

Faculty Senate Minutes #312

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

3:20 PM

Room 630 T

Present (30): Simon Baatz, Adam Berlin, Teresa Booker, Marvie Brooks, Dara Byrne, Elise Champeil, Edward Davenport, Virginia Diaz, Janice Dunham, Marcia Esparza, DeeDee Falkenbach, Gail Garfield, Konstantinos Georgatos, Heather Holtman, Tim Horohoe, Karen Kaplowitz, Richard Kempter, James Malone, Evan Mandery, John Matteson, Patrick O'Hara, Nicholas Petraco, Rick Richardson, Peter Romaniuk, Raul Romero, Nancy Ryba, Francis Sheehan, Davidson Umeh, Thalia Vrachopoulos, Robin Whitney

Absent (6): Kirk Dombrowski, P. J. Gibson, Amy Green, Jinwoo Kim, Amie Macdonald, Shonna Trinch

Invited Guest: Distinguished Professor Gerald Markowitz

Agenda

1. **Announcements and introduction of Faculty Senate members**
2. **Adoption of Minutes #311 of the May 11, 2007, meeting**
3. **Review of the organization, history, and work of the Faculty Senate**
4. **Election of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee**
5. **Election of the Chair and members of next year's Senate Fiscal Advisory Committee**
6. **Consideration of a candidate for an honorary degree**
7. **Report on the initiative to amend the John Jay Charter of Governance**
8. **Update about John Jay's budget**
9. **New business**

1. **Announcements and introduction of Faculty Senate members [Attachment A]**

2. **Adoption of Minutes #311 of the May 11, 2007, meeting.** Approved.

3. **Review of the organization, history, and work of the Faculty Senate [Attachment A]**

President Kaplowitz introduced the operations of the Senate by going over provisions of the senate Constitution and aspects of the history of the faculty senate.

4. Election of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

It was explained that the term of the new executive committee would begin today, so that it will be in session over the summer, in case the administration needs to consult with elected faculty leaders or in case faculty members need to consult the Senate.

By secret, written, ballot the Senate elected:

Karen Kaplowitz: President

Francis Sheehan: Vice President

Edward Davenport: Recording Secretary

Virginia Diaz: Associate Recording Secretary

Amy Green: Co-Associate Recording Secretary

Kirk Dombrowski: Corresponding Secretary

James Malone: At-Large

Marvie Brooks: At-Large

5. Election of the Chair and members of next year's Senate Fiscal Advisory Committee

Senator Kirk Dombrowski was elected Chair and elected to the Committee were Senators Francis Sheehan, Karen Kaplowitz, and James Malone and Professor Tom Litwack.

6. Consideration of a candidate for an honorary degree: Invited Guest: Professor Gerald Markowitz, Chair, Committee on Honorary Degrees

By at least the requisite 75% affirmative vote of those Senators present and voting, the Senate voted to recommend the historian Taylor Branch to receive an honorary degree. (The Senate had previously, at its May 11 meeting, voted to recommend five other individuals to receive an honorary degree.)

7. Report on the initiative to amend the John Jay Charter of Governance

President Kaplowitz reviewed the Charter of Governance and explained the process of revision that the college community is involved in. She reviewed the provisions of Version 10 of the Senate/Chairs proposal, which the Senate/Chairs Task Force will meet with the administration and students about during the summer. Senator Richardson asked if the student leaders received this document and he was assured that they had.

8. Update about John Jay's budget: Senators Kirk Dombrowski, Karen Kaplowitz, Tom Litwack.

Senator Litwack explained we are facing a deficit in the College's budget and said that a factor in this problem is that the student enrollment targets assigned to us by the University are too high. Senator Georgatos asked whether projected CUTRA earnings (from overenrollment tuition

monies) would cover the projected deficit. Senator Litwack said no. Senator Georgatos asked why. President Kaplowitz said that most of our expenses are for new full-time personnel, and our fifty new faculty members is a main reason we are having this problem. Senator Georgatos asked whether we shouldn't stop hiring to avoid being in deficit. President Kaplowitz explained that CUNY wants us to have more full-time faculty. Senator Vrachopoulos said if the University wants us to hire more faculty members they should give us the money for them. Senator Litwack said that the University is giving us money for the new faculty, but it is not enough money to hire the quality faculty we want. Thus the College has to come up with the difference in monies.

9. New business

The Senate discussed a proposal from Professor Jodie Roure that the Senate co-sponsor a Dress for Success clothing drive for students. This was approved. The Senate, at Professor James Malone's request, also discussed the importance of acknowledging the winners of the Outstanding Teaching Awards at Commencement; these are henceforth going to be given out during the Student Awards Night.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 PM.

Submitted by Edward Davenport & Virginia Diaz
Co-Recording Secretaries