

Faculty Senate Minutes #415

Thursday, March 27, 2014

1:40 PM

Room: Moot Court NB

Present (36): Jama Adams, Chevy Alford, Simon Baatz, Andrea Balis, Dale Barleben, Elton Beckett, Ned Benton, Adam Berlin, Claudia Calirman, James Cauthen, Kashka Celinska, Janice Dunham, Jennifer Dysart, Peggy Escher, DeeDee Falkenbach, Terry Furst, Lior Gideon, Maria Grewe, John Gutierrez, Maki Haberfeld, Shaobai Kan, Karen Kaplowitz, Maria Kiriakova, Louis Kontos, Vincent Maiorino, David Munns, Hyunhee Park, Melinda Powers, Dainius Remeza, Raul Romero, Raul Rubio, Cary Sanchez, Francis Sheehan, Carmen Solis, Fritz Umbach, Daniel Yaverbaum

Absent (12): Mark Alpert, Geert Dhondt, Stanley Ingber, Charles Jennings, Richard Kempter, Tom Kucharski, Anru Lee, Jay Pastrana, Tanya Rodriguez, Manouska Saint Gilles, Charles Stone, Richard Stripp

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Adoption of Minutes #414 of the March 10, 2014, meeting
3. Announcements & Reports
4. Honorary degree candidate for JJ's 50th Anniversary Convocation in September
5. Elections
6. Proposal to invite Vice Chancellor Weinshall to a Senate meeting to discuss North Hall and space
7. Proposals regarding immediate mitigation of negative conditions in North Hall
8. Review a pending proposal to amend the FPC Guidelines regarding the Appeals Process
9. Discussion of Draft #1 of proposed revision of JJ's Mission Statement

1. Adoption of the agenda. Approved.
2. Adoption of Minutes #414 of the March 10, 2014, meeting. Approved.
3. Announcements & Reports. Noted.
4. Honorary degree candidate for JJ's 50th Anniversary Convocation in September

The Committee on Honorary Degrees is proposing that Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court Sonia Sotomayor be awarded an honorary degree at the September 2014 Convocation marking the 50th Anniversary of John Jay. Justice Sotomayor has already agreed to be the keynote speaker at the Convocation. She does not know that she is being considered for an honorary degree. The Senate members cast secret, written ballots. The candidate received in excess of the requisite 75 percent affirmative vote of those Senators present and voted that is required by the John Jay honorary degree procedure. The recommendation will now be made to President Travis; if he approves, he will make this recommendation to the Chancellor and then, upon the Chancellor's approval, the CUNY Board of Trustees will vote on the candidacy.

5. Elections

a. Election of 2014-15 At-Large Senators to serve as 2014-15 At-Large College Council Members

The Senate elected the following newly elected 2014-15 At-Large Senators to serve as At-Large Members on next year's College Council:

Andrea Balis
Adam Berlin
Janice Dunham
Jennifer Dysart
Peggy Escher
Diana (DeeDee) Falkenbach
Maki Habermeld
Karen Kaplowitz
Raul Rubio
Francis Sheehan
Staci Strobl
Fritz Umbach
Daniel Yaverbaum

b. Selection of candidates for the 6 at-large positions on the 2014-15 Faculty Personnel Committee

The Senate voted to nominate the following members of the faculty who had already agreed to run, if approved, and serve, if elected:

Amy Adamczyk – Sociology
Rosemary Barberet – Sociology
Jeanne-Marie Col – Public Management
Gail Garfield – Sociology
Konstantinos Georgatos – Mathematics
Samuel Graff – Mathematics
Nathan Lents – Sciences
Adam McKible – English
David Munns – History
Michael Pfeifer – History

Peter Shenkin – Mathematics

Please Note: Professor Lents subsequently withdrew his name.

c. Election of a member to the Faculty Senate Technology Committee

The Senate elected Professor Gabrielle Salfati -- Psychology

d. Nomination of a candidate for the Faculty Elections Committee

The Senate approved the nomination of Professor Olivera Jokic – English-- to be elected by the College Council to serve on the Faculty Elections Committee.

6. Proposal to invite Vice Chancellor Weinshall to a Senate meeting to discuss North Hall

The Senate reviewed its two letter, of December and of March, to President Travis about the conditions of North Hall and about our space needs and reviewed the administration response, which was a “general announcements” email to the entire college community. The Senate then adopted a motion by unanimous vote to invite Vice Chancellor for Facilities Iris Weinshall to meet with the Faculty Senate this semester to discuss the conditions in North Hall and John Jay’s space needs.

7. Proposals regarding immediate mitigation of negative conditions in North Hall: Senator Kucharski

Senator Kucharski has proposed two courses of action to propose to the John Jay administration:

- a. propose the use of every possible empty space outside NH to reduce the population of NH
- b. propose that departments and people move back to Haaren in stages rather than at the end

The Senate voted to table this item.

8. Review of a pending proposal to amend the FPC Guidelines regarding the Appeals Process

The Senate discussed a proposal that is pending before the Faculty Personnel Committee (FPC) to change the appeals process for candidates for reappointment, tenure, or promotion. Senator Kucharski, one of the authors of the proposal, is unable to be at today’s meeting because he is in South Carolina testifying as an expert witness in a trial; he has asked that the Senate not take any position on the proposal or on any part of the proposal until he can personally explain the rationale for the recommended changes. The Senate agreed to honor this request. Nonetheless there was repeated and emphatic expressions of the necessity of issuing a statement about the process whereby changes are made to policies and practices important to the faculty.

9. Discussion of Draft #1 of the proposed revision of JJ's Mission Statement. Postponed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.