

MINUTES

**Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
1 May 1996**

	The 332nd meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:15 PM 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 as presented.	6
Report by the President:	The following is a summary statement of President Caputo's report to the Senate:	7 8
	He said: "Let me bring you up to date on several things. Copies of an <u>Open Line</u> which just began to circulate this afternoon will be distributed to you after my report.	9 10 11
	<u>Re: Searches</u>	12
	The Search Committee for Vice President for Administration has forwarded to me a list with the names of three candidates. One candidate withdrew when I explained that there is a tradition of publicizing the names. He decided that he did not want to jeopardize his standing at his home institution, since the president of that institution was not aware of his candidacy. That leaves two people at this point, one from SUNY in Fredonia and one from SUNY at Buffalo State. The names will be out shortly. In my office is a report from the Search Committee for Chief Librarian, but I have not had a chance to read it. We will circulate the names of the finalists of that search as soon as possible.	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 22 21 22
	<u>Various Updates:</u>	23
	I am sure that most of you have read about the resignation of the Chancellor of the SUNY system, which clearly happened in response to what he thought was a major intervention on the part of the Pataki administration, and particularly the members who had been appointed to the Board of Trustees. I don't think that anybody is pleased with the reason or the circumstances behind this particular resignation, and it certainly causes all of us great concern about what may happen with subsequent appointments to the CUNY Board of Trustees.	24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
	The U. S. Senate is still in session and still actively debating the immigration bill. That particular bill appears to have a provision that, if approved, would be very harmful to many of our international students and to our potential for international students to attend Hunter. It appears that Senator Simpson may be successful in retaining a provision that would make sponsors responsible for financial considerations in terms of guaranteeing loans and so forth. The feeling in Washington is that it will probably get tacked to a bill which the President will have no choice but to sign. That can have a very negative impact on us and everyone in the CUNY system.	32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41
	The reaction in Washington among public higher education lobby groups regarding the Federal budget which was passed last week was that there were some minor victories in terms of direct lending and student funding, but there is increased concern that budget discussions in the next legislative session that begins October 1 could be very harsh on higher education.	42 43 44 45 46
	<u>Budget Update:</u>	47
	We are hearing different things concerning the New York State Budget. I will say that for the first time many of the people I talk with in and out of the Legislature are at least saying that they feel that there will be some restoration on the TAP side, and perhaps some restorations on the budget side. But there is no discussion about what the dollar amounts are, or how extensive they will be.	48 49 50 51 52 53

This is a very important time for us to be supportive of the members of the delegation in the State Assembly and State Senate who have supported public higher education in the past. This is the time to approach them and to encourage them to continue their efforts on our behalf. This is not a time to be critical of our past support, and I would say that individuals such as Speaker Silver and others deserve positive reinforcement at this point. So, anything that we can do would be helpful. Your guess is as good as mine as to when the budget will be passed. My guess is some time in late June or July, but who knows at this point.

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Re: Retrenchment

Let me bring you an update on retrenchment. I want to stress this partly because I have received a series of faxes, phone calls, and letters in recent days about the retrenchment process. First of all, the Retrenchment Committee has agreed that the proceedings are confidential, but I can tell you that no decisions on retrenchment have been made to date. No recommendations have been made by the committee to me in terms of ending programs. Thus, the rumors that are going around about the end of Theatre & Film and the Accounting Program are simply not correct. Concerning the accounting program I must tell you that I have had a very interesting meeting with approximately 200 accounting students last Monday morning. I was very impressed. They presented their points well and with great distinction in terms of trying to make a case for their Program. As I told them then, and as I am telling this group now, there has been no decision on ending anything at this point. The Retrenchment Committee has simply not moved into that phase. We are still in the phase where we are gathering information, looking at non-retrenchment cuts which might be possible, and to see and determine exactly how deep the cuts may have to be.

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The second thing I want to mention about retrenchment is that it is very important for us to work together as a community. I have chosen to meet with the Retrenchment Committee which in speaking with other presidents is somewhat unique. It means 10 to 12 hour meetings over a period of a week to ten days and more, I am sure, as we get further along in this. Since I will ultimately be responsible for the final decisions, I thought it would be best that I hear the full discussion and hear the suggestions and pros and cons that people have. I also think it will keep me better informed and more attuned to various possibilities of changes as we move along.

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Finally, I would say that patience, understanding, and the need to wait are difficult for everyone, but that is the situation we are in. It is a situation of great uncertainty and, I would argue, a situation of great flux right now. Hopefully, the flux will end up benefiting us if no untoward event happens that turns public opinion back against us. I would also argue that it is imperative that we not lose sight of our three goals. One, that we keep the budget reductions to a minimum and, if at all possible, eliminate them so that we do not have to get into retrenchment. Again, call, write, and visit individual members of the Legislature. Second, I think everyone on the Retrenchment Committee and, I am sure, everyone here and at Hunter wants to keep Hunter strong and vibrant. No one is out to destroy it, or change it, or use this as a way to weaken it. However, the fact of the matter is that we have been under fiscal pressure for the last four to five years. Every sign indicates that we will continue to be under pressure for the next few years. And, finally, I think the overall goal that all of us share is that we want to continue to be able to offer a meaningful Hunter education to our present and future students. So, I would ask that you work with me, and I am confident that Hunter will survive this crisis. I would conclude by saying, let's stay the course and let's stay the cause."

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**Report by the
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Committee:**

Professor Hampton presented the report as follows:

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At this last meeting of the 1995-1996 Senate she thanked outgoing senators for having served so faithfully this past year. The first meeting of the 1996-1997 Senate will be held on May 15th.

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She informed the Senate that she had received a memorandum from President Caputo, and that she would ask for a vote after reading it to the Senate. She then read: 115
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"There are tentative plans to begin a fall weekend at Hunter College on October 18-19, 1996. The emphasis will be on academic discussion and alumni-faculty-student involvement. There will be a forum on two important issues and we will ask a few faculty to make presentations to our guests. In addition, the alumni are planning a luncheon and speaker and there will be a ceremony for the new Chanin Language Center. There are plans to also have a presidential installation on Friday afternoon. The installation will be in good taste and will not be extravagant. Funding will be provided from non-tax levy funds. Faculty, alumni, staff and students will be welcome to attend. Before proceeding with our planning which takes a considerable lead time, I want to be sure that the Senate supports the concept. I know we will have a difficult spring but feel that the fall weekend concept is important to our future. Please let me know if you have any questions. I would appreciate a response by April 22nd. Thanks." 118
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It was moved that the Senate support the concept of planning for the Fall weekend and the presidential installation. 132
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The motion carried unanimously by hand vote. 134

Approved Curriculum Changes 135
There were none. 136

Revised College Calendar for Spring 1997 137
Professor Hampton presented the revised College Calendar for Spring 1997, as distributed. 138
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After discussion it was moved "that future calendars include some indication of the last class instruction period before exams." 140
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After discussion the question was called and carried. 142

A hand vote produced the following results: 31 in favor, 9 opposed, and 8 abstentions. 143
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The required minimum number of votes was not achieved; a recount was requested. 145
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The motion was approved by hand vote with 36 in favor, 10 opposed, and 6 abstentions. 147
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The revised College Calendar proposal for Spring 1997 was approved by hand vote (see Appendix II). 149
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The Chair informed the Senate that the Senate meeting scheduled for May 8th would be cancelled. 151
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It was moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 5:00 P.M. 153
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Respectfully submitted,



Ken Sherrill, *me*
Secretary

Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
May 1, 1996

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

FACULTY:

Anthropology:	William Parry Ida Susser Nancy Flowers	Social Work:	Irwin Epstein Eleanor Bromberg Malka Sternberg
Art:	Joel Carreiro Emily Braun William Agee	Sociology:	Jack Cuddihy Yaffa Schlesinger
Biological Sciences:	Roger Persell	Student Services:	Reva Cohen "E"
Black & P.R. Studies:	Pedro Lopez-Adorno Joyce Toney	Urban Affairs:	Sigmund Shipp
Chemistry:	Joe Dannenberg Jack Day Max Diem Nambi Krishnamachari	Dean Evelyn Gioiella "E" Dean Carlos Hortas Dean Susan Lees "E"	
Classics:	Robert Koehl	STUDENTS:	
Communications:	Peter Parisi Gregory Morris	Michael Hernandez Cheri Appel Maria King-Schiro Michael Reyes Marva Constantine Ursula Gunther Maureen Lane Jean Lemaitre Shantih Brando Thomas Baglione Ruth Couch Patrick Soobrian Danira Munari Raynaldo Guzman Hyon K. Kim Mary Ann Dolan "E" Gary Braglia	
Curriculum & Teaching:	Dolores Fernandez Anthony Picciano Nana Koch		
Economics:	Avi Liveson Howard Chernick Terence Agbeyegbe Nashwa George		
Educational Foundations:	Linda Perkins		
English:	Allan Brick Karen Greenberg Trudy Smoke Marcia Lipson		
Geology & Geography:	Richard Liebling		
Health Sciences:	Beth Richie		
Library:	Polly Thistlethwaite		
Mathematics & Statistics:	Ada Peluso Sandra Clarkson		
Music:	Richard Stiefel Melinda Wagner		
Philosophy:	Laura Keating		
Physics & Astronomy:	Martin den Boer		
Political Science:	John Wallach		
Psychology:	Gerald Turkewitz Peter Moller		
Romance Languages:	Diana Conchado "E"		

A P P E N D I X I I
REVISED COLLEGE CALENDAR FOR SPRING 1997

January 1997

6M - 28Tu	SPRING TERM REGISTRATION (TENTATIVE)
20M	MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY — COLLEGE IS CLOSED
29W	<u>First Day of Classes — Spring 1997</u>

February 1997

12W	LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY — COLLEGE IS CLOSED
17M	WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY Obs. — COLLEGE IS CLOSED
20TH	<u>Classes Follow Monday's Schedule</u>

March 1997

28F - 29Sa	No Classes Scheduled
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April 1997

20Su - 27Su	SPRING RECESS
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May 1997

17Sa	(last day of classes)
19M - 21W	Study Days
22TH - 30F	<u>Final Week — Spring 1997</u> (Final Exam Week - or last instructional period where no finals are given)
26M	MEMORIAL DAY — COLLEGE IS CLOSED