The Faculty Senate
The City College of New York

Plenary Meeting
September 18, 2014
Shepard Hall 95

AGENDA

Call to order 2:00 PM
Approval of the minutes from May 16, 2014 2:05 – 2:10 PM
Remarks of the Chair 2:10 – 2:20 PM
Appointment of the Parliamentarian 2:20 PM
Report of the President (President Lisa Coico) 2:20 – 2:30 PM
Reports from Faculty Senate Committees 2:30 – 2:50 PM
  i. Executive Committee
     a. Resolution on CUNYFirst, Registration (Prof. Jane Gallagher)
  ii. Senate Affairs
     a. Revision of the Faculty Senate Bylaws
Elections to Faculty Senate Committees (Prof. Andrew Ratner) 2:50 – 3:20 PM
  a. Educational policy
  b. College-wide resources
  c. Student affairs
  d. Administration
  e. Senate affairs
  f. University Faculty Senate
Adjournment 3:30 PM
Minutes of the
The Faculty Senate of The City College of New York
Plenary Meeting
May 15, 2014
Shepard Hall 250


Guests: Provost Trevisan; Executive Counsel Occhiogrosso; Deans: G. Barabino, V. Boudreau, T. Liss, J. Mercado, C. Stewart, Weitz; H. Balmer, M. Baptiste, J. Garcia, A. Harris, C. Li, T. Scala, A. Undieh,

Excused: P. Brass

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m.

2. The minutes of the April 24, 2014 meeting were approved.

3. Candidates for Graduation were Certified

4. Remarks of the Chair—Prof. Jeruzalmi
   • There was a re-vote on the Course Repeat Policy Resolution that was approved in the April 24, 2014 meeting. The purpose of the re-vote was to clarify the meaning of the term “re-enroll” as it was used in the resolution. The re-vote was taken by voice vote and the resolution, with “re-enroll” clarified, passed.
   • Prof. Jeruzalmi addressed concerns about incomplete or missing paperwork of Senate members. He had sent an email about this before the meeting. He stated that a policy of inclusion was used, and steps were taken to verify the membership status of those with incomplete or missing paperwork through other means (e.g., attendance at Senate meetings).
   • The chair affirmed that Adjunct Senator Saman Reshadi’s is currently a Senator with a term that expires in May 2015.

5. Reports from the Faculty Senate Committees
   • Executive Committee
     o Prof. Jeruzalmi distributed and read his annual report of the main areas in which he felt that the Senate had made progress: (1) revitalizing and re-energizing the plenum, (2) approving legislation important to the College, and (3) the physical plant of the College and budget transparency.
Prof. Jeruzalmi thanked the Senators and standing committees for their hard work this year.

He stated that he next year he hopes to build on the work done this year.

Compensation of the Senate chair also was discussed. The president has concluded that the chair should receive one month of summer salary, and must teach a minimum of two courses per year. However, up to 6 of the 12 hours of release time given can be converted into funds to support professional activities. (Funds will be put in a bursar account.) The chair’s compensation could vary depending on budgetary constraints.

- Senate Affairs Committee
  - Two schools will have senators on leave this coming academic year.
  - Representing Interdisciplinary Studies, Alessandra Benedicty will be replaced by Susanna Schaller
  - Representing Sophie Davis, Nancy Sohler will be replaced by Carole Wood Moore.

   - Prof. Gallagher urged caution when sending out emails re: faculty business, and to be protective of students.
   - She pointed out that the adjunct representative to the Senate is also a graduate student, and this student has been under attack from others due to emails that have been sent out re: Senate business.
   - She clarified that the Senate can vote to have adjunct representation [This move requires a parallel change in the City College Governance Plan Ed., FS Chair].

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Rings
Secretary
Minutes of the
The Faculty Senate of The City College of New York
Reorganizational Meeting
May 15, 2014
Shepard Hall 250


Guests: Provost Trevisan; Executive Counsel Occhiogrosso; Deans: G. Barabino, V. Boudreau, T. Liss, J. Mercado, C. Stewart, Weitz; H. Balmer, M. Baptiste, J. Garcia, A. Harris, C. Li, T. Scala, A. Undieh,

Excused: P. Brass

A. The meeting was called to order at 3:04 PM.

B. Report of the Elections/Senate Affairs Committee. Ellen Handy reported that the Election Committee approved the current list of senators and Jane Gallagher as ombuds, based on the election that had been held.

C. Andras Kisery was nominated and elected by acclamation to the position of secretary. Marta Bengoa was nominated and elected by acclamation to the position of treasurer.

D. Renata Miller explained the role of the nominations committee in preparing the standing committee ballot for the September plenary. She called for nominations for the nominating committee. Andrew Ratner, Terri Watson, Alan Feigenberg, Jack Levinson, Roger Dorsinville, Prabal De, and Karen Hubbard were nominated and elected by acclamation.

E. Faculty Senate Chair appointed Provost Maurizio Trevisan as Meeting Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

F. Provost Trevisan began the election proceedings for a new Executive Committee. Nominations to the Executive Committee were taken from the Senate floor.

i. Nominees were: David Jeruzalmi, Marta Gutman, Renata Miller, Roger Dorsinville, Fred Moshary, Ellen Handy, Marta Bengoa, Karen Hubbard, and Dan Akins
ii. Maria Binz-Scharf declined to be nominated.

G. Nominees gave two-minute speeches on why senators should vote for them.

H. Provost called for voting to begin. Provost Trevisan counted ballots with assistance from Dan DiSalvo

I. New Executive Committee elected: New Executive Committee: Marta Bengoa, Marta Gutman, Ellen Handy, Karen Hubbard, David Jeruzalmi, Renata Miller, Fred Moshary.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan DiSalvo
Acting Secretary
Let me start by welcoming you to a new academic year, and to the first plenary meeting of the Faculty Senate. I am very excited to report to you that for the second year in a row, we have every available seat in the FS occupied. We would have to go back many years to find another instance of this achievement. This is a tribute to 1) you, the senators, 2) the work that we all did last year, and 3) the work ahead. At some point this fact will become so commonplace that it will be unremarkable.

The Faculty Senate is a body that is enshrined in the City College Governance Plan. Its mission is to serve as the authentic voice of the faculty. Together with other groups on campus, our mission is to represent faculty interests. In order to better serve our mission, you elected an executive committee last spring. I’d like to introduce them to you now (stand up to be recognized): I am David Jeruzalmi (Chemistry). Others are Professor Marta Gutman (Architecture), Professor Ellen Handy (Art History), Professor Fred Moshary (Engineering), Professor Karen Hubbard (Biology), Professor Renata Miller (English), Professor Marta Bengoa (Economics and Business). Jane Gallagher (Biology) is also a member ex officio as the Ombuds, with voice, but not vote.

Let me say a few words about our priorities for the year. Our main focus will be on improving the way we fulfill the educational and research missions of the College. We would like to work towards improving the way that the physical and human resources of the College work together in the service of our students. The state of the facilities and information technology are crucial pieces of that mission. Another important piece of this mission is the manner in which we all interact with each other and our colleagues. The executive committee would like to work the President’s Council on Inclusion and Excellence move forward in this arena.

Let me turn to some practical matters. Our meetings are governed by three documents: 1) The City College Governance Plan, 2) the Faculty Senate bylaws, and 3) Robert’s Rules of Order. All three documents are available online. I should also mention that we have an intense effort this semester to revise to the Faculty Senate Bylaws. You will hear more on this later in the meeting.

The proceedings of the Faculty Senate are also governed by the Open Meetings Law as it has been adjusted by the New York State Courts and interpreted by the CUNY General Counsel. This means that we have to fulfill certain requirements about voting and record keeping. Our use of clickers in one way for us to comply with the Open Meetings Law. Making Faculty Senate documents available is another way. So, many important Faculty Senate documents are found on our internet site.

The agenda for the plenary meeting is finalized one week before the meeting, and mailed out to Senators, Faculty, and College Administrators.

Today, we will elect members of various Faculty Senate Committees. This is where the bulk of the Senate’s work is done. From time to time, these committees report to the plenary on their activities. As necessary, these reports may come in the form of a resolution. At least one report from each committee is desired.

Like you all, I would have preferred to do my research and teach my courses. But after being at the College for a short period, it became clear to me that more was required, even demanded, of me. Of us. And that is why I became involved with the Faculty Senate. Because City College needed me. Needed us. Needed our ideas, our energy, our enthusiasm to build, rebuild, and move this College forward. So, in that spirit, let’s get going!
Resolution on the Effect of the Implementation of the CUNY First, DegreeWorks and FACTS on Financial Aid for Students.

Whereas, low-income students are the most vulnerable members of the CUNY Academic Community, and

Whereas, CUNYFirst, DegreeWorks and FACTS have been known to have significant programming errors since they were first imposed on Wave One Colleges four years ago, and

Whereas, these programs are being used by the Central Administration to deny students' Financial Aid based on a definition of “Satisfactory Academic Progress,” and

Whereas, the Central Administration’s definition of “Satisfactory Academic Progress” extremely restricts the ability of students to select courses and the ability of faculty to advise them, and

Whereas, the central administration has insisted that the extremely restrictive criteria for course selection be applied retroactively to students for the Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 semesters, as well as the current Fall 2014 semester, and

Whereas, this retroactive application is being used to disallow Financial Aid that was already awarded in past semesters, and thus to generate retroactive bills for students who registered for courses in good faith and with the best advice available at the time, and furthermore to unjustly deny Financial Aid to students in the Fall 2014 semester due to programming errors, and

Whereas, the City College Governance Plan states that “the Faculty shall be responsible for and conduct all the educational affairs customarily cared for by a College Faculty,” including faculty discretion in course advisement, which is enshrined into the curriculum and articulated in the College Bulletin, and

Whereas, the above software, whether in effect or intent, removes discretion in course selection by students and their faculty advisors, thereby running counter to the intellectual exploration that is at the heart of a liberal education,

Therefore, be it resolved that we, the faculty of City College of New York, oppose the imposition of retroactive tuition bills for previous semesters,
And, be it further resolved that we oppose the removal of TAP and Pell from students for the Fall 2014 semester due to the imposition, through CUNY First, DegreeWorks, and FACTS, of both previously unenforced and wrongly enforced restrictions on course selection by students in good academic standing.

Adopted at the Plenary Meeting of the CCNY Faculty Senate on September 18, 2014 unanimously (38 senators in attendance, quorum = 32 senators, requires 32 votes for adoption.)
Dear Colleagues,

I am very pleased to announce the results of the elections to the Standing Committees of the Faculty Senate. Those who were elected to new terms appear on the next page, as do those who will serve as alternates to each committee for this academic year. (Names of the newly elected members are underlined.)

In the coming days, members of the Executive Committee will work to complete the roster of each committee with the additional participants as stipulated by the Senate Bylaws (student representatives, administrators, and Council-elected representatives, where needed). Executive Committee members will then arrange for each committee's first meeting, at which each committee should elect its own chair to serve for this academic year.

Thank you very much to everyone who was willing to serve and to everyone who voted. I look forward to a productive year.

Sincerely,

David Jeruzalmi
Professor of Chemistry and Faculty Senate Chair
CCNY FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEES
(AY 2014-2015)

Educational Policy Committee
Nancy Sohler (term expires 2016)
Terri Watson (term expires 2016)
Bruce Kim (term expires 2017)
Jan Valle (term expires 2017)
Marta Gutman (term expires 2017)

College-Wide Resources Committee
Alan Feigenberg (term expires 2015)
Ranajeet Ghose (term expires 2016)
Rajan Menon (term expires 2016)
Christine Li (term expires 2017)
Renata Miller (term expires 2017)
Kevin Foster (term expires 2017)
Fred Moshary (term expires 2017)
Jeff Morris (term expires 2017)

Student Affairs Committee
Brandon Judell (term expires 2016)
Marie Nazon (term expires 2016)
Ira Spaulding (term expires 2016)
Denise McLurkin (term expires 2016)
Andrew Ratner (term expires 2016)
Alternate: Issa Salame

Administration Committee
Anil Agrawal (term expires 2016)
Daniel Greenberger (term expires 2016)
Nadjwa Norton (term expires 2016)
Joshua Wilner (term expires 2016)
Ying Li Tian (term expires 2016)
Gabriel Tardos (term expires 2016)
John Lee (term expires 2016)
Alternate: Dan Akins

Senate Affairs Committee
Maria Binz-Scharf (term expires 2016)
Marta Gutman (term expires 2016)
Ellen Handy (term expires 2016)
Carlos Riobo (term expires 2016)
Anil Agrawal (term expires 2016)
Sherri Rings (term expires 2017)
Roger Dorsinville (term expires 2017)
Alternate: Amitra Dhawan

Faculty Affairs Committee
Fred Moshary (term expires 2016)
Karen Block (term expires 2016)
Joseph Moore (term expires 2016)
Marilyn Gunner (term expires 2016)
Jorge Gonzalez (term expires 2017)
Christine Li (term expires 2017)
(One vacancy remains)
Course Repeat Policy Resolution

Whereas, The current policy at City College of New York permits undergraduate students to repeat a course twice (ie. enroll in the same course for a total of three times), and

Whereas, the Faculty Senate believes that undergraduate students would be better served if they seek appropriate academic advice from a College Official, and receive the necessary support to help them succeed in their courses, and

Whereas, a College-wide policy addressing this situation is needed, therefore

Be it resolved that an undergraduate student may re-enroll in a course only once* without seeking advice from a Divisional Academic Advisor, and

Be it further resolved that an undergraduate student may not re-enroll in a course for second time until after seeking advice from a Divisional Academic Advisor, and

Be it further resolved that that the absolute limit for repeating a course is two times (i.e. the maximum total number of times that a student may enroll in the same course is three).

Be it further resolved that School Committees of Course and Standing have the authority to entertain appeals and grant waivers on this restriction in unusual cases.

*the term “re-enroll” is considered to apply irrespective grades earned in the first and second instances of student enrollment in the course.

This resolution was adopted at the Plenary Meeting of the CCNY Faculty Senate on April 24, 2014 by a vote of 31:1:1 (quorum = 32 senators, requires 32 votes for adoption.) And in slightly revised form by acclamation at the Plenary Meeting on May 15, 2014.
Welcome to the final plenary meeting of this academic year. I have a few items to bring to your attention. First, as you know from the last meeting, the first phase of the revision of the bylaws has resulted in a draft that has been posted on the FS internet site. In the interests of time, I have decided to delay the vote on this draft until the Fall.

Second, I would like to bring to the plenum a slightly revised draft of the course repeat policy that was approved 33:1:1 at the last plenum. This revised draft includes another line. Motion to approve?

Third, I would like to discuss credentials of current Senators. I trust that you all received my lengthy email yesterday afternoon outlining some of the issues. Briefly, a good what to think about the credentials of the current Senators is as follows. I think of them as falling into three buckets. In bucket #1 are the nominations from this year. Bucket #1 is in excellent shape. Documents have been provided according to spec. And, on this basis, the Senate was able to successfully conduct an election in four divisions.

Bucket #2 contains nominations received at the Senate in the Spring of 2013. Last Spring. In my letter I noted a moderate amount of confusion. This confusion was resolved in Sept 2013, when a newly elected Senate Elections Committee (members: Professors Ellen Handy, Charles Watkins, Ravi Kalia, Dan DiSalvo, Maria Binz-Scharf, Marta Gutman, and Daniel Greenberger) examined, reviewed, and approved the nominations in bucket #2.

Bucket #3 contains credentials in force prior to last Spring. Bucket #3 is the most problematic. Some problems include: Documents that have Senate office date-received stamps, others that don’t. Credentials that are missing or misfiled. And the list goes on and on.

What is the way forward? The way forward is to admit to ourselves that we have a problem with some undocumented Senators. The approach that we have taken is not disenfranchise these Senators, but rather to apply this College’s most cherished and core principle: inclusion. Which brings us to where we are today. We now have a list of Senators. Three buckets. new, less new, and old. We have worked with this list of senators all semester, and we will continue to do so for today’s elections to the Executive Committee.

While on the subject of Senator Credentials, let me say a few words about the Senator who represents the adjunct faculty. There has been a lot of heat about this matter. Let’s see if we can convert some of that heat into light. The Chair of the SA committee Ellen Handy did have a brief conversation with Saman Reshadi before the April 24 plenary meeting. Ellen asked Saman for the circumstances under which he became a Senator. We have all been curious about this, since neither the College Governance Plan nor the FS bylaws currently permit representation by adjunct faculty. This is an important matter than will be considered when the bylaws are revised later this year and I don’t want to take time today to discuss this question. For now, what we have done is to note that Saman Reshadi is a Senator; he represents the adjunct faculty and his term of office extends until May 2015.
The Faculty Senate
The City College of New York

Shepard Hall, Room 150
160 Convent Avenue
New York, NY 10031

Annual Report of the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate
May 14, 2014

The accomplishments of the 2013-14 Faculty Senate fall into three broad categories: 1) a revitalized and energetic plenum, 2) approval of legislation that improves the education and experience of City College students, and 3) initiation of long-term efforts to improve physical plant maintenance and budget transparency.

A revitalized and energetic plenum. The 2013-14 Faculty Senate began with the seating of ~30 new Senators, many of whom were new to the Senate and even relatively new to CCNY. For the first time in many years every seat was occupied. In contrast to recent years, each plenary meeting met and exceeded the quorum standard. The influx and inclusion of new, previously silent voices brought a renewed vitality to the operation of the Faculty Senate. A long overdue census of the College enabled expansion of the Senate by 5 seats; this allowed additional voices to be included and heard. To make the casting and recording of votes free of error and unwanted influences, electronic “clickers” were introduced during the spring plenary meetings. Renewed interest in the Senate was also indicated by the successful slating of committees in the fall and, in the spring, by elections in five divisions for seats.

Approval of legislation important to the College. Minutes from the various plenary meetings reflect the important debates that took place in the Senate this year. Faculty decisions on mandating course syllabi, academic probation, requirements for Latin honors, a prohibition on profit-making from course materials, and a course repeat policy will have an important and long-standing impact on the academic life of the College. Other resolutions addressed broader issues such as a proposed CUNY policy on expressive conduct, the state of campus accessibility, aspirations to develop CCNY into a CUNY University Center, and plans at the College to expand the Sophie Davis School for Biomedical Studies into a full-service Medical School.

The physical plant of the College and budget transparency. Building on the year-long efforts initiated by the Faculty Council of the College of Liberal Arts and Science (CLAS), the faculty found its voice in declaring the current state of the College physical plant and information technology infrastructure to be important barriers to academic excellence. During the Spring semester, the Senate and the CLAS, building on prior efforts by the Senate, united to sponsor two presentations on the budget, which provided important views of the complete state of the College budget. Both these efforts should continue to be long-term foci of future Faculty Senates.

We thank the members of the 2013-14 Faculty Senate and its standing committees for their hard work, interest, and attention that made these accomplishments possible. Building on the progress of the last year, we have much work ahead of us, as we consider the many aspects of the college’s ambitious strategic plan, evaluate plans for the development of the medical school, monitor the improvement of facilities, and engage with the administration in fiscal planning. We look forward to engaging even more faculty in these important initiatives.
Members of the CCNY faculty,

We write to announce the results of the elections for Ombuds and for Faculty Senators in the 2014-2015 Faculty Senate.

Ombuds:

Professor Jane Gallagher

Senators from the Humanities and the Arts Division:

Professors Campbell Dalglish, Andras Kisery, Andrzej Krakowski, Shaugn O'Donnell, Suzanne Pittson, and David Weissman

Senator from the Grove School of Engineering:

Professor Roger Dorsinville

Senator from the Library:

Professor Amitra Dhawn

Senators from the Science Division:

Professors Jane Gallagher Anuradha Janakiraman, Ronald Koder, and David Lohman

Senators from The Colin Powell School for Civic and Global Leadership:

Professors William Crain and Prabal De

Please join us in congratulating the newly elected Senators and Ombuds. We would also like to thank all of the candidates for their time, interest, and patience in the elections process. We are grateful to Associate Provost Doris Cintron for counting the ballots; to Professor Christian Wolf, chair of the Mathematics Department, for calculating the vote totals according to the Hare system of proportional representation, as stipulated in our Bylaws; and to Ms Jasmine Love for her assistance in all phases of the election process.

Sincerely,

David Jeruzalmi

David Jeruzalmi
Chair, Faculty Senate

Ellen Handy

Ellen Handy
Chairperson, Elections sub-committee of Senate Affairs Committee

May 11, 2014
May 16, 2014

Dear Members of the Faculty Senate,

I write to announce the results of elections that were held on May 15, 2014, for the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate of the City College of New York.

The following Senators were elected to serve as members of the Executive Committee for the 2014-2015 academic year:

Professor Marta Bengoa  
Professor Marta Gutman  
Professor Ellen Handy  
Professor Karen Hubbard  
*Professor David Jeruzalmi  
Professor Renata Miller  
Professor Fred Moshary.

*elected Chair by the Executive Committee (May 15, 2014)

On behalf of the newly elected Executive Committee, I would like to express my deepest gratitude for the support and confidence that you have shown us. I would like to thank especially all the candidates for their interest, energy, and willingness to serve.

Special thanks to Provost Maurizio Trevisan and Professor Dan DiSalvo for counting the ballots.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

David Jeruzalmi

David Jeruzalmi