

Faculty Senate Minutes #434

April 15, 2015

1:40 PM

Moot Court NB

Present (32): Ned Benton, Adam Berlin, James Cauthen, Kashka Celinska, Silvia Dapia, Artem Domashevskiy, Janice Dunham, Jennifer Dysart, Peggy Escher, Joel Freiser, Terry Furst, Katie Gentile, John Gutierrez, Maki Haberfeld, Karen Kaplowitz, Maria Kiriakova, Louis Kontos, Tom Kucharski, Carmen Kynard, Anru Lee, Jay Pastrana, Edward Paulino, Frank Pezzella, Dainius Remeza, Raul Romero, Raul Rubio, Francis Sheehan, Dennis Sherman, Charles Stone, Staci Strobl, Robert Till, Daniel Yaverbaum

Absent (12): Chevy Alford, Claudia Calirman, Marsha Clowers, Angelique Corthals, DeeDee Falkenbach, Hunter Johnson, Kyoo Lee, Vincent Maiorino, Xerxes Malki, Ian Seda, Jon Shane, David Shapiro

Invited Guest: Professor Paul Narkunas

Guests: Professors Richard Haw, Gerald Markowitz

AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Adoption of Minutes #433 of the April 2, 2015, meeting
3. Announcements & Reports
4. Part 2 of the Election of the 2015-16 Faculty Senate at-large representatives
5. Community Hour Proposal
6. Review of the agenda of the April 21 meeting of the College Council
7. Invited Guest: Professor Paul Narkunas, Interim PSC Chapter Chair
8. President Travis's April 23 Forum on John Jay's Charter
9. New Business

1. Adoption of the agenda. Approved.

2. Adoption of Minutes #433 of the April 2, 2015, meeting. Approved.

3. Announcements & Reports. Noted.

4. Part 2 of the Election of the 2015-16 Faculty Senate at-large representatives

By secret ballot, the Senate elected the following faculty members to serve on next year's Faculty Senate and to also serve on next year's College Council as representatives of the Faculty Senate:

Jay Gates – English

Lior Gideon – Law, Police Science, CJA

Charles Stone – Psychology

Fritz Umbach – History

The Senate also elected Adjunct Professor Victoria Perez-Rios, who had been earlier elected to next year's Faculty Senate, to also serve as an Alternate College Council member next year.

5. Community Hour Proposal: Senator Jen Dysart, Chair, Senate-Administration Joint Ad Hoc Committee on the Community Hour

The Faculty Senate has discussed this issue at length over a long period of time. Accordingly, the Executive Committee has proposed the following Resolution for the Senate's adoption:

Resolved, That Community Hour, which currently is in operation only for undergraduate courses and for those faculty who teach undergraduate courses, be extended to master's courses and to the faculty who teach those master's courses, and be it further

Resolved, That Community Hour continue to begin at 1:40 pm and be extended by 15 minutes so that it ends, henceforth, at 2:55 pm, and be it further

Resolved, That the revision of the master's bell schedule that would be necessitated by this change be decided by the Graduate Studies Committee, and be it further

Resolved, That these recommendations, and the recommendation of the Graduate Studies Committee about the specifics of the master's bell schedule, be forwarded no later than May 1, 2015, to President Travis for his consideration and action, so these changes may be implemented for undergraduate and master's courses no later than the Fall 2016 semester.

The resolution was adopted by the Senate by secret, written ballot, a vote of 20 yes, 1 no, and 7 abstentions.

6. Review of the agenda of the April 21 meeting of the College Council

Professor Richard Haw, Chair of the Interdisciplinary Studies Program (ISP) and Professor Gerald Markowitz, a member of the Program, participated in a discussion of a proposal on the April 21 agenda of the College Council by the ISP faculty that a Department of Interdisciplinary Studies (DIS) be established by the College Council; this new department would house the existing interdisciplinary Studies Program, and the Gender Studies Program, which now does not have a home in an academic department, and perhaps, in the future, other programs whose faculty wish to join.

7. Invited Guest: Professor Paul Narkunas, Interim PSC Chapter Chair, about banked time

Professor Narkunas said he doesn't have anything more to report about banked time. Instead he spoke against the Provost's proposal to allocate \$25,000 in merit raises, a criticism he had previously communicated in an email to the John Jay faculty. Professor Narkunas also recommended that the Senate revise the compensation formula for Independent Study courses to make it more generous.

President Kaplowitz explained that only the College Council can revise the compensation formula. She said that until 1989 when the Senate proposed to the College Council that faculty receive compensation for Independent Study courses, no compensation was given. This was despite the fact that the Mathematics faculty, trying to establish its new major in computing, was forced to teach independent study courses to all students in that major without compensation and in addition to their 4/3 teaching load because not enough students were registering for courses for the courses to run. She said when the Senate proposed compensation the Senate decided to ask the College Council to adopt it as college policy so that it not be subject to the whim of subsequent provosts or presidents. She explained that the provost at the time, Jay Sexter, refused to grant more than three credits for 10 (ten) independent study courses and that is why that became the compensation. She said she agrees that the compensation should be more generous.

But, she added, she is concerned that opening up Independent Study compensation at the College Council may run the risk of the College Council diminishing the amount of compensation rather than increasing it. She said that consultation with the Provost is a wise first step before the Senate decides to open this issue at the College Council. She said she would ask to meet with Provost Bowers so that she could consult with her about this. She thanked Professor Narkunas for raising this issue.

8. President Travis's April 23 Forum on John Jay's Charter

President Travis has scheduled a Forum on the John Jay Charter for Thursday, April 23, during Community Hour, in Room L63 NB. Senators were encouraged to attend. The Forum will be conducted by CUNY Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs Frederick Schaffer and by Dr. William Kelly (former CUNY Interim Chancellor and former Graduate Center President and current facilitator for President Travis on JJ's study of the charter, college reorganization, and committees). President Travis has said he plans to send out a notice of the forum, along with topography of the governance structures of all the CUNY colleges that Vice Chancellor Schaffer's Office has created at President Travis's request.

By a motion made and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.