

MINUTES

**Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
6 November 1996**

	The 337th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:15 P.M. in Room W714.	1 2
Presiding:	Barbara L. Hampton, Chair	3
Attendance:	The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.	4 5
Agenda:	The agenda was adopted with the provision that item 5, discussion of the proposed reorganization plans, immediately follow the report by the President.	6 7
Minutes:	The Minutes of October 23rd were approved as distributed.	8
Report by the President:	A summary statement of President Caputo's report to the Senate is attached as Appendix II.	9 10
	President Caputo concluded his report by answering questions from the floor. At the next meeting discussion of the proposed reorganization plans will follow a 15-minute statement by the President which will include an in-depth perspective of the proposed School of Arts & Sciences.	11 12 13 14
	<u>Discussion of the CUNY Card</u>	15
	Professor Hampton suggested that the Senate dissolve itself into a quasi committee of the whole until 5:15 P.M. for informal discussion of the CUNY Card.	16 17
	It was so moved, and the motion carried.	18
	The Senate reconvened in formal session at 5:40 P.M.	19
	During discussion Vice President Gizis presented a fax that he had received concerning the CUNY Card on October 25th on the overhead projector (see Appendix III).	20 21 22
	It was moved that the Senate request its Administrative Committee to seek advice from an outside attorney concerning legal implications for the use of the CUNY Card, including liabilities.	23 24 25
	The question was called and carried. The motion was approved by voice vote.	26
	It was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 P.M.	27 28

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth S. Sherrill
Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

FACULTY

Anthropology: William Parry
Ida Susser
Marc Edelman
Nancy Flores

Art: Jeffrey Mongrain
Emily Braun
William Agee
Peter Dudek

Biological Sciences:

Black & P.R. Studies:

Chemistry: Charles Michael Drain
Lynn Francesconi

Classical & Oriental Studies: Alex Alexander "E"

Communications: Peter Parisi
Stuart Ewen

Computer Science: Marilyn Rothschild "E"

Curriculum & Teaching: Dolores Fernandez
Anthony Picciano
Rosa Boone

Economics: Howard Chernick
Temisan Agbeyegbe
Nashwa George

Educational Foundations: Kimberly Kinsler

English: Sylvia Roshkow
Richard Barickman

Geography: Jeffrey Osleeb
Ines Miyares
Peter Combs

German:

Health Sciences: Deborah Blocker

History: Marta Petruszewicz
Bernadette McCauley

Library:

Mathematics & Statistics: Ada Peluso
Sandra Clarkson "E"
Barbara Barone "E"

Music: Susan Gonzalez

Nursing:

Philosophy: Laura Keating

Physics & Astronomy:

Political Science: John Wallach
Joan Tronto

Psychology: Phil Ziegler

Romance Languages: Julius Purczinsky

SEEK: Phyllis Rubenfeld

Social Work: Eleanor Bromberg
Malka Sternberg

Sociology: Jack Cuddihy

Special Education: Marsha Lupi "E"

Student Services: Howard Tarragon
Reva Cohen "E"

Theatre & Film: Richard Tomkins

Urban Affairs: Sigmund Shipp
Stanley Moses "E"

Administration: Dean Carlos Hortas
Vice President Sylvia Fishman

STUDENTS

Clarissa Canadas
David Wallach "E"
Ramiro Campos
Michael Hernandez
Diana Frye
Marta King Schiro
Karen Waithe
Michael Cesare
E. Tony Berkel
Shannon Richards "E"
Brad Stoller
Ruth Couch
Danira Munari
Hyon K. Kim
Gary Braglia

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

He said: "I have a rather lengthy report this afternoon. First of all, I want to remind you that you will be contacted shortly about the opportunity to participate in the CUNY Campaign for Charitable Giving. I would ask that each of you consider the possibility of doing so. Hunter's participation rate is particularly below the average across CUNY, and we would like to get it up to a better level. Dean Hortas will be the college-wide chair for this. Please look at all the options available. You will find a wide variety of things that you could choose to support.

Several Announcements

Professor Manfred Kuechler of the Sociology Department is going to be the first participant in the Presidential Round Table on November 12th at 12:30 in the Faculty Dining Room. He will lead a discussion on the "Use of Modern Technology in Instruction." We have asked him for a 20-minute presentation followed by discussion so that we have a chance to interact. Bring your own lunch. Coffee and cookies will be provided.

I would like to congratulate Professor Sherryl Brown Graves for her Carnegie Corporation Award. It is part of the Carnegie Corporation's efforts to create a new generation of tolerance. These particular awards were just announced publicly on Monday of this week. She is in a very distinguished group. Congratulations.

Re: Politics and Budget

Let me digress for just a minute. I see that Professor Sherrill is here. I want to thank everybody who voted yesterday and everybody who participated in our efforts to get the vote out. It will take some time to figure out exactly what happened. I would say that both parties probably lost great opportunities, rather than either party gaining them. The one thing that is clear is that a lame duck presidency usually makes it more difficult. That is compounded by the other party's control of both houses, and it will be an interesting battle at the federal level. This is a particularly important time for higher education because the higher education legislation has to go through reauthorization this year. With the Republicans controlling both the House and the Senate it means that we face the prospect of not having the most suitably disposed committee chairs responsible for the hearings.

On the State level there were different messages at different levels, depending on how you wanted to read things. Obviously, the defeat of the Republican seat in the Albany area sent a message to the Pataki Administration on the question of reducing State employment. However, they were not the changes one would have expected if, in fact, there were major things going on. So, we will have to wait and see.

There is a related factor: remember that this particular President and this particular Congress, which now gets modified a bit, were responsible for the Welfare Reform Legislation this year. The preliminary analysis done by CUNY is that up to 1,000 students could be affected by the new welfare reform rules. So, we are working diligently to broaden the educational opportunities in that legislation. The welfare reform will probably turn out to be what general revenue sharing was in the 70's -- the catalyst for a great deal of discussion in negotiations between the city, state, and federal government. Much has to be done in this area in the months prior to the State's adoption of a particular plan.

Now, you may wonder what all this has to do with State budgets. Well, let me tell you that there are several things. First, I doubt that there will be much progress in the Legislature on most budgetary items until the welfare reform is taken care of. And that is going to be a difficult issue, I am sure. Secondly, since the Governor announced last year that he was coming forward early with the budget, and he still had the latest budget in the State's history, there is some indication that he is not coming forward with his budget in December. He will wait until later.

I would like to ask you a question. Can anyone tell me what New York and Alaska have in common? We share the distinction of being the leaders in reducing the percentage of public money for higher education over the last year. And Alaska has a better reason. Their oil funds are declining because of the depletion of north slope oil, to which most of their money is tied. Clearly, New York is out of line. Now, I am sure that those who are responsible for this will argue that New York is, in fact, leading the country in a certain direction. I would argue just the opposite. California, with a governor who is not particularly liberal, has

increased funding for higher education by 20%. Michigan has a substantial increase, again with a conservative governor. So, my hope would be that CUNY, Hunter, and all of higher education will be able to press the point that New York is really moving contrary to national trends. We are putting the entire State, the workforce in the State, the economic development in the State and, most importantly, the education of our youth at risk by not investing. And that is the message we will carry forward. In the next six to eight weeks I plan to reach as many members of the delegation as possible to press our point in terms of some of the educational aspects. In addition, we are going to work on a strategy for visits to Albany, so that we will be better organized this year. We will be asking for faculty, staff and student cooperation which was splendid last year. So, we will ask you to repeat that this year.

As far as major budget cuts are concerned, your guess is as good as mine. However, there are some positive signs. The most positive is that State revenue collections are running ahead of the projections, which should make it more difficult to justify a mid-year reduction. The other thing is that the State has permitted CUNY to authorize expenditures for up to 75% of its budget. This would be the normal amount through December, operating on a different type of fiscal year. We started the year with 45%. Although nothing official has come down, we are hopeful that we will not be forced to take a mid-year reduction. This remains to be seen.

Re: Reorganization Plans

The forum was well attended last week, and we will have more over the next few months. Remember, this is not something that is on the agenda today and then off the agenda tomorrow. I have tried to engage the community in an ongoing dialogue. I will be glad to answer questions when I am finished today on any of the items I discuss here, including reorganization. I am looking forward to a more extended discussion period at the next Senate meeting, so that we have the opportunity to talk about any specific concerns or questions you might have. I appreciate everyone's interest. As this is being worked out and we are engaged in dialogue, I would like to ask the Senate not only for additional time on November 20th, but also at future meetings to discuss the reorganization plans

Re: Student Access to Computers

I want to share something with you this afternoon. It is a directory of Hunter College Learning Centers. This is something the Provost's Office put together and I would like to ask Cindy to pass it out now. The sheet that you are getting has a listing of all the Learning Centers available at Hunter. I think it is an impressive listing in many respects. It also shows not only how well we have done but how much better we must do. If you look at the Centers and Locations it shows the services that are available, the computers that are available, and the number of printers and other equipment that is available. You will see that we have 415 computers and 51 printers available. This means that we have one Learning Center computer for every 45 students, and one Learning Center printer for every 367 students in an enrollment of 18,762. On the one hand, it is impressive when you look down the list and, on the other hand, when you look at these aggregate figures, especially knowing that many of our students come to us without the ability to purchase their own computer, you can see that we need to work very diligently to reduce that ratio. We also need to do everything possible to keep these labs open longer.

I am leaving this weekend for a meeting with an alumni chapter in Chicago, and I will be using this as a prop to explain to them what we are doing. One of the most frequently asked questions is: what is the college doing about instructional computing, and access to computers? I am also going to try to use it as an encouragement for helping us find additional funds.

Re: Searches

Let me give you a short update on searches. The Urban Outreach Search Committee has narrowed the list. They have had a series of interviews, and I am now awaiting their final recommendations. Those individuals will be brought back to campus for another round of interviews that will include members of the committee as well as members of my staff and others. The Security Director search is progressing and I am awaiting that committee's report.

Re: Faculty Recruitment

I believe the Provost has notified academic departments or deans who are involved in the first round of faculty recruitment. There will be a second round of a half dozen positions that will be funded when we have the financial ability to do so. There are two things I want to mention about faculty recruitment, and I want to be sure that this is not lost.

First, any of you who serve on search committees know that we have in place a specific set of guidelines and procedures involving affirmative action. But there is one part of the guidelines that may have skipped some people's attention, and I want to make sure that it doesn't. That is the requirement that anyone who visits for a teaching/research appointment is, in fact, observed in class. Comments about the person's teaching capabilities will be included in a final set of papers. So, I want to make sure that we do not lose sight of this.

Second, there are also a series of steps involving advertising, applicant pools, individuals to be interviewed and, finally, a determination as to whether or not good faith efforts were made to meet affirmative action goals. I want to make it clear that I do not want to be in a position of having to stop a search, because the search has not fulfilled its different obligations. However, if that is the case then I am prepared to stop the search and discontinue it, and we will go on from that point. I want to encourage everybody to realize that Hunter, given the diversity of our student body and given our long standing commitment to affirmative action, needs to make sure that we do everything possible to have a diverse faculty. In order to do that we need to pay special attention to these procedures, which will hopefully lead to an increase in the number of faculty of color and gender at Hunter.

Re: Fund-raising

I want to mention several fund-raising successes. There has been a substantial gift for a Distance Learning Center to be located at the School of Social Work, which will be available to the entire college. It will permit us to do teleconferencing into a room such as this on the 68th Street campus. Hopefully, by fall we will have down link capabilities for those of you who want to either participate in some of the conferencing that goes on via satellite, or those of you who want to use that in courses. I have asked the Senate Administrative Committee for nominees to serve on a planning committee. This \$300,00 gift, coupled with money raised from a 1995 Athena Award Dinner of \$350,000, provides a substantial amount of money for a first rate facility, as well as faculty development grants. There will be a series of announcements in the months ahead.

I want to bring you up to date on the 1996 Athena Dinner held ten days ago in which we honored Joan Halpern. That dinner was used to raise scholarship funds for undergraduate and graduate students and to endow scholarships for the Scholarship and Welfare Fund and also for the Presidential Scholarship Fund. Substantial funds were raised, and we had a very successful evening. I would like to thank Institutional Advancement for their help with both of these events.

I am not sure if I mentioned this earlier in the year, but I want to mention again that Gertrude Elion, a graduate of Hunter and a Nobel Laureate, is in fact going to receive the Outstanding Alumni Award of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities at the Atlanta meeting in November. That will be quite a nice honor for her. We are using that in an attempt to try to get some alumni in the Atlanta community to meet with her at a special dinner.

Why do I mention all of these things? I am not trying to delay the chance for you to ask questions, but I want you to realize that there are multiple things happening on this campus that broaden our resource base, and I am planning to include this in my reports on a regular basis.

I want to congratulate everyone here, and many people who are not here, for an excellent start to what, I am sure, will be an outstanding year for the college. Today there is an opening at the Leubsdorf Gallery dealing with color schemes throughout the arts and sciences. There is the Chancellor's reception at 6:00 P.M. in honor of the recipients of grants and scholarships, and at 5:00 P.M. there is the Honors Program's Fall Reception and Party. This is indicative of the general health and vibrancy of what is going on here, and I encourage you to keep it up. I know I need your help, and I know we all need each other's help in continuing to work together to fulfill Hunter's mission. With that I will be glad to answer any questions on any of these items or on any aspect of the reorganization plan."