

MINUTES

**Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
15 May 1991**

	The 263rd Meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:30 P.M. 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 Administrative Committee:	Prof. Kirsch informed the Senate that one member of the Senate Administrative Committee had already been elected. Prof. Michael Turner (History) was elected Chair of the Evening Session Council at its meeting of May 13th. The other members of the Administrative Committee, the Senate Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary will be elected here today.	6 7 8 9 10
	She further informed the Senate that the election of Ombudsman would be delayed until Fall. Because of the lockout it was not possible to conduct the election procedure in time for this meeting. The procedure requires prior notification of the College community, platform statements, resumes, and signed agreements concerning the Office of Ombudsman from the candidates. Technically, this means that the College is without an Ombudsman at this time. However, Prof. Bennick has agreed to be available over the summer.	11 12 13 14 15 16 17
	Prof. Kirsch thanked Professor Bennick for having served as her parliamentarian for the last three years and for having served the College as Ombudsman for the last six years.	18 19 20
	<u>Election of Senate Officers</u>	21
	The first item of business was the election of Chair.	22
	The floor was open for nominations for <u>Chair of the Hunter College Senate.</u>	23
	The following were nominated:	24
	Prof. Elizabeth Beaujour (Classical & Oriental Studies)	25
	Prof. Marsha Martin (School of Social Work)	26
	Written ballots were distributed. While awaiting the result of voting by written ballot the Senate moved on to the next item of business.	27 28
	The floor was open for nominations for <u>Vice Chair of the Hunter College Senate.</u>	29
	The following were nominated:	30
	Mr. Richard Baldwin (Computer Science/Honors Program)	31
	Mr. Zachary Morgan (History/Black & Puerto Rican Studies)	32
	Written ballots were distributed. While awaiting the result of voting by written ballot, the Senate moved on to the next item of business.	33 34
	<u>Election results for Chair</u>	35
	Prof. Kirsch announced the results of voting by written ballot for the election of Senate Chair, as follows:	36 37
	Elizabeth Beaujour: 58 votes	38
	Marsha Martin: 27 votes	39
	1 abstention	40
	Prof. Elizabeth Beaujour was elected Chair of the Senate.	41
	Dean Scott suggested that in the future ballots should not be pre-printed.	42
	Prof. Kirsch said that she would ask the new Administrative Committee to consider revising the election procedure before the next election.	43 44

The floor was open for nominations for Secretary of the Hunter College Senate. 45

Prof. Ken Sherrill (Political Science) was nominated. 46

Prof. Sherrill was elected Secretary of the Senate by acclamation. 47

Senate Meeting Schedule 48

The Senate Meeting Schedule for the following Wednesdays from 4:20 to 5:50 P.M. was approved by voice vote: 49 50

<u>For Fall 1991</u>	<u>Spring 1992</u>	
September 11 and 25	February 5 and 19	51
October 9 and 23	March 4 and 18	52
November 6 and 20	April 1 and 15	53
December 4 and 11	May 6, 13, 20	54
		55

Approved Curriculum Changes 56

The following curriculum changes, as listed in the three-part report dated 15 May 1991, were approved as per Senate resolution and were submitted for the Senate's information: Items US-768, US-769, US-770, US-771 (Mathematics & Statistics), US-786 (Romance Languages), GS-320 (School of Health Sciences/Nutrition), GS-329 (School of Health Sciences/Communications Sciences), GS-330 (Art), GS-331 (Theatre & Film), GS-332 (School of Health Sciences/Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences), GS-333 (Educational Foundations/Rehabilitation Counseling). 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64

Prof. Korn suggested that in an effort to save money the full curriculum packages not be widely distributed, but that they be made available in the Senate Office upon request. 65 66 67

After discussion the following motion was made: 68

The first distribution of proposed curriculum changes with a deadline for challenges and/or corrections (i.e., curriculum proposals under consideration by divisional curriculum committees) shall be mailed to senators and department chairs as is current practice. However, the second distribution for approved curriculum changes shall consist of only the cover sheet listing the approved changes, but the complete package will be available in the Senate Office upon request. 69 70 71 72 73 74 75

After discussion the question was called and carried. 76

The motion was approved by voice vote with 3 abstentions and no opposition. 77

Election results for Vice-Chair 78

Prof. Kirsch announced the results of voting by written ballot for Vice Chair of the Senate, as follows: 79 80

Richard Baldwin:	47 votes	81
Zachary Morgan:	43 votes	82
1 abstention		83

Mr. Baldwin was elected Vice Chair of the Senate. 84

**Statement by
the Chair:**

Prof. Kirsch said: 85

"I would like to offer my congratulations to all of you, and I wish you a very productive year. I must say that for myself I believe that the Senate is the most vital structure in this college for shared governance. I urge all of the constituencies who have seats on the Senate to take their Senate representation extremely seriously. I urge departments to fill their seats to be represented, to send people to meetings, and I urge Senators to become as involved as you possibly can. This is the place for all kinds of debate to take place, and it is the place where all of the academic policies and curriculum issues of this college will be resolved. I wish you all very good fortune in the next year in accomplishing that." 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 94

Statement by Prof. Carter:	Prof. Robert Carter, Affirmative Action Officer and Special Assistant to the President, requested that the following statement be recorded in the Minutes. He said:	96 97 98
	"Madam Chair, I am not certain but it sounds like your remarks may portend the adjournment of the Senate. But I may be wrong, and I wish to be on the record of the Senate and I speak, if you permit, as one having the privilege since I am not a Senator here. A number of events that have transpired on this campus in the course of the last few weeks have gone a long ways to upset what was, I think, an emerging interest in balancing diverse concerns and interests here, and I am disturbed by one or two things. One of which I take some responsibility for, and I want to put it in the record rather honestly, since what you just said is I think exactly apropos. This is the body that deliberates, that legislates, for this college, and I want this in the record. I am disturbed first that the appearance with respect to a disciplinary hearing two weeks ago this coming Friday—I have forgotten what date it was—it was nothing but an appearance really, but seemed to suggest some administrative malfeasance, some misdoings on the part of the administration. That one I know because I was involved in the decision-making, and what happened is that effectively we managed to inform a committee duly constituted in this college on our decision to postpone, and entirely too late. I take some responsibility for that, and so the appearance was there that indeed we had attempted to railroad some people. I would like to be on the record to say that the appearance is totally false, but I know that the realities often look more like the appearances than otherwise. And I want to say that there were no improprieties. I recognize the appearance, and I am disturbed by it, and I participated in it.	100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122
	There is another appearance that right now bothers me and I want it in the records. And I preface this one by saying initially that I have known and worked with you for a number of years and I have the highest respect. This is not gobbledygook. I am very serious about what I am saying. I hope, and I think that you extend that same respect to me. I say this with respect to Liz Beaujour as well. I have known her since I came here. I have sat on different committees with her. I have served as a faculty member as she has served as acting provost. And so I mean to cast no aspersion on the decision that has been taken here with respect to her chairing this body. I hope I can risk saying that she has equally respected me. But I am disturbed that the appearance again is one in which the technical impropriety of procedure has happened. And insofar as I take seriously the work that I am called to do, I need to say to you that I take note of these things. I really do agonize over whether we are proceeding properly with respect to what we do as an administration sometimes, and also with respect to what has transpired here today. I am not certain it is illegitimate. I am not certain I have any authority with respect to it. But I am certain that it disturbs me that there is the appearance with respect to the balloting that some improprieties because of either tradition or oversight transpired. And I wish to say that if I should have, or find that I have any authority, I will use it in that respect. And I would like those remarks in the Minutes."	123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143
	Prof. Polsky suggested that a timely 'Point of Order' would have been the appropriate technique for objecting to a procedure in a legislative body.	144 145
	Prof. Kirsch responded as follows:	146
	"As Chair of the Senate I would just like to say that finding a candidate for a new Chair is no small job and no mean feat. I have been canvassing for the last year, and certainly very heavily for the last six months, for interested senior faculty members who understand the mission of the College and who could give the time that is needed to devote themselves to the position. Senate Chair is a very time-consuming commitment for a faculty member. It is not something that you just do along with your other teaching assignments. It is virtually a full-time job. Therefore, the person who is planning to be Chair, and is willing to run for Chair, is usually evident some	147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155

time before the election. We knew these people were willing to run. If we had any idea that there were any other candidates, they certainly would have been printed on the ballot today as well."	156 157 158
Prof. Gilpatrick requested that the Chair accept a sense of the body on whether this body wishes to re-vote with blank ballots.	159 160
Prof. Beaujour stated that she would be happy to have a sense of the body taken, as she did not wish to chair this body if there were some serious doubt as to whether or not her chairing this body is appropriate.	161 162 163
After discussion the Chair asked for a ruling by the Parliamentarian as to whether such a motion would be in order at this time.	164 165
The Parliamentarian ruled that a motion to reconsider the election was in order.	166
A motion was made to reconsider the election. The motion carried by hand vote.	167
Blank ballots were distributed for the election of Chair.	168
Voting by written ballot produced the following results:	169
Elizabeth Baujour: 56 votes	170
Marsha Martin: 28 votes	171
1 abstention	172
Blank ballots were distributed for the election of Vice Chair.	173
Voting by written ballot produced the following results:	174
Richard Baldwin: 43 votes	175
Zachary Morgan: 39 votes	176
2 abstentions	177
Dean Friedlander, on behalf of the members of the Senate, thanked Professor Kirsch for having been very courageous and for having stuck it out with the Senate all year.	178 179 180
A motion to adjourn carried by voice vote, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 P.M.	181 182

Respectfully submitted,



Ken Sherrill,
Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

FACULTY:

STUDENTS:

Academic Skills:	Mary Yopez "E" Namby Krishnamachari "E" Phyllis Rubinfeld Bernice Baxter	Addis Tadesse Soheil Galal "E" Marianela Miller Pamela Poland Basiliki Kafalos
Anthropology:	Thomas McGovern	Lincoln Ng Josh Gilchrist
Art:	Joel Carrera Ulka Bates Andrea Blum	Alph Edwards Pamela Yamamoto Evrard Duplan Winston Brewster
Biological Sciences:	Marcia Brody	Oscar Rosales Debra Robertson
Black & P.R. Studies:	Pedro Lopez-Adorno Harry Rodriguez	Denise Singh Daniel Deihle Dorothy Waters
Chemistry:	William Sweeney Klaus Grohmann	Dynnah Barthold M. Pauline Herrmann Sherrill-Anne Lovell
Classics:	William Mayer "E"	
Communications:	Thomas Mader Sam Fleishman	
Computer Science:	Virginia Teller Tamer Avcilar	
Curriculum & Teaching:	Tony Picciano	
Economics:	Eric Seeley	
English:	Karen Greenberg Sybil Brinberg	
Geology & Geography:	Richard Liebling Sara McLafferty	
Library:	Julio Hernandez-Delgado Pamela Wonsek Jean Jacques Strayer Vera Redl	
Nursing:	Nancy Jones Maryanne McDermott "E"	
Psychology:	Peter Moller "E"	
Romance Languages:	Marithelma Costa	
Social Work:	Marsha Martin Andrea Savage	
Sociology:	Terry Arendell Charles Green	
Special Education:	Anna Rossell	
Theatre & Film:	Arnold Aronson	
Urban Affairs:	Hilda Blanco	

Dean Erwin Fleissner
Vice President Sylvia Fishman