

SENATE NEWS BULLETIN

Office of the Hunter College Senate - Room 1018 East Building - Telephone: 772-4200

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HUNTER COLLEGE SENATE TO ELECT COLLEGE OMBUDSMAN

The term for the current Ombudsman expires in September. The deadline for nominations is at the Senate meeting on September 10th, and the election will be held at the Senate meeting on September 24th. Here are the procedures for nominating candidates for this office:

Eligibility

“Any member of the College community, eligible to serve on the Senate, may be nominated by any member of the Hunter College community in good standing, or may nominate herself or himself for the position of Hunter College Ombudsman” (excerpt from the *Charter for a Governance of Hunter College*, Article XII, Section 2).

Nominating Procedure

Nominations shall be made: (a) by filing nominations with the Senate Office in Room E1018 before September 8, or (b) by announcement on the Senate floor at the Senate meeting on September 10, 2003. Thus, the Senate meeting on September 10 is the last time to nominate candidates.

Documentation

All candidates who accept nomination must submit to the Senate Office in Room E1018: (a) a *resume*, (b) a *statement of platform or intent* not to exceed 500 words; and (c) sign the form accepting the *Agreement with the President* and the definition of the Office of Ombudsman as stated in the Hunter College Governance Charter (see back page).

Candidates must submit all three documents for their candidacy to be validated. Only valid candidates will appear on the ballot on September 24.

Timetable for Nominations and Election

September 10th Senate Meeting

Senate Secretary reads a list of validated candidates, and a list of those candidates who have partially completed the necessary documentation. The floor will then be open for further nominations (the agreement may be signed later). There will be no nominating speeches on the floor of the Senate at this meeting.

September 13 at 5:00 PM -- Mailing Deadline

Nominations and statements received in the Senate Office in final form by 5:00 PM on September 13th for all validated candidates will be mailed to the Senate membership for the September 24th Senate meeting.

September 18 at 5:00 PM -- Absolute deadline for receiving documentation

No documentation will be accepted after 5:00 PM on September 18th, and no candidacy may be entered for which the required documentation is not filed by this time.

September 24th Senate Meeting -- Election of Ombudsman

The first item of business on the Administrative Committee Report shall be the election of Ombudsman. A list of all candidates will be distributed to the Senate members. The Senate Secretary or the Chair of the Administrative Committee will read off the list of candidates for the last time. At that point, when her or his name is called, the candidate will rise if (s)he so chooses to be physically identified, and may give a short presentation. In no case will nominations be accepted from the floor of the Senate at this meeting. Voting will proceed according to the rules as set out in Article XII, Section 2, of the Hunter College Governance Charter; the winner will be determined in the same manner.

Duties of the Ombudsman

Article XII, Sec.4 of the Hunter College Governance Charter states:

“The Hunter College Ombudsman shall consider complaints and grievances that are brought by any member of the Hunter College community, concerning a condition or problem in the College, may investigate the conditions giving rise to such complaints and may refer cases to others when the usual appeals procedures seem adequate. The Ombudsman will undertake independent investigations, in general, only if the usual procedures have proved inadequate or have been exhausted, and shall be empowered to recommend action to any officer or to any committee or organization of the College. The Ombudsman shall from time to time report on his or her work to the Hunter College Senate; and may otherwise publicize the results of investigations.”

Agreement with the President

The Senate Administrative Committee and President Raab have reached the following agreement regarding the Office of Ombudsman, and the President will ensure the following so long as the Charter language in Article XII remains unchanged:

1. Adjunct replacement money for 1/2 program for a full-time faculty member elected to office.
2. Payment according to the schedule established by the Board of Trustees if a student is elected to office.