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**College-Wide Senate General Meeting**

**Savoy Multi-Purpose Room**

**Thursday, February 15, 2018**

**Senate Minutes**

**Present:**

* **Allied Health:** Professors Edward King, Manny Livingston, Sandra Castellanos
* **Behavioral and Social Sciences:** Professors Ernest Ialongo (Chairperson), Héctor Soto, Karen Steinmayer
* **Business:** Professors Claude Fernandez, Sandy Figueroa
* **CTL**: James Luhan
* **Education:** Professors Jacqueline DiSanto, Elys Vazquez-Iscan, Iris Mercado,

Michael Gosset

* **English:** Professors Heidi Bollinger, Tram Nguyen, Louis Bury
* **Gittleson:** Tanya Navarro
* **Humanities:** Professors Isaac Goldemberg**,** Ana Ozuna, Inmaculada Lara Bonilla
* **Language & Cognition:** Professor Paula Korsko
* **Library:** Professor Jorge Matos
* **Mathematics:** Professors Lauren Wolf, Alexander Vaninsky
* **Natural Sciences:** Professors John Gillen, Ray Debasish
* **HEOs:** Terrence Brown, Safiya Faustin, Yvette Luyando, Cynthia Morales-Delbrun, Mercedes Moscat, Alba Lynch, Fabian Wanderer, Iber Poma
* **Public Safety / Maintenance:** P.O. Johanna Powell
* **UFS:** Zvi Ostrin, Julie Trachman
* **UFS Alternates:** Professors Gail August, Catherine Lewis
* **PSC:** Professor Lizette Colón
* **At Large:** Professors William Casari, James Kennis, Sherese Mitchell, Diana Macri, Nancy Genova, Andrew Connolly, Thomas Bechdel, Mathew Moses
* **Adjunct Rep:** Professor Ruben Worrell
* **SGA:** Thierno Diallo (President), Mauricette Gbenenoui**,** Oumar Diaby, Fatoumata Diallo, Denise Herrera, Ines P. Alejandro Soriano, Krysti Stern-Rodriguez, Celestina Cayetano, Adama Sauadogo, Olawunmi Ajibola, Destini Mitchell-Murray, Mushira Nasser, Raziel BenRuben, Abdoul Balde

**Absent** (excused)**:**

* **Humanities:** Natasha Yannacañedo
* **Mathematics**: Professor A.J. Stachelek
* **HEO**: Carlos Guevara
* **HEO**: Daliz Perez Cabezas
* **HEO**: Elizabeth Wilson
* **AT-LARGE Representatives**: Professors Kate Wolfe, Clara Nieto-Wire

**Absent:**

* **UFS Alternates**: Felipe Pimentel
* **SGA Representatives**: Justin Arzola, Anyely Garcia,

**Vacant:**

* **Language and Cognition (1)**
* **Counseling (1)**
* **HEO (1)**
* **Adjunct Representative (1)**

**Visitors:**

Shmuel Gerber (Parliamentarian), Lenny Romano (SSCU Academic Advisor), Jennifer Aponte (SSCU), Professor Kathleen Doyle (Associate Professor, Mathematics Department)

***1. Call to Order***

* Senate came to order at 3:34 PM.

***2. Approval of the Agenda***

* **CORRECTION:** *Under Agenda item 7. Curricular Items, a.**Course Revisions, MAT 120 withdrawn.*
* Motion made by Chair, seconded and approved without discussion that Agenda item 8. Non-Curricular Voting Items follow Agenda item 4. Chair’s Remarks.
* Agenda then approved as amended.

***3. Approval of Minutes: Thursday, December 21, 2017 College-Wide Senate***

* **CORRECTION:**
  + *Chair’s Remarks*
    - *Bullet point 2. Revision to state that each Senate committee will receive a summary of the most recent Robert’s Rules of Order.*
* Minutes Approved as amended.

***4. Chair’s Remarks***

* As concerns the College-Wide Senate Committees:
  + The Committee on Committees continues to work on the certification of the College-Wide Senate Committees. Only two committees remain to be certified, which task should be accomplished by the end of February.
  + That he and Vice Chair Tram Nguyen have met, or will meet with all Committees upon initiation of their regular meetings to provide further guidance concerning Committee operations and relation to the Senate.
* As concerns the approved Charter Amendments:
  + The Charter Amendments did not appear in the Chancellor’s Report as the Senate had been informed. Followed-up with HCC Paralegal, Mr. Rafael Torres who informed him that the amendments will be an agenda item of the next CUNY Board of Trustees meeting as all necessary documentation had indeed been submitted by the Senate.
* As concerns new SGA Senators:
  + The Chair, on behalf the Senate, welcomed the newest SGA members, Anyely Garcia, Fatoumata Diallo and Tierra Stephenson, by whose addition the student representation would be at the required 15. The Chair recognized each of the new Senators by name, and asked each to stand for public recognition. Each received a congratulatory welcome round of applause.
* As concerns Public Safety:
  + The Chair, on behalf of the Senate, thought it appropriate given recent events to publicly acknowledge, and thank the Hostos Department of Public Safety for their continuing fine work providing and maintaining the safety of the Hostos college community. The Chair recognized the Department’s

Senate representative, P.O. Johanna Powell.

***8. Non-Curricular Voting Items*** *(as per approved agenda amendment)*

a. Nomination and election of a Student Member to the Senate

Executive Committee

* + Chair opened the floor for nomination of SGA candidate to serve as an SGA representative on Senate Executive Committee for the remainder of the term of the current SGA representative who is graduating in March.
  + Nominations proceeded pursuant to applicable rules resulting in the identification of three accepting and eligible candidates whereupon a motion to close nominations was made, seconded and passed unanimously.
  + Voting conducted by Elections Committee as meeting Action #1.
  + Results of Voting on Action #1:
    - Denise Herrera - 32 votes
    - Fatoumata Diallo - 17 votes
    - Raziel BenReuben - 14 votes
  + Ms. Denise Herrera declared winner of election with the required 32 votes.

***5. President’s Remarks***

* + As concerns public safety:
    - President Gomez also acknowledged and thanked the Hostos Department of Public Safety for its commitment and work concerning the security of the Hostos college community.
    - The President, on behalf of the college, extended condolences to the families and communities directly affected by the Parkland Florida school shooting.
  + As concerns ICE enforcement actions and CUNY students:
    - The President clarified that it was Bronx Community College student, not an Hostos student as originally thought, who was detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents during preceding weekend.
    - The President also made clear that that fact did not mean that the college should not be concerned. He reiterated that the college remained committed to providing all available protection and services to any of its students at risk. He however also stated that there is a need for further discussion within the college regarding how to best handle a similar situation directly involving an Hostos student or the college.
  + As concerns the Hostos College budget:
    - The President informed the Senate that $700,000 has been cut from the budget, and that the future financial prospect is looking bleak as revenue is declining.
    - However, whatever reduction in budget that may have to be endured, any consequential actions should not impact the core mission of college as concerns the students.
  + As concerns CUNY’s search for a new Chancellor:
    - The President has been asked by the Chair of Board of Trustees to serve as a member of CUNY’s Chancellor Search Committee, and he has accepted.
    - The President would welcome input from the College-wide Senate and the SGA regarding what “characteristics” the new chancellor should possess as well as what he should “bring to the table” as the College’s representative on the search committee. He asked for the support of the college community.
    - The President announced that the first meeting of the search committee, which he will attend, was scheduled for February 16th.

***6. SGA President’s Remarks:***

* + As concerns the start of the New Year:
    - President Diallo began his remarks by offering best wishes for the new year to his fellow senators and all present. He also thanked his SGA team for their commitment and work and introduced each of the SGA Senate members individually.
    - He also reiterated his honor in serving as the students’ representative, and his commitment, as President and voice of the SGA, to do his best.
    - The President also publicly thanked Hostos advisors to the SGA, Jerry Rosa and Jason Libfeld for their support of the SGA.
    - At end of his report, he thanked all who have given time, energy or money to make a difference in lives of the students.
  + As concerns student issues at the college:
    - Gym – closings due to lack of staff. Meeting held with Dean Gomez.
    - Communication – how to insure that students getting all necessary

information. Meeting held with VP for Institutional Advancement,

Ana Martinez.

* + - Classes Dropped – many students complained to SGA of classes dropped without any notice who then could not register for other classes due to full enrollment. Registered Students should get advanced “physical” notice of course cancellations.
    - March Graduation – many students still do not know about the March 2nd graduation as information was sent late in January, and students were not involved in decision. SGA recommends student involvement in decisions that involve them.
    - Students with Disabilities – access to D building difficult for students with disabilities because of the 149St incline. As such ARC, financial aid and registrar should have satellite offices in B or C buildings. Half-dome safety mirrors needed on some corners of 4 & 5 floor connecting halls between B & C buildings to avoid collisions. Some bathroom doors need to have “handicap” push buttons for students with disabilities otherwise the doors are difficult to access.

***7. Curricular Items***

***Prof. Sandy Figueroa, Chair of the College-wide Curriculum***

***Committee coordinated the Curricular Items presentations***

***a. Course Revisions***

* **Action 2:** Mathematics Department. Requisite Changes: MA 10, 20, 21
  + Professor Kathleen Doyle presented the rationale for the course revisions to the Senate body.
  + Debate ensued among the Senators.
  + Chairman Ialongo made a motion to end debate; the motion was accepted by unanimous consent.
  + Results of **Action 2**:
    - Yes: 56, No: 3, Abstain: 3, Invalid: 0; the item passed.
* **Action 3:** Mathematics Department. Requisite Changes: MA 15, 20, 100

105, 115, 150, 160

* + Professor Kathleen Doyle again presented the rationale for the course revisions to the Senate body.
  + Debate ensued among the Senators.
  + Chairman Ialongo made a motion to end debate; the motion was accepted by unanimous consent.
  + Results of **Action 3**:
    - Yes: 59, No: 2, Abstain 0, Invalid: 0; the item passed.

b. Procedures for Pathways

* **Action 4:** For addition of the procedures to the College-Wide Curriculum

Committee’s Manual

* + Professor Sandy Figueroa presented the rationale concerning the need for Senate action for inclusion of the existent procedures in the Manual
  + No questions or discussion by Senators.
  + Chairman Ialongo made a motion to end debate; the motion was accepted by unanimous consent.
  + Results of **Action 4**:
    - Yes: 60, No: 0, Abstain: 1, Invalid: 0; the item passed.

***8. Non-Curricular Voting Items***

***(Pursuant to approved Agenda revision, Agenda item 8 followed Agenda***

***item 4)***

***9. Reports by Standing Senate Committees***

* There were no Standing Senate Committee Reports

***10. University Faculty Senate (UFS) Report***

***UFS Report for February 6, 2017 Plenary Session presented by Professor Julie Trachman***

I)We had 2 invited guests, Dr. David Cook, University Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Ms. Donna Linderman, University Dean for Student Success Initiatives, who provided us with an update on the CUNY Strategic Plan initiatives. They focused on the Access and Completion Pillar of the CUNY Strategic Framework. Some relevant points included: i) the aim to double the 3 year completion rate at the associate level and significantly increase the completion rate at the senior colleges. They feel it is doable. The ASAP graduation rate is at ~50% and CUNY is expanding ASAP and now has a similar ACE program being piloted at John Jay College. So far the retention rate increases seen are on track for them to see an increase in graduation rates in the near future b) the university will continue work on curriculum reform (ex. at our campus, MAT20-MAT120 combination and similar work has been done in the English Dept. and the Language and Cognition Dept.). Work is being done to get more accurate initial course placement for incoming students and they are still fine-tuning ways to decrease the remedial course needs by initiatives such as CUNY Start and Math Start. The university will continue work on providing extra academic supports for the college-credit bearing courses. Additionally, there is the development of non-algebra based Math courses for non-STEM students. ii)The data seems to show that students do at least as well as or better when taking 15 credits per semester vs. 12 credits per semester (essentially 30 credits taken over the academic year). The administration is looking for ways to incentivize students doing this. Among the benefits touted for having students taking this many credits per year were that students would be less likely to run out of their financial aid if they complete their coursework at this rate and doing so would also increase the ability of our students to access the Excelsior Scholarship money from New York State. N.B. Some concern was expressed in regard to this idea of encouraging our students to increase their academic course load per year given that many have additional family and work responsibilities.

II)A number of committee reports were given and some relevant points that were made are provided below. i)Budget Advisory Committee: There will be an UFS Budget Workshop on April 13 and they are hoping that a small number of appropriate faculty will attend from each campus. They also noted that there was no money budgeted thus far with respect to the workload reassignment costs, which will start being phased in next year. ii)Academic Affairs Committee: The three year review of Pathways is now online and we were asked to look at it for issued not mentioned in the report. Note: one flagged area was gateway courses. iii)The Enrollment Management Committee: students will be able to surf on CUNY first for open education resources (OER) courses. iv)Student Affairs Committee had two emphases a)DACA students, if they need assistance, should contact the CUNY’s Office of the General Counsel headed by Ms. Loretta Martinez b)the committee plans to look at the balance between academic freedom and freedom of speech on campus as well as the organization FIRE. v)Library Information and Technology Committee: a)Progress has been made at CUNY on the OER initiative, in designing and implementing these course. Gov. Cuomo has budgeted in an additional 4 million dollars for this initiative. b)Academic Works has just been bought up by Elsevier Publishing and not sure what the ramifications will be. c)The committee members are drafting a CUNY statement with respect to an Open Access Policy. vi)Status of Faculty Committee: They informed us there were some “issues” brewing at Medgar Evers College regarding promotion and they are working on revising the language in the by-laws.

***11. Old Business***

*None*

***12. New Business***

As concerns Senate Electronic Voting:

* *Senator raised a question regarding the status of electronic voting for the Senate.*
* *Update was provided by Senate Chair*
* *Discussion ensued*
* *Unofficial, non-binding sense of Senate was that electronic voting continued to be of importance and desired for Senate voting purpose*

As concerns Progress on Smartrooms:

* *Senator made inquiry regarding the status and progress of smart room implementation as progress has been seemingly slow*
* *Discussion ensued*
* *Update was provided by Senate Chair, however he agreed to contact IT for more detailed information for next Senate meeting*
* *Chair also noted that matter falls under the purview of the Senate Facilities Committee, which would be contacted and charged with following-up on issue and reporting to the Senate on a regular basis*

There was no further no new business.

***13. Adjournment***

Upon motion, properly enacted and passed the meeting adjourned at 4:14PM***.***

***Prepared by Professor Hector W. Soto, Assistant Professor, Public Policy and Law Unit, Behavioral and Social Sciences Department***