

Faculty Senate Minutes #464
John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

1:40 PM

Moot Court NB

Present (32): Chevy Alford, Ellen Belcher, Ned Benton, Michael Brownstein, Glenn Corbett, Sven Dietrich, Artem Domashevskiy, DeeDee Falkenbach, Joel Freiser, Jonathan Gray, Amy Green, Maki Haberfeld, Jay Hamilton, Karen Kaplowitz, Erica King-Toler, Maria Kiriakova, Lou Kontos, Thurai Kugan, Johanna Lessinger, Vince Maiorino, Xerxes Malki, Aida Martinez-Gomez, Mickey Melendez, Lorraine Moller, Brian Montes, Elizabeth Nisbit, Belinda Rincon, Peter Romaniuk, Lauren Shapiro, Rebecca Weiss, Daniel Yaverbaum, Guoqi Zhang

Absent (13): Andrea Balis, Rosemary Barberet, Kashka Celinska, Lisa Farrington, Leigh Graham, Tom Kucharski, Anru Lee, Yue Ma, Frank Pezzella, David Shapiro, Francis Sheehan, Charles Stone, Fritz Umbach

Guest: Katherine Arnoldi

Invited Guest: President Jeremy Travis

Agenda

- 1. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 2. Announcements & Reports**
- 3. Adoption of Minutes #463 of the March 7, 2017, Faculty Senate meeting**
- 4. Faculty Senate Response to the Space Utilization Task Force Recommendations**
- 5. Review of the agenda of the March 23 meeting of the College Council**
- 6. Invited Guest: President Jeremy Travis**
- 7. New business**

1. Adoption of the agenda. Approved.

2. Announcements & Reports

President Ned Benton reported that there is no news about the faculty line allocation model but that the *Chronicle of Higher Education* survey on best colleges to work for has been sent to random members of the faculty, staff, and administration. He urged those who received it to fill it out. To date, 75 faculty members have signed the Senate's petition supporting DACA students.

3. Adoption of Minutes #463 of the March 7, 2017, Faculty Senate meeting. Approved.

4. Faculty Senate Response to the Space Utilization Task Force Recommendations

By unanimous vote, the Senate adopted a motion made by Senator Glenn Corbett to reject both the process and the recommendations of the Space Utilization Task Force.

5. Review of the agenda of the March 23 meeting of the College Council

A proposal to revise the Undergraduate Grade Appeals Process was reviewed.

6. Invited Guest: President Jeremy Travis

President Travis anticipated that this would be his last meeting in his capacity of president with the Faculty Senate. He said his work with the Senate has been transformative. He praised our Senate, saying it is known across the University for being an activist senate. He said together we have done many important things, things that are transformative, that are directly mission-related, started with the beginning of his presidency when we enacted the Critical Choices decisions whereby we reestablished humanities majors and phased out all our associate degree programs and gave them to the CUNY community colleges in an initiative we called the CUNY Justice Academy.

Senator Karen Kaplowitz asked what advice he would give the Senate as we transition to a new president. President Travis said his hope is that the new president will be appointed in June by the Board of Trustees. At the same time, there will be the transition to a different provost. He noted that Jane Bowers has decided to leave the same day as he, which he called the sweetest statement to him that she chose to leave literally at the same time as he. He said the process of engagement of a new president and the faculty is iterative, by definition. It is a *process* of engagement. He urged the Senate to find times early on to not only meet with but to educate the new president about John Jay and about how things are done here. A successful president is one who works with the existing culture to advance the mission of the college. As soon as the president is announced, the Senate should invite the president for informal discussions. He said that he had the advantage that then Chancellor Matthew Goldstein had met with John Jay's Senate in May, a month before he was named president, and that our Senate asked the Chancellor what should the new president focus on. He said that for him that was a gift from the chancellor. It's important to tell the new president what is unique about John Jay. He advised telling the new president the three things, for example, that we want to tee up for the new leader. John Jay's culture and priorities should be the topic of meetings. .

Senator Glenn Corbett: budget asked about the current and next year's budget. President Travis said that our budget is determined in Albany, largely by the Governor and the State Legislature. He said he thinks the budget picture is actually a good one. The good news is that the Assembly, to the surprise of many, has proposed a predictable tuition increase of \$200

year. The university has asked for a tuition increase of \$250 a year. On the other hand, if the increase doesn't happen next year, the University will be in a very tough place next year, because we need the tuition increase to pay the contract raises. Also proposed is a closing of the TAP GAP. The budget is due April 1 and usually the Chancellor sends a message to the university community a day or two later.

John Jay's budget is very much a function of enrollment and in this regard, he said, there are grounds for cautious optimism. Our application rate up 14%. Our conversion rate is very strong. A 1700 member freshman class is very possible. Every 100 students we enroll brings \$600,000 in revenue. We've diversified our base. We're attracting and enrolling better prepared students. It looks like a pretty good year. If there's a 5-year tuition increase, then it's time to launch a 5-year faculty hiring plan at John Jay, not next year but the year after.

Senator Amy Green asked about John Jay's severe space needs and the recommendations of the Space Utilization Task Force. President Travis said that the Strategic Planning Subcommittee (SPS) is reviewing those recommendations next week and will report what it has heard from the SPS and other groups it has met with, including the Faculty Senate, to him; he will make the ultimate decision. He agreed space is a problem, that we simply do not have enough. We have more space than people to put in that space. He said there is a possible expansion of our presence in the BMW building. The goal is to claim as much space as we can, even office by office. He said whenever he speaks to CUNY about hiring faculty, he notes that every faculty member needs an office. The future of North Hall still seems to be caught between conversations of the Governor, the City, and CUNY. He said the space that North Hall occupies should be our space and that North Hall, which has been our building for decades, when sold and built with condominiums should have space for John Jay. That's best option for John Jay. Everything else means funding for rental space which means the Governor's budget has to pay for those rentals.

Senator Kaplowitz asked about Guttman Community College whose lease at Bryant Park is soon coming up. President Travis said that the President of Guttman, President Evenbeck is really pressing the issue. Because Guttman is a community college, it is a NYC issue; because John Jay is a senior college, it is the Governor's issue. But the Mayor and Governor don't always talk and don't always agree. So nothing has been decided.

President Benton asked about President Travis's statement that the Space Utilization Task Force, after getting feedback will report to the president who will make the decisions. But, he said, the process should have originated with the SPS, because the Charter of John Jay names the SPS as the governance body responsible for making recommendations about facilities and space. He noted that last week the Council of Chairs adopted a statement saying the SPC is the proper committee to make a recommendation to the Budget Planning Committee (BPC), which is the body that is supposed to make recommendations to the President.

Senator Kaplowitz noted there are so many interim administrators and there will be more (such as an interim provost and an interim dean of graduate studies, in addition to the interim vice

president for enrollment management). She said it makes the college feel rudderless. President Travis said it's up to the Senate to help steer the college, to make sure meetings are held, to make sure business is taken care of. He urged the Senate to invite the Interim VP for Enrollment Management Dana Davies, who has very important views about attracting and keeping students at John Jay.

President Benton asked President Travis to comment about the Senate's Statement on the Faculty Personnel Committee (FPC). President Travis said he has sent the statement to the FPC and it will be discussed during a portion of a FPC meeting that is open to the public, before the end of the semester.

Senator Artem Domashevskiy asked for an updated about the Inspector General. President Travis said the IG continues to act on invitation of the BoT chair; the IG originally studied 5 colleges in depth (John Jay was not one of them); one or more community college has been added. Now the IG is visiting every college. The Governor's proposal to create an IG for CUNY and one for SUNY didn't survive the Assembly and the Senate. There's now a long list of reforms. He said if the Senate doesn't have the list of reforms, he'll get it to us. This is a challenging time of management reform. Lots of procedures need to be brought up to date. A year from now CUNY will have much more accountability and transparency.

President Travis left, having thanked the Senate for the invitation.

7. New business

Senator Kaplowitz proposed the Senate invite Chancellor Milliken to the May all-day meeting. She said the reason Chancellor Goldstein and the Senate met the month before President Travis was named John Jay's president by the BoT was that the Senate invited Chancellor Goldstein so that the Senate could voice its priorities and concerns both when the Chancellor chose one of the finalists to recommend to the Board of Trustees and so the new president would learn these priorities and concerns.

President Benton agreed, saying the Senate might develop three or four statements on important issues: space planning, faculty lines allocations, etc.

Senator Amy Green said she finds it an exciting prospect that we hold a free-ranging discussion of our priorities for our college in the next years.

The meeting was adjourned at 3 pm.

Submitted by Karen Kaplowitz