

Minutes of the Thirteenth Plenary Session of the  
University Faculty Senate of the City University of New York  
May 19, 1970

Professor Robert S. Hirschfield, Chairman, called the meeting to order in the third floor studio of the Graduate Center at 5:45 p.m. All members were present except Professors Edgar, Emery, Finkelstein, Gabriel, Galub, Haber, Hale, Harvey, Hickok, Hirschhorn, Lean, Sacks, Sargent, Sealy, Seltzer, Silver, and Weston. Dr. John Hose and Mrs. Sullivan also attended.

I. Minutes: The Minutes of the Special Plenary Session of May 6 were unanimously approved.

II. Election of Officers

After the Secretary, Professor Virginia Sexton called for nominations from the floor, Professor Walter Eisenberg made a motion that the entire Executive Committee be reelected. This motion was defeated 30 to 9.

Chairman: Professor Robert Hirschfield (Hunter) was reelected Chairman with a single dissenting vote.

The Secretary was instructed to cast a single ballot for the Secretary and the Treasurer who were unanimously elected  
Secretary: Virginia Staudt Sexton (Lehman)  
Treasurer: David Valinsky (Baruch)

Vice Chairman: Two candidates, Professors Alfred Conrad (City) and Sheila Polishank(QCC) were nominated. The first ballot resulted in a tie. Following the second ballot, the evening's electorate was questioned and the ballot was invalidated. Professor Ralph Ledley (Queens) then proposed the following motion which was unanimously adopted:

That the election electorate consist of those Senators whose term of office has not yet expired, those whose term of office has just begun and those former Senators from colleges which have not yet held their elections.

The third ballot resulted in the election of Professor Alfred Conrad.

Nominations for five Executive Committee members were next called for by the Chairman. After discussion of the nominees the following five Senators were elected to the Executive Committee:

Professor Barry Bressler, Richmond College  
Professor Walter Eisenberg, Hunter College  
Professor Sheila Polishook, Queensborough Community College  
Professor Ralph Sleeper, Queens College  
Professor Belle Zeller, Brooklyn College

### III. Actions Taken:

- A. Resolution Re Jackson State College: The following resolution proposed by Professor Ralph Ledley was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED: That, the University Faculty Senate of the City University of New York - composed of the elected representatives of the faculties of the largest urban institution of higher education in the nation - condemns in the strongest possible terms the actions of the Mississippi State Police and the callous disregard for human life which resulted in the tragic and wholly avoidable deaths and injuries of persons at Jackson State College.

And, further, that the Senate demands that full and complete investigations be conducted by bodies of recognized impartiality and integrity, into the events surrounding these tragedies to determine the facts and that, if warranted, criminal charges be brought against those responsible for these deaths and injuries.

- B. Handling of Student Discipline Problems: Following a discussion of the handling of student discipline problems, it was moved by Professor Howard Adelson that it be the sense of the Senate to urge the Executive Committee to contact the Chancellor and members of the BHE to ask them to address themselves to this problem and to arrive at some means of solving discipline problems short of arrest. Passed with one negative vote.
- C. Vote of Appreciation: Professor Sheila Polishook expressed a vote of appreciation to Professors Bernard Bellush, City College, and Ethyle Wolfe, Brooklyn College, for their services on the Executive Committee and in the University Senate. Unanimously carried.

### IV. Reports:

- A. Senate Committee on University Structure and Development: Professor Frank Pomilla (York) presented the Committee's proposal for Executive Cabinets as a new approach to college governance.
- B. Queens College Governance Plan: Professor Ralph Sleeper discussed the Queens governance proposal which has already been adopted by the BHE.
- C. John Jay Governance Plan: Professor Hirschfield discussed the John Jay governance proposal which has already been approved by the BHE.

Following a brief discussion of governance, the Chairman commented that the Senate is projecting articulation of general principles for the following seven items:

- I. Conduct of parties in governance discussions