

# MINUTES

## Meeting of the Hunter College Senate

### 18 September 2019

- 1 The 629<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Hunter College Senate convened at 3:40 PM in HW room 714.  
2
- 3 **Presiding:** Laura S. Keating, Chair  
4
- 5 **Attendance:** The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those marked absent in Appendix I.  
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7 Alternate Senators were formally seated in accordance with the procedures approved by the Senate, and  
8 clickers were distributed to them.  
9
- 10 **Minutes** The minutes of 20 March, 3 April, 17 April and 1 May were circulated at the door and will be voted on at  
11 the next meeting.  
12
- 13 **Report by the**  
14 **President** President Raab's report in in Appendix II.  
15  
16
- 17 **Report by the**  
18 **Administrative**  
19 **Committee:**
- 20 a) **Approved Curriculum Changes**  
21 The following curriculum changes as listed in the attached Report dated 18 September 2019 have  
22 been approved as per Senate resolution and are submitted for the Senate's information: Items:  
23 UR-2308 Geography and Environmental Science (Change in course), GS-1299 Romance  
24 Languages/ Italian (Change in courses), GS-1267 Special Education (Change in degree  
25 program), GS-1268 Curriculum & Teaching (Change in degree program), GS-1269 Curriculum  
26 & Teaching (Change in degree program), GS-1270 Curriculum & Teaching (Change in degree  
27 program), GS-1271 Curriculum & Teaching (Change in degree program), GS-1272 Curriculum  
28 & Teaching (Change in degree program), GS-1273 Curriculum & Teaching (Change in degree  
29 program).
- 30 b) **Special Senate Election for Vacant At-large Seats**  
31 In accordance with Article IV, 2H i and ii of the Charter for a Governance of Hunter  
32 College, the Administrative Committee is presenting the names of all nominees  
33 received to date:  
34
- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Faculty:  | Jeanine Hauptman (Dance)                 |
|           | Victoria Fischer (Urban Public Health)   |
|           | Frank Kirkland (Philosophy)              |
| At-Large  | Jerry Press (THHP)                       |
| Students: | Ariel Ortega (Philosophy)                |
|           | Milana Khaitova (Psychology)             |
|           | Chaya Dickel (Nursing)                   |
|           | Naho Hirohata (English and Human Rights) |
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43
- 44 It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the nominee.  
45  
46 The motion carried by voice vote without dissent.  
47
- 48 c) **Election of Senate Committees Chairs**  
49 The floor was open for nominations for Chair of the Budget Committee.  
50  
51 Professor Randall Filer (Economics) was nominated.  
52

56  
57 It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the  
58 nominee. The motion carried by voice vote without dissent and Professor Filer was re-  
59 elected.

60  
61 The floor was open for nominations for Chair of Master Plan Committee.

62  
63 Professor Michael Steiper (Anthropology) was nominated.

64  
65 It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the  
66 nominee. The motion carried by voice vote without dissent and Professor Steiper was  
67 re-elected.

68  
69 The floor was open for nominations for Chair of Nominating Committee.

70  
71 Professor Lisa Marie Anderson (German) was nominated.

72  
73 It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the  
74 nominee. The motion carried by voice vote without dissent and Professor Anderson was  
75 elected.

76  
77 The floor was open for nominations for Chair of General Education Requirements Committee.

78  
79 Professor Lawrence Kowerski (Classical & Oriental Studies) was nominated.

80  
81 It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the  
82 nominee. The motion carried by voice vote without dissent and Professor Kowerski was  
83 re-elected.

84  
85 The floor was open for nominations for Chair of Charter Review Committee.

86  
87 Professor Elke Nicolai (German) was nominated.

88  
89 It was moved that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot in favor of the  
90 nominee. The motion carried by voice vote without dissent and Professor Nicolai was  
91 elected.

92  
93 **d) Resolution to acknowledge Dana Reimer's service to Hunter College**

94 Secretary Sarah Jeninsky read the Resolution to the record.

95  
96 **Whereas**, Dana Reimer has served as Assistant to Chair in the Department of Geography for  
97 14 years

98 And whereas, Dana has served on the HEO Forum Steering Committee for 6 years, serving as  
99 Secretary for 2 years, and Chair for one year

100 And whereas, Dana has served on the Senate Committee on Academic Freedom for 10 years

101 And whereas, Dana has served on the Senate Administrative Committee as Secretary for 3  
102 years, the first HEO to do so,

103  
104 **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Hunter College Senate heartily thanks Dana Reimer for her long  
105 and dedicated service to Hunter College.

106  
107 The question to adopt the Resolution was called and carried.

108 The Resolution passed by voice without dissent.

109 **Minutes**  
110 **Meeting of the Hunter College Senate**  
111 **18 September 2019**

112  
113  
114 **COMMITTEE OF**            **Governance of Programs and Interdisciplinary Structures**  
115 **THE WHOLE**

116 It was moved that the Senate dissolve itself into a Committee of the Whole until 5:20 PM, and  
117 that Professor Laura Keating, Chair of the Senate, chair the committee.

118  
119 The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

120  
121 At 5:20 PM the Senate reconvened in formal session.

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123  
124 Due to the late hour, the meeting was adjourned at 5:21 PM.

125  
126 Respectfully submitted,

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128  
129 Sarah Jeninsky  
130 Secretary

APPENDIX I

The following attendance was noted from the meeting

(A) =Alternate, A=Attended, X=Absent, E=Excused

Faculty	Attendance	Department	Faculty	Attendance
AFPRL	Anthony Browne A	Mathematics & Statistics	Bill Williams	A
	Milagros Denis-Rosario (A) A			0
	Lázaro Lima* (A) X		Patrick Burke	(A) A
Anthropology	Jackie Brown X		Barry Cherkas	(A) A
	David Hodges (A) A	Medical Laboratory Sciences	Abigail Morales	A
	Milena Shattuck (A) A		Chad Euler	(A) X
Art & Art History	Harper Montgomery A		Muktar Mahajan	(A) X
	Thomas Weaver E	Music	Jewel Thompson	A
	Emily Braun (A) X		Michele Cabrini	(A) A
	A. K. Burns (A) A			(A) X
Biological Sciences	Derrick Brazill X	School of Nursing		0
	Shirley Raps A		Cheryl Zauderer	A
	Paul Feinstein (A) X		Jin Young Seo	A
	Maria Pereira (A) X		So-Hyun Park	(A) X
Chemistry	Gabriela Smeureanu A	Philosophy	Laura Keating	A
	Nancy Greenbaum (A) X		Frank Kirkland	(A) A
	Manashi Chatterjee (A) X		Omar Dabbour	(A) A
Classical & Oriental Studies	David Petrain X	Physics & Astronomy	Kelle Cruz	A
	Leah Garrett (A) X			(A) X
	Lawrence Kowerski (A) X			(A) X
Computer Science	Anita Raja A	Political Science	John Wallach	E
	Felisa Vazquez-Abad (A) A		Sanford Schram	(A) E
			Michael Lee	(A) A
Curriculum & Teaching	Lacey Peters X	Psychology	Roseann Flores	A
	Karen Koelner A		Jonathon Rendina	A
	Debbie Sonu (A) X		Peter Moller	(A) X
	Christine Rosalia A		Chris Braun	(A) X
Dance	Kathleen Isaac X	Physical Therapy	Nicki Silberman	A
	Lori Brungard (A) X		Thomas Holland	(A) X
				(A) X
Economics	Randall Filer A	Romance Languages	Paolo Fasoli	A
	John Quiang Li X		Magdalena Perkowska	(A) X
	Tim Goodspeed (A) X			(A) X
	Avi Liveson (A) X	School of Social Work	Alexis Jemal	A
Educational Foundations & Cou	Goeum Na A		Anna Ortega-Willam	A
	John Ranellucci (A) X		Jonathan Prince	(A) X
	Amanda Crowell (A) X		Ilze Earner	(A) X
English	Sarah Chinn X	Sociology	Mark Halling	E
	Amy Robbins A		Mike Benediktsson	(A) X
	Chong Chon-Smith X		Michaela Soyer	(A) A
	Janet Neary (A) A	Special Education	Virginia Gryta	X
Film & Media Studies	Tami Gold A		Kristen Hodnett	(A) A
			Sari Gupta	(A) A
	Martin Lucas (A) A	Speech-Language Pathology and Audiolo	Donald Vogel	A
	Larry Shore (A) A		Nancy Eng	(A) A
Geography	Ines Miyares A		JungMoon Hyun	(A) A
	Shipeng Sun (A) X	Theatre	Louisa Thompson	X
			Jonathan Kalb	X
German	Elke Nicolai A		Claudia Orenstein	(A) X
	Eckhard Kuhn-Osius (A) X	Urban Policy and Planning	Lily Baum Pollans	X
	Lisa Marie Anderson (A) A		Victoria Johnson	(A) X
History	Eduardo Contreras A		Matthew Lasner	(A) X
		School of Urban Public Health	Phil Alcabas	A
	Jill Rosenthal 0 (A) A		Susan Cardenas	(A) A
Library	Sarah Ward A		Victoria Fischer	(A) A
	Adina Milliken X	Women & Gender Studies	Jennifer Gaboury	A
	Mee' Len Hom (A) A		Catherine Raissiguier	(A) X
			Rupal Oza	(A) X

**Students**

Joelle Tirado	X
Pooja Chopra	X
Richard Lu	X
Alexa Michel	X
Brian Sullivan	X
Mia Becewa	X
Saif Zihiri	X
Riana Khan	X
Kendra Cornelis	X
Noam Sohn	A
Nafeeza Ali	X
YanHong Li	X
Serenity Colon	X
Sohail Khan	X
Shannon O'Rourke	X
Zaiba Iqbal	X
Hardik Bhaskar	
Leonid Prog	X
Linda Yohannes	X
Anam Khalid	X
Bryan Terry	X
Michael Galka-Giaquinto	X
Andrew Shkreli	X
Jasmine Azecharie	X
Dorothy Slater	A
Christoper Cantor	X
Jeanine Hampton	X
0	
Mila Adelman	A
Ariel Ortega	A
Milana Khaitova	X
Chaya Dickel	X
Naho Hirohata	A
Arvind Dev	X
Igal Sultanov	X
Brian Sullivan	

**At-Large, Lecturers and Part-Time Faculty**

Student Services	Kevin Nesbitt	A
	Luis Roldan	(A) A
Library	Jocelyn Berger-Barera	A
Library	Tony Doyle	
	0	0
	0	0
Medical Lab Science	Hongxing Li	A
Religion	Barbara Sproul	A
THHP	Jerry Press	X
Mathematics & Statistics	Sandra Clarkson	A
	0	0
Educational Foundations	Jeanne Weiler	A
THHP	Sarah Jeninsky	A
Psychology		0

**Ex-Officio**

President, USG	Kamalpreet Kaur	
Vice President, Graduate Student Association	Kamalpreet Kaur	
President Alumni Association	Kim Hafner	X
President, HEO Forum	Denise Lucena-Jerez	A
President, CLT Council	Amy Jeu	X

**ADMINISTRATION**

Senators:		
HEO/CLA Representative	Brian Buckwald	A
Vice President for Student Affairs	Eija Ayravainen	A
	0	0
Provost	Lon Kaufman	A
Dean, School of Arts & Sciences	Andrew Polsky	A
Alternate Senators (3):		X
Dean of Education	Michael Middleton	A
General Counsel & Dean of Faculty	Carol Robles-Román	A
School of Nursing	Gail McCain	X

## APPENDIX II

“First off, we should start with applause for Professor Keating for stepping up. I don’t think she realizes how much work it is. I would also like to thank Tony. About five minutes ago it wasn’t clear who the parliamentarian was but as a great librarian, he will do an amazing job.

Welcome to you all. This semester, we welcome 2,500 new freshmen and 1,700 transfer students for whom we had an official convocation last week. We had one of our alumni and a number of students come to talk to them. Professor Jessica Rothman from Human Biology talked about her work and how students can go to Uganda where she conducts research on gorillas. It was a really wonderful and upbeat moment as was our commencement last year.

“For those who didn’t have a chance to join us, we became so large that many students were unable to join us for commencement. The desire to be part of the Hunter family and the celebration was such that Eija determined that we needed to move to Madison Square Garden. It was pretty extraordinary to have about 12,000 people in the audience –students, their parents and families. Hillary Clinton agreed to address our graduates. Thank you Harold Holzer, for helping us appeal to her with the Eleanor Roosevelt Distinguished Leadership Award. It was an unforgettable moment. She made several amazing remarks but one of the great quotes was that “to be a college graduate is a wonderful thing, to be a Hunter graduate that is something to shout from the rooftop.” That’s inspiring for all of our students and pretty moving.

“On that note, I would like to extend extraordinary thanks to everyone in this room. It is such a tribute to our faculty, our Student Services team and other leaders that last year the graduating class hit the number of 56.5% of students graduating in six years. As you all know, this is moving up over the years. In the last ten years there has been a jump of at least 10-20%. We want more than 56.5%. We are looking at the national average graduation rate of 60%. Yes, it should be more but that is the average graduation rate for all public colleges. Hunter College is actually nearing the national average throughout this country. It’s something that we have been working towards through our students’ success initiatives and the work that all of you have been doing. It was a gratifying moment to have Secretary Clinton at this graduation, when the numbers demonstrate that we are serving our students in a stronger way and sending them off to success.

“Our college rankings are also showing that. First of all, The Wall Street Journal put out their numbers, and they listed the country’s top four colleges providing the best value education. Numbers 2, 3 and 4 on the list were CUNY schools. Hunter was number four. It was a great recognition of the work that we are doing and the support, guidance and the greater education we provide for our students. We are also thrilled to thank all of you, especially our Provost, since we have moved up two ranks in the U.S. News & World Report. We are now number 23 in our category, the northeast, having moved up 16 places in the last three years. The U.S. News is, as everyone knows, an important standard and we are very pleased to see ourselves continuing to move up. There are also publications like Money Magazine and Princeton Review ranking us as one of the best value colleges in the country. So, thank you to everyone in this room who has made that possible.

“We sat in this room in April to hear back from our Middle States Committee. We got a great response for the work that all the committees did on our self-study. Through assessment, we were able to present our vision and our work and show how we met the goals that we set for ourselves. This means, of course, that having shown how we implemented our last strategic plan, which ends next year in 2020, we are required by the Middle States process to begin a new strategic planning process. We are busy bringing the community together to think about what our goals are. I think many of us would agree that while we have achieved many accomplishments, we still have much more to do. Goals such as students’ success are never really completed but we know that we set ourselves, with the Middle States process, very clear plans towards achievements. There are other objectives that we wanted to address. For example, throughout the Middle States process it became apparent that we needed to pay more attention to supporting our transfer students. So, we will be asking all of you to think about who would like to participate in the presidential task force on transfer students that can be included in the strategic planning process. Sandi Clarkson and I and many important leaders have spoken about this, and we’re going to ask them to come forward to help work on that task force as part of the process. We also identified, during the Middle States, another very important need at Hunter and that is to ask ourselves how we can integrate and better support our adjunct faculty who contribute immensely to the student body through their teaching and support. The three-year contract that was instituted a few years ago has been a very important step forward to help integrate the adjunct faculty and make them a part of our community, but we need to do more. We want to ask all of you who worked with adjuncts, hired adjuncts, observed and have been part of their work in their departments to think about coming forward to participate with us on another presidential task force.

This task force will set up objectives, that we can incorporate into the strategic plans, to continue to support our adjunct faculty. One final goal that came out of Middle States, to discuss as a part of the strategic plan, is to embrace our very strong excellence and presence as a liberal arts institution—an institution that believes in the values of critical thinking, of quantitative and qualitative reasoning and simultaneously operates towards career readiness. We need to incorporate ways to move these liberal arts towards success as post graduate outcomes without abandoning our commitment to the liberal arts. We started to do these things through programs such as the Mellon Foundation’s program for the public humanities. I thank many of the faculty here who are engaging with our students in applying liberal arts thinking to real world problems. It has already been very successful. We have also added new certificates. This semester we welcomed a new professor for business studies who will be the head of our Business Certificate which is housed with the Economics department. We are looking forward to more practically oriented certificates within the liberal arts education we offer. We need to come together as a community to understand the jobs that will be available to our students as they go out into the workplace. How do we prepare them? What are the required skills in addition to the liberal arts foundation? These are questions we raised during the Middle States process and things that we need to bring forward into the strategic planning process. They are difficult questions. They’re really exhilarating questions and things that we must hold ourselves to, and I am excited about engaging all of you. We will be working with the Administrative Committee to identify people in the Senate and throughout the College to join these task forces in the strategic planning process. We hope that all of you who are interested will let us know, and we can really enlist leaders and have a robust conversation.

“We also have gratifying news this summer and results from our COACHE Study. I’m going to give a little preview of what we learned. I will ask Laura to add it to the agenda of one of the meetings because I would like to bring Jenny Tuten and some others from the Provost Office to make a full presentation. The wonderful news was that we had great participation from the Hunter faculty. It was over 62%. I think it was the highest in CUNY and even higher than our peer groups. We thank all of you. Jenny did a really great job of nagging. I know she was filling everybody’s email box all the time but it was really important to get the feedback. We learned many helpful things. It was great to learn that 65% of faculty who participated in this study were either satisfied or very satisfied with their Hunter experience, which is a nice increase. We really do keep in mind how we can support faculty because you are the people who make it possible for our students to succeed. You are also the people who create the knowledge and creative activity in the city, state and country, and it is our job to make this a place where you want to be working, creating and teaching. So, we are glad to see that rise. Through our last study, we learned that professors indicated they needed more support in moving from the Associate professor level to the Full professor. We shifted considerable resources and people power into providing all sorts of mechanisms to support that promotion. The results in this survey show that we were successful, and that there was a much higher rate of satisfaction of support for the promotion from Associate to Full. We also learned that more and more junior faculty have some concern and uncertainty about how their promotion is to be tenured and how to go from Assistant to Associate and wanted more clarity, standards and support for that process. We know now to focus resources on doing that. We will be coming as I said for a more full report to the Senate of the COACHE results. Jenny will be able to answer more specific questions, and we will post the information for everybody to really delve into.

“Speaking of faculty, we are very excited to welcome this semester 26 new faculty members. It is the highest number in CUNY. We wish our budget situation would allow us to do more. I know there are many needs in various departments. So we are trying to improve budget management and fundraising to preserve, grow and invest our resources into the faculty ranks. The breadth of experience of these 26 people is very exciting. They range from one of the world experts in the New York City Public Housing Authority to an expert in artificial intelligence to nursing faculty focusing on palliative care and to a scholar, documentary filmmaker and poet in Africana and Puerto Rican/Latino Studies. The range is extraordinary, and we hope you all will join us in welcoming them to Hunter College.

“We are also very happy to have added several new people to the administrative team. I want to introduce Bob de Luna. He is our new Assistant Vice President for Communications. Please give him a warm welcome. Bob came to us with a long history in hospital corporations. He is himself somebody who had a long academic life. He was an ABD at Stanford and loves the academy. He wants to hear your stories. If you are working on something that seems to be interesting to a Hunter audience or you want to see it on the screens or you think it’s newsworthy or responding to something that’s happening in the public discourse, please let Bob know. We’ll help you get your thoughts and stories out there. Last semester we were sorry to lose Bill Tramontano who was our Senior Advisor to the President for Student Success and Strategic Initiatives, the position that we created as a result of our wanting to know how students are doing. This along with the work between Vice President of Student Services and the Provost to make sure to move

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the agenda forward. Bill, as many of you know, was appointed the Acting President of Queens College. We are very lucky to welcome Dr. Steve Mintz who had a long career at University of Texas, Austin. His thoughts about students' success are found in Inside Higher Ed and he started an extraordinary state wide program in online education. Dr. Mintz has already hit the ground running. We are very excited to have him here.

“One of the things Steve and Lori Mazor, our Vice President of Administration, will be talking to you about is the proposed changes in the Bell Schedule. I have spoken to Laura, and I will speak to the Administrative Committee, to ask for a piece of the Senate time this year to focus on proposals to make serious changes in the Bell Schedule that will allow us to offer more classes at higher demand times for our students. We had a very productive committee and conversation over the last year and a half. The process for changing the Bell Schedule starts with FP&B, and the FP&B brings the recommendation to the Senate. We felt it made the most sense to ask the Senate and the FP&B to create a joint committee to work on recommendations so that we are not coming to the Senate with things that are not familiar to the body. We have done a lot of great work and we thank Shirley Raps, Derrick Brazill and others who have been working to bring different voices together to come up with some solutions that will make a difference. Lori and her technology teams are running a number of scenarios to see how these will play out. We will be going back to the FP&B so that we can come here soon with some solid proposals. We hope that the committee will spend a serious amount of time having those conversations this year and moving towards a new bell schedule.

“In the area of student success, many of you know that we have finally moved into implementing a data analytic system to help advisors predict students' success. The advisors will be able to look at students' profiles and help them select programs where they are most likely to succeed. Once again we are indebted to Professor Michael Steiper who has been leading our initiative and doing so much for students' success. He will be coming to the Senate to talk about how we are making strides towards the implementation and what we are going to need from everybody here. This will be a very worthwhile venture. Information will be available to faculty and other advisors to advise students on a very individualized basis of how they can make the best choices. It will take time to train the individuals working with students, but will have a great impact and help us continue increasing graduation rate, so we are very excited about that.

“On the technology front, Lori Mazor and Bob de Luna have been working very hard on moving us to our new website. We think it is cleaner and easier to navigate. Now that we have the new full site launched, Lori and Bob will be working with individual departments to make sure the departments have up to date information and can serve their students within this template. We would appreciate if you could ask for people's opinion about the website on the departmental level. There is a lot of momentum here. We all know that this is how we will most likely reach students and be able to support them, so we want to make sure that we have a state of the art website in place. Now that we have the technology to do so, we need to start filling in the pages.

“Also, we are very excited to announce and invite all of you to the opening of Hunter's first student union on September 24<sup>th</sup>. It is in Thomas Hunter Hall. Thank you all and shout out to Noam Soam, the Student Government and to all of our students who started to say a few years ago that they needed their own space. It was music to our ears although slightly counterintuitive when students come to you and ask if you can find a place for them to hang out and play games. It's not usually what you think you would want students to say, but Hunter College wants its students to be part of the community, and we want our students to stay on campus as long as possible in a day to engage with us in many different ways. It was actually very exciting to have students ask for a place to just stay here and let off steam. We were able to identify some beautiful historic rooms in Thomas Hunter that are now modern places for games and student clubs. This was financed by the Hunter College Foundation and by the Student Government, through student fees, as well as some CUNY infrastructure money. We are all very excited, so please join us on September 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am or come by after to see it.

“There are a lot of projects that are still going on in construction which is a good thing. We apologize for the delays and different routes that people have to take. The Kaye Playhouse entrance will be open right after Thanksgiving, so we appreciate your patience. We think you will be very pleased with the result. We are also finishing the last set of bids to begin work on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of the Cooperman Library. All of the money is in place. There have been a lot of administrative delays but we are moving ahead. Lori is going to talk to you next time and let you know where we are on the elevators. The good news is that the major work in the North building elevators is complete so things that are not working perfectly are sort of punch list items, and they are beginning to ease out. But, all of those elevators have been repaired or replaced or on their way. We have been asked some big cosmic questions about how we synchronize them because now they stop at all floors. We understand that some people are waiting on one bank and

the elevator comes on the other bank, and it's a speed race. We are going to ask much smarter people than we are how to solve that. Maybe our computer scientists will be able to come up with an algorithm.

“Finally, on a serious note, all of our new students must do the online SPARC training and employees, the ESPARC training. We are going to talk about this at every meeting as we have to get our compliance numbers up. It's through Blackboard, so you have to log in and find it. If you have any questions, call Dean John Rose. Also, everyone who is working with our new students, please remind them to do the SPARC training.

“I just wanted to remind you that we are nearing the completion period for nominations for our faculty awards, scholarships, teachings and services. Please nominate your colleagues. We would like to celebrate. Thank you for this opportunity to talk a little bit about this upcoming semester.