

Faculty Senate Minutes #419

Friday, May 9, 2014

9:30 AM

Room 630 Haaren

Present (30): Jama Adams, Chevy Alford, Andrea Balis, Elton Beckett, Ned Benton, Adam Berlin, Claudia Calirman, James Cauthen, Kashka Celinska, Janice Dunham, Jennifer Dysart, Terry Furst, Lior Gideon, John Gutierrez, Maki Haberfeld, Charles Jennings, Karen Kaplowitz, Maria Kiriakova, Tom Kucharski, Vincent Maiorino, David Munns, Jay Pastrana, Melinda Powers, Dainius Remeza, Raul Rubio, Cary Sanchez, Francis Sheehan, Charles Stone, Fritz Umbach, Daniel Yaverbaum

Absent (18): Mark Alpert, Simon Baatz, Dale Barleben, Geert Dhondt, Peggy Escher, DeeDee Falkenbach, Maria Grewe, Stanley Ingber, Shaobai Kan, Richard Kempter, Louis Kontos, Anru Lee, Hyunhee Park, Tanya Rodriguez, Raul Romero, Manouska Saint Gilles, Carmen Solis, Richard Stripp

Invited Guests: CUNY Vice Chancellor Iris Weinshall, Director of Design, Construction, and Management Robert Lemieux, Director of Space Planning Megan Moore-Wilk, Assistant Director of the Department of Design and Construction Anton Worfshondl, Director of Capital Budget Gwen Perlman, President Jeremy Travis

Guest: Professor Leona Lee

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Adoption of Minutes #419 of the May 9, 2014, meeting
3. Announcements & Reports
4. Invited Guest: CUNY Vice Chancellor Iris Weinshall
5. Proposal to amend the Faculty Senate election guidelines
6. Adoption of the 2014-15 calendar of Faculty Senate meetings
7. Consideration and vote on Honorary Degree candidates
8. Review of the agenda of the May 15 meeting of the College Council
9. Status reports of Faculty Senate ad hoc working groups
10. Invited Guest: President Jeremy Travis

1. Adoption of the agenda. Approved.

2. Adoption of Minutes #418 of the April 24, 2014, meeting. Approved.

3. Announcements & Reports. Noted.

Last week the Council of Chairs unanimously endorsed the Faculty Senate's statement about workload mitigation and voted unanimously to fashion the document as a joint statement of the Faculty Senate and the Council of Chairs. The following is the joint statement:

Joint Statement of the Faculty Senate and the Council of Chairs

The Faculty Senate and Council of Chairs congratulate and thank Provost Bowers for implementing a workload mitigation program this year. To do so, Provost Bowers and the College Administration allocated \$120,000, which was derived from funds obtained by not filling two full-time faculty lines. This Workload Initiative has been identified as the top priority of the John Jay faculty and of the Faculty Senate, which represents it, and of the Council of Chairs.

The Faculty Senate and the Council of Chairs accordingly call upon the John Jay Administration:

- To double that amount for next year – FY15 – so that the second year of the workload mitigation program shall be in the amount of at least \$240,000.
- To allocate yearly incremental increases of at least \$120,000 for the program.
- To derive these monies from stable and renewable sources of funding, even if doing so requires temporarily reallocating funds from unfilled full-time faculty.
- To develop the principles and methods of allocating all course reductions in consultation with elected faculty leaders of the Faculty Senate and the Council of Chairs and other appropriate elected faculty governance bodies.

As already reported to you, previously, on April 9, 2014, the Faculty Senate had adopted the following statement without dissent (30 yes - 0 no -1 abstention):

In a reaffirmation of our faculty-wide campaign for a reduction of the College's 4-3 base teaching load (and, for lecturers, 5-4 base teaching load), the need for which is evidenced by the results of the COACHE survey, we declare that teaching load reduction is our top priority. The current teaching load harms our students' academic success. We hold that resources in the College budget should be directed to mitigating teaching

load for our current faculty even if it means not hiring new faculty. We call upon the administration of John Jay to support the faculty's top priority.

4. Invited Guest: CUNY Vice Chancellor for Facilities Planning, Construction, and Management Iris Weinshall

CUNY Vice Chancellor for Facilities Planning, Construction, and Management Iris Weinshall was welcomed as the Senate's invited guest. She introduced the top members of her staff who accompanied her: Director of Design, Construction, and Management Robert Lemieux, Director of Space Planning Megan Moore-Wilk, Assistant Director of the Department of Design and Construction (who directed John Jay's Phase II Project) Anton Worfshondl, and Director of Capital Budget Gwen Perlman.

Senator Ned Benton presented a chart he created using CUNY's own statistics about the amount of space each college has per student full-time equivalent (fte); John Jay has the least amount of space of any CUNY college, less even than any of the community colleges.

Director Lemieux said that no money will be spent on North Hall because we will be vacating the building in a year, by the end of the summer of 2015. Asked to comment about the belief of faculty that they and their students are in an unsafe building, Vice Chancellor Weinshall noted that Vice President Pignatello has determined the building is safe and that it is up to the administrators of each college to make such determinations about their buildings.

Vice Chancellor Weinshall acknowledged that John Jay needs much more space than it has when ready to vacate North Hall. She said that CBS may be leaving the BMW building where it occupies many floors and if that were to happen, John Jay could have that space. She also said that her director in charge of real estate is working assiduously on John Jay rental space needs. She said the plan to replace North Hall with a private-public building which would combine the new community college and condominiums is still in place.

6. Proposal to amend the Faculty Senate election guidelines

The Senate amended its election guidelines by adding a provision permitting Senate members to ask questions of candidates for the position of vice president; the question and answer period is to not exceed 15 minutes.

7. Adoption of the calendar of the 2014-15 meetings of the Faculty Senate. Approved.

8. Consideration and vote on Honorary Degree candidates recommended by the Committee on Honorary Degrees: Invited Guest: Distinguished Professor Gerald Markowitz

The Senate went into executive session and in an off-the-record session discussed candidates recommended by the Committee on Honorary Degrees. By secret ballot, the Senate approved the following three individuals: William Ramirez, Eve Ensler, and Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka.

9. Review of the agenda of the May 15 meeting of the College Council. Noted.

10. Status reports of Faculty Senate ad hoc working groups

Reports were given from members of the various working groups on: student evaluation of faculty; ways to increase student-faculty engagement outside of class; academic integrity and the student/faculty discipline committee process; extending the community hour to include master's faculty and students. All reported progress and their interest in continuing to work on their areas of inquiry and their hope that additional Senators will choose to join them in September.

11. Invited Guest: President Jeremy Travis

The Senate briefed President Travis on its meeting with Vice Chancellor Weinshall. President Travis complimented the Senate on having had this important meeting with the vice chancellor and said that he and VP Pignatello have had their request for a meeting with her granted and that the meeting will take place in about a week.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.