

M I N U T E S

"Overflow" Meeting of the Hunter College Senate  
18 May 1983

The 17 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:35 p.m. in the Playhouse.	1 2
Presiding: Richard Stapleford, Chairperson	
Attendance: The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.	3 4
Report by the President: A summary statement of President Shalala's report to the Senate is attached as Appendix II.	5 6
Report by the Administrative Committee:	
a. <u>Election of Senate Officers</u>	7
The Chair announced that the election of Senate officers would take place at 5:20 p.m. during Evening Dean's hour.	8 9
b. <u>Election of Chairperson for Master Plan Committee</u>	10
The floor was opened for nominations, and Prof. Rena Gropper (Anthropology) was nominated.	11 12
A motion to close nominations carried by voice vote.	13
A motion to instruct the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot in favor of Prof. Gropper carried by voice vote, and Prof. Rena Gropper was re-elected Chairperson of the Master Plan Committee.	14 15 16
c. <u>Election of Chairperson for Budget Committee</u>	17
The floor was opened for nominations, and Prof. Lou Massa (Chemistry) was nominated.	18 19
A motion to close nominations carried by voice vote.	20
A motion to instruct the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot in favor of Prof. Massa carried by voice vote, and Prof. Lou Massa was re-elected Chairperson of the Budget Committee.	21 22 23
d. <u>Election of Panel of 8 Faculty members for the Auxiliary Enterprise Board</u>	24
Prof. Al Bennick, Secretary of the Senate, presented all nominations received, as follows:	25 26
Prof. Daniel Bates, Anthropology	27
Prof. Al Bennick, Physics & Astronomy	28
Ms. Polly Smith Breland, Instructor/Counselor, Academic Skills	29
Prof. Charles Brown, Director, Athletics, Health & Physical Educ.	30
Prof. Arnold Gibbons, Communications	31
Prof. Maureen Herman, Curriculum & Teaching	32
Prof. David Hodges, Black & Puerto Rican Studies	33
Prof. Sally McLendon, Anthropology	34
Prof. Karen O'Brien, Home Economics	35
Ms. Marion Percival, Lecturer, Career Counseling	36
Dr. Marilyn Rothschild, Coordinator, Problem Solving in the Sciences	37
Ms. Phyllis Rubenfeld, Instructor/Counselor, Academic Skills	38
Prof. Bernice Samalonis, Curriculum & Teaching	39
Prof. Arlene Seguine, Curriculum & Teaching	40
Ms. Ellen Steinberg, Senior Lab Technician, School of Health Sciences	41
Prof. Alex Szogyi, Romance Languages	42
Prof. Marvin Wayne, Educational Foundations	43
The floor was opened for further nominations.	44
A motion to close nominations carried by voice vote.	45

The following voting procedure was adopted:	46
a. Each voter must vote for 8 faculty members. A ballot containing less than 8 votes or more than 8 votes will be declared invalid.	47 48
b. The highest vote getters are declared elected in the order of the highest number of votes achieved.	49 50
Written ballots were distributed, and voting by written ballot produced the following results:	51 52
Prof. Al Bennick, Physics & Astronomy	53
Dr. Marilyn Rothschild, Coordinator, Problem Solving in the Sciences	53
Prof. David Hodges, Black & Puerto Rican Studies	55
Prof. Arnold Gibbons, Communications	56
Prof. Bernice Samalonis, Curriculum & Teaching	57
Prof. Karen O'Brien, Home Economics	58
Ms. Phyllis Rubenfeld, Academic Skills	59
Prof. Daniel Bates, Anthropology	60
e. <u>Election of Panel of 6 Faculty members for College Association</u>	61
Prof. Bennick presented the following nominations:	62
Prof. Charles Brown, Director, Athletics, Health & Physical Educ.	63
Prof. Sandra Clarkson, Mathematical Sciences	64
Prof. Carol Ember, Anthropology	65
Prof. Ralph Hunter, Music	66
Mr. Bon McCullough, Lecturer/Counselor, Academic Skills	67
Prof. Joanne McNamara, History	68
Ms. Marion Percival, Lecturer/Counselor, Career Counseling	69
Prof. Fulton Ross, Communications	70
The floor was opened for further nominations.	71
A motion to close nominations carried by voice vote.	72
Written ballots were distributed, and the following voting procedure was adopted:	73 74
a. Each voter must vote for 6 faculty members. A ballot containing less than 6 votes or more than 6 votes will be declared invalid.	75 76
b. The highest vote getters are declared elected in the order of the highest number of votes achieved.	77 78
Voting by written ballot in the order of the highest number of votes achieved produced the following results:	79 80
Prof. Fulton Ross, Communications	81
Prof. Ralph Hunter, Music	82
Prof. Sandra Clarkson, Mathematical Sciences	83
Prof. Carol Ember, Anthropology	84
Prof. Joanne McNamara, History	85
Prof. Charles Brown, Health & Physical Education	86
f. <u>Approved Curriculum Changes</u>	87
The following items have been approved as per Senate resolution, and were submitted for the Senate's information: Items UR-533 (German), UR-535 (Romance Languages), US-517 (Curriculum & Teaching), US-521 (German), US-524 (Psychology), US-525 (Anthropology), US-526 (Anthropology), US-518 (Mathematical Sciences), US-519 (Geology & Geography), US-520 (Geology & Geography), US-532 (School of Health Sciences), GS-206 (Economics), GS-204 (Health & Physical Education), GS-202 (Curriculum & Teaching), GS-203 Health & Physical Education).	88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95
g. <u>Undergraduate Academic Requirements Committee re: "R" Grade</u>	96
Prof. Angelo Santoro, Chairperson of the Committee, presented the following motion, which carried over from the last meeting:	97 98

"More than one "R" grade may be permitted by the combined approval of the instructor, the coordinator of the course, and a committee consisting of all coordinators of such courses.	99 100 101
This resolution is to take effect for the Spring term of 1984, until which time departments may continue to pursue their present practices."	102 103 104
Upon request the question was divided, and the second paragraph of the motion was on the floor.	105 106
The question was called and carried. The motion to approve the second paragraph (lines 102-104 above) carried by hand vote.	107 108
The motion on the floor was the motion to approve the first paragraph (lines 99-101 above).	109 110
After discussion, and at 5:45 p.m., Prof. Stapleford informed the Senate that discussion on the motion would continue after the election of Senate officers.	111 112 113
a. <u>Election of Senate Officers</u>	114
Prof. Stapleford informed the Senate that the Evening Session Council had re-elected Prof. Sandra Clarkson Chair of ESC, and in that capacity she would serve on the Administrative Committee of the Senate.	115 116 117 118
He then yielded the floor to Mr. John Bergamini, Vice-Chairperson of the Senate.	119 120
Mr. Bergamini opened the floor for nominations for <u>Chairperson of the Senate</u> .	121 122
Prof. Richard Stapleford (Art) was nominated.	123
A motion that nominations be closed and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in favor of Prof. Stapleford, carried by voice vote.	124 125 126
Prof. Richard Stapleford (Art) was re-elected Chairperson of the Senate.	127 128
Prof. Stapleford opened the floor for nominations for <u>Vice-Chairperson of the Senate</u> .	129
Mr. John Bergamini (Graduate Student) was nominated.	130
A motion that nominations be closed, and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in favor of Mr. Bergamini, carried by voice vote.	131 132 133
Mr. John Bergamini was re-elected Vice Chairperson of the Senate.	134
Prof. Stapleford next opened the floor for nominations for Secretary of the Senate.	135 136
Prof. Al Bennick (Physics & Astronomy) was nominated.	137
A motion that nominations be closed, and that the Secretary be instructed to cast a unanimous ballot in favor of Prof. Bennick, carried by voice vote.	138 139 140
Prof. Al Bennick (Physics) was re-elected Secretary of the Senate.	141
<u>Continuation of Discussion re: "R" Grade</u>	142
The motion on the floor was approval of the first part of the resolution (lines 99-101 above).	143 144
Prof. Korn moved that the motion be amended by substituting the following: "A procedure for permitting more than one "R" grade shall be established by the Senate before the end of the Fall term 1983."	145 146 147 148

After discussion the question was called and carried.	149
Prof. Korn's motion to amend failed with 12 in favor, 21 opposed, and 6 abstentions.	150 151
After discussion the question on the main motion was called and carried.	152 153
Voting by hand produced the following results: 26 in favor, 6 opposed and 6 abstentions.	154 155
The required number of 33 votes not having been achieved, the motion carried over to the next meeting.	156 157
h. <u>Master Plan Committee</u>	158
Prof. Rena Gropper, Chairperson of the Committee, presented the following statement which was approved by the Committee for submission to Provost Riccards regarding his report on Academic Priorities.	159 160 161
She then moved for Senate approval:	162
We commend the Provost for initiating a full and open College-wide dialogue on the future of Hunter College and for attempting to predicate possible changes on data-collection from the Departments and Divisions. The document he drafted and disseminated reflected what he thought to be the desires of the various components of the institution. It is a good starting point for serious reflection.	163 164 165 166 167 168 169
We understand the Provost's desire to provide a consensual basis for future decisions within a reasonable period of time, and we ask him to appreciate the desires of academics to fine-tune this important document.	170 171 172 173
Therefore, acting with all deliberate haste, the Master Plan Committee will continue hearings and discussions with the Departments, promising to submit constructive suggestions by the fifteenth of November. We ask that no implementation occur before that date.	174 175 176 177 178
The motion carried by hand vote.	179
<u>Report by the Evening Session Council</u>	180
Prof. Sandra Clarkson, Chairperson of the Evening Session Council, presented the ESC's statement in response to Provost Riccards' draft memorandum to the President on the Evening Session. (The statement is attached as Appendix III.)	181 182 183 184
Prof. Clarkson moved for Senate endorsement.	185
The motion carried by voice vote.	186
A motion to adjourn carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.	187

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: Linda Morris "E"

Anthropology: Lester Firschein  
Edward Bendix  
Carol Cambas

Art: Alice Aycock  
Lisa Vergara  
Anthony Panzera

Biology: Richard Piccioni

Black & Puerto Rican Studies: Ana Zentella

Chemistry: William Sweeney "E"

Classics: Matthew Neuburg  
Vladimir Padunov "E"

Communications: Thomas Mader

Computer Science: Robert Tannenbaum

Curriculum & Teaching: Joan Dye "E"  
Mae Gamble

Educational Foundations: Kimberly Kinsler-Presha "E"

Geology & Geography: Alan Strahler  
Russell White

German: Anni Gutman "E"

Health & Physical Education: Thomas Burke  
William Taussig

History: Robert Seltzer  
Naomi Miller

Health Sciences: Russell Sergeant  
Lee Margulies "E"

Library: Karen Barnett

Mathematics: Miriam Hecht "E"

Music: William Siegenfeld  
Barbara Hampton  
Ralph Hunter

Nursing: Carol Gilbert "E"  
Carol Gramse "E"  
Catherine Wondolowski "E"

Philosophy: John Lango

Physics & Astronomy: Brian Holmes  
Ed Tryon "E"

Psychology: Gerald Turkewitz  
Toby Klass

Social Work: Elizabeth Dane "E"  
Clifton Browne

Special Education: Roberto Arriga "E"

Theatre & Film: Michael Rutenberg "E"

STUDENTS:

Kathleen Douris  
Lori Sbordone  
Julia Aguilera "E"  
Alcaly Diouf "E"  
Obed Cintron  
Cecile Manners  
Claude Moorehead  
Carla Cordova  
Mary Beth Slevin  
Kenneth O'Connor  
Kathleen Springer  
Natalie Gomez  
Rosa Amatulli  
Evaggelia Zarafonitis  
Antionette D'Amelio  
Barbara Reisman  
Roger Brewster  
Ana Gomez "E"  
Victor Batista  
Maureen Remacle  
Athanasios Boutis  
Helene Reisman  
Miriam Pedrayes  
Mary Ann Alongi  
Joseph Adamson "E"  
Karen Johnson  
Laurie Ann Lashley  
Dorothy Reed Spada  
Gerry Savage  
Margaret Werner  
Dolores Sanchez "E"

Dean Margaret Magnus  
Dean James Settle  
Vice-Pres. Sylvia Fishman  
Prov. Michael Riccards

A P P E N D I X I I

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

President Shalala said that she would make four brief announcements before giving the promised report on the Evening Session.

1. The President agreed with the recommendations that further discussion of academic planning be postponed to the Fall.

2. Hunter received from the Chancellor the first cut in next year's budget. Although the budget included the 70 new positions for the new buildings, 35 faculty lines were lost. This was unacceptable and the budget was sent back. In the meantime, we have made a budget estimate and allocations have been made to deans and departments. There will be no lay-offs, but the freeze on hirings will have to continue.

3. President Shalala reported that she had asked the Deans for recommendations for faculty to sit on a committee for Presidential Awards for outstanding faculty contributions. The committee has reported to the President, and the names of the committee members and the process used will be published in "Open Line." The President then announced the awards which will be given at commencement on June 1st to three members of the faculty:

Award for Teaching to Prof. Myron Fink of the Music Department  
Award for Research & Creative Work to Prof. Elsie Bandman, School of Nursing  
Award for Service to Prof. Al Bennick of the Physics Department.

4. An honorary degree will be awarded to Louise Talma and Marion Edelman. Mrs. Edelman will give the commencement address. The Presidential Medal will be given to Chancellor Anthony Alverado.

Report on Evening Session

In November of 1982 the President had promised to report back to various college committees, specifically the Senate, on recommendations for improving services in the evening. President Shalala informed the Senate that in preparing his report, the Provost had held extensive meetings with various committees of the College. In addition, her executive assistant Shirley Mow had reviewed all the various studies that had been made at Hunter, including the research and analysis of the student body in relationship to the evening session. Many reports had been compiled over the last few years on the evening session, and 8 studies on student profiles. In August 1981, we received a grant from the Ford Foundation to survey the student population and specifically to ask them about college services. All that information has now been pooled together in a series of recommendations. These recommendations have been taken to, and commented on, by the Senate's Evening Session Council and the Master Plan Committee, as well as all the other bodies. The President reported that she had personally met with the president of the evening student association, Gerard Savage, as well as with Professors Rena Gropper and Sandy Clarkson, to make certain that all relevant issues were covered. President Shalala reiterated her commitment to improving programs and services in the evening, but we have to bear in mind that there are no new resources available and that a lot of refocusing is necessary. She said that she would try to raise funds from private sources.

President Shalala then commented on the internal memorandum which was distributed and referred to two important changes. One change refers to Ruth Weisgal's memorandum regarding mail registration for graduate students, an issue which needs to be discussed more extensively. It has been suggested that since graduate students require individual approval, rolling registration would make more sense. The President will discuss the issue with FP&B and consult with others. The second issue deals with the recommendation of a 5-minute change in the bell schedule, i.e. starting classes at 5:40 p.m. This issue will be discussed in the Fall by the FP&B Committee on the Bell Schedule and the Senate Calendar Committee. President Shalala said that she would attempt to seriously improve services and make sure that information services will be available in the evening, with people present who can actually make decisions. We will try to make sure that there is a transition period between day and evening with counselors available, we will make certain that

information about private money raised for scholarships is also available to evening students, and make a decision on one-stop shopping for getting forms. Shirley Mow's report made it clear that many evening students do not know what is available to them, and we will provide the material that will tell them what services are available and where to go. The administration has made an effort to systematically go through each of the recommendations to see what can be done with existing resources, and will ask that chairpersons, deans and administrators really try to pull this together to improve the quality of programs and services.

The final issue involves all the recommendations the President has received for a senior administrative officer in charge of the evening session--someone who will be there all evening every evening. The President said that she accepts these recommendations, but still has to make a decision as to rank and where that individual would be located. She feels that we should not create administrators without clout, and that we therefore have to make sure that the individual had access to resources. President Shalala reiterated that it is her intention to demonstrate that she is very serious about improving the quality of the evening program and that she would report back to the Senate at the first meeting in the Fall, and at the end of the first and second semesters on progress made on all these points.

The President concluded her report by saying that in her judgment almost all of these recommendations can be implemented over the next year. Her office, the Provost Office, as well as the Vice President and Deans are focusing on the issues.

She opened the floor for questions but none were asked.

A P P E N D I X I I I

Statement by the Evening Session Council concerning Provost Riccards' memorandum re: Evening Session:

The Evening Session Council approved at its meeting of April 27 the following statement in response to the draft of the Provost's memorandum to the President sent to the Council Chairperson for comments on April 20 and discussed at the meeting April 22:

We, the Evening Session Council, are heartened that the Provost seeks closure on problems and issues that have been known to exist for several decades. We are pleased that he has participated in and invited a dialogue with us regarding the needs and status of evening students and faculty. Much of his memorandum is to be applauded, both in terms of its concrete suggestions and, more importantly, in terms of its general tone bespeaking a sincere determination to improve the situation. Courtesy and gratitude require us to respond to the Provost's request to clarify some of the points discussed at the meeting of April 22.

The overall need, as the Provost so clearly saw, is for a commitment by the Administration to provide parity in status for students and faculty in the evening. We use "status" as an umbrella term encompassing parity of programs, course offerings, staffing, services, opportunities, and maintenance. The Provost's suggestions on these matters show his desire for equity in terms of majors, availability of advisors, and support services--and even a "Hotline" and "quick bite" services!

We are informed that the "non-traditional student" will constitute increasing proportions of college populations; our evening session encountered the leading edge of this population years ago. Studies at Hunter show that 35% to 40% of our students are foreign-born; again our evening session experienced this challenge early. What immigrants and first-generation American adults encounter at Hunter, we believe, will shape their view of our society. Therefore, their needs are important within the general projections for our College.

We do not argue that the characteristics of evening students are unique; we know that day session students also work, can be older, etc. What we do contend is that the particular constellation of characteristics and its concentration in the evening classes is unique and requires different approaches to education because it generates different problems.

Our Deans and Chairs are hard-working, talented, well-meaning individuals, but they are also human. We do not think it proper to ask them to work the 13-hour day our College is open. We also understand that they have many responsibilities, and we think it unfair to force them to take final and exclusive responsibility for evening session's special problems.



We offer the following specific reactions:

1. Evening students and faculty require what has frequently been referred to as "a visible presence" from the Administration. Proposing a central location for some support services is a commendable start, but it is far from sufficient. There must also be a real, live human being in charge; that individual's sole function should be the care of the evening. Dividing the function among various offices and individuals not only diffuses it, but it also ensures that some needs will be overlooked.

For example, the Provost's current draft memorandum makes no mention of the Mailroom despite the problems continually encountered by evening faculty who cannot obtain their packages and students who do not know how to send something to their instructors.

Similarly, the memorandum talks about the scheduling of courses in the majors and urges that they should not conflict with one another, a commonsensical idea. Nothing is said, however, about the integrated scheduling of remedial and/or required courses servicing the entire student population, at least some of which are prerequisites to other courses.

We agree with President Shalala that a position close to the President and the Provost symbolizes the Administration's commitment to fair treatment of evening students and faculty and serves to facilitate coordination. Therefore, we ask that a second Associate Provost be appointed, whose sole function is to look after evening session matters. This individual should be on hand until classes end at about 10:00 P.M.; therefore, he or she should not be expected to start the "day" until two or three o'clock in the afternoon.

2. We all recognize the difficulty of scheduling for the evening students since the number of time slots is limited. Suggestions thus far have tended to focus on several areas of commitment. We are in favor of any bell-schedules or flexible scheduling that can increase the number of useable time slots for classes. We support those people that claim that one of the major problems for some evening students is obtaining enough courses to make it worthwhile for them to attend Hunter in the evening. We also support the concept of a useable "Dean's Hour", one long enough for meaningful activities like club meetings, advising sessions, Student Services seminars, etc. Deans and Department Chairs could use these times as a prime source of information about the nature and needs of their students. Here, too, might be the place for Departments to coordinate scheduling (including weekend class offerings).

There is no question that Saturday (and even Sunday) classes would be of great assistance to our students. If the Saturday classes were approached from a unified perspective, students would be able to rack up a considerable number of credits during the week-end.

We need a commitment for long-term experimentation and exploration of innovative programs and hours. Two years is a minimum time for changes to become viable in the evening.

3. If our faculty is truly unified, then all full-time faculty should rotate through day and evening time slots, with the possible exception of the Evening Department Representative who should remain a visible presence for evening majors.

The evening students need access to Chairs of Departments. This would involve a commitment for one evening per week--perhaps alternating Wednesdays and Thursdays when Chairs would meet with evening students and faculty. Beyond that, Departments should so allocate their budgets so as to provide office hours for evening students and faculty at least until 8:00 or 8:30 P.M.

The suggestion that the Deans make themselves available during evening hours is an excellent idea, and we would urge its adoption.

4. Quality education, a goal toward which we strive, cannot be acquired without adequate Library facilities. This includes a scheduling of hours during which our students can utilize the holdings. We must have Sunday Library hours as well as Saturday hours.
5. The ability to attend Hunter should not be limited to those who are so underprivileged that they qualify for TAP and those who can spend their own or their parents' funds. Many of our students work full-time, but they do so because of heavy financial commitments for themselves and their relatives. They also should have financial assistance available to them, and we should approach the Scholarship and Welfare Fund especially on behalf of part-time evening students, whose eligibility should be based on academic merit and financial need.
6. All learning theorists acknowledge the importance of role models in the educational environment. We believe active recruitment of qualified minority faculty should be given high priority, considering the demographics of our student population.
7. A major advantage of New York City is the presence of many foreign-born individuals. Within Hunter, we have foreign-born students, including those who are permanent residents of the United States. The additional heterogeneity of our classrooms is an excellent stimulus to learning not only the manifest content of our courses but also the highly desirable skill of interpersonal relations with individuals of multiple cultural and geographic backgrounds. To take advantage of this feature, we should provide additional services to these foreign-born students, such as, intercultural counseling and programs to introduce them to students in our language classes with whom exchange would provide mutual benefit and pleasure.  
  
In addition, we should explore the possibility of providing ongoing educational reference services for United Nations personnel. Regularly established links with this group would profit us enormously.
8. Attached is a copy of a memorandum you have also received from Ms. Ruth Weisgal, Director of Records and Admissions. The Evening Session Council wishes to endorse the content of the memo in principal and place special emphasis on Item 1 and the last paragraph which are of great importance and need further discussion.