

MINUTES

**Meeting of the Hunter College Senate
8 September 1993**

	The 296th meeting of the Hunter College Senate was convened at 4:30 PM in Room W714.	1 2															
Presiding:	Kenneth S. Sherrill, Chair	3															
Attendance:	The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those listed in Appendix I.	4 5															
Minutes:	The Minutes of May 12th and May 19th were approved as distributed.	6															
Report by the President:	A summary statement of President LeClerc's report to the Senate is attached Appendix II.	7 8															
Report by the Administrative Committee:	The first item of business was the election of Senate officers. Professor Sherrill yielded the floor to the Vice Chair.	9 10															
	<u>Election of Senate Officers</u>	11															
	Mr. Wilson opened the floor for nominations of <u>Chair</u> .	12															
	Professor Kenneth S. Sherrill (Political Science) was nominated.	13															
	It was moved that the nomination be approved. The motion carried by voice vote, and Professor Sherrill was re-elected Chair.	14 15															
	Mr. Wilson yielded the floor to the Chair.	16															
	Professor Sherrill opened the floor for nominations for <u>Vice-Chair</u> .	17															
	Mr. Wayne Wilson (Religion Major) was nominated.	18															
	It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the nominee. The motion carried by voice vote, and Mr. Wilson was elected Vice-Chair.	19 20 21															
	Professor Sherrill opened the floor for nominations of <u>Secretary</u> .	22															
	Professor Khursheed Navder (School of Health Sciences) was nominated.	23															
	It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the nominee. The motion carried by voice vote, and Professor Navder was elected Secretary.	24 25 26															
	<u>Senate Meeting Schedule for Fall 1993 and Spring 1994</u>	27															
	The schedule for Senate meetings on the following Wednesdays from 4:20 PM to 5:50 PM was approved by voice vote:	28 29															
	<table><tr><td><u>Fall 1993</u></td><td><u>Spring 1994</u></td><td>30</td></tr><tr><td>September 8 and 22</td><td>February 9 and 23</td><td>31</td></tr><tr><td>October 13 and 27</td><td>March 9 and 23</td><td>32</td></tr><tr><td>November 10 and 24</td><td>April 6 and 20</td><td>33</td></tr><tr><td>December 8 and 15</td><td>May 4, 11, and 18</td><td>34</td></tr></table>	<u>Fall 1993</u>	<u>Spring 1994</u>	30	September 8 and 22	February 9 and 23	31	October 13 and 27	March 9 and 23	32	November 10 and 24	April 6 and 20	33	December 8 and 15	May 4, 11, and 18	34	
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	<u>Approved Curriculum Changes</u>	35															
	The following curriculum changes, as listed in the Report dated 19 May 1993, were approved as per Senate resolution and were submitted for the Senate's information. Items: US-855A (English), US-844 and US-852 (Hebrew/Classics), US 845 and US-874 (Communications), US-848 (Biological Sciences), US-853 (Religion), US-854 (Art), US-859 (History), US-880 (Curriculum & Teaching).	36 37 38 39 40															
	<u>Report by the Chair</u>	41															
	Professor Sherrill reported on the events of the summer, including the resolution on academic planning passed by the CUNY Board of Trustees on June 28th, the	42 43															

Cole memorandum, the meeting of the CUNY Council of Faculty Governance Leaders and their resolution condemning the pattern of duplicity of the Chancellor and the Central Administration, the Open letter to Chancellor Reynolds by the Executive Committee of the University Faculty Senate, and the August meeting with the Chancellor. 44
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After extensive discussion, Professor Beaujour moved the following resolution: 49

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hunter College Senate instruct its Administrative Committee to create a Select Committee of the Senate of about 7-9 people. The Select Committee shall be charged with ascertaining what would be legitimate grounds for declaring no confidence in a chancellor of a university. The Committee shall report its findings to the Senate no later than the October 27th Senate meeting. 50
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After discussion the question was called and carried. The resolution was approved by hand vote. 56
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Professor Gilpatrick proposed the following resolution: 58

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hunter College Senate communicate to the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor our desire that the Acting President be chosen from within the Hunter Community. 59
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Because of the late hour, discussion was postponed to the next meeting. 62

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM. 63

Respectfully submitted,



Khursheed Navder *mn.*
Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following members were noted as absent from the meeting:

FACULTY:

Academic Skills: Janice Montague
Willie Wimberly "E"

Anthropology: Gerald Creed
William Parry

Art: Juan Sanchez

Biological Sciences: David Foster

Black & P.R. Studies: Joyce Toney

Chemistry: David Mootoo

Classics: Adele Haft

Communications: James Roman
Fulton Ross "E"

Computer Science: Thomas Wesselkamper

Curriculum & Teaching: Anthony Picciano

Economics: Howard Chernick
Terence Agbeyegbe

Educational Foundations: Joan Buxbaum "E"

English: Sylvia Tomasch
Karen Greenberg "E"

Geology & Geography: Richard Liebling

German: Eckhard Kuhn-Osius

Health & Phys Education: Nana Koch "E"

Health Sciences: Beth Richie

History: Dolores Greenberg

Mathematical Sciences: Daniel Chess
Sandra Clarkson

Music: Paul Mueller

Nursing: Donna Nickitas

Philosophy: Gerald Press

Physics & Astronomy: Al Bennick "E"

Political Science: Rosalind Petchesky

Psychology: Gerald Turkewitz "E"

Romance Languages: Diana Conchado
Marithelma Costa
Maria Paynter "E"

Social Work: Jayne Silberman
Charles Guzzetta
George Getzel

Sociology: John Cuddihy

Special Education: Marsha Smith-Lewis

Theatre & Film: Ellen Sumter

Dean Carlos Hortas
Dean Erwin Fleissner
Dean Susan Lees "E"

STUDENTS:

Rita Sabini
Yorel Francis
Jeanette Surita
Chris Goeken
Timothy Lee
John Pastor
Antonio Lopez
Stacey Bell
Andrea Scibelli
Jessica Indri
Edilberto Soriano
Damaris Nunez
Julide Gokcebey
Hema Sareen
Josiah Klebaner
Debbi Sutton
Melissa Uber
Armin Patel
Henry Sirotin
Heather St. Bernard "E"
David Asencio
Angela Brisnovali
Rebecca Perez
Moriah Eskow

APPENDIX II

Summary Statement of President LeClerc's report to the Senate:

He said: "It's nice to be back, and to see the Senate back in its customary place on these afternoons. I look forward to meeting with you for four more months. As you know, the New York Times carried a story last week that sort of took us all by surprise, because when the New York Public Library decided to conduct a search, they moved rather quickly at the end of the search process, which is when I got involved in it. No president of Hunter College, if I can be so bold as to speak for some of my predecessors and maybe even successors, no president of Hunter College can fail to love this institution deeply and profoundly, and no president of Hunter College can fail to be entirely committed to the purposes of this great institution, to its present mission, and to its illustrious past. At the same time, now and again a very unique and special opportunity may come your way. That happened to me basically during the month of August. I don't think I, or anybody who preceded me and maybe anybody who follows me, would leave Hunter were it not for something truly exceptional and extraordinary, or would leave Hunter without a lot of regrets and a lot of admiration for the wonderful colleagues, the wonderful students, and the wonderful Hunter College Senate with whom she or he had had a chance to work during his or her time in office. Those certainly are my feelings about the prospect of leaving you and all the others with whom I have worked closely and productively over the space of the last five years. There will be times later on towards the end of this semester for a more formal valedictory address to the Senate of this college, but I would like to say this afternoon how much I have appreciated the telephone calls and the letters that many people in this room have sent me since the Times story came out last week; how deeply I appreciate the high honor of having been a professor and a president of Hunter College for five years now; how noble the traditions of this college are; and how important it is for everyone in New York and beyond New York to support Hunter fully—financially and in other ways as well; and finally, how much I look forward to working with you, and students and faculty at the college in a new capacity, because the Library is an essential adjunct to the instructional and the research program of Hunter. The new science, industry, and business library that is being built in the former B. Altman site will open in 1995, which coincides with the 100th anniversary of the New York Public Library and the 125th anniversary of Hunter College. This is going to be a very, very important facility for those in the Division of Sciences and Mathematics, and those in the Division of Social Sciences at Hunter College. So, a lot is going to be taking place at the Library, I hope in full partnership with all of my friends and my dear colleagues at this college.

We will be moving soon into transitional periods relative to the presidency of the college. I anticipate that the Chancellor will appoint an interim or an acting president later on this fall. The last meeting of the Board of Trustees that is scheduled for the fall semester is in late November, and that is the last point at which the Chancellor would bring to the Board for the Board's approval her recommendation for an acting president for the spring semester and the summer semester. I anticipate that a search for the new full-time president will begin this fall. There will be broad participation as mandated by university policy and statute on the part of Hunter College faculty, students, alumni and others in the search process. The search committee will consist of three faculty, two students, and the president of the Hunter College Alumni Association, as well as four, or perhaps five, trustees and one president of another CUNY college. This will be a full and authentic, and open search, and it seems to me that there should be an outstanding pool of candidates to follow me as the twelfth president of Hunter College. Professor Sherrill and others will work on the selection process for the three faculty members to serve on the search committee. And if things go according to the typical schedule for these things, a recommendation will be brought by the Chancellor to the full Board of Trustees at either the May or the June meeting of the Board, at which time they will name the next president of the college. And if things go according to the typical pattern as many as five candidates will be brought to the campus for a full day of interviews with all of the major constituencies at the college, including faculty, staff, students, alumni, and so on, and so forth. But I am here until January 1st and we will work together as productively and as collegially as we have in the past five years.

Our enrollments for this year for the fall semester are strong. The headcount enrollment for the college is almost identical to what it was last September. Last fall we had 18,470 this year we have 18,495 students. FTE count is up, indicating that more students are

going to school full-time—or phrased alternatively, that more students are taking heavier course loads—perhaps as a consequence of their desire to accelerate their progress towards a degree, or as a consequence of the new tuition schedule. FTEs last fall were 12,360 this fall 12,597. Our enrollment target as given to us by the University upon which our funding is based is in excess of the present enrollment.

We are now officially the first-choice college of all students applying for admission to the City University of New York either as freshman or as transfers. This is very important to us from a public relations point of view. I think it is also important for us from the vantage point of the prominence that this college now has within the public education sector of the city. We all know full well that there are important and even alarming disparities between the number of full-time faculty and the number of students at the college. We have made that point over, and over, and over again to the Chancellor and her staff at 80th Street. That was the principal message that I sought to deliver in my response to the Goldstein Report. Last week Professors Sherrill, Magnus and I had a chance to meet with Chancellor Reynolds at her invitation, together with Vice Chancellor Freeland and Dean Ron Berkman, to talk about academic planning at the college and our sense of the chronic underfunding of the college relative to the size of the full-time teaching faculty, and the size of the full-time student support staff at Hunter. We are now running a counselor-to-student ratio of one counselor to every 1800 students. It's terrible. In addition to that, we are running at least 50% of our instructional program with non-permanent members of the staff. At the same time no institution should seek to have too high a proportion of its instruction done by non-permanent members of the faculty. One of the chancellor's important initiatives in the new budget request to Albany is to convert adjunct positions to full-time positions. We are obviously strongly in support of that, and we hope that funding will come from Albany in the next fiscal year for some relief on the faculty side and on the student support side.

Relative to the issue of academic planning at the City University of New York there is a new document that I hope you had a chance to pick up. It is an open letter from the Chancellor to the University community, about 6 pages or so single spaced, in which the Chancellor's views on where we go from here are laid out. She has asked each of the presidents to assure the widest dissemination of this document on campus. As you can see from the cover sheet, I have sent it to everybody who is an on-campus participant in the life of Hunter College. We will have a chance later on to hear your views on this and to get your best thinking on the nature of academic planning as we take it from here—both internally at Hunter, and in particular with regard to our relationship on the planning front and on the funding front with 80th Street.

We were not able to have access this fall to Julia Richman High School, because of the concerns over asbestos within the public schools of the City of New York. Typically, we rent between 35 and 40 classrooms there in the late afternoon and early evening hours. That school is now closed and we are using alternative space in our own campus schools where there is not an asbestos problem. As many as 1000 students are taking late afternoon and early evening classes in the Hunter College Campus Schools at Madison Avenue and 94th Street. It is not convenient for them or for their instructors, nor is it convenient for us to be teaching off-campus at all. We are making the case for more and better space for Hunter at 80th Street, and eventually I think we will get some relief on that side, but I can't predict exactly when. Those constitute the highlights of my report to you this afternoon."

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