

Faculty Senate Minutes #491
John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Monday, February 4, 2019

1:40 PM

Moot Court NB

Present (27): Chevy Alford, Andrea Balis, Rosemary Barberet, Ned Benton, Michael Brownstein, Ronald Calvosa, James Cauthen, Marta Concheiro-Guisan, Silvia Dapia, Lissette Delgado-Cruzata, Jonathan Epstein, Joel Freiser, Heath Grant, Jonathan Gray, Amy Green, Karen Kaplowitz, Yue Ma, Mickey Melendez, Karen Okamoto, Jose Olivo, Vijay Sampath, Francis Sheehan, Charles Stone, Marta-Laura Suska, Thalia Vrachopoulos, Rebecca Weiss, Guoqi Zhang

Absent (15): Elton Beckett, Sven Dietrich, Artem Domashevskiy, Maki Haberfeld, Veronica Hendrick, Hunter Johnson, Erica King-Toler, Louis Kontos, Thomas Kubic, Vincent Maiorino, Josh Mason, Brian Montes, Frank Pezzella, Charlotte Walker-Said, Hung-Lung Wei

Agenda

- 1. Announcements and Reports**
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 3. Adoption of Minutes #490 of the December 7th meeting**
- 4. Election to fill a vacancy of an at-large seat on the Faculty Senate and College Council**
- 5. Review of the agenda of the February 13 meeting of the College Council**
- 6. Proposed Faculty Senate Statement on Space Master Planning: Senator Ned Benton**
- 7. Proposal to create a college statement on shared governance: Senator James Cauthen**
- 8. Budget Report**

1. Announcements and Reports. Noted.

2. Adoption of the agenda. Approved.

3. Adoption of Minutes #490 of the December 7 meeting. Approved.

4. Election to fill a vacancy of an at-large seat on the Faculty Senate and College Council

By unanimous vote, the Senate elected Professor Sheeba John (Math & CS) to fill a vacant at-large seat on the Faculty Senate. The Senate also elected Professor John to represent the Senate as an at-large member of the College Council.

5. Review of the agenda of the February 13 meeting of the College Council

An important item on the agenda is the revision of the Faculty Personnel Process Guidelines whereby the phrase “judicial balance” will be added to allow for balance between teaching, service, and research rather than a rigid three-legged stool.

6. Proposed Faculty Senate Statement on Space Master Planning: President Ned Benton

President Benton recommended that the Senate issue a Statement on Space Master Planning that recommends both that John Jay update its space master plan and also that recommends that North Hall be torn down and replaced by a facility that provides space for both Guttman Community College, which needs to move out of its rental space, and John Jay. He explained that Guttman had been promised North Hall when it was created and that the donor who gave \$25 million for the establishment of Guttman is to have that \$25 million returned if the college isn't in NH at the end of 10 years, which is in 2023.

John Jay has only 67 percent of what the University thinks we should have based on our enrollment and on our faculty and staff and on our programs and this calculation includes North Hall, which is no longer available to us. According to the University's own data, John Jay has only 8 percent of the space we should have for research and yet John Jay is in the top three of the research-active colleges. We have only 55 percent of the library space we need. We have only 93 percent of the CUNY senior college of faculty members and yet all our faculty offices are filled. If we remove North Hall from the analysis, John Jay has the least needed space of any CUNY college. We lack 318,000 square usable feet, which is twice the net usable square footage of North Hall.

There are two options: the North Hall site can be given to Guttman; indeed, CUNY put into its budget request to Albany this year a request for \$175,000 for a 5-year feasibility study to move Guttman into North Hall. North Hall offers 198,000 square feet but renovation money is needed, money for such things as more staircases, greater circulation, for more fire protection, for more to improve heating and ventilation; but Guttman today needs 144,000 square feet despite the plan for Guttman to grow its enrollment.

According to the zoning law, North Hall can be 10 stories high. President Benton said it makes no sense to renovate North Hall and keep it at four stories when it can be 10 stories. What does make sense, he said, is a new building on the North Hall site that can be used by both John Jay and Guttman. NYC would share the building costs because Guttman is a community college and CUNY's community colleges are funded by the City. He said we could share resources, such as public safety.

Senator James Cauthen noted that this feasibility study had also been in last year's CUNY budget request for \$175k but had not been funded and he asked if there's any reason to believe it will be funded this year. He also expressed concerns about sharing resources with another college. Senator Karen Okamoto said the library faculty has raised our library's space needs to President Mason and she believes that President Mason wants our library relocated in North Hall. Senator Michael

Senator Michael Brownstein suggested we propose that the feasibility study be expanded to include Guttman and John Jay in North Hall. President Benton said that is a good idea.

VP Kaplowitz suggested that the Executive Committee of the Senate consult with President Mason about the draft statement to make sure that the statement won't contradict what may be in the works right now. Senator Francis Sheehan agreed. Senator Amy Green said she has real concerns about sharing facilities with another college. Senator Brownstein agreed. President Benton agreed to delete from the draft statement all references to shared resources or shared operations.

A motion to authorize the Executive Committee to share the document with President Mason, after deleting all references to shared resources, and to consider the revised document at the next meeting was adopted by a vote of 26-0-1.

7. Proposal to create a college statement on shared governance: Senator James Cauthen

Almost three years ago, Professor James Cauthen chaired a faculty study group on shared governance created by President Travis and Provost Bowers, whose charge was to identify best practices in shared governance. The study group reviewed literature about shared governance, studied campus charters, and conducted interviews with people at campuses that had won awards for shared governance. One crucial issue identified by the study group is the lack of understanding as to what shared governance is. A national study had been conducted in which eight hundred academics were polled and the finding was that there was no agreement as to what shared governance means. John Jay's study group recommended that there should be a common understanding of what shared governance is. Some of the questions that need to be answered are: What does consultation mean? What are the elements of consultation? Who gets a seat at the table?

As the Charter Study Group noted, the John Jay administration will come up with a policy that the faculty had never heard about; the faculty will charge that there had been no consultation; the administration will back off; and only then will discussions begin. The study group issued a report and subsequently issued a draft set of principles of shared governance. But the statement was never brought to the College Council for adoption by that body. Other campuses have statements about shared governance and the AAUP has a Joint Statement on Shared Governance. Senator Cauthen said he believes it is time to revisit the draft statement. He noted that we have a president who does not come out of shared governance background and that the same is true of many other members of our current administration. And, furthermore, he's heard some people talk about changing our governance structure.

Senator Cauthen proposed that a small group of Senators and a small group of Chairs look at the report issued by the study group and look at the draft statement and that a revised draft statement be brought back to the Senate and the Chairs. If both bodies agree on the language, we would next consult with HEOs and administrators. Ultimately, we would bring the

statement to the College Council for adoption by that body. Senator Cauthen said that when the Senate and the Chairs work together it is invariably better than each working separately. President Benton added that it is good to be able to address an issue when there is no urgency forcing us to do so. Senator Chevy Alford said it is also good to be proactive rather than reactive. Senator Andrea Balis volunteered to be part of the group.

8. Budget Report

President Benton provided a college budget update. We were able to reduce our \$12 million deficit for this year to a \$6 million deficit. CUNY then added a \$2 million increase to our base budget, which means that this \$2 million increase will be in our budget every year henceforth; and CUNY just gave us another \$2 million which may or may not be added to our base. That leaves us with a \$2 million deficit problem and this corresponds to a 2% set aside for anticipated labor contract costs. The problem is that since we have only a half a year to find ways to make this cut, given that the fiscal year ends on June 30, the \$2 million deficit is the equivalent of a \$4 million deficit.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Submitted by Karen Kaplowitz