

## Changes in CUNY & Hunter Governance 1969-73

### Prior to 1971, Campus Faculty Organization at CUNY set out in CUNY Bylaws VIII and IX

- **The Faculty (Article 8.3):** “All persons having faculty rank or faculty status and such other individual members of the instructional staff as the faculty may add because of their educational responsibilities.”
- **Duties of the Faculty (Article 8.5):** “The faculty shall meet at least once in each semester, or oftener, upon call by the president, or by petition of ten per cent of its members. The faculty shall be responsible, subject to the Board, for the formulation of policy relating to the admission and retention of students, curriculum, granting of degrees, student activities and student discipline. The faculty shall also be responsible for and shall establish rules governing the use of the college name by organizations and clubs. It shall make its own bylaws, consistent with these bylaws, and conduct the educational affairs customarily cared for by a college faculty. The president shall preside at its meetings, or in his absence, the dean of faculty or a dean designated by the president.”
- **Where over 100 Faculty, there must also be a Faculty Council**
  - with “all the responsibilities of the Faculty, subject only to the right of the faculty, upon its own motion, to reverse any specific vote of the faculty council,” and
  - Mandated membership: President, Deans, registrar, business manager, two dept reps (dept chair and faculty member with Faculty Rank), and elected faculty at-large delegates equal to number of departments.

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### May 5, 1969: Board approves statement “The Restructuring of Governance at the City University”

- Need to reform decision-making processes at campuses to allow all segments of the university, especially students, to participate in governance.
- Board directs each college
  - “to determine its own pattern of internal governance including the question of student participation,”
  - to provide its own alternative to the faculty governance structure mandated in Article VIII.

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## March 22, 1971, the Board amends Article VIII to make explicit that role of campus governance plans

- Drops section requiring Faculty Council for colleges with over 100 faculty
- Adds section requiring for all colleges a body for “formulating policy on academic matters,” whose name and membership is up to the campus and which “shall be set forth in its governance plan approved by the board of trustees” (currently, Article 8.6).
- Result: A wide variety of governance plans across CUNY!!

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### Basis for difference – assigning two key responsibilities of a college faculty:

1. Academic policy-making
2. Formal representation of college faculty concerns and interests to the administration in college shared governance – “Faculty voice”

### Main alternatives found in campus charters:

- Have one college-level body that does both

Baruch: College Faculty Senate

City: College Faculty Senate

Brooklyn: Faculty Council

CSI: Faculty Senate

- Have two college-level bodies:

- College legislative body, with faculty, student, staff, and admins voting
- College faculty voice body, with only faculty voting members.

John Jay: for 1) College Council

for 2) The Faculty Senate

Lehman: for 1) College Senate

for 2) The General Faculty

York: for 1) College Senate

for 2) College Senate Faculty Caucus

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## At Hunter, 1969-73

- The Charter for the Governance of Hunter College, approved 1970
  - Establishes Senate (faculty, students, staff, admins) as legislative body of the college
  - Has the Senate take over the powers of the Faculty Council
  - But only makes implicit reference to General Faculty in Article X: the Charter does not “prevent the continuation of student government and faculty organizations...”
- After 1970, General Faculty and its Executive committee continue to meet, and they engage with the new Senate and Senate Admin Committee
  - GF Exec Comm meets together with the Senate Admin Committee and
    - the President on budget, nomination of search committees for deanships
    - Evening Session Council to discuss a publication Strike Now!
    - PSC leadership about contract demands
  - March 1973, a report from the GF Exec Comm on proficiency exams presented at the Senate and then referred from the floor “to the appropriate committee of the Senate for action.”

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## Fall 1973: GF forms a deliberative body - The FDA

### ARTICLE I: POWERS AND FUNCTIONS [of the General Faculty]

1.1 The General Faculty of Hunter College shall exercise the functions of a faculty according to the By-Laws of the Board of Higher Education, as modified by the Hunter College governance Charter, and all other functions necessary and proper for a college faculty.

1.2 The General Faculty regards itself as being specifically concerned with the traditional responsibilities and privileges of university life and reserves the right to take whatever action it deems appropriate and necessary to protect the faculty and the college with regard to these values.

### ARTICLE IV: THE FACULTY DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

4.2 The Faculty Delegate Assembly shall:

A. Consider matters having academic significance and initiate or be called upon to prepare statements of the views of its constituents for consideration by the policy-making legislative and administrative units of the College or university.

B. Act as a coordinating body between the faculty and the university Faculty Senate.

C. Elect standing Committees and their Chairpersons. [These committees include Faculty Welfare and Services, Academic Freedom and Responsibility, Academic Policy, Evening Studies, Communications, and a Social Committee.]

- **By Article III, the General Faculty elects 7 officers as an Exec Committee for both the GF and FDA.**
- **By Article V, the General Faculty meetings are at least twice a semester.**
- **By Article IX, amendment of the GF Bylaws is done by a written poll of the General Faculty.**

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