

APPENDIX II

Report by the President

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

"I would like to begin by congratulating Professor Filbin in Biology. Many of you may know that she is the first recipient of the Hesselbach Chair. She is clearly a very deserving internationally known scientist, and we are all very proud of her. There will be a public recognition next week in a reception in her honor and the donor's honor. We continue to do everything we can to expand the number of named chairs by working with potential donors, and we are hopeful that we will be able to add to that. It is a great honor for Professor Filbin, and I would like to congratulate her.

I am sure many of you have heard that CUNY and the State are close to working out direct deposit for paychecks. The bad news is that Hunter is not one of the group that is automatically included in this, because of some payroll difficulties we have had in the past. We are in the process of working out an arrangement with 80th Street that will permit us to go to this as soon as possible and we promise you an update.

Hopefully, you will have had a chance to see the display outside that depicts some of the things we are going to do for the West Building and the lobby entrance. It is primarily coming about from money received from Borough President Ruth Messinger's office. This is an exciting opportunity for the college to really do something for the main entrance to the college campus that has not really been as ceremonial as it should be.

I am also pleased to tell you that during the month of January we expect to complete a number of projects. Let me read you the list of things that we hope will be done by the time the spring semester begins. In the West Building we will be painting the ten classrooms, corridor, and the elevator area on the fifth floor, and the ten classrooms on the fourth floor. On the second floor we will be doing five classrooms, the escalator and corridor. And on the first floor we will be painting the five classrooms. In the Freshmen Center there is a folding door that needs to be replaced. In Thomas Hunter Hall the Dance Studio will be painted, and in the North Building four classrooms and there will be some renovations in the pool/locker area. In the School of Social Work the Library will be painted, and at Brookdale the Lecture Hall on the second floor and two additional classrooms and the auditorium seating will be worked on. The Campus School Gym will be painted, and we will be making some major renovations to Student Services on the eighth and eleventh floor of the East Building. I should add that we are also replacing many of the chairs in the classrooms with new chairs similar to the ones we did last year. We are hopeful that we can continue this. The work that facilities did last year at this time during December and January was exemplary, and I am sure this will also be well received.

Also in the spring there are plans to clean the exterior of the North Building. Major renovations will be done at Brookdale on the envelope, and all the windows will be replaced. That is a DASNY project and we have been told that it will begin some time during the spring semester. We apologize for the dust and inconvenience it often causes everybody, but it is necessary.

I realize that this has been a grueling semester for many of us if not all of us.. Middle State re-accreditation has taken a tremendous amount of time. The Arts and Sciences reorganization discussion, and the Master Plan discussion have all taken their toll in terms of time and energy. But I must salute you, and I do salute you. We continue to receive raves about the self-study. I was at the Middle States meeting in Philadelphia on Monday and part of Tuesday, and several members of the Middle States Commission staff told me that they were pleased with the process. They were especially pleased with the self-study and thought it was a model in terms of faculty and staff participation. Again, thanks go to everyone involved. We did not do too badly with the final report either. We hope to have their formal decision some time in March, but at this point everything looks very positive. I remain very hopeful that it will turn out exactly as we would hope.

Now, in the months ahead we have a great deal of work to do to complete the reorganization as we prepare for July 1. We have Master Planning work ahead, and we will keep you up to date on this on a regular basis. We will also remain busy as we both react to, and continue to try to set our own way at Hunter as we approach a variety of situations in a changing CUNY and in a changing road of higher education. Your continued help and engagement will be absolutely vital to our success. I would like to thank everybody here, faculty, staff, students, and everybody associated with the college, for what I think has been a very successful year for us and a year that helps us get poised for the next step to further improve Hunter College. So, thank you very much.

Finally, I would like to wish all of you well. I know you are in the midst of a very difficult period with time constraints and demands on everybody. Happy Holidays to everybody, and the best of new years to each and every one of you."

President Caputo concluded his report by answering questions from the floor.