

Faculty Senate Minutes #319

Thursday, November 29, 2007

3:15 PM

Room 630 T

Present (30): Myrna Archer, Simon Baatz, Adam Berlin, Teresa Booker, Marvie Brooks, Dara Byrne, Elise Champeil, Edward Davenport, Janice Dunham, Marcia Esparza, DeeDee Falkenbach, Gail Garfield, Konstantinos Georgatos, P. J. Gibson, Tim Horohoe, Karen Kaplowitz, Richard Kempter, James Malone, Evan Mandery, John Matteson, Patrick O'Hara, Nicholas Petraco, Peter Romaniuk, Raul Romero, Nancy Ryba, Francis Sheehan, Shonna Trinch, Davidson Umeh, Thalia Vrachopoulos

Absent (7): Virginia Diaz, Kirk Dombrowski, Amy Green, Jinwoo Kim, Ma=at Lewis-Coles, Rick Richardson, Tanya Rodriguez

Guests: Professors Edgardo Diaz, Josh Freilich, Maki Haberfeld, Joseph King, Kyoo Lee, Leona Lee, Tom Litwack, James Lynch, Peter Moskos, Eugene O'Donnell, Valli Rajah, Adina Schwartz, Chris Suggs, Maria Volpe, Susan Will

Invited Guests: President Jeremy Travis, Interim Provost Jane Bowers, Ms. Mayra Nieves

Agenda

1. **Adoption of the agenda**
2. **Report of the Senate President**
3. **Adoption of Minutes #318 of the November 7, 2007, meeting**
4. **Election of Senator to the Comprehensive Planning Committee**
5. **Discussion of the agenda of the December 10 College Council meeting**
6. **Invited Guests: President Jeremy Travis and Interim Provost Jane Bowers**

1. **Adoption of the agenda.** Approved.

2. **Report & Announcements [Attachment A1, A2]**

Three members of John Jay's faculty testified at the CUNY Board of Trustees hearing on November 19 in support of the proposal to discontinue admissions to John Jay's associate degree programs; the three are Professor Karen Kaplowitz [Attachment A1], Professor James Malone [Attachment A2], and Professor Ned Benton.

After being assured that the elected faculty leadership supports the closing of admissions to our

associate degree programs, the CUNY Board of Trustees voted on Monday, November 26, to discontinue admissions to all the associate degree programs at John Jay beginning with the class admitted for fall 2009 and thereafter to terminate all the associate degree programs, subject to financial capability, at our College's request. The CUNY Board also approved the creation of a baccalaureate degree program, a B.S. in Economics, at John Jay, effective January 1, 2008. The Board also approved the awarding of an honorary degree by John Jay to Paul Farmer in May 2008.

The deadline for nominating candidates for an honorary degree to be given at the May 2009 commencement ceremonies is February 15, 2008. Seven paper sets of a nomination letter and of all supporting documentation must be sent to Professor George Andreopoulos, Chair, Committee on Honorary Degrees.

3. Adoption of Minutes #318 of the November 7, 2007, meeting. Approved.

4. Election of a Senator to the Comprehensive Planning Committee

Senator Konstantinos Georgatos was elected. Already serving are Senators Elise Champeil, Karen Kaplowitz, and Evan Mandery.

5. Discussion of the agenda of the December 10 College Council meeting

The following items are on the agenda of the meeting:

a. Ceremonial Occasions Committee: four members to be elected: Baz Dreisinger, English; Janice Dunham, Library; P. J. Gibson, English; Rosalie Macaluso, Events Coordinator; Nancy Marshall, Administrative Affairs; Erica King-Toler, SEEK; Alisse Waterston, Anthropology; Paul Wyatt, Career Advisement

b. Proposals from the Curriculum Committee: proposal to create a Justice Studies Minor; and proposed revisions to the Criminal Justice B.S. & B.A. Majors

c. Proposal from Undergrad Standards Committee to raise the undergraduate admission standards for Fall 2008.

6. Invited Guests: President Jeremy Travis and Interim Provost Jane Bowers [Attachment B, C, D, E]

President Travis reviewed his decision to remove Professor Maki Haberfeld as the Chair of the Department of Law, Police Science, and Criminal Justice Administration and referenced his letter to the community about his decision [Attachment B].

He then reviewed a resolution adopted by the Council of Chairs the previous day on the subject of President Travis' removal of Professor Haberfeld as department chair, which had been sent to President Travis and to the Faculty Senate, among others. The resolution of the Council of Chairs reads:

"Dear President Travis,

"At its meeting on November 28, 2007, the Council of Chairs unanimously adopted the resolution below and authorized that it be transmitted to the President.

"The Chairs are deeply concerned about the recent decision to remove an elected Chair. The Chairs reaffirm our view that faculty of all departments (except those departments explicitly excluded by the CUNY Bylaws) should be led by a Chair elected by the faculty of the department.

"If circumstances arise leading the President to consider exercising his or her authority to remove a Chair, it is the recommendation of the Council of Chairs that the President should consult the department and the Council of Chairs before making a decision. In the consultation process the President should inform department faculty and the Council of Chairs as to his or her reasons for considering the removal of the Chair. The Chair should be permitted an opportunity to reply to the reasons. If the President then makes the decision to remove the Chair, the department faculty should be permitted to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term by election of a new Chair within thirty days."

President Travis also reviewed a memorandum he had just sent to the community in which he reported his request to the Board of Trustees that Dean James Levine be appointed as the Chair of the Department of Law, Police Science, and CJA [Attachment C].

He also acknowledged the receipt by the Faculty Senate and by virtually all members of the College community of a letter from Mr. Agostino von Hassell in which various allegations of misconduct at John Jay were made; Mr. von Hassell had copied Karen Arenson, the higher education reporter for The New York Times and CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein. President Travis explained that Mr. von Hassell had been an adjunct professor in our Department of Law, Police Science and Criminal Justice Administration until his resignation in June 2006 and that he currently has no connection to the College. President Travis said he is truly sorry that the Senate had to receive what he termed an "inaccurate and misinformed" email from Mr. von Hassel. President Travis also referenced a letter from Chancellor Matthew Goldstein to Mr. von Hassel, which President Travis had shared with the College community [Attachment D].

President Travis next reviewed his letter of November 28 to LPS Professor Vincent Del Castillo [Attachment E] in response to Professor Del Castillo's November 27 call for a special department meeting "for the purpose of holding a special election for Chair of the Law and

Police Science Department, as per CUNY Bylaw 9.1.C.” Professor Del Castillo’s announcement had stated that one of the Department’s deputy chairs would chair the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Submitted by Edward Davenport
Recording Secretary