

MINUTES

Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
13 December 1989

	The 249th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:05 PM in Room W714.	1 2
Presiding:	Jo Kirsch, Chair	3
Attendance:	The elected members of the Senate, with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.	4 5
Report by the President:	The following is a summary statement of President LeClerc's report to the Senate:	6 7
	He said: "I have a few things that I will bring to the attention of the Senate today before moving on to some other meetings this afternoon. No doubt you have heard of, or participated in, a new initiative aimed at increasing the retention rate of freshmen at the College that began under the auspices of the Dean of Students this September. This, of course, is the Mentoring Program, which is something that I am intensely proud of even though we have not yet done a full evaluation of it. Another thing that I am also greatly proud of is the revised Freshman Orientation Program for this year's freshman class. Both of these emerged from a discussion that I had with Vice President Fishman last year in which I asked her to revise orientation programs, and to see what we could do about increasing the retention rate of those who come to us as freshmen. The Orientation Program is a mandatory semester-long program carrying no credits, which meets for an hour a week, and is staffed by personnel from Student Services. The syllabus is an interesting one, a valid one, and an important one. Preliminary results from a questionnaire given to students indicated that they have found the program to be highly informative and very useful. The second element, of course, is the Mentoring Program, where we have in excess of 120 members of the faculty and staff who have volunteered for no compensation and no release time to work with small groups of students (between two and seven), and to mentor them throughout the entire first semester of their stay at the College. The fact that so many faculty and staff have volunteered to work with undergraduate students in this fashion speaks volumes about the commitment of Hunter faculty to our students. I have nothing but praise and deep gratitude to those hundred plus individuals, who have taken this year's freshman class under their collective and individual wings. I don't know of any other colleges in the CUNY system or nationally that have had this kind of positive response from faculty to an initiative to help incoming students achieve higher rates of retention in college.	8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34
	The second thing that I would like to mention briefly this afternoon concerns the Search Committees for three senior level administrative and academic positions at the College. The Search Committee for a new Dean for the School of Social Work has been at work for some months and will be bringing in preliminary candidates for interviews with the Search Committee. They will then narrow their list down to three or four individuals and bring those back to the campus for extended visits. The Search Committee for Dean of Social Sciences had its first meeting last week. The Provost and I met with the Committee and gave it its charge. The Search Committee for Chief Librarian is having its first meeting on Friday of this week, and the Provost and I will meet with those individuals to give them their charge. Dean Lewis is leaving the School of Social Work as Dean at the end of this semester. He is not leaving the City, however, and we will be having a going-away party for him in the month of February.	35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47
	Those of you who passed by the third floor, the Library in particular, know that there is strong interest on the part of some students at the College to have Library hours extended. For the past two nights the Library has been open until 2:00 A.M., with a professional Librarian staying in the Library until that time. Services have ended at 10:00 PM, but the facility has remained open. The Provost and the Chief Librarian will be meeting with representatives of the students on this issue this evening to discuss it with them and, I believe, to offer some proposals.	48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55

	Those are my comments. If you have any questions on these or other matters, I will be happy to answer them as always. Seeing none I will leave the Senate to its business, and I wish you all a very happy holiday and a good new year. Thank you."	56 57 58 59
Report by the Administrative Committee:	The Chair presented the report as follows:	60
	<u>Approved Curriculum Changes</u>	61
	The following curriculum changes, as listed in the report dated 13 December 1989, were approved as per Senate resolution and were submitted for the Senate's information: Items UR-731 (Anthropology), UR-732 (Economics), UR-735 (History), UR-736 (Political Science), GR-304 (Anthropology), GR-306 (History), US-729 (Health & Physical Education), US-730 (Educational Foundations/Curriculum & Teaching)	62 63 64 65 66 67
Committee Reports:	<u>Teacher Evaluations Committee</u>	68
	Prof. Kirsch presented the two-part report dated 13 December 1989, as submitted.	69 70
	She informed the Senate that the first part of the report concerning a new teacher evaluations form to be used in clinical/laboratory courses at the School of Nursing is withdrawn and will be resubmitted for Senate approval in the Spring semester 1990. The following is the second part of the report:	71 72 73 74
	<u>Progress Report:</u>	75
	1. In the Spring of 1989 the various departments at the college were sent a "sensitivity question" survey. The two-part question read as follows:	76 77
	1.a. The instructor is sensitive to the perspectives of various groups (i.e., women, racial and ethnic groups, lesbians and gay men, people of different ages and differently abled groups).	78 79 80 81
	1.b. The instructor is informed and impartial about issues raised by students or class material regarding gender, age, ethnicity, sexual preference, and differently abled groups.	82 83 84
	<u>Rating:</u>	85
	(1) never (2) rarely (3) sometimes (4) frequently (5) always	86
	Twentyfour departments responded to questions, and after the committee reviewed the responses, it concluded that teacher evaluation forms should not contain the "sensitivity question." Most of the responses suggested that alternative means for dealing with these issues, such as complaints to the Provost, Department Chairs, the Ombudsman, or the Sexual Harassment Panel, are available.	87 88 89 90 91 92
	2. The Teacher Evaluations Committee during the remainder of this semester and the next will look into a number of issues raised in the survey of students' opinion about the effectiveness of the current evaluation form.	93 94 95 96
	Additionally, the Committee hopes to: (1) look at question 16 (i.e., the P&B Committee question) with an eye toward overcoming the problem of students ignoring the question; (2) compare the forms used by other institutions in an effort to make the form presently used more responsive to certain needs; (3) look at ways of making the results of evaluations more accessible to students through various means, such as computerized summaries made available at registration.	97 98 99 100 101 102 103
	<u>Calendar Committee</u>	104
	Prof. Kirsch informed the Senate that both the Calendar Committee and the Administration had requested that the 1990-1991 Calendar proposal be withdrawn from the agenda for this meeting, so that alternatives can be further investigated, including the possibility of scheduling classes on Columbus Day.	105 106 107 108

Undergraduate Academic Requirements Committee

Prof. Sam Korn, Chair of the Committee, presented the report as submitted. 109
He informed the Senate that in order to comply with State Education Depart- 110
ment regulation it is necessary to clarify the current catalogue wording concern- 111
ing "Final Examinations." 112
113

The Committee is therefore recommending for Senate approval the addition of 114
a sentence to the current catalogue wording, which would then read (new wording 115
is underlined): 116

College Calendar: Schedule of Final Examinations

A final examination is required in each course at the College during the 117
examination period scheduled by the Registrar, except in those courses in 118
which the department has ruled that no examination is given. Since the final 119
examination week is part of the semester hour requirement as mandated 120
by the State Education Department, the period scheduled for Final Examina- 121
tions should either be used for the final examination in the course or as an 122
instructional session. 123
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After discussion, the question was called and carried. 125

The motion was approved by hand vote. 126

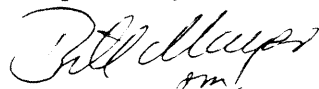
New Business: Prof. Matthews moved that "the Undergraduate Academic Requirements Com- 127
mittee and the Graduate Academic Requirements Committee meet jointly in 128
order to coordinate requirements." 129

After discussion the question was called and carried. 130

The motion was unanimously defeated by voice vote. 131

A motion to adjourn carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM. 132

Respectfully submitted,



William Mayer,
Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

FACULTY:		Special Education:	Marsha Lupi "E"
Academic Skills:	Athlyn Sawyer "E" Hector Martinez "E" Maria Rodriguez "E" Marilyn Daley-Weston Milagros Garcia Robin Soto	Student Services:	Elaine Lawrence "E" Madlyn Stokely
Anthropology:	John Oates	Theatre & Film:	Dan Koetting Stan Davis
Art:	Wayne Dynes	Urban Affairs:	Stanley Moses William Milzarsky
Biology:	Marcia Brody	Dean Evelyn Gioielli "E"	
Chemistry:	Angelo Santoro Jeff Wijnen	Dean Erwin Fleissner	
Communications:	Serafina Bathrick	Dean Carlos Hortas	
Computer Science:	Stewart Weiss "E" Eric Schweitzer	Vice Pres. Sylvia Fishman	
Economics:	Laura Randall Howard Chernick	Provost Laura Strumingher	
Educational Foundations:	Marvin Wayne Joan Buxbaum "E" Sheryl Graves	Dr. Barry Kaufman	
English	Neal Tolchin Sybil Brinberg	STUDENTS:	
Geology & Geography:	Richard Liebling Sara McLafferty	Blaise Hancock	
German:	Ernst Hoffmann "E"	John Nilsen	
Health Sciences:	Deborah Blocker "E" Jack Caravanos	Ellen Parker "E"	
History:	James Harrison Leonard Wallock "E"	Joseph Weiss	
Mathematics:	Daniel Chess Sandra Clarkson "E"	Karen Morita	
Music:	Robert Montesi "E"	Evan Camp	
Nursing:	Nancy Troy "E"	Dennis Bianco	
Political Science:	Ken Sherrill Joan Tronto Ken Ericksen Carolyn Somerville Rosalind Petchesky Vincent Tirelli	Andrew Dell'Olivo	
Romance Languages:	Alex Szogyi Alvin Figueroa Jeannine Plottel Juan Gonzalez-Millan	Shannon Gibney	
Social Work:	Judith Rosenberger Roberta Graziano Marsha Martin Elizabeth Landing	Gilles de Greling	
		Allison Miller	
		Keisha Gaither	
		Sandra Maxwell	
		Simon Campbell	
		Michael Lazzarotti	
		Beatrice Vides	
		Lisa Conklin	
		Letitia Hazel	
		Rick Rozos	
		Francis Quilang	
		Prem Isaac	
		Evan Lazarus	
		Christopher Burns	
		Wayne Hodge	
		Constance Simmons	
		Raymond Dash	
		Michele Giusti	
		Sandy Lee	
		Joan Winkfield	
		Woei-Ming New	
		Dynnah Barthold	
		Desiree Ma	
		Estelle Sauerstrom "E"	
		Kim Ray	
		Dorothy Waters	
		Adria Quinones	
		Mark Windley	
		Guy Conti	
		Norma Moy	
		Lisa Brody	
		Rudolph Gianaccia	
		Teresa Forte	
		Evelyn Li	
		Dragan Milanovic	
		Olga Pajovic	
		Barbara Murray	