

M I N U T E S

Regular Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
7 December 1983

	The ¹⁷⁸ 165th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:40 pm in Room West 615.	1 2
Presiding:	Richard Stapleford, Chairperson	3
Attendance:	The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.	4 5
Minutes:	The Minutes of December 7 were approved as distributed.	6
Report by the President:	A summary statement of President Shalala's report on the College Calendar system, January 19th Celebration, Budget, and Faculty/Staff dining facilities, is attached as Appendix II.	7 8 9
	Prof. Stapleford suggested that while President Shalala was present, to change the agenda and to move to item 6, the presentation and discussion of the report on the status of the faculty/staff dining facilities.	10 11 12
	There having been no objection it was so ordered.	13
	<u>Status Report on the Faculty/Staff Dining Facilities</u>	14
	Prof. Stapleford yielded the floor to Prof. Susan Lees, President of the Faculty Delegate Assembly.	15 16
	Prof. Lees opened the floor for discussion, and both she and President Shalala responded to questions from the floor. The following is a summary statement of the questions and concerns raised:	17 18 19
	Faculty members who did not get ballots to vote on the By-laws may get them from the FDA Office.	20 21
	To what extent does the faculty as-a-whole play a role in determining what goes on in the Faculty Club/Dining Room? To what extent, and in what way is the Faculty Club Committee accountable to the faculty? Who will determine the House Rules? Responsibility will be delegated by the FDA and "it is the General Faculty that votes on all issues the FDA recommends." This was reaffirmed by President Shalala and Provost LeMelle.	22 23 24 25 26 27 28
	The dining room will be open to all faculty and staff and no rules will be discriminatory or limit access. Another principle is that the facility must be financially self-sustaining. The question was raised about the special nature of a city university and a democratic atmosphere that might be undercut by a "Faculty Club" that specifically excludes students. The problems can be handled "graciously" and with "tact" in order to avoid such difficulties. We do have to allow the designated committee to act in our behalf in these matters--as managers and representatives. Nothing yet has been decided about dues, or the scope of activities. Dues for faculty may be \$20 per term (\$30 per year). Alumni and part-time faculty may have different dues. Although club membership is not required in order to eat in the dining room, members will have some extra advantages (discounts, etc.). Rather than a faculty vote on the by-laws (as a whole) shouldn't there be faculty discussion of the whole concept? The FDA chose this approach to the issue. The initial draft of the by-laws was sent to departments for review and discussion, the by-laws were modified and the vote is an appropriate stop. The FDA functioned as an administrative, representative body.	29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47
	Should graduate students be excluded, while graduates of Hunter are eligible? Graduate students who are part-time employees will be considered. No firm position has been taken. Staff are included as eligible. Must we use SAGA? This is still an open issue. What has happened to the Faculty Lounge? No space was allocated for a Lounge, per se.	48 49 50 51 52 53
	Discussion of these issues may continue in the Senate.	54

	Before moving on to the next agenda item, Prof. Stapleford informed the Senate that if we complete all business on the agenda, the Senate will have a holiday party instead of the overflow meeting on December 14.	55 56 57 58
Report by the Ombudsman:	There was no report.	59
Report by the Administrative Committee:	1. <u>Approved Curriculum Changes</u> Prof. Stapleford informed the Senate of the following correction in course number for item US-537: page 2, paragraph III. should read: "DROP: BIOL <u>332</u> CELL PHYSIOLOGY" Items US-536 (School of Nursing), US-537 (Biological Sciences), US-538 (Russian) were approved as per Senate resolution.	60 61 62 63 64 65 66
	2. <u>Employee Assistance Program</u> Prof. Stapleford yielded the floor to Prof. Florence Vigilante, Project Director of the Employee Assistance Program. Prof. Vigilante introduced Tony Mazzella, Program Director, who explained the program as follows: The Employee Assistance Program is a very new program at Hunter, and offers free counseling to all employees of the College--staff and faculty. The counseling is available for individual and family problems, and it is hoped that employees are encouraged to use the services as early as possible, in a preventive framework. The Program has made available group sessions on topics such as health maintenance, stress management, improving communications skills, and parenting problems, and will continue to present sessions on a regular basis. The office is located in the West Building and evening hours are available. Mr. Mazella encouraged the body to review the brochure describing the Program, and both he and Prof. Vigilante concluded the report by answering questions from the floor.	67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85
	3. <u>Remedial Course Credits</u> Prof. Stapleford yielded the floor to Provost LeMelle for an informational report on the status of remedial course credits. A summary statement of the report is attached as Appendix III.	86 87 88 89
	4. Prof. Stapleford informed the Senate that the <u>Select Committee on the Distribution Requirement</u> had asked the Administrative Committee to read the following statement: In view of the fundamental nature of the process of review and potential reform of the general education requirement now underway, and in order to ensure communication and interaction between the divisional working committees, the various deans, professional school representatives, and all other appropriate bodies and individuals, we have requested that Acting Provost LeMelle work with us and make available certain resources as well as the formal leadership of his Office. He has agreed to this request and has consented in particular to convene for us a conference to be held at Roosevelt House just before the beginning of Spring Term. The purpose of this conference will be to provide substantial communication between the members of the three divisional working committees, the members of the Select Committee, and others, and to ensure ongoing communication of this kind as we progress toward final recommendations, which we hope to be able to present to the Senate during the Spring semester.	90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109
Committee Reports:	<u>Nominating Committee</u> Dr. Marilyn Rothschild, Chairperson of the Committee, presented the Committee's slate to fill current vacancies on Senate Committees, and opened the floor for further nominations.	110 111 112 113

A motion to approve the Committee's slate carried by voice vote, and the following were elected.	114 115
<u>Undergraduate Academic Requirements Committee</u>	116
<u>Faculty Alternate:</u> Maureen Herman (Curriculum & Teaching)	117
<u>Student:</u> Vanessa Nelson (History-Day)	118
<u>Student:</u> Jose de la Rosa (Academic Skills)	119
<u>Student Alternate:</u> Joyce Taylor (Undeclared-Day)	120
<u>Graduate Course of Study Committee</u>	121
<u>Student:</u> Dennis Jones (Theatre & Film) Graduate	122
<u>Advisory Committee on the Library</u>	123
<u>Student:</u> Guy Herndon - Graduate	124
<u>Grade Appeals Committee</u>	125
<u>Students:</u> Barry Robin (Music-Day)	126
Zenobia McNally (Communications-Evening)	127
<u>Calendar Committee</u>	128
Prof. Stapleford yielded the floor to Prof. Bennick, who moved to withdraw his substitute motion which carried over from the last meeting, to enable the Senate to discuss the Report by the Calendar Committee.	129 130 131 132
The motion was approved by voice vote.	133
Prof. Barickman, Chairperson of the Calendar Committee, presented the Report as submitted (see Appendix IV) with minor corrections which did not effect the overall percentages of the written report.	134 135 136
The motion on the floor was acceptance of the Committee's recommen- dation to continue with the 13-week calendar system.	137 138
After extensive discussion, Prof. Brick moved the following amend- ment, which was accepted by the committee and became part of the main motion on the floor:	139 140 141
RESOLVED, that the current 13-week calendar be adopted for one more academic year (1984-1985), but that further continuation of this calendar system be conditional upon the findings of departmental self-studies, which will examine the actual pega- gogical effects of the shortened calendar as attested to by the members of the particular departments, those studies to be completed and sent to the Calendar Committee for a report to the Senate at the regularly scheduled meeting in December 1984.	142 143 144 145 146 147 148 150
After further discussion, the question was called and carried.	151
The motion carried by hand vote with 41 in favor, 9 opposed, and 1 abstention.	152 153
<u>Proposed Change in Evening Bell Schedule</u>	154
Prof. Barickamn next presented the Committee's report and recommenda- tion for a change in the evening bell schedule:	155 156
Provost LeMelle has proposed a revision of the Evening Bell Schedule for the Fall term 1984, in response to the generally accepted need for more time slots in which to schedule evening courses. Under this proposal courses may be scheduled during the current Dean's Hourss (Monday/Wednesday 5:20-6:20), but only if another section of the same course is scheduled in a different evening time slot. This would give students who wish to keep the Deans' Hours free the option of taking the course at another evening hour. The first period of "evening" courses would also begin at 5:40 rather than 5:35. Provost LeMelle presented the proposal to the Evening Session Council of the Senate, where the discussion was favorable and no objections to the change were raised.	157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168

The Committee recommends this change for adoption by the Senate. It 169
has also been approved by the FP&B Sub-Committee on the Bell 170
Schedule. 171

The proposed revision is as follows: 172

<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	
5:40-7:00	5:40-7:00	5:40-7:05	5:40-7:05	173
7:10-8:35	7:10-8:35	7:15-8:35	7:15-8:35	174
8:45-10:10	8:45-10:10	8:45-10:05	8:45-10:05	175
				176

The question was called and carried. 177

The motion to approve the proposed change in the evening bell 178
schedule carried by voice vote. 179

A motion to adjourn carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 180
6:35 p.m. 181

Respectfully submitted,



Al Bennick,
Secretary

A P P E N D I X I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

FACULTY:

Academic Skills: George Manley
Anthropology: Carol Cambas
Art: Anthony Panzera
Biology: David Lush
Black & PR Studies: Dona Richards
Classics: Matthew Neuburg
Curriculum & Teaching: Elaine Block
Educational Foundations: Joan Buxbaum "E"
Marvin Wayne "E"
English: Jane Benardete "E"
Louise DeSalvo
Geology & Geography: Charles Heatwole
Alan Strahler
Health & Physical Education: Thomas Burke
William Taussig
History: Robert Seltzer "E"
Edith Link "E"
Health Sciences: Russell Sergeant "E"
Mathematics: Miriam Hecht
Barbara Barone "E"
Music: William Siegenfeld
Peter Basquin "E"
Nursing: Marjorie Duncan "E"
Philosophy: John Lango
Political Science: Daniel Pinello
Ken Sherrill
Social Work: David Feldstein
Sociology: Charles Green
Ruth Sidel "E"
Jody Carlson "E"
Special Education: Katherine Garnett "E"
Theatre & Film: Mira Felner "E"
Dean Evelyn Gioiella
Dean Hugh Scott "E"
Dean Richard Mawe

STUDENTS:

Kathleen Douris
Lori Sbordone
Kenneth Walker
Julia Aguilera "E"
Alcally Diouf
Obed Cintron
Cecile Manners
Sol Novick "E"
Claude Moorehead
Carla Cordova
Mary Beth Slevin
Beth Weiselberg "E"
Kirk Callender
Natalie Gomez
Rosa Amatulli
Barbara Reisman
Cathy Lesko
David Newstein "E"
Ana Gomez
Roland Stancione "E"
Daniel Fine
Elizabeth Price
Tanya Parker
Victor Batista
Athanasios Boutis
Helene Reisman
Zipporah Portis
Garth Roberts
Karen Johnson
Mary Young
Merna Eatmon
Maria Medved
Dolores Sanchez "E"

"E" = Excused

A P P E N D I X I I

The following is a summary statement of President Shalala's report to the Senate:

Re: College Calendar: Since this may be the last meeting of the Senate for this term, President Shalala said that she would make some comments on the calendar as well as on budget matters and other things. She said: "On the Calendar that you are going to vote on today, let me indicate the administration's support for the recommendations of the Committee. Particularly a recommendation of my own. I have had very thoughtful conversations with members of the faculty and with students and student leaders. I have said from the beginning that I believe that a one year experiment was not an experiment. Unless we found an absolute disaster in the 13-week calendar, we ought to spend at least a couple of years with that calendar to make sure that whatever problems we experience are not adjustment problems, but rather things that might be handled in a variety of different ways. I believe that in reviewing the calendar next year, we should have a thorough study made which will include a survey and individual interviews. We may find that some of the problems we have associated with the calendar, are problems that can be handled by better coordination by the faculty members in terms of assignments, and by things the administration can do in terms of support services that may or may not require additional resources. I believe that a detailed study next year may meet some of the concerns we have, and I think the administration ought to provide the resources for such a study. The Calendar Committee has done an enormous amount of work, and it seems to me that we should support them."

Re: January 19 Celebration: President Shalala said that everyone should be getting an individual invitation in about two weeks. Everyone is invited, and if for some reason the invitation has not been received, to stop by either a dean, a department chair, or someone in the administration office, and ask that another invitation be sent. Most of the political leaders in the State are expected to come, as well as the Chancellor and Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Re: Budget: There is not much to report on the state of next year's budget, since the Governor has not yet made the kinds of final decisions he needs to make. We should know by the end of January what his major proposals will be. The Chancellor has told us that we are not to expect major increases in this budget. Even though the State is in a little better shape economically, the State budget examiners are still telling us that they intend to squeeze down the number of employees in the City University of New York as well as in the State University of New York. We are more likely to get equipment budget as opposed to personnel. We are already required to take 40 or so lines out of our existing budget, and even if we did get an increase in lines it would only offset some of the cuts we already have to make this year. The news on that is not good at all. Anticipating a question about tuition increase, I think the normal pattern in New York State is that if it is an election year they are less likely to increase tuition. However, there is an argument going on about the imposition of a computer fee for every student in the City University of New York. There is also a debate within the Council of Presidents on this issue. The President said that she has taken the same position she took last year, and that is that she is opposed to any kind of user fee that is imposed on our students. This institution, with a \$25 fee for each student, would raise about \$250,000, but we could not guarantee each one of these students access to a computer. Therefore, to charge non-users a fee for something we cannot deliver is simply unfair and perhaps illegal.

Re: Faculty/Staff Dining Facilities: President Shalala said that Susan Lees is here and will be reporting on the faculty/staff dining area. The President then informed the Senate of administration plans: "We hope that all the eateries will be open in the beginning of the second semester. We are working hard, the tables are being set up now. Let me describe some of the eateries. From the sub-basement or basement level where the new bagel facilities will be to the first floor which will have an ice-cream shop with egg creams, to the second and third floor that will have a combination of cafeteria and snack bar, the eateries will have themes. We hope to provide ethnic food, health food, as well as lots of different alternatives. We once surveyed the students in the dormitory to find out what their eating

A P P E N D I X III

REPORT ON REMEDIAL COURSE CREDITS

Provost LeMelle informed the Senate that his advisory committee had concluded deliberation on the issue of remedial course credits and Hunter's violation of State regulations. Recommendations have been made and will be submitted to the appropriate Senate Committees. The following is a summary statement of the Report:

Background Information

The precipitous reintroduction of a CUNY policy of "Open Admissions" five years prior to its publicized planned date found Hunter and the rest of CUNY poorly prepared to respond in an informed way to the new academic imperatives imposed by that policy. Academic policy making bodies had to find immediately a balance between meeting the educational needs of large numbers of underprepared high school graduates and maintaining established college academic standards. The merit of academic decisions had to be weighed against the imperatives of federal and state financial aid and other guidelines, as well as minimal academic guidelines established by the CUNY Board of Trustees.

The conflicting demands derived from the sources referenced above and the resulting confusion occasioned the Senate to pass the contingency resolution of 14 December 1976, establishing an assignment of credits based on financial aid considerations. The intended purpose of the resolution was to assign credit in order that students might gain full-time status as defined by TAP and BEOG guidelines without subjecting students to excessive contact hours. A previous regulation prescribing that only eight selective credits of remedial work be counted to fulfill graduation requirements remained in force. The resolution of 14 December 1976 was to remain in effect only through the Fall 1977 semester--one year. In the absence of review action, Hunter College has been and still is in non-compliance with SED Regulations numbers 50.1 (n) and 52.2 (c) 3.

Regulation 50.1 (n): Credit means a unit of academic award applicable towards a degree offered by the institution.

Regulation 52.2 (c) (3): Credit toward an undergraduate degree shall be earned only for college level work.

In addition to the problem of Hunter's non-compliance, the assignment of increased credit consequent to the December 14, 1976 resolution, has meant that 82.5 % of SEEK and 100% of non-SEEK students have been ineligible for STAP funds since their implementation in 1981-1982.

Pursuant to the foregoing, the Provost's Advisory Committee on Remediation was charged to review all remedial/developmental courses to determine (a) percentage of college level work incorporated in courses, and (b) number of credits to be assigned to each remedial, developmental course, and to discuss their findings and recommendations with appropriate departmental bodies.

The Advisory Committee's recommendations for required action are:

1. The Senate must rescind actions taken with respect to the 14 December 1976 resolution.
2. Any action regarding implementation of recommended reassigned credits must be initiated by appropriate committees of the respective departments as per established Senate procedures.
3. All credits earned in remedial/developmental work must be counted in computing degree credit requirements.

Provost LeMelle concluded his statement by informing the Senate that he would submit a written report with recommendations for required action to the appropriate Senate committees.

A P P E N D I X I VREPORT BY THE CALENDAR COMMITTEE:

The Calendar Committee prepared and distributed questionnaires to assess the impact of the new academic calendar and class schedule on faculty and students. We asked faculty and students to compare their experiences under the current system (13 weeks of classes, 1 week of finals) with their experiences under the former system (14 weeks of classes, 1 week of finals) and to choose which system they preferred. Questionnaires were placed in all faculty mailboxes at the 68th Street Campus and distributed at the Schools of Social Work, Nursing, and Health Sciences. About 1100 faculty questionnaires were distributed and 244 were completed and returned. The student sample was based on 36 courses distributed among the various departments, divisions, and programs in the college. 745 students completed the questionnaire. (Copies of the faculty and student questionnaires are enclosed.)

81% (197) of the faculty who completed the questionnaire indicated a preference for the current calendar: 60% (147) "strongly prefer"; 21% (50) "prefer." 19% (47) preferred the former calendar: 11% (26) "strongly prefer," 8% (21) "prefer." Faculty respondents in four departments (Biology, Curriculum and Teaching, Geology, and German) preferred the former calendar. The majority of respondents in all other departments and programs preferred the current calendar. We enclose a tabulation of faculty responses by department, division, rank, years at Hunter, and level of courses taught (see Tables I and II).

76% (570) of the students who responded to the questionnaire preferred the current calendar: 44% (330) "strongly prefer"; 32% (240) "prefer." 13% (97) of the students preferred the former calendar: 6% (45) "strongly prefer"; 7% (55) "prefer." 10% (71) of the students indicated no preference for either calendar system. Student preferences in two courses were about equally divided between the two systems (ARTH 780 and ACSK 031). Students in all other courses surveyed strongly preferred the current system. (See Table III). We did not have time to prepare a detailed breakdown of student responses by major, years at Hunter, and so forth, but an initial sampling suggests that there will be no substantial variation among the various demographic categories included in the questionnaires. A few courses are still being surveyed, in order to make the sample more representative (graduate courses, in particular). More information will be available by the Senate meeting on December 7.

The Calendar Committee also asked for reports from various college services that seemed most affected by the academic calendar. Ruth Weisgal, the Director of Records and Admissions, reported a number of actual and potential improvements under the current calendar, all of them the result of the six-week period between the end of the fall term and the beginning of the spring term:

- 1) Fall grades are now available to students before spring registration;
- 2) Spring registration no longer occurs during fall term final examinations;
- 3) Grade changes, graduation audits, transcript mailings, etc., can be processed more efficiently during the intersession;
- 4) The earlier reporting of grades may enable the college to: determine the eligibility of students for financial aid, under state and federal requirements; and notify students whose grade point averages fall below the retention standards of their status before the beginning of the spring term.

Ruth Weisgal also reported that the number of Incomplete and Abs grades have not increased under this system. (See Table IV).

Marie Scafidi, the Director of Financial Aid, reported that the earlier starting date in September under the current calendar causes problems in processing student applications for financial aid; in preparing and distributing checks to students; and in placing students in work study programs for the fall term. Checks to about 3000 students were not available this year until the middle of September. From the perspective of the financial aid office, the later we begin the term in September, the better.

John Irving, Assistant Dean of Academic Advising, reported that the current calendar adversely affects student services in a number of ways. Hunter College is "out of synchronization with CUNY's allocation of new freshmen and transfer