

MINUTES

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

	The 275th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:30 P.M. in Room W714.	1 2
Presiding:	Richard Baldwin, Vice Chair	3
Attendance:	The elected members of the Senate, with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.	4 5
	Professor Kirkland moved that the April 15th Agenda be suspended after the President's report, in order to discuss the proposed CUNY tuition increase, and the possible consideration by the Board of employing an armed campus police force.	6 7 8
	After discussion the question was called and carried.	9
	The motion carried by voice vote.	10
Report by the President:	A summary statement of President LeClerc's report to the Senate is attached as Appendix II.	11 12
	Mr. Baldwin asked the Senate to observe a moment of silence in memory of Professors John Potter and Arthur Harris.	13 14
New Business:	The Agenda having been suspended, the floor was open for discussion of the budget situation and general concerns at the College.	15 16
	Professor Kirkland moved that, in order to get some idea of where this body stands on the issues, the motion to suspend the agenda be further amended by allowing 15 minutes of discussion concerning the proposed tuition increase, and 15 minutes of discussion on the issue concerning the possibility of employing an armed campus police force.	17 18 19 20 21
	After discussion the question was called and carried.	22
	The amendment carried by hand vote with two thirds in the affirmative.	23
	The floor was opened for 15 minutes of discussion concerning the proposed tuition increase.	24 25
	During discussion Professor Kirwan suggested that before going on to debate the next issue, the Senate should adopt a resolution opposing the proposed tuition increase and requesting that current immigrant groups, especially African Americans, be given the same opportunity of taking advantage of the CUNY system as previous immigrant groups were able to do.	26 27 28 29 30
	Professor Kirkland agreed to draft the resolution, and suggested that, while this is being done, the Senate proceed with the debate concerning the possible employment of armed campus police officers at CUNY campuses.	31 32 33
	During discussion it was requested that Professor Hodges, who was scheduled for a report under agenda item 2, be allowed to speak at this time.	34 35
	There having been no objection, Mr. Baldwin yielded the floor to Professor David Hodges, Chair of the President's Commission on Campus Climate.	36 37
	Professor Hodges said:	38
	"I wanted to use my time on the agenda today to encourage our entire College community to respond and participate in the Open Hearings and the Workshops that we have worked to prepare over the course of this year. At the table you were handed the announcements of the April 29th and April 30th Open Hearings, and the May 4th through May 7th Workshops that are devoted to bringing our college community to the table on some of the very	39 40 41 42 43 44

matters that have been discussed here at this meeting. I hope that we participate. I came personally to this meeting to encourage participation. It is appropriate for us to gather as members of a community devoted to the conflict of ideas, to come together for the purpose of fully discussing the kinds of issues that can only be discussed briefly at a meeting like this, and produce the kinds of solid and tough recommendations for actions that we need. I hope that this opportunity does not pass without full participation. I hope that our college community does not miss this opportunity and then say: "I wish that we had participated." I think we all owe it to the College community that we seek to bring together and that we participate in these events that your associates, your fellow students, and colleagues have worked for this past year. I hope that our cynicism is not such that it would keep us from full participation, and I invite us to do so." 45-57

Discussion then focused on the issue concerning the possibility of the employment of campus police officers. 58-59

Professor Kinsler stated that since we historically have not had a College police force, we have to ask whether or not it is the perception that, because of the current population, we need a College police force at this point in time. This would be an unfair implication which we would have to address. We need to say that there is nothing different about this population that would necessitate a police force on campus to control it. 60-65

Professor Kinsler was asked to convert her statement into a resolution. 66

Professor Kirkland then presented the following resolution: 67

WHEREAS, many immigrant groups who previously entered the City have taken advantage of CUNY, and 68-69

WHEREAS, the new tuition increases on current and incoming students place disproportionate obstacles on low-income students, especially those of African American, Asian, and Latino backgrounds. 70-72

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hunter College Senate stands categorically and adamantly opposed to the tuition increase and urges the Board of Trustees to reject the proposal. 73-75

During discussion Ms. Monsanto requested that a statement be included in the resolution concerning the possibility of a campus police force. 76-77

After discussion it was agreed that a resolution concerning the issue of the possibility of a campus police force be considered separately at the next meeting. 78-79

After discussion, Professor Kirkland restated the motion on the floor with the following amendment: 80-81

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the State and City Governments restore appropriate funding so that a tuition increase would not be necessary." 82-83

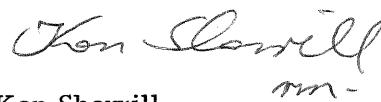
After brief discussion it was moved that the resolution be approved in principle, and that Professors Kirkland and Sherrill be authorized to work out the exact wording. 84-86

The question was called and carried. 87

The motion carried by voice vote. 88

A motion to adjourn carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 P.M. 89

Respectfully submitted,



Ken Sherrill,
Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

FACULTY:

Academic Skills: Jo-Ann Morgan "E"
Bernice Baxter "E"

Anthropology: Josh DeWind
Thomas McGovern

Art: Ulka Bates
Andrea Blum "E"

Biological Sciences: Ezra Shahn "E"
Marcia Brody

Black & P.R. Studies: Pedro Lopez-Adorno "E"
Harry Rodriguez

Chemistry: William Sweeney

Classics: Tamara Green
Alex Alexander
Elizabeth Beaujour "E"
Robert Koehl
William Mayer

Communications: Thomas Mader "E"
Fulton Ross "E"

Curriculum & Teaching: Tony Picciano
Alene Smith

Economics: Eric Seeley
David Elkin

Educational Foundations: Caroline Adkins
Louise Fox "E"

English: Eve Leoff "E"
Karen Greenberg "E"
Sybil Brinberg

Geology & Geography: Richard Liebling
Sara McLafferty

Health Sciences: Carol Silverman "E"
Ida Susser
Nora Baker
Jack Caravanos

History: Leonard Wallock
Bernadette McCauley

Mathematics: Barry Cherkas

Music: Jana Feinman
Susan Kagan "E"

Nursing: Maryanne McDermott "E"

Philosophy: Patrick Goodin

Physics & Astronomy: Marilyn Rothschild

Psychology: Peter Moller
Michele Paludi "E"

Social Work: Marsha Martin
Irwin Epstein
Jayne Silberman

Sociology: Naomi Kroeger
Charles Green "E"

Special Education: Marsha Lupi

Theatre & Film: Daniel Koetting

Urban Affairs: Hilda Blanco

Dean Evelyn Gioiella
Dean Carlos Hortas "E"
Dean Judith Friedlander "E"
Dean Everlena Holmes

STUDENTS:

Edilberto Soriano
Stacey Smith
Helen Pouliasis
Sigrid Cotto
Scott Lessard "E"
Efua Morgan
Arthur Peebles
Ian Yeager
Rafael Hernandez
Robert Nisonoff
Michael Luciano
Michel Joseph "E"
Hui-Chiung Tseng "E"
Jongding Wang
Mary Cotter
Robin Hardy
Jean Innocent
Maryanne Giordani
Simon Kamara
Sabrina Segal
Tim Rutgers
Alex Blangiardo
Dorothy Waters
Dyannah Barthold
Michael Muyot
Pauline Herrmann
Charles Naylor
Alicen Willis
Erika Petersen
Sean Sukal

APPENDIX II

The following is a summary statement of President LeClerc's report to the Senate. He said:

"A number of things are scheduled to happen at the meeting of the Board of Trustees in late April. One has to do with the proposed \$500 tuition increase. Today there was a report in The New York Times of a different kind of tuition structure that would affect incoming freshmen in the Fall of 1992 in a special kind of way, with apparently a free semester at the end of their baccalaureate course of study. Also on the docket will be something having to do with the general fiscal condition of the university system, and a declaration of fiscal exigency. It appears as well that there will be a revision of the so-called retrenchment guidelines. I am not sure what else there will be, but that's a lot.

With regard to the general fiscal condition at Hunter I can say the following. As you know from past discussions within the Senate, we have been looking at a potential hit of as much as \$5.4M for Hunter. The Provost, Vice President for Administration, and I had a meeting at 80th Street a week ago Friday with the Vice Chancellors for Academic Affairs, for Budget and Finance, and for Faculty and Staff Relations. The new number for Hunter is a cut of approximately \$4.7M. It is my intention, and I am going to seek this with every fiber of my body, to bring this college through the next year without retrenchment. I hope the Senate likes that idea. That is predicated on the \$4.7M number not changing in an upward direction, and it is predicated on no further cuts in the year. If the Board declares fiscal exigency, they will do so for the entire senior college tier of the University, if not for the whole university system. However, I have made it known that I wish to attempt a non-retrenchment approach to the fiscal condition of the College for the next year. At this point I think that we could pull it off. It will require a lot of sacrifice and a lot of equity. It means that we will be working harder, and it means that some individuals may be teaching a bit more next year. This does not necessarily have to be the condition forever, but we are looking at 176 new sections being taught by full-time faculty across the whole College for next year. I have committed myself to teaching two courses next year. We are looking at cost containment in all areas of the College, and if we all pitch in we can come through this with our full-time work force basically in the same shape that it is today. I think that is the best approach. It will require high levels of cooperation and a sense of collegiality among all of us, but the more I know about retrenchment and what it does to an institution, and the more I hear about what happened at Hunter and other institutions in 1975-76, the more I am convinced that this approach is in the best interest of the College.

I announced at the last Senate meeting that I will be putting together a new Collegewide Strategic Planning Committee with both short-term and long-term objectives that I will be chairing. The composition of that committee is nearly in place and I hope to announce it by an Open Line within a week. The Committee should be up and running within another ten days to two weeks time. That will permit us to look at where we are and where we are going relative to programmatic issues, student demand, and our finances over the space of the next several years. It is my intention to place Hunter through a planned and coherent approach to managing our resources, rather than resorting to something that results in the termination of employees this spring. I think it is the best way, and I am pleased that it seems to meet with the support of so many members of the Senate this afternoon.

It is going to be our job as well to seek to put a lot of new resources behind academic programs and behind students for their financial needs. We are hoping to have a credit card system in place for the payment of bills next year; we are hoping to have increased amounts of money for scholarship support, for financial aid, and loan support for students for next year. Whatever tuition increase goes through, it is going to pose a burden on our students, and we have to be willing to provide whatever help we can through new monies that we will seek to raise for students."

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

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

FACULTY:

Academic Skills:	Janice Montague Jo-Ann Morgan "E" Barbara Stanley	Theatre & Film:	Daniel Koetting
		Urban Affairs:	Hilda Blanco
Anthropology:	Josh DeWind Thomas McGovern	Dean Carlos Hortas "E" Dean Erwin Fleissner	
Art:	Joel Carrera Ulka Bates Andrea Blum		
		STUDENTS:	
Chemistry:	William Sweeney Klaus Grohmann	Edilberto Soriano "E" Stacey Smith Kristine Mancenido Helen PoulIASIS Sigrid Cotto Scott Lessard Arthur Peeples Ian Yeager Robert Nisonoff Michael Luciano Hui-Chiung Tseng "E" Jongding Wang Maryanne Giordani Winston Brewster "E" Debra Robertson Zachary Morgan Marc Haynes "E" Tim Rutgers Alex Blangiardo Dorothy Waters Dynnah Barthold James Painter Michael Muyot M. Pauline Hermann Victoria Kern Arlene King Alicen Willis Erika Petersen	
Classics:	Alex Alexander William Mayer		
Communications:	Alonzo Speight Fulton Ross		
Curriculum & Teaching:	Tony Picciano		
Economics:	Eric Seeley Howard Chernick David Elkin		
Geology & Geography:	Richard Liebling Sara McLafferty		
German:	Mary Sullivan		
Health Sciences:	Jack Caravanos		
History:	Naomi Miller Bernadette McCauley "E"		
Library:	Jean Jacques Strayer		
Mathematics:	Barry Cherkas Sandra Clarkson		
Music:	Jana Feinman Paul Mueller "E"		
Nursing:	Eileen Lahey "E"		
Psychology:	Peter Moller "E" Michele Paludi "E"		
Romance Languages:	Diana Conchado "E" Marithelma Costa "E"		
Social Work:	Marsha Martin Irwin Epstein Jayne Silberman		
Sociology:	Naomi Kroeger		
Special Education:	Marsha Lupi		
Student Services:	Reva Cohen "E" Madlyn Stokely		

APPENDIX II

The following is a summary statement of President LeClerc's report to the Senate.

He said: "On the good news side—we are going to do the elevators in the North Building. We have a firm commitment from the Dormitory Authority and hope that by 1994 all 10 of them will be automated. We may get entirely new units, but would like to keep the wood panelling and restore it if we can. We have a commitment, so that is something very positive to look forward to. Everybody's life is going to be better once that happens. Barry Kaufman was instrumental in helping to accomplish this.

In the intervening months we will be going through a difficult and challenging time in spite of the heroic lobbying effort that many, many people did in Albany—lobbying that took the form of trips, of meetings with legislators, of letters, of telephone calls, and so on and so forth. When they finally put this budget to bed a couple of days ago, they appeared to have done next to nothing for this university. There were no real restorations to the operating budgets of the senior colleges. The one positive thing they did do was to kill the Governor's idea about merging the Dormitory Authority with his Budget Office. So, the autonomy of the Dormitory Authority and the autonomy of the City University Construction Fund remain intact. However, the cuts in the operating budget are very substantial—approximately \$40M for the senior colleges. And so we are back to looking at the approximately \$5.4M cut that we had first forecasted for Hunter for the next year.

We have been involved in an analytical process and a consultative process with many parts of our constituencies at the College. The process consists of trying to identify savings. I have asked each of the Vice Presidents to come up with 5% savings and 8% savings in their respective areas. These range from tiny operations that represent 1% of the College's budget, such as the Development Office, to the scandalously small Student Affairs operation that represent 3-3½% of the College's budget, to larger units such as Administration with about 30%, and Academic Affairs with 65% of the College's budget. I am looking as well at the impact statements coming from the Vice Presidents as to what these reductions would cause in their areas. None of it is pleasant to read or to contemplate. We had presentations on these matters with the department chairs and deans yesterday at a very lengthy meeting. We will be doing the same kind of thing with the Administrative Committee of the Senate, the Executive Committee of the FDA, and representatives of whichever committee they would like to bring along next week, to sense reactions to some of these prospective savings. It is only when I am convinced that we have squeezed every possible penny out of the College, that I will consider what the other options for us are in order to make up the \$5.4M shortfall. I think you know what those options are. There has been no declaration of fiscal exigency by the Board. There is no retrenchment plan at the university level, and there is none at the College at this time. If we are lucky there will be none. If there has to be one, there will not be one until it is formally mandated by the Board of Trustees, and that would not be until the end of April, if it happens then.

I do not believe that these kinds of problems are going to be going away. What I have decided to do, on the recommendation of the Chairs, is to set up a college-wide strategic planning committee that would look at both the short-term and the long-term needs of the College under the assumption that the budgets will probably not be better for the next 18 months, and that will help me figure out the way in which we bring Hunter through a very difficult point in history, and to come to some sort of conclusions about what all our options are for dealing with limited resources and the directions that we ought to be taking. This is a committee that I have decided to chair myself. It will consist of the four Vice Presidents, at least two Deans, the Chair of the Hunter College Senate, the Chair of the Faculty Delegate Assembly, a couple of department chairpersons, a couple of HEO's or CLT's, or a combination of the two, one undergraduate student, one graduate student, perhaps one or two faculty members at large, and perhaps the chairperson of the relevant governing body committee. Basically, it will be a committee of about 15 or 16 persons that will be reflective of all the diversity of the College in terms of location, in terms of gender and racial difference, in terms of disciplinary base, in terms of the various categories that we have in the work force. I see this committee as a very, very important one. And given the level of receptivity that we have found in the presentations we have done and in all of the private conversations that we have had, there is an enormous willingness on the part of all of us at Hunter to work together, to get through this by minimizing reductions in the work force. It is very, very important for me to do that, and I think it is very important for all of us. I still think that there are untapped savings that we have to go after, and our ability to max-

Appendix II (continued):

imize those savings is going to be in direct ratio to how we handle this very, very bad budget. An additional piece is going to be consideration of increased productivity, which may mean increased teaching loads. We are looking at all of these as very serious options. We are having very open and candid discussions with leadership groups about these. In about a couple of weeks time we will be in a much better way analytically at knowing how bad the damage is, and how close we have come to fill in the \$5.4M gap through a combinations of savings and of soft monies raised. At that point we will see what remains, and what sort of decisions have to be made."

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