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**College-Wide Senate General Meeting**

**Savoy Multi-Purpose Room**

**Thursday, November 21, 2019**

**Senate Meeting Minutes**

**Present:**

* **Allied Health:** Professors Sandra Castellanos, Ronette Shaw, Manny Livingston
* **Behavioral and Social Sciences:** Professors Ernest Ialongo (Chairperson), Hector Soto, Karen Steinmayer
* **Business:** Professors Sandy Figueroa, Claude Fernandez
* **CLT:** Mr. Marino Corniel
* **English:** Professors Louis Bury, Alexandra Milsom, Tram Nguyen
* **Education:** Professors Jacqueline DiSanto, Elys Vasquez-Iscan, Iris Mercado
* **Gittelson:** Ms. Melanie Garcia
* **Humanities:** Professors Natasha Yannacañedo, Humberto Ballesteros, Weldon Williams, Catherine Lewis
* **Language & Cognition:**Professors Thomas Mencher, Isabel Feliz
* **Library:**  Professor Jorge Matos
* **Mathematics:** Professors Alexander Vaninsky, Lauren Wolf, Terrence Brenner
* **Natural Sciences:** Professors John Gillen, Roy Debasish
* **Higher Education Officers (HEO):** Mr. Terrence Brown, Ms. Safiya Faustin, Ms. Yvette Luyando, Mr. Carlos Guevara, Ms. Alba Lynch, Ms. Daliz Perez Cabezas, Ms. Cynthia Morales-Delbrun, Ms. Carmen Sosa, Mr. Iber Poma, Ms. Elizabeth Wilson
* **Public Safety/Maintenance**: PS Officer Clara Albino
* **University Faculty Senate (UFS):** Professors Julie Trachman, Gail August, Ana Ozuna
* **Professional Staff Congress:** Professor Lizette Colon
* **Senate At-Large Faculty Representatives:** Professors William Casari, James Kennis, Sanjay Arya, Clara Nieto-Wire, Sherese Mitchell, Diana Macri, Nancy Genova, Thomas Beachdel, Mathew Moses, Andrew Connolly
* **Adjunct Representatives:** Professors Ruben Worrell, Christopher Paskoff
* **Student Government Association Representatives (SGA):** President Kelvin Pineda, Vice President Student Affairs Khalifa Diao, Vice President Academic Affairs Leana Santana, Budget and Finance Comm. Muiz Agbaje, Campus Affairs Comm. Brian Carter, Executive Secretary Rosina Asiamah, Campus Affairs Comm. Eve and Part Time Andre Thompson, and Senators Somaya Nasher, America Rahimee, Leyddy Ogando, Julian Adams, Golvis Tavarez, Nicole Rodriguez, Salimatou Bah, Lusleidy Perez, Amdiya Kyemtore.

**Excused Absences:**

* **Humanities**: Professor Victor Torres-Velez
* **HEO**: Ms. Mercedes Moscat, Mr. Fabian Wander
* **Education**: Professor Michael Gosset

**Vacant:**

* **Counseling (1)**

**Visitors:**

* Professor Nieves Angulo, Mathematics
* Professor Gisselle Guzman, Mathematics
* Professor Tanvir Prince, Mathematics
* Professor Alida Pastoriza, Allied Health
* Professor Sean Gerrity, English
* Professor Carl Grindley, English
* Mr. Sam Byrd, CEWD
* Professor Krystyna Michaels, English
* Mr. Raymond Perez, SDEM
* Professor Ramon Gomez, Mathematics
* Professor Armando Amador, Mathematics
* Dean Felix Cardona
* Miss Helen Mantuano

***1. Call to Order***

* Quorum established at 3:34 PM.
* Senate called to order at 3:35 PM.

***2. Acceptance of the Agenda***

* There being no further discussion, upon motion duly made and approved, the November meeting agenda was accepted by acclimation.

***3. Approval of Thursday, October 17, 2019 College-Wide Senate Minutes***

* Errors in the minutes: Carmen Sosa present (marked absent in the minutes), Mr. Marino Corniel (not Corniel Marino)

***4. Chair’s Remarks***

**New Senators**

The Chair welcomed the new Senator from Math Prof. Terrence Brenner, and the SGA, Mr. Julian Adams

**Middle States**

* The Chair noted that Senate appointments were made to Middle States
* The Chair noted that the goal of Senate appointments to college-wide committees is to strengthen shared governance, as enshrined in the Charter

**Search Committee to replace Associate Dean of Student Development and Enrollment Management Johana Rivera**

* The Chair noted that the Senate will have representation on that committee, as per the Charter, and we will have updates as the process develops

**College Wide Committee on Institutional Effectiveness**

* The Chair announced that the Senate will have representation on this new committee

**New Processes for Curriculum Items from Senate to OAA to BOT**

* The Chair noted that a number of curricular items that had passed the Senate had not yet been sent to the Board of Trustees for finalization
* Further, he noted these items have been identified and will be delivered soon
* Finally, he noted a new process of tracking such items is being included in the CWCC manual

***5. President’s Remarks:***

The President was not in attendance because he was attending an event at the Aspen Institute.

***6. SGA President’s Remarks:***

The SGA President introduced two newly elected student senators, Julian Adams and Amdiya Kyemtore.

**Events/initiatives sponsored by SGA in the past month**:

* Emotional Intelligence Workshop with Dr. Kafui Kouakou
* Altar dedication for Dia de Los Muertos, a Mexican tradition
* Collaborated with Public Policy and Law Unit and Career Services on a Cyber Security Workshop to teach students how to protect themselves online
* Sponsored the annual College Discovery Urban Professional Career Panel
* Donated funds to the Food Studies program so they may purchase a new hydroponic system (or make repairs if any are needed to the existing ones)
* The mirrors in blind spots for those who are disabled were put in a few weeks back. This was something that past SGAs were working on and to see it come to fruition warms my heart. However, the issue is it shouldn’t have taken so long.

**Events/initiatives in the works:**

* The scholarship applications are open and a little over twenty students have applied. Please encourage your students to visit the scholarship website. There are many scholarships available.
* SGA Senators have been discussing possibility of donating SGA surplus funds to Single Stop to help students with the plethora of issues they are facing, most notably: food insecurity.
* Opening our very own Hostos merchandise store. We want to boost the morale and pride the students here feel.
* We have met with Prof. Soto to discuss the creation of an ad hoc committee for civic engagement. We are moving in the right direction.
* The SGA will also be working with the director of Government and External Relations on educating Hostos about the upcoming census.
* In a few weeks we will be collaborating with Empowering Student Parents, as well as other entities in the college, on the Hostos Winter Festival. This is an event where Hostos student parents bring their children for a small carnival. SGA will donate food and toys for the children.
* Collaborating with Phi Theta Kappa (Hostos’ honor society), the Office of Student Activities and the Student Leadership Academy (SLA) on a Thanksgiving raffle. Please tell all.
* We will be circulating a memo to students through the email list to request recommendations about what improvements can be made to improve their freshman experience. The responses will be forwarded to professors on campus.
* We will be collaborating with SLA on a mental health workshop for students, faculty and staff.

**Thoughts:**

Oftentimes it feels that when we bring up certain items not all of them are worked on and some are overlooked. While I understand it might not be of utter importance to some, it is to us when we bring these issues to the forefront because we speak for the students. My team and I represent them, and we have to be able to look those students in the eyes when they ask us about what we are doing and the status of said items. We tell them we are working on it, but we’d rather respond by telling them about progress that has been made. A few students have mentioned that they would participate in more activities on campus if they felt like they were being heard.

I’d like to end on this: we facilitated a civic engagement and census workshop today with a congressional candidate by the name of Tomas Ramos and some interesting stuff was discussed. A few things that really stuck out to me were the fact that students feel that their engagement would improve if they felt as though their voices would be heard more. Also, if their ideas were to be implemented on a visible scale and how we could get the administration to hear us more about what we want.

***7. Curricular Items***

* Action 1: New course-ENG10
  + Professor Moses presents rationale for new course. Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) course. Replaces ENG93 w/a course in which students enroll in regular 110 class. Once that class is finished, students in need then proceed with more instruction w/professor w/additional class period. ENG93 course will be phased out.
  + Debate ensued, with questions requiring clarification of the billing and credits for the course, and the course’s applicability at Hostos.
  + After further questions regarding the course and comments in favor of its adoption, a motion was made to end debate, was seconded, and passed

**VOTE:**

**Yes 60 No 7 Abstain 2 Invalid 1**

Action passes

* Action 2: New Course-MAT150SI
  + Prof. Nieves Angulo presents rationale for new course.
  + During debate questions ensued regarding who sets the billable hours for such a course, and a variety of comments were delivered in favor of the course
  + Motion was made to end debate, was seconded, and passed

**VOTE:**

**Yes 67 No 1 Abstain 1 Invalid 0**

Action passes

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

* Action 3: Second presentation and vote on Group B of Part I of proposed Charter amendments
* Mr. Terrence Brown of the SEC presented Group B of Part I of the proposed amendments
* (See Appendix for full text of proposed changes)
* The Chair made a motion to accept the amendments proposed by the SEC, and to move immediately to debating the proposed Charter amendments; motion was seconded, and passed
* Debate ensued including requests for clarification of the language
* Motion was made to extend the time 15 minutes at 5 pm; it was seconded and approved
* After further discussion a motion was made to end debate, it was seconded, and passed

**VOTE:**

**Yes 60 No 2 Abstain 1 Invalid 0**

Action passes (50 required for charter amendments)

***8. UFS Report***

* See Appendix

***9. Adjournment***

* A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:05, it was seconded, and passed
* Meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm

Prepared by Professor Diana Macri, Senate Recording Secretary

**Appendix**: Proposed Charter Amendments, Part I, Group B, for November 2019 Senate Meeting

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Current** | **Proposed** | **Rationale** |
| **Part I** |  |  |  |
| **Group B** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **3** | **Article II: Membership in the College Senate, Section 2 Full -Time Faculty Membership, F.** |  |  |
|  | Full-time faculty who are College representatives to the UFS are automatically members of the College Senate. They shall be elected according to the same procedures and criteria that apply to all other Senators. | **October Senate Version:** Full-time faculty who are College representatives to the UFS are automatically members of the College Senate. They shall be elected according to the same procedures and criteria that apply to all other Senators. UFS Senators are expected to attend all UFS Plenary meetings, in addition to Hostos Senate meetings. UFS Senators who are absent from UFS Plenary meetings more than three (3) times per academic year without a reasonable explanation sent in writing to the Chairperson of the Hostos College Senate, will be removed from office and another representative shall be elected in their place. Having communicated with the Chairperson of the Hostos College Senate that they will be absent from a UFS Plenary meeting, the UFS Senator is also responsible for informing a duly elected Hostos UFS Alternate Senator of such absence so the latter can attend in their stead. | The UFS does not have a mechanism to ensure attendance. We need to guarantee that Hostos is fully represented at UFS meetings. This language mirrors the attendance requirements for Senators at the Hostos. |
|  |  | **SEC Amendment for November Senate:** Full-time faculty who are College representatives to the UFS are automatically members of the College Senate. They shall be elected according to the same procedures and criteria that apply to all other Senators. UFS Senators are expected to attend all UFS Plenary meetings, in addition to Hostos Senate meetings. UFS Senators must send an explanation to the Chairperson of the Hostos College Senate in case of absence from a UFS Plenary meeting. Three (3) absences per academic year without this written explanation will be considered an abandonment of the position and another representative shall be elected in their place. Having communicated with the Chairperson of the Hostos College Senate that they will be absent from a UFS Plenary meeting, the UFS Senator is also responsible for informing a duly elected Hostos UFS Alternate Senator of such absence so the latter can attend in their stead. |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **10** | **Article VII: Senate Committees, Section 3 Attendance at Standing Committees Meetings** |  |  |
|  | Any member who is absent from three (3) meetings without written notification shall be asked to resign and will be replaced by the Committee on Committees. | **October Senate Version:** Any member who is absent three (3) times per academic year without a reasonable explanation sent in writing to the chairperson of their committee will be removed from office and replaced by the Committee on Committees, in cases in which the Committee on Committees appoints members, and by the relevant electing bodies in cases in which committee members are elected. ~~who is absent from three (3) meetings without written notification shall be asked to resign and will be replaced by the Committee on Committees.~~ | This change standardizes attendance requirements for the Senate and Senate Standing Committees. Language that is already being used for attendance requirements for Senators is now being proposed for attendance at Senate Standing Committees. |
|  |  | **SEC Amendment for November Senate:** Any member who is absent three (3) times per academic year without an explanation sent in writing to the chairperson of their committee will be considered to have abandoned their position and another representative shall be appointed to their committee by the Committee on Committees--in cases in which the Committee on Committees appoints members--or by the relevant electing bodies in cases in which committee members are elected. ~~who is absent from three (3) meetings without written notification shall be asked to resign and will be replaced by the Committee on Committees.~~ |  |

**Appendix:** UFS Report for Plenary Session Oct. 29, 2019

I) Remarks from Vice Chancellor of Budget, Matt Sapienza:

i) Discussed some of the changes in the NYS/NYC money to CUNY; indicated some money would be directed to help the food insecurity concern affecting many of our students; mentioned that we received an increase in rate with respect to full-time equivalents (FTEs) but because the number of FTEs was decreased the net effect was a somewhat significant decrease in overall funding to CUNY. ii)stated that some of the areas where money was allocated were “strategic investments – these included the Open Education Resources initiative; with respect to teaching load -> to defray costs for workload reduction; moving more money into ACE program (the ASAP equivalent at the senior colleges) iii)in regard to enrollment trends: summer enrollment was up but overall, enrollment was down a little fall 2019 at both senior and community colleges; however, in consolidating it overall, felt enrollment was “stable”; he also noted that the previous downturn seen in enrollment in graduate programs has reversed itself. There was also a shift whereby we are now seeing more incoming freshmen. Additionally, due to the fact that the family cut off for the Excelsior Scholarship will be raised from $110,000 to $125,000 shortly, he anticipates we will see more students enrolling at CUNY. Also, due to the enactment of the NYS Dream Act i.e. financial aid will now be available for dreamers, we should also see an increase in enrollment. iv) with that said, NYC is experiencing a financial shortfall so his office is anticipating budget cuts. NYS is also expected to have a shortfall but there will less of an impact to our budget because of a “cap”. v)Selected points from the Q and A: a)expected that NYS/NYC will come through with money for our new contract in part due to the fact there would be public support b)VC Sapienza was reminded about the differences between SUNY and CUNY faculty with respect to number of FTEs. Additionally, both CUNY and SUNY are working together to try to get the TAP gap value reduced (the schools cover the differences in tuition vs. maximum TAP payment). c) As a somewhat related issue to the numbers of faculty with respect to FTEs, it also was pointed out that there are differences amongst the various campuses with respect to full-time /adjunct ratios that should be addressed.

II) Several Advisory Committee Reports:

i) Academic Affairs: raised a number of concerns about the changes in remedial/development course instruction. As an ex. of a concern that was raised: would there be a cap in the class size where there are now going to be co-requisite courses?

ii) Budget: going back to the CUNY/SUNY comparison, there was a question about space at different campuses and they are trying to see if there is a way of “creating” more space to accommodate more students.

iii)Faculty Advisory Committee to the Research Foundation: the RF would like a “reset”, they want to change the relationship; they would like to know how are they doing with respect to service to the CUNY research community and they are analyzing the survey results now (survey was administered a while ago).

iv) University Advisory Council on Diversity: they are looking at HR practices at different campuses and also looking at diversity related programming that requires funding. They mentioned they were aware of at least one program that underwent a significant cut.

v) Library and Information Technology: working on improving lines of communication including efforts related to a) CIS enterprise which includes Blackboard b)chief librarians at various campuses and others.

III) Remarks by Sarah Danielsson, Executive Director of the CUNY Academy for the Humanities and Sciences: i)the Academy wants to improve the integration of their efforts with those of CUNY faculty ii)they also want to re-invigorate their cooperation with UFS. As of fall 2019 all CUNY faculty are members and we were encouraged to participate in their activities. She also reminded us there are travel funds available to faculty through the academy.

IV) UFS Chair Report from Martin Burke:

i) With his previously mentioned consolidation concern, he said he seeing openness and cooperation at this time.

ii) CUNY-wide COACHE results are now available on the OAA website of CUNY.

iii) Pathways 6th year review process- 3 faculty were named to head the process with one of them being Ernest Ialongo from our campus.

iv) M.Burke and Matthew Cotter attended the SUNY governance sessions recently and said their concerns are similar to ours. This would include budget concerns, the continued push for online courses and diversity issues.

**Appendix**: Report of the Senate Committee on Disabilities Issues

Dear Members of the College-Wide Senate,

Since 2017 an electric wheelchair lift has been available for those with mobility impairments on the fourth floor walkway between the B & C buildings. Unfortunately, the lift has been frequently out of service and presented a number of other challenges thus rendering it as an impractical solution or alternative to accessibility on campus. Our committee, along with other stakeholders, have raised this issue for the past year with the appropriate authorities to resolve this predicament. This issue was first brought to our attention by students registered with the Accessibility Resource Center, specifically, our illustrious alum and wheelchair user Destini Mitchell-Murray, who was also a member of our committee as a representative of the Student Government Association. We have worked closely with Dean Johanna Gomez and Eugene Sohn, Esq. to find a prompt resolution to this issue. Moreover, we also presented a letter to them drafted last spring from professors A.J. Stachelek and James Kennis of the Math Department inquiring about the possibility of building an accessible ramp based on their calculations of the space and ADA requirements.

The committee has also proposed the alternative of the inclusion of a ramp on the 3rd floor of the planned walkway between the B & C buildings, but have recently been informed that it will not be structurally possible. On November 5, Dean Gomez, Chief Arnaldo Bernabe, ARC Director Raymond Perez, Facilities and our committee completed a walkthrough of the hallways between the B & C buildings to finalize the installation of quarter dome mirrors to facilitate accessibility for those with mobility issues. At that meeting, we were informed that Eugene Sohn, Esq. was consulting with CUNY Central on the possibility of building a ramp on the 4th floor as a replacement to the lift. Recently, Dean Gomez informed us that the lift has been repaired along with the installation of the quarter dome mirrors and that a response from CUNY Central will soon be forthcoming. Our committee will continue to monitor the progress of this situation as it is our desire for a practical solution to this issue of vital importance to all on campus with or without a mobility impairment. Thank you.