

MINUTES

**Meeting of the Hunter College Senate  
1 April 1992**

	The 274th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:25 PM in Room W714.	1 2
<b>Presiding:</b>	Elizabeth K. Beaujour, Chair	3
<b>Attendance:</b>	The elected members of the Senate, with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.	4 5
	The Agenda was adopted as distributed.	6
<b>Minutes:</b>	The Minutes of February 19th and March 4th were approved as distributed.	7
<b>Report by the President:</b>	A summary statement of President LeClerc's report to the Senate is attached as Appendix II.	8 9
<b>Report by the Ombuds Officer:</b>	Professor Giuseppe Di Scipio reported as follows:	10
	He said: "First of all I would like to inform you that the form of "Ombuds-person" does exist, thus you may have the form "Ombudswoman" in the future.	11 12 13
	I began serving two days after I was elected back in November. I have found the task both demanding and rewarding. During this time, by my own calculation, I have handled approximately 76 to 80 cases, dealing with every variety of problems: from assisting in tuition refunds, grade appeals, resolution of incompletes, conflict of personalities—between faculty and student, faculty and chair, student and supervisor—to dismissal from programs, alleged bias, harassment, counselling. The overwhelming number of cases involved students, then faculty, none from staff. I am, therefore, appealing to members of the staff present here to urge their fellow-workers to use the office of the Ombuds Officer. I will send out a flier for this very purpose.	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24
	I have found a lot of goodwill in dealing with everyone involved, but I would like to make a special appeal in these difficult times: please be more sensitive to one another's needs and problems, improve communication, talk to one another. Students, do not be afraid to approach Faculty. Faculty, reach out to students. The same I would say for the Staff. Tensions and problems can be resolved in this fashion. I am always willing to mediate.	25 26 27 28 29 30
	Because of budget problems, I lost the part-time assistant I had. The staff of the Hunter College Senate, Judith King in particular, has picked up the assignment. I cannot say enough about these two ladies, Renate and Judy, both have been invaluable to me.	31 32 33 34
	I also wish to thank the two previous Ombudspersons, Professors Bennick and Korn, for their advice when I first started. Thank you."	35 36
<b>Report by the Administrative Committee:</b>	Professor Beaujour, on behalf of Vice Chair Richard Baldwin, announced that a Student Caucus meeting would be held on April 8th, at 4:15 PM in Room E1042.	37 38
	<u>Approved Curriculum Changes</u>	39
	The following curriculum changes, as listed in the report dated 1 April 1992, have been approved as per Senate resolution, and were submitted for the Senate's information: Items UR-819 (Political Science), GR-346 (Special Education), GR-347 (School of Health Sciences), US-803 (Music), US-804 (German), US-805 (Romance Language), US-802B (Political Science), US-807 (Romance Languages), US-809 (Hebrew/Classics), US-810 (Music), US-811 (Academic Skills), US-814 (School of Nursing).	40 41 42 43 44 45 46
	<u>Items Carried Over From Last Meeting:</u>	47
	The motion on the floor was approval of the "Test Scale" to be used as numerical equivalent to the approved Plus/Minus Grading System and GPA value (see Minutes of March 4th, lines 65-77).	48 49 50

	The motion was approved by hand vote.	51
<b>Committee Reports:</b>	<b><u>Nominating Committee</u></b>	52
	Dr. Marilyn Rothschild, Chair of the Committee, presented the report dated April 1st, 1992, as distributed.	53 54
	A motion to approve the slate as presented carried by hand vote, and the following were elected:	55 56
	<u>Undergraduate Course of Study Committee</u>	57
	Faculty from Humanities & Arts: Tamara Green (Classics)	58
	<u>Graduate Course of Study Committee</u>	59
	Students: Pedro Rafael Hernandez	60
	Hui-Chiung Tseng	61
	<u>Graduate Academic Requirements Committee</u>	62
	Student: Pedro Rafael Hernandez	63
	<u>Committee on the Library</u>	64
	Faculty from Main Library: Julio Hernandez-Delgado	65
	Faculty from Branch Library: Vera Conant	66
<b>New Business:</b>	The following motion, sponsored by Professors Gilpatrick, Kinsler and Korn, was on the floor:	67 68
	WHEREAS, the institution of the plus/minus grading system enacted by the Hunter Senate on March 4, 1992, with a scale determined later, may have unexpected effects on students and faculty,	69 70 71
	BE IT RESOLVED,	72
	1. Faculty shall use the plus/minus system for the ink portion of all grade sheets beginning with the fall 1992 semester so that grading patterns may be studied. The registrar will <u>not</u> be expected to record these grades on student transcripts until the date approved under the original proposal.	73 74 75 76 77
	2. The Administrative Committee of the Senate shall, as soon as possible, name a Special Committee on Research Dealing with the Consequences of Plus/Minus grading, to be approved by the Senate.	78 79 80
	The Committee shall consult all relevant constituencies, both faculty and students, and determine the questions to be answered by the research. It will then oversee the conduct of the research and prepare a final report to be submitted to the Senate.	81 82 83 84
	After discussion Professor Kirwan moved that paragraph # 1 of the resolution be amended by substituting the word "may" for "shall."	85 86
	After discussion the question was called and carried. The amendment was defeated by hand vote.	87 88
	A motion to delete the word "unexpected" from the first paragraph was accepted by the mover, and became part of the main motion on the floor.	89 90
	After discussion the question was called and carried.	91
	The motion was defeated with 38 opposed, 17 in favor, and 7 abstentions.	92
	A motion to adjourn carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.	93

Respectfully submitted,



Ken Sherrill,  
Secretary