent in Appendix I.  
6  
7 Alternate Senators were formally seated in accordance with the procedures approved by the  
8 Senate, and clickers were distributed to them.  
9

10  
11 **Meeting Minutes:** Meeting Minutes of February 24th were approved as amended.  
12  
13

14 **Report by the** Terry Rosen Deutsch, Vice President for External Relations, said the following:  
15 **Vice President**  
16 **for External**  
17 **Relations:** "President Raab is sorry not to be here today as she hates to miss Senate meetings. I am here today  
18 on her behalf to ask you to support two items. The first is support for the CUNY larger budget that  
19 I will talk about in a few minutes and the second is the CUNY Capital Budget, which was not  
20 included in Governor Cuomo's Executive Budget Proposal to the State Legislature in January. We  
21 have a hole in the ground on E 73<sup>rd</sup> Street where we are building our new Science and Health  
22 Professions building. We have worked hard to get the Assembly to put enough funding in the  
23 budget to begin phase one of construction in their one-house bill, and they have done so. Even if  
24 you are not a physical therapist or nurse everyone should be happy as the move to the new  
25 building will help decompress the main campus. We are still working on the State Senate to  
26 include funding for this in their one-house budget as well. As you all know April 1<sup>st</sup> is the budget  
27 adoption date, as required by law.

28 There is a site that CUNY Central Office has created [www.supportcuny.org](http://www.supportcuny.org), and if you go to it  
29 you can enter your address, and it will give you who your representatives are, and there are stock  
30 letters that you can edit and use to send letters to your representative to ask them to vote to support  
31 CUNY. There are draft letters for students, alumni, and faculty and staff. What I want to focus on  
32 today are the faculty and staff support letters that we would like you to consider sending to your  
33 local elected officials. If you do not want to use the draft letters we encourage you to send your  
34 own original."  
35

36 Professor Clarkson said that the web link will also be made available on the Senate website and  
37 urges everyone to get involved and write a letter.  
38  
39

40 **Report by the** **a) Special Senate Election for Vacant At-large Seats**  
41 **Administrative** In accordance with Article IV, 2H i & ii the Charter for a Governance of Hunter College, the  
42 **Committee** Administrative Committee is presenting the names of all nominees received to date, if any.  
43  
44 Student: Sandra-May Flowers  
45  
46 It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the nominee. The  
47 motion passed by voice vote without dissent.  
48  
49  
50

54 **b) Approved Curriculum Changes**

55 The following curriculum changes as listed in the attached Report I & II dated 9 March 2016 have  
56 been approved as per Senate resolution and are submitted for the Senate's information. Items:  
57 GS-1074 Curriculum & Teaching (Change in degree program), GS-1075 Geography (Change in  
58 course), US-2056 Biology (New course), Biology US-2055 (Change in courses), US-2058  
59 Philosophy (Change in Minor), US-2059 Philosophy (Change in degree program), US-2061  
60 English (Change in courses), GS-107 Biology (New courses), GS-1080 Curriculum & Teaching  
61 (Change in degree program), GS-1081 Curriculum & Teaching (Change in degree program), GS-  
62 1082 Curriculum & Teaching (Change in courses), GS-1091 Curriculum & Teaching (Change in  
63 degree program) GS-1083 Special Education (Change in courses), GS-1084 Special Education  
64 (Change in degree program), GS-1085 Special Education (Change in degree program), GS-1086  
65 Special Education (New course), GS-1087 Special Education (Change in course), GS-1088  
66 Special Education (Change in degree program),GS-1089 Special Education (Change in courses),  
67 GS-1090 Special Education (Change in degree program), GS-1092 Special Education (Change in  
68 degree program), GS-1093 Special Education (New course), GE-1097 School of Education,  
69 Departments of Curriculum & Teaching, Special Education, and Educational Foundations and  
70 Counseling (Add GRE requirement to admissions requirements for various degrees; NYS  
71 legislature new requirement).  
72  
73

74 **Report by the**  
75 **Faculty Delegate**  
76 **Assembly:**

74 Senator McCauley presented a resolution. Below is what she said:

75 "This is a resolution that came out of our last FDA meeting. The body authorized the executive  
76 committee to draft this resolution and bring it to the Senate based on the finding our hiring  
77 practices committee.  
78

79  
80 **RESOLUTION ON HIRING PRACTICES**

81  
82 Whereas the Faculty Delegate Assembly, through its Hiring Practices Committee, conducted a  
83 survey in 2015 of the relative satisfaction of department Chairs with hiring practices for full-  
84 time faculty and solicited comments from the faculty at large and  
85

86 Whereas the results of the study indicated notable dissatisfaction with hiring practices, the  
87 Faculty Delegate Assembly proposes:  
88

89 That the Hunter College Senate, as the body responsible for the academic curriculum of the  
90 College, seek a response from the Hunter College administration to the Report of the Hiring  
91 Practices Committee and delineate how it intends to maintain hiring practices consistent with  
92 faculty control of the curriculum;  
93

94 That an authorized representative of the administration discuss its response at a meeting of the  
95 Hunter College Senate not later than Fall, 2016.  
96

97 After a lengthy discussion, Dean Polsky moved that the resolution be tabled indefinitely, and it  
98 was seconded. The motion was defeated by voice vote.  
99

100 Professor Shirley Raps proposed the following amendment:

101 "That the Hunter College Senate, as the body responsible for the academic curriculum of the  
102 College, look into the issues described in the document, via the Senate Administrative Committee,  
103 and will report back to the Senate with recommendations if there are any."  
104

105  
106 The motion was seconded. Motion carried by voice vote without dissent.  
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110

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114 Professor Sarah Chinn moved to amend the recently adopted amendment with:  
115 “That the Hunter College Senate, as the body responsible for the academic curriculum of the  
116 college, look into the issues described in the document via the Senate Administrative Committee,  
117 in consultation with the FDA, and report back to the Senate with recommendations if there are  
118 any.”

119  
120 The motion was seconded. Motion carried by voice vote without dissent.  
121

122  
123 **Committee**  
124 **Reports:**

**Committee on Charter Review**

Professor Thomas DeGloma, Chair of the Committee, said the following:

125  
126 “I just want to say that at some point in the near future you all will have in your inbox a draft of all  
127 revisions to the Charter. The reason you do not have it now is because these four resolutions, once  
128 approved, will be included as Charter amendments. The four resolutions are all substantial  
129 changes to the Charter. The rest of the changes are housekeeping items that have been  
130 implemented already.”

131  
132  
133 **RESOLUTION TO CLARIFY LANGUAGE REGARDING THE TERM OF THE**  
134 **OMBUDS OFFICER**

135  
136 Be it resolved that the statement regarding this issue should read;

137  
138 “The appointment shall be for a term of three years, removal from office to occur only as the result  
139 of demonstrated inability to perform the duties of the office.”

140  
141 The question was called and carried. The resolution passed by voice vote without dissent.  
142

143  
144 **RESOLUTION TO INCLUDE FULL-TIME LECTURERS WITH OTHER FULL-TIME**  
145 **FACULTY WHEN ALLOCATING SENATE SEATS**

146  
147 Be it resolved; that full-time Lectures be included with other members of the full-time faculty  
148 (“Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors, and Instructors on full-time  
149 appointments” who are allocated 44% of Senate seats) when the Senate allocates seats for faculty  
150 representation.

151  
152 Professor DeGloma proposed the following amendment: “Whereas full-time lecturers typically  
153 play an active role in their department that includes participation in department meetings and  
154 serving on departmental committees.”

155  
156 The motion to amend was seconded. The motion carried by voice vote without dissent.  
157

158  
159 The question was called and carried. The resolution passed by voice vote without dissent.  
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174  
175 **RESOLUTION TO INCLUDE CLINICAL PROFESSORS AND DISTINGUISHED**  
176 **LECTURERS WITH PART-TIME FACULTY WHEN ALLOCATING SENATE SEATS**  
177

178 Be it resolved, that Clinical Professors and Distinguished Lecturers be included with members of  
179 the part-time faculty when the Senate allocates seats for faculty representation.  
180

181 The question was called and carried. The resolution passed by voice vote without dissent.  
182

183  
184 “Finally, we have a resolution about graduate student representation. This is something that I was  
185 interested in addressing, and the committee has taken up extensively. Currently, seats for students  
186 are filled in the best way that the Senate can fill these seats. We are determined to have an increase  
187 in student participation. This resolution is one way to do that. The proposed change will allow the  
188 Graduate Student Association to elect their representatives to the Senate. I have also reached out to  
189 the Undergraduate Student Government and initiated discussion. The Graduate Student  
190 Association answered me back, and we had a few discussions, and I attended a meeting of theirs to  
191 talk with them about the resolution before you”.  
192

193 **RESOLUTION REGARDING GRADUATE STUDENT REPRESENTATION**  
194

195 Be it resolved that:  
196

197 1. All graduate student positions shall be filled by the Graduate Student Association of Hunter  
198 College (GSA) according to the representational requirements outlined in Article III, Section 1 and  
199 Article IV, Sections 2.E (distribution of seats) and 4.B (“students shall be in good standing”) of  
200 the College Charter, and  
201

202 2. In the event that the GSA decides not to put forth a sufficient number of students to fulfill the  
203 representational requirements outlined in Article III, Section 1 and Article IV, Section 2.E of the  
204 College Charter, or fails to do so by the first regularly scheduled meeting of a new Senate (at the  
205 end of the spring semester), nominations can be made by the Senate Administrative Committee or  
206 any seated Senator during a regular Senate meeting. In addition, candidacy at-large can be  
207 declared by filing a petition meeting the requirements established by the Senate. From the pool of  
208 such candidates, graduate student representatives shall be elected by a vote of the full Senate  
209 during a regular meeting (if a sufficient pool of candidates has been identified) or any meeting  
210 thereafter.  
211

212 Professor DeGloma offered an amendment to strike the parenthetical reference “if a sufficient pool  
213 of candidates has been identified” from the resolution.  
214

215 The motion to amend the resolution was seconded. The motion passed by voice vote without  
216 dissent.  
217

218 A representative of the Graduate Student Association spoke for the resolution.  
219

220 The Question was called and carried. The resolution as amended passed by voice vote without  
221 dissent.  
222

223 **Report by the Master Plan Committee:**

224 Professor Clarkson asked that the Report by the Master Plan Committee be postponed until the  
225 March 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Hunter College Senate as the Chair of the Committee was unable to  
226 attend.  
227  
228  
229  
230

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235  
236 **Report by the** Professor Jeremy Glick, Associate Professor in the Department of English and Chair  
237 **Hunter Chapter** of the Hunter College Chapter of the Professional Staff Congress (PSC) gave an update, his  
238 **of the PSC:** remarks are attached in Appendix III.  
239

240 **Old Business:** Professor Bernadette McCauley reported that the FDA has taken the advice from colleagues at  
241 John Jay College and identified three main areas of the COACHE Survey that they are going to  
242 look into. The FDA is looking to hold focus groups to generate more conversation on the Survey.  
243 The FDA would welcome and extends an invitation to the Administration and Acting Provost to  
244 get in touch with some assistance.  
245

246  
247 Due to the late hour, it was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried, and the meeting  
248 adjourned at 5:05 PM.  
249

250  
251  
252 Respectfully submitted,  
253

254  
255 Thomas DeGloma  
256 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	
	Edgardo Melendez	(A) X		Pat Burke	(A) A	
Anthropology	Jackie Brown	A	Medial Laboratory Sciences	Rob Thompson	(A) A	
	Mike Steiper	(A) A		Hongxing Li	X	
Art & Art History	Harper Montgomery	A	Music	Robert Raffaniello	(A) X	
	Carrie Moyer	X		Dean Johnston	(A) X	
	Daniel Bozhkov	(A) X		Jewel Thompson	X	
Biological Sciences	Nebahat Avcioglu	(A) X	School of Nursing	Maura Donahue	(A) X	
	Derrick Brazill	A		Michele Cabrini	(A) A	
	Shirley Raps	X		David Keepnews	X	
	Paul Feinstein	(A) A		Christine Anne Ganzer	X	
Chemistry	Maria Pereira	(A) X	Philosophy	Abigail Kotowski	(A) X	
	Akira Kawamura	A		Lynda Olender	(A) X	
	Gabriela Smeureanu	(A) A		Justin Garson	X	
Classical & Oriental Studies	Joanne Spurza	A	Physics & Astronomy	Omar Dahbour	(A) X	
	Larry Kowerski	(A) A		Laura Keating	(A) A	
		(A) A		Marilyn Rothschild	A	
Computer Science	Lei Xie	X	Political Science	Ying Chen	(A) X	
	Felisa Vasquez-Abad	(A) A		Kelle Cruz	(A) A	
Curriculum & Teaching		(A) A	Psychology	Rachel Schutte	A	
	Jody Polleck	A		Jill Schwedler	(A) A	
	Jason Wirtz	A			(A)	
	Stephen Demeo	(A) X		Roseanne Flores	A	
Economics	Ben Shuldiner	(A) X	Physical Therapy	Joseph Lao	A	
	Timothy Goodspeed	A		Peter Serrano	(A) X	
Educational Foundations & Cou	Avi Liveson	(A) A	Romance Languages	Peter Moller	(A) A	
	John Li	(A) X		Herb Karpatkin	X	
	Veronica Muller	A		Tom Holland	(A) X	
	Alexander Fietzer	(A) X			(A) X	
	John Keegan	(A) X		Julie Van Peteghem	A	
English	Leigh Jones	A	School of Social Work	Rolando Perez	(A) X	
	Sarah Chinn	A		Monica Schinaider	(A) A	
	Steven Wetta	(A) A		Terry Mizrahi	X	
Film & Media Studies	John Keegan	(A) X	Sociology	Samuel Aymer	(A) X	
	Bill Herman	X			(A)	
	Ricardo Miranda	X		Mark Halling	X	
	Joseph McElhane	(A) X		Mike Benediktsson	(A) A	
	Larry Shore	(A) A			(A)	
Geography	Haydee Salmun	X	Special Education	Elizabeth Klein	A	
	Jochen Albrecht	(A) A		Jennifer Klein	(A) A	
	Carsten Kessler	(A) X		Kristen Hodnett	(A) X	
German	Elke Nicolai	A	Speech-Language Pathology and Audiolo	Susan Wortsman	X	
	Eckhard Kuhn-Osius	(A) A		Donald Vogel	(A) X	
		(A)			0 (A) X	
History	Rick Belsky	A	Theatre	Jonathan Kalb	A	
	Manu Bhagavan	(A) X		Louisa Thompson	(A) X	
	Eldor Mhilli	A			(A)	
Library	Mee' Len Hom	A	Urban Affairs	Jill Simone Gross	A	
	Sarah Ward	A			(A)	
	Adina Mulliken	(A) A		School of Urban Public Health	Franklin Mirer	A
	Danise Hoover	(A) A				(A)
		Women & Gender Studies	Jennifer Gaboury	E		
			Rupal Oza	E		
			Catherine Raissiguier	(A) A		

**Students**

Denise Bolognino	E
Maria Pia Sifuentes	A
Abdul Rad	X
Stephen Icaza	X
Stephanie Barragan	A
Albiona Aga	A
Christine Hirt	A
Sandra-May Flowers	A
Jonathan Ayala	X
Michelle Zak-Strzalka	X
Stephen Icaza	X
Jonah Garnick	A
Tamzeed Rahman	X
Ashley Wong	X
Sadal Ayaz	X

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

Student Services	Shannon Salinas	A
	Brian Maasjo	(A) X
Mathematics & Statistics	Bill Williams	A
Sociology	Thomas DeGloma	A
Library	Jocelyn Berger-Barrera	A
English	Jeff Allred	A
THHP	Sarah Jeninsky	A
Mathematics & Statistics	Barbara Barone	E
Nursing	David Keepnews	A
Music	Brad Stoller	X
Urban Affairs & Planning	Elaine Walsh	X
Urban Affairs & Planning	Laxmi Ramasubramanian	E
History	Bernadette McCauley	A
SEEK	Sunday Coward	X

**Ex-Officio**

President, USG	Chika Onyejiukwa	X
Vice President, Graduate Student Association	Kelly Homenick	X
President Alumni Association	Patricia Rudden	A
President, HEO Forum	Dana Reimer	A
President, CLT Council	Amy Jeu	A

**ADMINISTRATION**

Senators:		
HEO/CLA Representative	Marylin Daley-Weston	A
Vice President for Student Affairs	Eija Ayravainen	A
Vice President for Administration	Robert Pignatello	X
Provost, Acting	Lon Kaufman	A
Dean, School of Arts & Sciences	Andrew Polsky	A
Alternate Senators (3):		
Dean of Education, Acting	Jennifer Tuten	A
Special Counsel to the President & Dean	Laura Hertzog	A
School of Nursing	Dean Gail McCain	X

**TEMPORARY REALLOCATION OF SEATS (clickers)**

Department/Program:		
Asian American Studies Program		
Religion	David Cereguas	X
Religion	Barbara Sproul	X

## APPENDIX II

### Report by Hunter Chapter of the PSC

“It is a great honor and privilege to address the Senate in today’s meeting as Chapter Chair of the Hunter branch of the PSC-CUNY union. I look forward to working with this body in the future and have crafted my remarks today as not to test your patience in generously allotting me this time. I will update you on our contract campaign and the crucial tactical component of the Strike Authorization Vote, remind you of key events happening this month, and talk about the three guiding principles/campaigns that inform our chapter’s round-the-clock work: 1. Defend CUNY 2. No tuition increase for students (including in the form of fees) and 3. Questions of Faculty Governance.

“Part of our collective labor is to frame The Hunter College Chapter of the PSC as a crucial organizational body advocating for and consisting of the faculty and staff of this great college. Not outside its membership not straining for relevance vis-à-vis our membership, but our membership’s collective organizational strength. This is for the benefit of the entire community of Hunter College, a community under great duress by outside forces and exhibiting conflicted internal resolve.

“Towards this end we’ve commenced many campaigns: At the start of this semester all adjuncts got hand mailed a prompt encouraging them to verify their step/pay scale since a great many were not getting paid at the step consistent with their time spent here and often Human Resources (I do not think this was either malicious or intentional) were misinforming our Adjunct colleagues. Tomorrow, Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup> the Community-organization driven CUNY RISING ALLIANCE has called for a demonstration in front of Gov. Cuomo’s office (633 Third Ave between 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup>) to protest plans to cut state funding of CUNY by 485 million, despite a 1 billion dollar surplus. This gathering will convene at Community Church of New York at 40 E 35<sup>th</sup> Street to discuss further organizing strategies. On Sunday March 20<sup>th</sup> at Cooper Union’s (where I used to teach) Great Hall from 4-7pm is the event CUNY Writers Against Austerity the largest assembly ever of CUNY poets and writers. On our own campus, the PSC Hunter Chapter and FDA will host a joint meeting on issues of Adjunct labor issues, Faculty Governance, and other topics. I urge you to join and come collaborate in all these efforts.

“The main tactical campaign the PSC has been engaging in is a strike authorization vote. It is a completely legal (both contractually and via the law of the state) to participate in this vote action and quite frankly it is the only time legislatures in Albany and CUNY Chancellor’s office seems to take seriously the dire underfunding of our colleges, the paltry 6% raise counter-offer that is indeed a pay cut when you count for inflation and increase in the cost of living, the Governor’s veto of the Maintenance of Effort Bill to help fix our campuses’ failing infrastructure. We’ve generated and passed a petition for Chairs to sign promising they will not retaliate against faculty who assert their legal right (and I would argue ethical obligation) to sign a strike authorization petition. Ten of our Chairs have signed this pledge and I urge the others to do the same and faculty and staff to sign on to Strike Authorization. It is crucial and really it is a classic lesson in dialectics—the best way to avoid a strike or comparable job action is to sign and commit to Strike Authorization as an expression of collective power and resolve.

“The Union focuses on issues of contractual integrity for our membership Professors, Adjunct Professors, HEOS, and CLTs and protecting faculty governance. The Senate is however a shared governance body so allow me to conclude by addressing what I think is a key aspect of the interdependence of both categories of governance: We, the Hunter Community as a whole are under acute duress. Locally, the excising of Public Health from Hunter College appears to be less a result of due process and more a fiat by the CUNY Board of Trustees. Intersession conspiring and quiet conversation (by the same body who un-democratically brought us Pathways) is unacceptable. You can’t cut an arm off the body without having an open and above board conversation with that body. Academic departments and programs are part of a larger ensemble of shared governance and resources in which the Hunter College faculty, students, and administration, allocate time, talent, and resources toward their flourishing and therefore deserve input on a change in their status as per the shared governance plans and procedural precedents of the college and CUNY structure as a whole. It is a fair and just expectation of individual college administrations to not have their college cut up into pieces by an outside body. Really it is (hazarding the risk of analogy) a kind of from above highly questionable tactic of academic-gerrymandering. The Hunter students who had access to the resources, colleagues, and library collections in Public Health are deprived of these jewels and can only regain access by admission to another school (subject to the admission criteria and process of that school).

“And furthermore, impacting all of CUNY, Albany’s failure of imagination and a crisis not in availability of funds but priority of spending threatens the very existence of this institution. We need to (either as faculty, staff, students, administrators, and executives) be careful to not play into the hands of *faux-austerity* (a denial of the actuality of surplus) by constantly complaining about having to make adjustments and cut backs due to less. The point is to demand more from the already available resources. Such demands are realizable by harnessing political power.

“Statistics can hide as much as they elucidate but in this case I think the point is sound: 75 % of graduates from New York City go to a CUNY institution, more than 50 % of our students come from immigrant families, are working class or students of color (not mutually exclusive categories) and more than 50% of our students families make less than 34 thousand dollars a year. Underfunding CUNY stripping respective colleges of whole departments and resources is a soft-warfare tactic against the communities in which we serve and the communities that bring value to our amazing school.

“Faculty Governance has something to say to such issues as transparency and shared governance in hiring, in searches, appointments, and reappointments, administrative position searches, curriculum, criteria for promotion from Associate to Full Professor, evaluation of intellectual labor and pedagogic practices, allocation of departmental lines and resources, even procedures and protocols on how our community is run. We have to all start acting like the future of our institution is at stake, since it is. The best way to fight back against our version of a nationwide assault on Public Education is for administrators to trust the expertise and competence of its faculty and staff, to work alongside us for the benefit of our shared scholarly and professional home, to organize student resolve as advocates for their own education. Anything less I think sadly misrecognizes the trouble we are all in and the craven disregard for working people (our students and colleagues) exhibited by the engineers of this trouble—Engineers that are not in this room, Engineers that are outside our college community yet assume the right to degrade it. There is plenty of money. However, there is a crisis of priorities in the people who hold the purse strings. **Hunter and CUNY as a whole cannot afford divided resolve in forcing a shift of these priorities.** Faculty Governance is a key foundation for our shared goal of protecting the viability, excellence and accessibility of our college. **Faculty Governance is a key building block for shared institutional self-defense.** I know they are important but still, respectfully submitted: **I think we should stop worrying about losing hiring lines and start worrying about losing our school. More accurately and more importantly, we need to start thinking about and acting on the inter-relationship between the two.** Thanks so much for your time.

“Post-script: My whole theoretical-scholarly and political edifice is built upon taking seriously and valorizing antagonism and contradiction. Principled and respectful, but antagonism still the same. I’m not arguing against foregrounding our disagreements, just a plea to be aware of the context (and stakes) in which we fight”.