

Appendix II Report by the President

The following is a summary statement of President Caputo's report to the Senate. He said:

"First, let me ask all of you to join me in a round of applause for Professor Jill Bargonetti who received a Presidential Early Career Award. This is the highest honor bestowed by the United States Government on outstanding scientists and engineers at the outset of their independent research careers. Congratulations to her Department Chair, Shirley Raps, and her Dean, Erwin Fleissner, and certainly to Jill. It is a great recognition for an outstanding person, and we all rejoice with her.

Second, I would like to thank the Senate for its decision regarding the creation of the School of Arts and Sciences at the last meeting. I will be asking the Provost as she begins to organize the committee that will be working on the final set of issues relating to the school, to address the concerns raised about the graduate programs when her committee does its work. I am confident that they can be resolved to everyone's satisfaction.

Third, I would like to thank everybody for their assistance with the Second Annual Fall Celebration which was just completed. It was a great success, and everyone who worked so hard on it deserves our thanks. Vice President Fishman coordinated the planning. She was assisted by a very large and able group of individuals on the committee who gave you their time and talent. I would like to thank the faculty who taught in the back-to-class sessions on Saturday. I made it to two of them, and they were as always most interesting, very informative, and very well received. This is a very important function in terms of communicating with our broader public. I would also like to mention that I thought Bella Abzug in her address to the new student convocation did an outstanding job in conveying what it means to be committed to a variety of causes, as well as what it means to be Hunter educated. We are very pleased and proud of that. Saturday morning we had a very nice event with three former presidents reminiscing and talking very affectionately about the college, the faculty, staff, and students. I thought that the series of events that would capture the real spirit of Hunter would be the Thursday evening students in the art series of performances. These were simply outstanding. They were very well received. I made it to the dance presentation, and I understand from talking to others that all the other venues were very well attended and very much appreciated. We got a very nice write-up in the local media about this. Congratulations to everyone involved, and thanks for helping the college to continue to let everyone know the vitality and commitment to excellence which are in force here.

I would also point out to you that we had two major dedications last week, one with the Little Theater and the second with the Kossak Lecture Hall in the North Building. I met with a group of students today and one of them commented that they had attended a lecture by an art professor in the Kossak Lecture Hall and how impressed she was not only with the lecture, but also with the technology in that room. Both facilities are due to the generosity of private donors to the college.

The next time I speak to you I would like to take a few moments to bring you up to date on some of the outstanding accomplishments of our students as they continue to make us all very proud of their accomplishments.

We already had a very busy year. We still have much work to do. I am surely excited about the twenty plus faculty searches that are underway. We are hopeful that the university will be releasing additional position money in the next few weeks, so that we can have additional searches underway. I hope that all of you who are participating in the faculty searches exercise the usual care and concern in the recruitment process, since the faculty we are recruiting this year will carry us through the first quarter of the next millenium. It is quite important to us.

I would be glad to answer any questions and then I must leave immediately."