

MINUTES

**Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
27 October 1993**

	The 299th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:30 PM in Room W714.	1 2
Presiding:	Kenneth S. Sherrill, Chair	3
Attendance:	The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.	4 5
	Professor Weinberg moved that the agenda be approved with the addition of an item under "Old Business."	6 7
	The motion carried by voice vote.	8
Minutes:	The Minutes of October 13th were approved as distributed.	9
Report by the President:	A summary statement of President LeClerc's report to the Senate is attached Appendix II.	10 11
Report by the Administrative Committee:	Professor Sherrill presented the report as follows:	12
	a. <u>Additional nominations for vacant seats on the Senate</u>	13
	Professor Sherrill presented the following list of nominees for student vacancies on the Senate in accordance with Senate resolution:	14 15
	Simon Kamara (Philosophy)	16
	Jean Lemaitre (English/Honors)	17
	Ana Ramirez (Political Science)	18
	It was moved that the nominees be declared elected. The motion carried by hand vote.	19 20
	Professor Sherrill then presented the nomination of Barbara Stanley (Academic Skills) for the vacant seat for faculty on the Senate.	21 22
	It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the nominee. The motion carried by hand vote.	23 24
	b. Professor Sherrill informed the Senate that Chancellor Ann Reynolds had accepted his invitation to come to the November 10th Senate meeting. The Chancellor will make some opening remarks and will then answer questions from the floor.	25 26 27 28
	After discussion it was moved:	29
	"that the Senate adopt a procedure whereby questions for the Chancellor be submitted in writing to the Administrative Committee, who will group them and give them first priority."	30 31 32
	After discussion, the question was called and carried.	33
	The motion was defeated by hand vote.	34
	c. <u>Re: Presidential Search Committee</u>	35
	Professor Sherrill presented the letter dated October 20, 1993, signed jointly by the President of the Faculty Delegate Assembly and the Chair of the Senate, which outlined the procedure for electing three faculty members to the Search Committee for President of Hunter College.	36 37 38 39
	After discussion Professor Beaujour moved: "that the ballots assure the election of a representative from a professional school by having a category	40 41

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where the candidates are listed, and that the other two members should
 come from the arts and sciences, but not from the same division." 42
 43

After further discussion, Professor Beaujour moved that her motion be with- 44
 drawn. 45

The question on the motion to withdraw was called and carried. The motion 46
 carried by handvote. 47

It was moved that the election procedures before the Senate be adopted. 48

The question was called and carried. The motion carried by hand vote. 49

Committee
Reports:

Report by the Nominating Committee 50
 Dr. Marilyn Rothschild, Chair of the Committee, presented the following nomi- 51
 nations for seats currently vacant on Senate committees: 52

Graduate Course of Study Committee 53
 Faculty Alternate: David Mootoo (Chemistry) 54

Graduate Academic Requirements Committee 55
 Faculty from Social Work: Yvonne Asamoah 56

Calendar Committee 57
 Student: Melanie Mays (Soc.) 58

Grade Appeals Committee 59
 Student: Edmund Coultman (Poli.Sci.) 60

Review Commission on Distribution Requirements 61
 Faculty: Jaffer Kassamali (Black & Puerto RicanSt.) 62
 Faculty Alternate: Jo-Ann Morgan (Academic Skills) 63

It was moved that the nominations be approved as a slate. The motion carried 64
 by hand vote. 65

Because of the late hour, the report by the Select Committee re: Chancellor was 66
 postponed to the meeting after November 10th. 67

It was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried and the mee- 68
 ting adjourned at 5:50 PM. 69

Respectfully submitted,



Khursheed Navder, *nm.*
 Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

FACULTY:

Academic Skills:	Mary Yepz Janice Montague Hector Martinez "E"	Special Education:	Marsha Smith-Lewis Marsha Lupi
Anthropology:	William Parry John Oates	Theatre & Film:	Ellen Sumter Pat Sternberg "E"
Art:	Joel Carreiro Juan Sanchez	Urban Affairs:	Sigmund Shipp
Biological Sciences:	David Foster Ed Balboni Ezra Shahn	Dean Erwin Fleissner Dean Susan Lees "E" Dean Everlena Holmes "E"	
Classics:	Adele Haft "E"		
Communications:	Serafina Bathrick James Roman Fulton Ross "E"	STUDENTS:	
Computer Science:	Thomas Wesselkamper	Rita Sabini Yorel Francis John Geida Jeanette Surita Sarah Parrales Lenina Nadal Christina Molinari Lucrece Francois Timothy Lee John Pastor Antonio Lopez Stacey Bell Andrea Scibelli Jessica Indri Edilberto Soriano Rebecca Perez "E" Linda Croson Rebecca Bergman-Soren"E" Erica Petersen "E" Julide Gokcebay Inacio Pinto Andrew McCann Hema Sareen Moriah Eskow "E" Josiah Klebaner Debbi Sutton Melissa Uber Armin Patel Henry Sirotin David Asencio Angela Brisnovali	
Curriculum & Teaching:	Alene Smith		
Economics:	Howard Chernick Avi Liveson Terence Agbeyegbe		
Educational Foundations:	Joan Buxbaum "E"		
English:	Sylvia Tomasch Karen Greenberg Floyd Horowitz		
Geology & Geography:	Richard Liebling		
Library:	Steve Kowalik "E"		
Mathematical Sciences:	Daniel Chess Sandra Clarkson Norma Moy		
Music:	Paul Mueller James Harrison		
Nursing:	Nancy Jones		
Political Science:	Rosalind Petchesky Joan Tronto		
Psychology:	Gerald Turkewitz "E"		
Romance Languages:	Maria Paynter "E" Francesca Sautman "E"		
Social Work:	Jayne Silberman Charles Guzzetta George Getzel		
Sociology:	Ruth Sidel "E" Terry Arendell John Cuddihy Martin Warmbrand		

A P P E N D I X I I
Report by the President

He said: "This will be a brief report, but it will touch upon several matters that I think are important to us all as a community.

You will recall, in June of 1991 I told the Senate that I was going to bring together a group of individuals to constitute a special presidential Commission on Campus Climate. That Commission would have one very, very important charge to it, which was to define an ideal climate for Hunter College in terms of the nature of the relationships between people of this college, Recommend steps in which we could create a climate which enhanced the sense of belonging at Hunter for all of our students and all of our employees. The Commission was chaired, as you know, by David Hodges. I am pleased to tell you that I have accepted the report of the commission shortly after it was given to me a few weeks ago. We will be making 2000 copies of the report and will distribute it widely — probably through the payroll office. I am asking in the cover letter that all units of the college not only read the report very carefully, but set aside a designated meeting time in which members of that unit discuss the content of the report, its recommendations, and its thoughts about the ways in which we can make Hunter an even better place. I have set April 1st as the deadline date for the receipt in the president's office of the on campus recommendations of bodies such as the Senate, the FDA, the various unions that represent employees at the college, student governments, caucuses, departments, administrative units. It is very, very important that this document be not only widely circulated and widely read, but it is exceedingly important that it be talked about at length within the various halls, corridors, rooms, offices, wherever people at Hunter get together to meet.

This is a Commission that was asked to look at problem areas at Hunter. It was not asked to look at what is good, and positive, and bright, and wonderful about the college. And so you will find some views expressed within the report that will make some, if not many, uncomfortable because the views speak to issues that have to do with feelings of alienation that many people at Hunter experience. Feelings that don't signal a sufficient level of openness within this community to lots of different kinds of folks. The fact that we have taken this step at this college and the fact that through the process that was used by David Hodges and his colleagues, as many of you were brought to the fore as seems to have been the case, was a bold move on our part and some might even say a somewhat of a risky one. If you read these kinds of documents in a certain way and put a certain spin on them, they can have negative public relations value. But if you look at them in the way that I think they should be looked at, as an organization and an institution that cares about making itself better, that is not afraid to look at itself from inside out, from side to side, and from top to bottom, and see if there are not ways in which we can build a stronger sense of community at Hunter, to build an organization that in spite of its size — there must be at least 22,000 of us that live and work and teach and study at this great college — and its complexity can create a greater sense of union and a greater sense of common purpose, then we have done something good for Hunter. I think the report and the views that are expressed within it, should be viewed primarily in those terms. I hope that the Senate and others will engage in a full debate of this document. My intention is that we not repeat the mistakes that were made relative to other reports circulating at the university level that sort of came down under the blue on a community, and that did not involve large members of the community either in their preparation or their response. So, before any implementation of any recommendation is to be made on this report —and I realize in saying so I am committing my successors — it is absolutely imperative that all sectors of this college community read and respond to the report and to its recommendations. I know that I can count on the Senate and everyone else to be engaged in that kind of a process.

Relative to the search for a new president of Hunter College the Chair of the Board announced at the public meeting of the Board of Trustees on Monday that he has named the four Trustees to serve on the committee. They are Edith Everett, who is the Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees who will chair the search committee, Thomas Tam, William Howard and Gladys Carrion. That gives a very broad representation to all of the groups that are represented within the demography of the university, and you know that you are in the process internally of electing the three faculty who will serve. Students have to be named as well as does another college president, but so far these are the four names that we know.

From a development point of view we are doing well this year. I had breakfast this morning with Mr. Eugene Lang who is an important contributor to the college. He committed to \$ 20,000 of funding this year for support for junior faculty, and for joint faculty/undergraduate research projects. In addition to that we have a commitment from the Hunter College Foundation of \$ 85,000 of funding for faculty development including the purchases of computers for faculty. We have \$ 50,000 available through the pluralism and diversity fund. This represents \$ 155,000 to be spent on soft money that we have raised this year for faculty development in a variety of different areas. We are working very effectively with two other donors to bring in two more endowed chairs of the college before I leave, and we have oral commitments on these two chairs — is to be in social work, the other is to be in the art department.

On October 20th I received a letter from Richard Freeland and Richard Rothbard, respectively the Vice Chancellors for Academic Affairs and Budget and Finance, asking that the college submit a supplemental funding request for the present fiscal year. As you know from reading in the NY Times, the University Central Administration has set aside a small amount of money — \$3M — for the senior colleges, which can now be requested in keeping with a certain set of guidelines. The guidelines basically are that the monies be spent to address important operating costs of the college in the context of strategic planning or in the context of academic planning, both from an institutional point of view and from a university wide point of view. This is an outgrowth of the academic planning process that was used last year, and it reflects one of the resolutions passed by the Board at its June meeting to the effect that budgeting processes at the university would increasingly be responsive to strategic planning and academic planning at the campuses and on a university wide basis. Now, for all the senior colleges to compete for a share of 3M\$ is to say that we are not going to get an enormous amount of money out of this. But I did wish the Senate to know that these are the things that I will be asking for, and I apologize for the tightness of the time lines in this regard. But we have a November 1st turnaround date. And so this is the only meeting of the Senate in which I can bring this forward to you.

We will be asking for what we call adjunct conversion dollars. In other words, we will be looking for supplemental funding to reduce the very heavy reliance presently at the college on the services of non-permanent faculty. More specifically, we will be asking for six new professorial lines in those departments and areas in which we feel that the reliance on adjuncts is at far too high a level. These are specifically in the areas of English, Mathematics, Psychology, Economics, and Romance Languages. In the Provost's judgement and in mine as well, those are the departments where we have the highest rates of adjunct-to-fulltime ratios, and where we have far too high a level of our instructional program borne by non-fulltime faculty. In order to increase student retention at the college, and better serve the counseling needs of our students, we are asking for four lines in the area of student support services —one in financial aid and three in personal and academic advising.

In addition to these ten lines we are asking for \$ 100,000 to create a new computing center at the Brookdale Campus, because our nursing students are now required to sit at a computer terminal for the national licensor examination in nursing. They no longer write out their tests. They must do them at a computer, and so we need a facility to service those students before the spring version of the exam. We are also asking for \$ 100,000 of funding to increase the quality, the equipment, and the space that is used in our physical therapy program. It is the sole program of its kind in the public sector, and it is badly serving students now because of the paucity of equipment and the insufficiency of the physical space. In addition to these monies under the rubric of intra-university initiatives, we are asking for two joint appointments with Baruch College in the area of political science at Hunter and in the new School of Public Policy at Baruch. We are trying to touch all the bases both in terms of university wide collaboratives and in terms of Hunter's needs. My sense from our discussion last year on strategic planning, and that of the Strategic Planning Committee at the college, is that our most pressing needs are in the area of full-time faculty, support services for students in the Vice President for Student Affairs area, and capital improvements. We have touched those three bases and we are being partners with one other sister institution not too far away in terms of the development of joint faculty resources in the area of public policy studies and political science. Why political science at Hunter. Because the external review that was done at the political science department last year showed that we had some glaring deficiencies in terms of staffing in this one particular area. This is a chance for us to enhance that, do something collaboratively with Baruch, and ideally be of service to the university. I share all this with you, admittedly in a very constrained kind of fashion relative to time. There is a November 1st deadline upon us. If you have any views on this, now is the time to let me know what they are."

President LeClerc concluded the report by answering questions from the floor.