

SUBJECT TO SENATE APPROVAL

MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH PLENARY SESSION OF THE
(UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE) OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

May 15, 1984

Professor Wasser, chairman, called the session to order at 7:10 p.m. in Room 1700 at the Graduate School. Present were: Senators Amendolia, Barber, Baumrin, Baxter, Beck, Beheshti, Binder, Blaustone, Bloom, Bohigian, Borneman, Brogan, Bryant, Buianouckas, Canate, Cantwell, Cooper, D'Amico, Danziger, Davidson, De La Campa, Donleavy, Donaghue, Donovan, Early, Ercolano, Fedullo, Friedman, Galub, Gelernt, Gerardi, B. Gerber, Gluck, Greenbaum, Grossman, Hecht, Henderson, Jaffe, Julia, Kadushin, Lea, Levine, Lytra, McDougall, Meister, Movasseghi, Muehlig, Otelsberg, Parkhurst, Picken, Plissner, Prince, Reuder, Riley, Rodriguez, Rose, Rosen, Santos, Schreiber, Scott, Seguire, Sohmer, Speidel, Stroup, Timoni, Trefousse, Valinsky, Van Sickle, Waldinger, Walter, Waters, Wedeen, Weightman, Weiss, Wimmershoff-Caplan, Wolfe, Yousef, Zades, Zaneteas, and Zarin; Alternate Senators Cohen, Collora, Cravats, Forstall, Hampares, Hunte, Kleinman, Mbugua, Muzio, Saegert, Shepard, Sheridan, Stern, Thompson, Vines and Youkeles. The absences of Senators Essoka, Isaacs, Loy and Quinn were excused. Dr. Jean Ellis, Executive Director, also attended.

I. Approval of the Tentative Agenda: The tentative agenda was approved as circulated with the understanding, on the suggestion of Professor Speidel (Earth and Environmental Science, Queens) that in future when a carryover item from a previous agenda was not identical with the item previously circulated, the agenda would so indicate.

II. Approval of the Minutes of the 129th Plenary Session (April 10, 1984): The minutes were approved as circulated.

III. Introduction of New Senators: Professor Wasser introduced the newly elected and re-elected members as follows: Baruch College - Angelo Dispenzieri (Psychology) and Joseph Ercolano (Mathematics), as alternates Katherine Hampares (Romance Languages) and Devora Wohlgelernter (Mathematics); Borough Manhattan - Marvin Jaffe (Science) and Winston Waters (Business Management), as alternates Beryl Hunte (Mathematics), Wambui Mbugua (Library) and Mary Shepard (Early Childhood Education); Bronx Community - Senators Richard Donovan (English) and Francis Buianouckas (Mathematics) and Alternate Senators Madelaine Bates (Mathematics), Maureen O'Riordan (Business and Commerce); Brooklyn - Senators Phyllis Gluck (Education) and Barbara Gerber (Comparative Literature) Charles Parkhurst (Speech) and Shirley Wedeen (Education); Alternate Senators Lionel Forstall (Educational Services), Monice McDaniel (Educational Services), Marion Lynch (Educational Services) and Paul Sheridan (Art); City - Senators Ruth Grossman (Education), Renee Waldinger (Romance Languages), Anabel Meister (Library) serving as Senator in place of Senator Pennington '86 on leave for administrative assignment and Alternate Senator Carole Bermann (Special Programs); Graduate School - John Van Sickle (Classics) as Senator and Stefan Baumrin (Philosophy) serving as Senator in place of Robert Lekachman '86 on leave for personal reasons and Susan Saegert as Alternate Senator; Hunter - Senators Gloria Essoka (Nursing), James Herzenhorn (Romance Languages), Ruth Rose (Romance Languages), Miriam Hecht (Mathematics) and Arlene Seguire (Health and Physical Education); John Jay - Laurie Julia (Art, Music and Philosophy) and Maria Rodriguez (Speech and Theater, SEEK) as Senators and Maureen Wilson (Foreign Languages and Literature) as alternate Senator; Kingsborough - Senators Abraham Litke (Business) and Murray Plissner (Student Services) and Alternate Senators Joseph Muzio (Biological Sciences) and Merrill Youkeles (Behavioral Sciences and Human Services); Lehman - Senators Godfrey Isaacs (Mathematics) and Eve Zarin (English) and Patricia Thompson (Specialized Services to Education), alternate Senator; New York City Technical - Senator Shirley Beheshti (Mathematics) and Alternate Senators Bernard Stern (Physics and General Science), and Joseph Collora (Hotel and Restaurant Management); Queens - Senators John Moyné (Linguistics) and Mary Reuder (Psychology); Queensborough - Senators Anneliese Rotwein (Nursing) and Paul Weiss (Health and

Physical Education); Alternate Senators Milton Cohen (Social Science) and Burton Kleinman (Mathematics); Staten Island - Senators Frederick Binder (History) and Stamos Zades (Student Services) and Alternate Senators Richard Currie (English) and Steven Zuckerman (Student Services); York - Alternate Senators Munroe Cravats (Teacher Preparation), Peter Naas (Economics) and Harriet Vines (Student Development) and from the Law School, a first Senate delegation - Senators Beryl Blaustone and Harold McDougall and Alternate Senator Homer LaRue. Medgar Evers College, Professor Wasser noted, had not completed elections and a few others had not completed elections of alternate Senators.

IV. Memorial Resolution for Senator David Burks: Professor Wasser placed a memorial resolution for Senator David Burks (History, Hunter) before the Senate to be spread on the minutes and forwarded to Senator Burks' family if approved by the Senate. The resolution read:

RESOLVED: That the University Faculty Senate of The City University of New York extends sincere condolences to the family of its late member, David Burks. Accomplished scholar, gifted teacher, staunch advocate of faculty rights and responsibilities, committed union leader, David Burks enriched the lives of his colleagues, students, and all who knew him. His death is keenly felt but his memory remains a stimulus to those who were privileged to work with him.

The resolution was adopted without dissent. The Senate then observed a minute of silence in Dr. Burks' memory.

V. Communications from the Chairman : Professor Wasser said that it seemed appropriate at this session, when the Senate was organizing for a new academic year, to use his communications to report in a more general way than usual and to offer a kind of "State of the Senate" address. The Chairman's written report distributed at the meeting, he continued, recorded the various activities and events of the past month and included also in the materials for the session was a report on the status of the Senate's resolutions adopted in the past two years. Thus, his oral communications might summarize the directions in which the Senate had moved since the Fall of 1982 when the current Senate leadership took office and he would try to identify the trends that emerged as one reflected on the past two years.

Like their predecessors, he continued, the Senate leadership had tried to safeguard the rights and responsibilities of the University's faculty whom they represented. They had sought, he said, to provide through the Senate Office a resource and information center for colleagues. No major College or University event had taken place without a Senate presence - usually the Chairman - as an active participant with an assigned place on the program or, less formally. The leadership had sought also to offer assistance to organized faculty bodies in the colleges and to individual faculty members when that help was requested as it had been most recently by the Hostos Faculty Organization and the Lehman Executive Committee of the Faculty who were both attempting to revise the faculty governance structures and/or charters at their colleges or by the Brooklyn Faculty Council with respect to their Committee on Evaluation of Administrators.

There had been new initiatives as well, Professor Wasser asserted: the pilot series of cable television programs, the formulation of a structure for international education at the University, the adoption of policies on research with restrictions on publication and on the awarding of University honorary degrees. Tonight, he continued the Senate would consider a policy statement on Industry/Corporate Relations that would amplify the previously adopted Policy on Research and also the Senate would be considering recommendations on articulation.

The Senate had renewed and expanded its cooperation with the State University Faculty Senate, said Dr. Wasser, and the Executive Committee had, as a group, participated in a Plenary Session of that body - an activity that marked a "first" in the cooperative efforts of the two bodies.

The Senate's attempt to enhance the idea of the City University as a higher education system - not simply a collection of colleges - had gone forward too, said Chairman Wasser, and the Senate had reached out to colleagues throughout CUNY by means of the Minutes, the UFS Newsletter under the able editorship of Gordon Lea, the Senate Conferences on Governance and Remediation, and the creation of the Council of Faculty Heads of Local Governance Bodies.

Perhaps the most positive initiative that has been taken, he asserted, was the way in which the leadership had developed a greater degree of sophistication in the exercise of the faculty role on the Board of Trustees. Through the Chairman's ex-officio membership on the Board and the Executive Committee members' membership on Board committees the leadership had tried to develop procedures to insert faculty concerns into Board policies. Beginning in the Fall 1981 when he succeeded to the chairmanship of the Senate upon the resignation of the incumbent, the leadership had pursued that goal. The first effort was a policy on the awarding of University Honorary degrees that included a mechanism for participation and approval by a committee of faculty. Since that time there had been several issues that the leadership had approached that had permitted perfecting the procedures. The leadership had not hesitated, as a first step, to voice concern about proposals included on the various agendas - both of Board committees and the full Board, to raise questions when they seemed pertinent, and to insist on answers. When issues that the Senate deemed urgent were treated in a dilatory fashion, the leadership had introduced them directly by requesting that they be placed on the agenda of the appropriate Board committee. Thus, last year, the revision of the retrenchment guidelines had been addressed first through a proposal placed on the agenda of the Board Committee on Faculty, Staff and Administration on which he sat. The final policy adopted by the Board was the work of others and the Senate still awaited the administrative protocols promised by the Chancellor that were to incorporate the particular concerns of the Senate. Still, the AAUP censure had been lifted as a result of the Board's action last May.

This year, Dr. Wasser stated, there had been several issues that the leadership had pursued through the Board: the faculty member of the Committee on Academic Policy, Program and Research, Stefan Baumrin, had successfully negotiated revisions to ensure faculty input in the proposed policies on Centers and Institutes in the City University and, most recently, in the matter of the core curriculum for the CUNY Baccalaureate Program. Gil Riley, the faculty member of the Board Committee on Student Affairs and Special Programs, had diligently monitored the proposed governing documents for College Associations and Auxiliary Enterprise Boards to insure that they reflected the Board's Bylaw provisions and assigned an appropriate degree of faculty input. When the documents had not done so, Professor Riley had delayed action on them. In addition, the Executive Committee had notified the Board Chairman that the Senate would offer amendments to the Bylaw provisions to increase the number of faculty members on those bodies and to permit the designation of faculty members by faculty. Both Professor Riley with respect to Special Program personnel decisions and the Senate Chairman through the Committee on Faculty, Staff and Administration on which he sat had monitored decisions in that crucial area of faculty prerogative. They had raised hard questions and had insisted on answers.

Although the faculty members of other Board Committees had not been called upon to respond in comparable manner, Bernie Sohmer on the Committee on Facilities, Donald Davidson on Fiscal Affairs, Gordon Lea on the Construction Fund and Shirley Wedeen on Public Policy and External Affairs had raised significant questions and had stated faculty concerns when such questions or statements were appropriate. Bob Picken and

Beryl Hunte, as alternates on the Board Committees, had pitched in when called upon to do so.

In closing, said Dr. Wasser, he wished to thank his colleagues on the Executive Committee for their help and cooperation throughout the past two years and to commend the Senate all of whose members through participation on committees, in debate at Plenary Sessions, in responsible fulfillment of their role as representatives of their respective college faculties had made his service as Chairman so great a source of personal satisfaction.

VI. Reports of Faculty Members of Board of Trustees' Committees: (Attached to these Minutes).

VII. Nomination and Election of the Chairman of the University Faculty Senate: Dr. Wasser then reviewed the Senate Charter provisions with respect to the election of officers and members of the Executive Committee and appointed Professors Joseph Ercolano (Mathematics, Baruch) and Judith Walter (Developmental Skills, New York City Technical) to serve as tellers.

Dr. Wasser then entertained nominations for chairman of the Senate. Professor Cooper (History, Staten Island) nominated Professor Wasser and the nomination was duly seconded. There being no other nominations Professor Davidson (Data Processing, LaGuardia) moved that nominations be closed. The motion was duly seconded and passed. Professor Davidson then moved that the Secretary be asked to cast a single ballot for the election of Dr. Wasser. That motion was duly seconded and passed by acclamation.

VIII. Nomination and Election of the Vice Chairman of the University Faculty Senate: Professor Valinsky (Statistics, Baruch) nominated Professor Shirley Wedeen (Education, Brooklyn). The nomination was seconded and there being no other nominations Professor Davidson moved that nominations be closed. That motion was seconded and passed and Professor Davidson then moved that the Secretary be asked to cast a single ballot for the election of Professor Wedeen. The motion was duly seconded and passed by acclamation.

IX. Nomination and Election of the Treasurer of the University Faculty Senate: Professor Borneman (Physical Education, City) nominated Professor Bernard Sohmer (Mathematics, City) The nomination was seconded. There being no other nominations Professor Davidson moved that nominations be closed. The motion was seconded and passed and Professor Davidson asked that the Secretary be instructed to cast a single ballot for the election of Professor Sohmer. That request was approved by acclamation.

X. Nomination and Election of the Secretary of the University Faculty Senate: Professor Wedeen nominated Professor Davidson and the nomination was seconded. There being no other nominations it was moved, seconded and passed to close nominations and the Secretary was instructed to cast a single ballot for the election of Professor Davidson.

XI. Nomination and Election of Members-at-Large of the Executive Committee: Professor Grossman (Education, City) nominated Professor Mary Rita Donleavy (Specialized Services to Education, Lehman) and the nomination was seconded. Professor Plissner (Student Services, Kingsborough) nominated Gordon Lea (English, Lehman) and the nomination was seconded. Professor B. Gerber (Comparative Literature, Brooklyn) nominated Professor Robert Picken (Romance Languages, Queens) and the nomination was seconded. Professor Baxter (Academic Skills, Hunter) nominated Professor Marlies Danziger (English, Hunter) and the nomination was seconded. Professor Binder (History, Staten Island) nominated Professor Sandi Cooper (History, Staten Island) and the nomination was seconded. Professor Valinsky nominated Professor Stefan Baumrin (Philosophy, Graduate School) and the nomination was seconded. Professor Weiss (Health and Physical Education, Queensborough) nominated Professor Fran D'Amico (Health and Physical Education, Queensborough)

and the nomination was seconded. Professor Davidson nominated Professor Joseph "Gil" Riley (Chemistry, Bronx Community) and the nomination was seconded. It was moved, seconded and duly passed that nominations be closed.

After the ballots were tallied the following persons were declared elected:

Professor Cooper
 Professor Danziger
 Professor Lea
 Professor Picken
 Professor Riley.

XII. Proposed Resolutions by the Articulation Committee: Professor Danziger, chairman of the Articulation Committee, reported for the Committee and placed the resolutions before the Senate by moving their adoption. She explained that the Committee had concentrated on the problems of some students who transfer from the community colleges to senior colleges and have difficulties because of weakness in basic skills areas. The Committee had examined the use of the CUNY Skills Assessment Tests and especially of the Writing Assessment Test (WAT). Questionnaires had been sent to the chairmen of all CUNY English Departments and the responses to those questionnaires showed that all of the colleges use the WAT to place students in English courses but not all use it to establish the students' proficiency at the end of remedial or developmental courses. The Committee also learned that proficiency in writing, reading and mathematics as demonstrated by the Skills Assessment Tests is not a University-wide requirement for the AA, AS, and AAS degrees. The Committee also concluded that there was a need for continuing training and practice in basic skills in courses throughout the curriculum and that large class sizes made such training difficult to provide at some colleges.

There followed extended discussion of the resolutions and the problems that some Senators thought should have been considered by the Committee. In particular, the desirability of having the Committee identify with greater precision the nature of the problems that arose as a result of students' failure to achieve minimum competency, large class size etc. and to inform the administration of them together with proposed solutions. In addition, it was suggested that more information should have been provided the Senate by the Committee - in particular the statistical data as well as the descriptive data on practices in use at the various colleges with respect to the Skills Assessment Tests.

There followed a number of proposed amendments to the Committee's text which failed for lack of a second or lack of a majority. A motion to consider the three proposed resolutions seriatim was seconded and voted upon but was defeated. Professor Greenbaum (History, Queensborough) moved to insert the following language in the first resolution to follow the statement "as a condition for earning an AA, AS, or AAS degree": "or upon completion of 61 credits at either a community or a senior college". The motion was seconded and adopted without dissent. A motion to strike the second and third resolutions was also made and seconded and was adopted. The resolution when put to a vote carried with 11 abstentions.

XIII. Proposed Policy on University/Corporate Relations: Professor Sohmer reported for the Committee and reminded the body that the proposal had been placed before the Senate at the 129th Plenary Session. Members had been asked to submit suggestions for revision and comment to him and such materials had been received from Professor Speidel (Earth and Environmental Science, Queens) and that document was the one distributed by Professor Speidel this evening. Some of the suggested revisions had been incorporated in the text now before the Senate but by no means all. Professor Sohmer moved adoption of the Committee's proposed policy and the motion was seconded. Professor Speidel noted his suggested revisions and cited the reasons for them, the thrust of his argument

being that the detailed spelling out of terms was unnecessary. He argued too that certain clauses infringed on the rights of individual departments especially with respect to staffing needs. Professor Sohmer responded on behalf of the Committee and suggested that the aim was to complement the policies adopted last year with respect to research with restrictions on publication. The question was called and when put to a vote the proposed policy statement was adopted.

There being no further business, there was a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Ellis