

# MINUTES

## Meeting of the Hunter College Senate

### 1 May 2024

The 690<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Hunter College Senate convened at 3:59 PM in HW 714.

**Presiding:** Sarah Chinn, Chair

**Attendance:** The elected members of the Senate with the exception of those marked absent in Appendix I.

Alternate Senators were formally seated in accordance with the procedures approved by the Senate for in-person meetings, and they were enabled to vote using iClicker.

#### Chair

**Announcement:** Chair Chinn informed the body that the Senate office is accepting nominations for the Ad Hoc Committee to Foster Dialogue about the Israel-Palestine Conflict and for the Senate Administrative Committee. The elections will take place at the next Senate meeting. The Senate Chair also announced that the meeting on 8 May is cancelled.

**Agenda:** The agenda was adopted with the provision that Old Business be moved to after the SPARC update.

#### Report by

**the President:** Chair Chinn invited Interim President Ann Kirschner to report.  
Interim President Kirschner said the following:

“The briefest of the reports today is in keeping with our speedy, abbreviated meeting. The first item is to welcome you back from Spring break.

“The second is to say that we have created a study area in the West lobby where, in addition to tables and chairs, there will be power strips. We are hoping that students will use the lobby as a space to study for finals. We are also looking at creating additional seating in other areas. I have to say that since the minute I started here, I have been daydreaming about what the bridges would look like if they were lined with benches. If you look at the “From the Bridge” newsletter that you got this morning, you will see some renderings of what that might look like.

“Lastly, we are moving towards commencement. Our Honorary Degrees will be approved by the CUNY Board of Trustees. We have some fabulous people who will be attending commencement. I just came from a meeting with the CEO of Deloitte and attended by students. I was reminded, all over again, how interesting, talented, and articulate, our students are. They were absolutely fabulous and really impressed the people from Deloitte. Welcome back everybody, and I look forward to talking to you.”

#### Update on

**SPARC:** Chair Chinn invited Interim Provost Manoj Pardasani to provide an update on the SPARC.  
Interim Provost Pardasani said the following:

“There is not much of an update other than to say that the teams are working incredibly hard to make sure that the swing space for the School of Nursing, Speech-Language Pathology, Physical Therapy and Medical Lab Sciences will proceed according to the timelines that have been established. So, nobody is moving until next summer, but we are still working on making sure that everybody has the space they need, and it is oriented and developed in the way they need to run the program smoothly. We will have more updates as they come up.”

#### Old Business: The Governance Committee

On behalf of the Governance Committee, Chair Chinn presented the revised “Guidelines for By-laws for Non-Departmental Academic Units”. The Guidelines are available on the Senate website.

The Guidelines were approved by unanimous consent.

**Report by the  
Administrative  
Committee:**

**a) Approved Curriculum Changes**

The following curriculum changes as listed in the attached reports Part I dated 1 May 2024 have been approved as per Senate resolution and are submitted for the Senate's information. Items: UR-2689 Film & Media (Routine change in courses), UR-2691 German (Routine change in course), and UR-2693 Political Science (Routine change in courses).

**Task Force  
on Civility &  
Controversy**

Chair Chinn invited Dean Andrew Polsky (School of Arts & Sciences), Chair of the Presidential Task Force on Civility and Controversy, to present an update on the Task Force's work.

Dean Polsky said the following:

"Good afternoon, I am Andy Polsky. I am the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, and I am the Chair of the Search Committee for the Dean of Education, but today I am here in my capacity as the Chair of the Task Force on Civility and Controversy. We have other members here today, as well. Sandi Clarkson and John Rose who serve on the Task Force are here.

"We have been having a series of meetings, and I am going to read to you a short introduction that we begin all of our listening sessions with. "In the wake of the October 7th Hamas attack and the ongoing Israeli assault on Gaza, Hunter College like many colleges and universities has found itself tense and divided. We have found it difficult to have civil conversations about the issues. Many students, faculty, and staff feel themselves to be under threat. Some hesitate to express their opinions in or outside of the classroom, and some are afraid even to be present on our campus. At the same time, Hunter College as the institution of higher learning has an educational responsibility to explore complicated issues and encourage students to think critically about their world and their own assumptions. We have not been able to do so this year.

"Interim President Kirchner has commissioned a task force to examine what this year has revealed about our struggle to address conflict constructively, and it is an incoming President Nancy Cantor in working to create a climate and authority and hopefully discussion. The members of the Task Force see our work unfolding in two phases. In the first phase, which we are in midst of now, we want to listen to members of the community, students, faculty, and staff of all backgrounds and viewpoints to hear their thoughts on what has happened this year, and their suggestions on how we might proceed in the future, including how we might deal with divisions that have emerged within our community. This will take some time, but we are nearing the end of this phase of the process.

"In the second phase, the Task Force hopes to incorporate these perspectives into a set of recommendations about a process to develop steps to promote community, repair wounds, and lay a foundation for how to better deal with controversy in the future. We expect to focus on a project that will include representation of all segments of our campus community that will continue next year under the new President leadership rather than on conclusive immediate actions."

"Now, we would like to hear your thoughts. I will just mention briefly that other groups we have talked to include the Undergraduate Student Government, the FDA, and various groups of faculty of different perspectives. We thank them for taking the time to speak to us. Some of the meetings will continue over the next couple of weeks. So, as I say, we are here to listen and to hear anything you have to say to us about what has happened this year and suggestions you might have about the future."

Minutes  
Meeting of the Hunter College Senate  
1 May 2024

Page 7365

**New Business:** There was a motion from the floor to propose a Resolution to Urge the Hunter College Administration to take a legal action against unauthorized use of Hunter's logo, photos, and intellectual property. It was seconded.

Resolved, that the Hunter College Senate urge the CUNY and Hunter College Administrations to investigate, report, and take legal action against defamatory use of Hunter and CUNY's logos, photos, and intellectual property, and report to the Senate at its May 15 meeting.

Discussion and debate followed.

There was a motion to amend as follows:

Resolved, that the Hunter College Senate urge the CUNY and Hunter College Administrations to investigate, report, and take legal action against defamatory use of Hunter and CUNY's logos, photos, and intellectual property, ~~and report to the Senate at its May 15 meeting.~~

**Also, be it resolved, that the Hunter College Senate receive regular reports starting at the May 15 meeting.**

It was seconded.

There was an amendment to the above amendment as follows:

Also, be it resolved, that the Hunter College Senate receive ~~regular~~ reports starting ~~beginning~~ at the May 15 meeting **and on an ongoing basis or as requested by the Senate.**

The amendment to the proposed amendment carried by unanimous consent.

There was a motion to adopt the original amendment. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

There was motion to count the quorum.

iClicker produced the following results: 52 Senators present.

Voting by iClicker to adopt the Resolution carried by unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:02PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Jeninsky  
Secretary

## APPENDIX I

*The following attendance was noted from the meeting*

(A) =Alternate, A=Attended, X=Absent, E=Excused

Faculty					
AFPRL	Anthony Browne	A	Mathematics & Statistics	Sandra Clarkson	A
	Milagros Denis-Rosario	(A) X			0
	Lázaro Lima	(A) A		Robert Thompson	(A) A
Anthropology	Jackie Brown	A	Medical Laboratory Sciences	Barry Cherkas	(A) A
	Stephanie Levy	(A) X		Chad Euler	X
	Milena Shattuck	(A) A		Steven Einheber	(A) X
Art & Art History	Itam Uchenna	A	Music	Muktar Mahajan	(A) X
	Dave McKenzie	X		Michele Cabrini	E
	Chitra Ganesh	(A) X		L. Poundie Burstein	(A) X
Biological Sciences	Emily Braun	(A) X	School of Nursing		(A) X
	Ben Ortiz	A		William Samuels	A
	Jesus Angulo	A			0
Chemistry	Paul Feinstein	(A) X	Philosophy	Stephen Yermal	X
	Carmen Melendez	(A) X		Deidre O'Flaherty	(A) X
	Gabriela Smeureanu	A		Laura Keating	A
Classical & Oriental Studies	Nancy Greenbaum	(A) X	Physics & Astronomy	Daniel Harris	(A) X
	Brian Zeglis	(A) X		Omar Dahbour	(A) A
	Nadya Kobko-Litskevitch	X		Kelle Cruz	A
Computer Science	Yasha Klots	A	Political Science	Yuhang Ren	(A) X
	Frederick Rogals	(A) A		Ying-Chih Chen	(A) X
	Doron Friedman	(A) X		Lina Newton	A
Curriculum & Teaching	Justin Tojeira	X	Psychology	Charles Tien	(A) X
	Raj Korpan	(A) A		Michael Lee	(A) A
	Saptarshi Debroy	X		Roseanne Flores	A
Dance		0 (A)	Physical Therapy	Darlene DeFour	A
	Edgar Troudt	A		Glenn E Schafe	(A) A
	Stephen Demeo	X		Peter Serrano	(A) X
Economics	Maverick Zhang	(A) A	Romance Languages	Jaya Rachwani	A
	Tim Farnsworth	X		Milo Lipovac	(A) X
	Maura Donohue	X		Chad Woodard	(A) X
Educational Foundations & Counseling Programs	Ana Nery Fragoso	(A) X	School of Social Work	Magdalena Perkowska	A
	David Capps	(A) X		Monica Calabritto	(A) X
	Tim Goodspeed	X		Julie Van Peteghem	(A) X
English	Michelle Liu	A	Sociology	Jonathan Prince	A
	Kenneth McLaughlin	(A) A		George Patterson	X
	Avi Liveson	(A) X		Marina Lalayants	(A) X
Film & Media Studies			Special Education	Keith Chan	(A) X
	Sarah Bonner	(A) A		Mark Halling	E
	John Keegan	(A) A		Mike Benediktsson	(A) X
Geography & Environmental Sci	Sarah Chinn	A	SLPA	Michaela Soyer	(A) X
	Angie Reyes	X		Salvador Ruiz	A
	Mark Miller	A		Melissa Jackson	(A) X
German	Janet Neary	(A) A	Theatre	Kathryn Furlong	(A) A
	Larry Shore	A		Donald Vogel	A
				Nancy Eng	(A) X
History	Tami Gold	(A) A	Urban Policy and Planning	JungMoon Hyun	(A) A
	Gustavo Mercado	(A) X		Louisa Thompson	X
	Allan Frei	X			0
History	William Solecki	(A) X	Nutrition and Public Health*	Claudia Orenstein	(A) A
	Sun Shipeng	(A) X		Lily Baum Pollans	A
	Christina Mekonen	A		Victoria Johnson	(A) X
Library	Elke Nicolai	(A) X	Women & Gender Studies	vacant	(A)
	Aine Zimmerman	(A) A		Susan Cardenas	X
	D'Weston Haywood	A		Khursheed Navder	(A) A
Library	Manu Bhagavan	(A) A		Steven Trasino	(A) X
	Aaron Welt	A		Jennifer Gaboury	A
	Iris Finkel	A		Catherine Raissiguier	(A) X
	Ajatshatru Pathak	A		Rupal Oza	(A) X
	Mee' Len Hom	(A) A			

**Students**

Nicole Palmetto	A
Ariadna Pavlidis-Sanchez	A
Aysha Khan	X
Ronette Johnson	X
Olivia Massey	X
Lorraine Santana	X
Ermina Chowdhury	X
Nishat Raihana	A
Hridika Tasnim	A
Viet Thanh Phan	E
Veronica Witkowski	X
Ariana McNab	A
Juan Sebastian Barahona	X
Ahmed Tabbakh	X
Gabriela Covaria	X
Labiba Iqra	X
Aliyah Harrison	X
Susana Sanchez	A
Rachel Weng	X
Rosa Rivera	X
Shannon Benjamin	A
Jasmina Rustamova	A
Iman Meawad	A
Hafsa Naseer	X
Roseline Olumuyide	A
Deni Espinoza	X
Joanna Ng	X
Tyler Etienne	X
Raitah Jinnat	X
Johanna von Maack	X
Kanishka Awasthi	X
Isabella Grullon	X
Priscilla Jimenez	A
Naushin Sakirah	X
Ezra Hubbard	X

**At-Large, Lecturers and Part-Time Faculty**

Student Services	Burhan Siddiqui	X
	Luis Roldan	(A) X
Library	Jocelyn Berger-Barera	A
English	Donna Paparella	X
Psychology	Stefan Schlussman	X
Social Work	James Mandiberg	X
Medical Lab Science	Hongxing Li	X
Religion	Wendy Raver	A
Political Science	Rosa Squillacote	X
English	Priscilla Yamir	A
Special Education	Gina Riley	A
Registrar	Jennifer Dennington	A
THHP	Sarah Jeninsky	A
Art & Art History	Peter Dudek	X

**Ex-Officio**

President, USG	Bushir Juwara	A
Vice President, GSA		0
President Alumni Association	Elizabeth Wilson-Anstey	X
President, HEO Forum	Denise Lucena-Jerez	A
President, CLT Council	Amy Jeu	X

**ADMINISTRATION**

Senators:		
HEO/CLA Representative	Irina Ostrozhnyuk	X
Vice President for Student Affairs	Eija Ayravainen	X
Provost	Manoj Pardasani	A
Dean, School of Arts & Sciences	Andrew Polsky	A
Dean of Education	Jennifer Tuten	X
Alternate Senators (3):		
Dean of Social Work	Mary Cavanaugh	X
Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs	Joseph Fantozzi	A
Dean of Nursing	Ann Marie Mauro	X