

SUBJECT TO SENATE APPROVAL

MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIRST PLENARY SESSION
OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

May 24, 1983

Professor Wasser (English, Staten Island), chairman, called the session to order at 7:05 p.m. in Room 207 at the Graduate School. Present were: Senators Barber, Baumrin, Baxter, Beilin, Blancher, Bohigian, Borneman, Brogan, Buianouckas, Cahn, Cantwell, Cinquemani, Cooper, D'Amico, Danziger, Davidson, De La Campa, Donleavy, Early, Ercolano, Fedullo, Forman, Friedman, Galub, Gerardi, B. Gerber, Goldzweig, Greenbaum, Grossman, Heller, Henderson, Hunte, Kadushin, Kirsch, Kolliner, Lekachman, Lytra, Otelsberg, Parkhurst, Pennington, Picken, Plissner, Prince, Reuder, Riley, Rodriguez, Rosen, Rotwein, Seguine, Sohmer, Speidel, Spivak, Stroup, Timoni, Trefousse, Valinsky, Wagner, Waldinger, Waldman, Walkwitz, Walter, Wedeen, Weightman, Weiss, Wolfe, and Zaneteas; Alternate Senators Bearison, Cohen, Collins, Constantakos, Doutlick, Forstall, Ladimer, McDaniel, McGillicuddy, Merzer, Peterson, Strong and Wepman. Senators Gelernt, R. Gerber, Harris, Jiji, Julia, M. Levine, Litke, Loy, Quinn, Sacksteder, and Schneider were excused and Alternate Senator Abrahamsen was excused. Professor Nachtsheim liaison member (AAUP New York State Conference, attended. Dr. Jean Ellis, Executive Director, also attended.

I. Approval of the Tentative Agenda: The tentative agenda was approved as circulated.

II. Approval of the Minutes of the 120th Plenary Session (April 19, 1983): The minutes of the 120th Plenary Session were approved with the following corrections: Senator Rodriguez was present; Senator M. Levine's absence was excused.

III. Introduction of New Senators: Professor Wasser introduced the following new and newly re-elected Senators and Alternates: Baruch: Senators Rosen (German, Hebrew and Oriental Languages) and Valinsky (Statistics); Borough Manhattan: Senator Prince (Social Science) and Alternate Senators Jaffe (Science) and Kleinbaum (Social Science); Bronx: Senators Galub (Social Science) and Spivak (Special Educational Services) and Alternate Senators Bates (Mathematics) and Davis (Student Development); Brooklyn: Senators Quinn (Speech), Fedullo (Chemistry), Cantwell (Education), Parkhurst (Speech), and Alternate Senators Costantakos (Home Economics), McDaniel (Educational Services), Forstall (Educational Services), Abrahamsen (Judaic Studies), Cunningham (Education) and Knoop (Chemistry); City: Senators Cahn (Economics), De La Campa (Romance Languages), Lytra (Romance Languages), Jiji (Engineering) and Pennington (Nursing); Graduate School: Senators Lekachman (Economics), Schneider (Anthropology), Sacksteder (Mathematics), Harris (Speech and Hearing), Kadushin (Sociology) and Alternate Senators Tuchman (Sociology) and Bearison (Education); Hunter: Senators Friedman (Classics and Oriental Languages), Kirsch (Nursing) and Burks (History); John Jay: Stroup (Art, Music and Philosophy); Kingsborough: Alternate Senators Collins (Secretarial Science) and Eisenberg (Mathematics); LaGuardia: Senators Davidson (Data Processing) and Early (Natural Science) and Alternate Senators Doutlick (Natural Science) and Minter (Student Services); Lehman: Senators Donleavy (Education), Romm (English) and Weightman (Sociology) and Alternate Senators Lerner (Nursing) and McGillicuddy (Nursing); New York City Technical: Senators Brogan (Biology), Donoghue (Social Science), Walter (Developmental Skills) and Wolfe (Physics) and Alternate Senators Korn (Physics) and McCullers (Social Science); Queens: Senators Picken (Romance Languages) and Cinquemani (Earth and Environmental Science) and Alternate Senator Wepman (English); Queensborough: Senators Barbanel (Basic Skills) and D'Amico (Health, Physical Education and Dance) and Blancher (History) and Alternate Senators Cohen (Social Science) and Kousourou (Electrical Technology); Staten Island: Senators Wasser (English) and McCarthy (Modern Languages) and Alternate

Senators Currie (English) and Merzer (Mathematics) and York: Senators Otelsberg (Business) and Wagner (Foreign Languages) and Alternate Senators Strong (Anthropology) and Peterson (Social Sciences) and Bell (Foreign Languages). Chairman Wasser announced too that elections at Hostos, Medgar Evers and Mount Sinai have not been completed.

IV. Communications from the Chairman: Professor Wasser noted that his report, as usual, was in two parts - one written which was distributed to the membership and attached to the minutes of the meeting and one oral. Chancellor Murphy, Professor Wasser continued, was not with the Senate this evening because he was in Ireland for a week. He had told Dr. Wasser, however, that next year he plans to attend not only all Plenary Sessions but also all meetings of the Executive Committee. Professor Wasser said also that, in the Chancellor's absence, Vice Chancellor Posman was minding the store at 80th Street.

Professor Wasser further reported the Chancellor's response to the Senate's resolution on International Education. Chancellor Murphy had indicated his agreement that the University needs to organize procedures and policies in this area in a more systematic fashion. He noted, however, that he was hesitant to move to implement the Senate's recommendations at this time and proposed to discuss the question of where responsibility should lie in this matter - i.e. with the colleges or the central administration - with the new Deputy and the new Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs once they were on board next fall. The Chancellor stated also that his thinking was that a set of policy guidelines might be developed by a Task Force which combined faculty, campus administrators and Central Office staff and which would have much the same charge as the Committee proposed by the Senate. The Executive Committee, Chairman Wasser concluded, would pursue discussion of this issue with the Chancellor at the first opportunity.

The status of the Senate's recommendation on University membership in the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) was the next subject of the Chairman's report. Dean Adler of the Office of Academic Affairs, he said, had informed him that there were some difficulties in moving forward rapidly on this because the costs were above those estimated at the time of the Senate's initial proposal since the Consortium no longer wished to accept the University as a single institution but insisted that the charges be calculated in terms of the collection of colleges making up the University and since there had been some difficulties in terms of one CUNY college's willingness to provide the necessary support for the project to be implemented. The latter difficulty has now been resolved and the University has agreed to assume the increased costs. Therefore, the membership should become a reality very soon.

Professor Wasser also reported that the searches for a Deputy Chancellor and for a Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs had concluded. The former had submitted five names to the Chancellor and the latter, four. Chancellor Murphy had informed the Board last evening that he had made offers to the two persons whom he had selected and was awaiting their replies. Thus, he hoped to announce their appointment within the next two weeks.

The Board of Trustees, Professor Wasser continued, plans to meet at Caumsett on June 12 and 13 for a retreat to discuss a number of issues. The Harris Report which was commissioned when Chancellor Murphy came aboard last September has been completed and will be available to the Board by the end of the week. That report deals with the organization of the University's central administration and will be a central agenda item at the retreat. The process of communication between the Chancellor's staff and the Board and between the Central Administration and the colleges will be a second principal agenda item.

Part of the reason for the retreat, Professor Wasser continued, was that at the American Governing Boards Conference which seven CUNY Trustees attended the members of the Board had felt that they were not getting the information they should have as a result of consulting with their counterparts on other Boards. Therefore, at Caumsett, they planned to consider also the role of the Board - its policy-making function and its administrative function. The Board also will be discussing the relationships between the Central Administration and the colleges as part of its consideration of the University's future course. Finally, the Board wishes to explore how within the bounds of the Sunshine Law a mechanism for informal discussion can exist. The format, as presently planned, is for the Board and the Chancellor to meet alone on Sunday evening and Monday morning and to be joined by senior members of the Chancellor's staff at midday on Monday. Finally, said Professor Wasser, he had circulated to the members of the Board and the Chancellor two scholarly articles which he thought might provide stimulus for the discussion at Caumsett. Both dealt with the role of Trustees and one was a survey of the literature on that subject while the other was an article from the most recent issue of the Harvard Business Review.

Professor Wasser reported next on the Board's Public Meeting on May 23. There were two items of major interest to the Senate on the agenda, he said. One was the proposed tuition increase for 1983-84. Both at the Public Hearing on May 16 and last night there was considerable discussion among the members of the Board of this issue with the chairperson of the University Student Senate and other voting members of the Board opposed to the proposal or parts of it. In particular, the separation of the community colleges' tuition from that of the senior colleges and of the issue of part-time tuition from full-time tuition were suggested as means to lessen the impact of this second increase in as many years. The Faculty Senate, through the Executive Committee member who sits on the Board's Fiscal Affairs Committee, abstained on the votes on this issue in that Committee, as you will note in the report on that Committee's meeting by Professor Davidson. Last night, although I had no vote, I read a statement for the record, noting the Senate's concern. I said:

Every year since the imposition of tuition in the City University, we engage in a procedure whereby the State declares that CUNY's budget will be reduced by the amount the proposed tuition increase will produce, if the Board does not vote the increase. The State apparently expects the Board each year, however reluctantly, to consent to its proposed tuition increase. The time has come, it seems to me, when this process so damaging to our students has to stop.

In the end the Board voted to impose the increase on all categories of tuition with three dissenting votes and nine affirmative votes. In fact, two of the members of the Board who were not present at the meeting had declared themselves in opposition to the proposals and, if I had a vote, it would have been cast in opposition so that the margin of success on this issue is narrower than the actual vote implies. Perhaps that plus the fact that several of those who voted in the affirmative were deeply troubled about doing so suggests that the Board may seek positive steps to take to interrupt the steady process of escalation of tuition.

The second item on last night's agenda which was of special interest to the Senate and the faculty whom it represents was the "Proposed Guidelines for Discontinuances of Instructional Staff Due to Financial Exigency." The Chancellor

in speaking to this item explained its purpose - to remove the University from the AAUP's list of censured institutions - a purpose with which we certainly concur. He explained also that he had some assurances from the AAUP that the proposed Guidelines, if adopted, would serve that purpose. As indicated in my written report, there has been on-going discussion between the Executive Committee and the Chancellor this spring concerning the proposed guidelines and the principal items which the Senate believes should be incorporated in them. Last night, since the Board Committee on Faculty, Staff and Administration, on my motion, had voted at its May meeting to approve the Chancellor's document and had voted also to ask the Chancellor to take under advisement the Senate's views when he prepared the final version of the document to be presented to the full Board, I reiterated the Senate's points because they were not incorporated in any substantial way in the resolution before the Board. The four basic points which I cited were: 1) that there should be two documents - one dealing with financial exigency and a separate one dealing with academic reorganization - and that in the second faculty must play a major role since academic programs are primarily a faculty responsibility; 2) that a cardinal collegial principle is that faculty name its own representatives to committees and that the document being considered by the Board had the President select the faculty representatives on the campus committees.; 3) that humane considerations alone would determine that retrenched faculty should not have to pay for transcripts when they appeal and that they should retain some affiliation with the college and have office space, library privileges and the like for a period of one year after dismissal for financial reasons; and 4) that the time of notification for non-tenured faculty should be extended. All of these points had been stated by me before the Council of Presidents and the Board Committee, by the Executive Committee in meetings with the Chancellor - the most recent of which took place on May 10 - and by Professor Sohmer speaking for the Senate at the Board's Public Hearing on May 16. The Chancellor responded to my statement by noting that his document had developed in part due to the efforts of the Senate over the years since 1977 when censure was imposed but that he had also to negotiate with the AAUP and the PSC. He stated, however, that it was his intent, if the Board acted affirmatively on the proposal before them, to issue administrative protocols embodying the Senate's proposals and he cited specifically the issues raised in points 2 and 3.

In any event the Guidelines and Procedures for Retrenchment of 1975 and 1976 have been repealed and the hard work done by our Legal Affairs Committee under Professor Galub (Social Science, Bronx)'s chairmanship and Professor Baumrin's debates, as an Executive Committee member, with the late Chancellor Kibbee and the present Chancellor have borne some fruit.

Professor Wasser informed the Senate also that Professor Davidson, treasurer of the Senate and member of the Board Committee on Fiscal Affairs, had testified on behalf of the Senate at the hearing on tuition indexing held by Assemblyman Mark Alan Siegel and the Assembly's Higher Education Committee on May 6.

Finally, Chairman Wasser announced that the final issue of the UFS Newsletter had been in the Print Shop for the past fortnight and should be reaching the campuses by the end of the week. Dr. Ellis, he said, had shepherded the publication through for the past two issues but that the Senate looked forward to the return next year of the editor-in-chief, Professor Lea (English, Lehman).

Professor Wasser informed the Senate also that plans for Chancellor Murphy's inauguration are going forward. A Board Committee chaired by Mrs. Everett has been formed and the chairs of the Faculty Senate and of the Student

Senate have been assigned to that body. In addition, there is an Arrangements and Planning Committee chaired by President Proshansky.

Professor Wasser's last announcement was a reminder that the Senate Office would follow the Central Office summer hours arrangements and would therefore be closed on Fridays after June 20.

V. Reports of Faculty Members of Board of Trustees' Committees: Dr. Wasser reminded the Senate that these were available in writing and had been distributed with the materials for this evening's meeting.

VI. Nominations and Election of the Treasurer of the University Faculty Senate:

Professor Wasser reviewed the election procedures with the Senate and stated that Professors Ercolano (Mathematics, Baruch) and Buianouckas (Mathematics, Bronx) had agreed to serve as tellers. He then opened the floor to nominations for treasurer of the Senate.

Professor Donald Davidson (Data Processing, LaGuardia) was nominated and the nomination was seconded. No other nominations were made and a motion to close nominations was made, seconded and passed. A motion to ask the Secretary to cast a single ballot for the election of Professor Davidson was made, seconded and unanimously adopted.

VII. Nominations and Election of the Secretary of the University Faculty Senate: Professor Bernard Sohmer (Mathematics, City) was nominated and the nomination was seconded. No other nominations were made and a motion to close nominations was made, seconded and passed. A motion to ask the Secretary to cast a single ballot for the election of Professor Sohmer was made, seconded, and unanimously adopted.

VIII. Nominations and Election of Members-at-Large of the Executive Committee of the University Faculty Senate: Professor Wasser reminded the Senators that five members-at-large would be elected and that of those nominated those receiving the five highest total vote would be declared elected. He then called for nominations.

The following Senators were nominated and the nominations duly seconded:

Professor Joseph G. ("Gil") Riley (Chemistry, Bronx)

Professor Beryl Hunte (Mathematics, Borough Manhattan)

Professor Robert Picken (Romance Languages, Queens)

Professor Bernard H. ("Stefan") Baumrin (Philosophy, Lehman)

Professor Gordon Lea (English, Lehman)

Since there were no other nominations a motion to close nominations was made and seconded. A motion to ask the Secretary to cast a single ballot for the election of the five nominated candidates was made, seconded and adopted unanimously.

Professor Wasser thanked the Senate on behalf of the officers and members of the Executive Committee for this unusual expression of confidence in the leadership, since all incumbent officers and members-at-large had been reelected.

IX. Report of the Research Committee: Proposed Policy on Restricted Research:

In the absence of the chairman, Professor Gerber (History, Lehman), Professor Speidel (Earth and Environmental Science, Queens), co-chairman, presented the Committee's report. He reviewed the Committee's comment on the proposed statement on University-External Agency Relations referred to it at the April Plenary. He then moved adoption of the Proposed Policy as amended. His motion was seconded. A lengthy and vigorous discussion followed during which the following positions were stated and questions raised: some members felt that the statement, especially in the preamble, essayed too neat a balance between fundamentally apposite principles; some members felt the University's position should be one of prohibiting any research "with strings attached;" others felt that the statement might be more permissive. In addition, some members suggested that the statement, by dealing solely with the issue of research which carried with it limitations on publication failed to address other areas of major concern in the matter of relationships between the University and external agencies, such as the matter of courses funded by such agencies, patents and the like. Professor Speidel, on behalf of the Committee, suggested that those additional areas might be considered by the Committee during the coming academic year but that the fact that they were not addressed in this statement did not detract from the value of the proposal as a response to the charge given the Committee. There was also debate about the language employed in several clauses of the statement and the fact that no provision was made for an implementing mechanism was seen as an important lack. Support was also expressed for the position that this statement so far exceeded the present lack of any stated policy of the University in this area that it should be adopted forthwith with the possibility of subsequent amendment.

A motion to refer the statement to an ad hoc committee to be appointed by the Chairman comprising three members of the Research Committee and three members appointed by the Executive Committee and to charge that Committee with the responsibility for bringing a revised statement to the Plenary in the early Fall was made and seconded. After brief discussion the motion was passed.

X. Report of the Foreign Students Committee: Professor Gerber (Comparative Literature, Brooklyn), chair of the Committee presented the report and moved adoption with the addition of the following "whereas" clause:

Whereas: 10% of the students at the City University are either classified as foreign students or speak English as a second language with difficulty, and

Whereas: Once having enrolled these students, the University has a responsibility to serve them adequately, therefore be it resolved

The motion was seconded and opened to discussion. While there was little debate on the thrust of the resolution, one "resolved" which addressed the issue of the number of ESL course sections to be made available gave rise to considerable debate. Since budget issues were involved, the problem of where responsibility should lie for insuring the offering of sufficient sections was debated since admissions were a University function in large measure. A reworded "resolved" was proposed.

At this juncture a quorum call failed to produce a quorum and the meeting was declared adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Ellis
Executive Director