

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES #127

John Jay College of Criminal Justice

September 20, 1995

3:15 PM

Room 630 T

Present (34): Yahya Affinnih, Arvind Agarwal, Luis Barrios, Michael Blitz, Edward Davenport, Jane Davenport, Peter DeForest, Robert DeLucia, Janice Dunham, Arlene Geiger, P. J. Gibson, Elisabeth Gitter, Amy Green, Lou Guinta, Elizabeth Hegeman, Zelma Henriques, Lee Jenkins, Karen Kaplowitx, Andrew Karmen, Kwando Kinshasa, Sandra Lanzone, Tom Litwack, James Malone, Robert McCrie, Ruth O'Brien, Dagoberto Orrantia, Daniel Pinello, Chris Rashbaum, Marilyn Rubin, Frederik Rusch, Carmen Solis, Davidson Umeh, Maurice Vodounon, Daniel Yalisove

Absent (4): Gavin Lewis, Mary Ann McClure, Henry Morse, Agnes Wieschenberg

AGENDA

1. Announcements from the chair
2. Approval of Minutes #126 of the September 7 meeting
3. Proposed Resolution: Resolved, That the Faculty Senate proposes that the Criminal Justice Education Conference be an annual event at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and that the Faculty Senate continue its sponsorship of the Conference
4. Invited Guest: Chief Librarian Larry Sullivan
5. Proposed Resolution of appreciation for John Jay alumnus and NYS Assemblymember Lawrence B. Seabrook
6. Invited Guest: Dean for Admissions and Registration Don Gray: Report on enrollment and registration and on the Board of Trustees' 37 policy changes approved on June 26
7. Proposed resolution on the mandated reduction of degree credits to 120 and 60
8. Election of a Co-Recording Secretary of the Faculty Senate
9. Election of Senate representatives to College committees
10. Report on the proposed CUNY Certification Review Guidelines
11. Discussion of the College Council's September 28 agenda
12. New business

1. Announcements from the chair

A new member of the Senate, Professor Amy Green, who represents

the Department of Speech and Theater on the College Council and on the Senate, was introduced and welcomed.

The talk by Distinguished Professor Blanche Wiesen Cook, which the Senate at our previous meeting voted to co-sponsor, will be on Thursday, December 7, and will be on "Eleanor Roosevelt's Challenge: Activism and Survival."

2. Approval of Minutes #126 of the September 7 meeting

Minutes #126 of the September 7, 1995, meeting of the Senate were approved.

3. Proposed Resolution: Resolved, That the Faculty Senate proposes that the Criminal Justice Education Conference be an annual event at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and that the Faculty Senate continue its sponsorship of the Conference

President Kaplowitz moved a resolution on behalf of the Senate's Executive Committee that the forthcoming conference on criminal justice education be an annual conference at John Jay and that the Senate continue its sponsorship of the conference. She explained that the conference was initiated by a senate proposal in May 1993 and the positive response at John Jay and throughout the country has prompted this agenda item. She noted that a decision to hold a conference next year could be announced at the October 20 conference. She attributed the tremendous response to the call for papers and to the invitation to attend to two reasons: first, there is clearly a need that scholars and practitioners are expressing for a forum to discuss their work in the area of criminal justice education; secondly, the work of Professor Eli Silverman, the coordinator of the Conference, is a large reason for the successful response. Professor Silverman has been an exemplary coordinator who has worked energetically and with great enthusiasm and who is both very knowledgeable about the field and who is held in the highest esteem by everyone in the field. All of us owe him a tremendous debt of gratitude.

Senator Gitter proposed amending the resolution to include language specifying continued institutional support and the amendment was accepted. Senator Litwack said that it is not yet clear whether a conference every year rather than every two years is warranted. Senator Rashbaum asked whether the opinion of Professor Eli Silverman, who is coordinating the conference, is known.

President Kaplowitz explained that this item had been on the Senate's agenda for today and not having known that, President Lynch asked to meet with the conference steering committee earlier this afternoon to discuss whether we should have a conference on this topic next year. At that meeting, which took place an hour ago, Professor Silverman recommended that we hold the conference again next year and that it be a two-day conference. Other members of the steering committee agreed. She said that she reported at that meeting, which Senator Henriquez also attended, that the Senate's executive committee concurred and had already placed it on today's agenda.

Professor Silverman's reasons were the large numbers of people who have registered for the conference, the large number of proposals for papers that were submitted, and the fact that another college has already told him that it would hold a conference on criminal justice

education next year if John Jay does not do so. As a result of all those reasons and because of the excellent fit between the topic of the conference and the mission of the John Jay, the steering committee and President Lynch decided to have the conference again next year on October 3-5.

President Kaplowitz said that this decision does not obligate the Senate to take an affirmative position but this agenda item does provide the Senate with the opportunity to continue to co-sponsor the conference.

Senator Henriquez said the Senate has been praised for having initiated the conference and for having put together an excellent working steering committee and that President Lynch at the meeting an hour earlier praised the Senate for having developed this proposal.

Senator Litwack said that he agrees that we should have a conference next year and that the Senate should be one of the sponsors but suggested that a commitment to an annual conference may be premature. He proposed amending the resolution to: The Faculty Senate supports the decision that John Jay College hold a second conference on criminal justice education in October 1996 and that the Faculty Senate continue its sponsorship of the conference.

Senator Malone said he supports the call for institutional support for the coordinator of a conference but also thinks that we need such a conference every year. He suggested that the resolution be further amended to include the statement that consideration should be given to making it an annual conference.

The resolution, as amended, passed by unanimous vote.

#### 4. Invited Guest: Chief Librarian Larry Sullivan

President Kaplowito introduced John Jay's new chief librarian, Professor Larry Sullivan, who assumed the duties of Chief Librarian and Chair of the Library Department on August 29. Professor Sullivan was appointed by President Lynch after a search committee chaired by Dean Barbara Price conducted a national search and recommended him. The Board of Trustees will officially act on the appointment at its meeting next week.

President Kaplowite introduced Professor Larry Sullivan to the Senate, explaining that she is not being unduly informal by introducing him as Larry Sullivan but that, rather, Larry is his legal name. Professor Sullivan holds both a Master's and a Doctorate in History from The Johns Hopkins university as well as a Master's in Library Science from the Catholic University of America. His undergraduate degree in history is from De Paul University. From 1966-67 he was a Fulbright Scholar at the Centre d'Etudes Superieures de Civilisation Wedievale, University of Poitiers, in France.

Professor Sullivan comes to us from the Library of Congress, where he was the Chief of the Rare Book and Special Collections Division since 1989. Before that, he was Professor and Chief Librarian at Lehman College, from 1984-89, and so he is returning to CUNY by joining our faculty. From 1980-84, Professor Sullivan was the Librarian at the New York Historical Society, which one of our colleagues, Professor Mike Wallace, played a key role in saving from closing this past year. In addition to other interesting professional experiences, Professor Sullivan was the Library Director at the

Maryland State Penitentiary in Baltimore and has taught American and European history courses at a number of colleges.

Professor Sullivan is the author of The Prison Reform Movement: Forlorn HOPE, published in 1990 by Twayne, and of the Library of Congress: Rare Books and Special Collections: An Illustrated Guide, published in 1992 by the Library of Congress, as well as other works, a number of them having to do with penitentiary libraries. His most recent book, scheduled to be published in 1996 by Haworth Press, is Pioneers, Passionate Ladies, and Private Eyes: Dime Novels, Series Books, and Paperbacks.

His varied and extensive professional activities also include service in both professional library and historical organizations as well as other activities: For example, he is a member of the Library Committee of the American Correctional Association (ACA) as well as a consultant to the ACA and has served as a panelist and reviewer for the National Endowment for the Humanities since 1979.

President Kaplowitz said that we are fortunate to have Dr. Sullivan as our chief librarian and she said that we will certainly be inviting him back to the Senate after he has been at John Jay for a while to hear his vision and plans for the library.

Professor Sullivan said it is a great pleasure for him to be at John Jay. He said that everything he heard about John Jay, about its faculty, staff, and reputation, has been proven to be true during the short time he has been here. He said he decided to come to John Jay because of the College's reputation and because of the mission of the College and of the Library. He said he hopes that during his tenure, which he trusts will be for a long time, will strengthen the resources of the Library and also branch out into new areas of criminal justice information, both electronic and print, and make it a national center for this kind of information. By doing so, he said, he hopes to help the faculty, the students, and the profession as a whole.

Professor Sullivan said he plans to call upon the faculty for help in the future. Much of this work, in this day and age no matter where we are, requires outside money and that, especially, he said, is where he needs help. He said that coming from Washington he knows how tight budgets are. Even level budgets mean a 15% reduction because of mandatory increases and this is the same all over, he knows. So he had to find different ways to find resources, in addition to traditional sources, to build his collection and he said he thinks we can do that here and, indeed, knows that we can. This is in addition, he said, to supporting the basics.

President Kaplowitz said that the Senate has long supported the idea of outside fundraising to support the work and holdings of the Library and, indeed, this is something that Senator Gitter has spoken about frequently as well, of course, as Library faculty serving on the Senate. She suggested now might be an opportune time to look into the possibility of having faculty, beyond the Library faculty, be included in at least an advisory or consultative way in the work and plans of the "Friends of the Lloyd Sealy Library," the fundraising group.

Senator Jane Davenport noted that the "Friends of the Lloyd Sealy Library" is very independent from the College. She noted that the organization has not traditionally reported to the Library as to what funds it has raised, the amount of donations, or similar information. She said that it is only this year that the Library has been able to use any of the funds the organization has raised: the Library is about to use some of those funds to pay one of its bills.

Professor Sullivan said that he does not know if "Friends of the Lloyd George Sealy Library" is a 501C type of organization but if it is 501C then it has to be run by people outside John Jay. He explained that he set up a fundraising group when he was at the Library of Congress and that he had made sure that it was not a 501C entity so that he and his colleagues at the Library of Congress could control it. He said that the bureaucracy of the Federal government resulted in it taking a year to set this up and he trusts that will not be the situation here but that he is looking into it. President Kaplowitz said that whether we have a less bureaucratic system is probably debatable but that clearly Professor Sullivan has the experience and proven record to overcome such obstacles.

Professor Yalone spoke about a conference recently chaired by Professor Marvy Brooks, a member of the Library faculty, on libraries, responsibilities to college students, which he participated in. The proceedings of the conference are now being collected by Professor Brooks and Senator Malone suggested that the new Chief Librarian might want to review them. Professor Sullivan said he will ask Professor Brooks about them.

President Kaplowitz thanked Professor Sullivan for accepting the Senate's invitation and invited him to call upon the Senate to help in any way he might suggest. The Senate applauded Professor Sullivan.

5. Proposed resolution of appreciation for John Jay alumnus and NYS Assemblymember Lawrence B. Seabrook [Attachment A]

Assemblymember Lawrence B. Seabrook has accepted the Senate's invitation to come to our October 11 meeting. President Kaplowitz explained that Assemblymember Seabrook has played a crucial role in CUNY's struggle for funding in his capacity as the head of the NYS Black and Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus and has been a very good friend to John Jay, fighting for Phase II funding, helping to mediate a solution during the crisis at John Jay in 1989, serving as the facilitator at John Jay's first Town Hall meeting, which was a crucial event in the efforts to restore a sense of community at the College.

On behalf of the executive committee, she moved a resolution of appreciation [Attachment A] for presentation to Assemblymember Seabrook on October 11, when he will be reporting to us about his assessment of the budget situation and of the legislators, view of CUNY. The resolution was approved by unanimous vote [Attachment A].

6. Invited Guest: Dean for Admissions and Registration Donald Gray: Report on enrollment and registration and on the Board of Trustees, 37 policy changes approved on June 26 [Attachment B]

Dean for Registration and Admission Donald Gray was welcomed. He began by reporting on the enrollment figures. Dean Gray said the good news is that we met all our enrollment targets: we topped 10,000 students for the first time. The precise enrollment is 10,036 students as of this morning. That is approximately a 4% increase in total enrollment over last year.

More importantly, our Full-Time Equivalent [FTE] target was not only met but exceeded: we are approximately 8% above last year's FTE enrollment. He called these numbers good but added that he does not

know if we will see those kinds of numbers next year because of a number of factors, most particularly the Board of Trustees' 37 resolutions, several of which will affect our ability to recruit students and to keep students.

One of the promising numbers, which came out of the analysis of this class, is that we have a 9% increase in students who chose John Jay as their first choice among the CUNY colleges. Usually the percentage of those attending John Jay who chose John Jay as their second choice has been in the low twenties (22% to 24%) but this time those attending who chose John Jay as their second choice represented 13%. That's encouraging: people know about the College now and they are picking it as their first choice when they fill out their applications. We hope that trend continues, he said.

Senator Litwack asked what is the absolute number of those choosing John Jay as their first choice. Dean Gray said that he looks at it from the reverse way: since 13% chose John Jay as their second choice, 87% chose us as their first choice.

Registration went fairly well although there were some problems with prerequisite checking. Computerizing that rather than continuing with paper checking is under consideration. Peter Barnett, director of the Computing Center, is looking into that.

The 37 Board resolutions is really why he is here today, both to answer questions -- some of the language of the Board resolutions is unclear -- and to discuss those items that have a real impact, specifically item #27, which calls for a reduction in the total degree credits for our degree programs (the baccalaureate degree from 128 to 120 credits and the associate degree from 64 to 60 credits).

President Raplowits informed Dean Gray that the Senate will be considering a proposal from the Senate's executive committee as to how the College should respond to this mandate by the Board.

Dean Gray said that as evidenced by the Council of Chairs meeting the previous day, it is going to be a very, very heated battle as to how we go about reducing our degree credits. There is discussion about cutting the 8 credits from the free electives; there is discussion about going into the core and the general education distribution and changing that; and there is discussion about going into the majors and changing the number of credits required for a major. He said that after sitting through the Council of Chairs meeting he has an opinion but everyone else in the room had an opinion and it is a really heated issue but added we have a timetable: we need to settle the issue by early November because the University wants to know how each College will reduce the credits and then will formalize those decisions and then bring the decisions to the State Education Department: any changes to degree programs must be approved by the State Education Department. Our admissions office has to start recruiting in mid-October through December and the potential incoming class needs to be told what the degree program will involve. And we need to publish a catalog in January with these changes. So this is something that requires action but it is a very difficult decision to make.

Senator Litwack asked Dean Gray his opinion as to how to make the change. Dean Gray prefaced his reply by saying that he does not want to offend any departments and that his answer is from a business school background where there was a struggle to get students and where the emphasis was on cost effectiveness. He proffered the approach of going into the core and looking to save money and credits from the

core because we have a very, very rigorous core. He said if he is asked today what to do, his answer is to look at the history and at the literature areas and to take three credits from this area, which, he estimated, would save us \$40,000 a semester.

Senator Litwack asked why that would save money. Dean Gray said that if students were to take nine instead of 12 credits in that area, fewer literature and history course sections would have to be offered and this would have a trickle down effect into the writing courses which, in turn, would have a trickle down effect into the adjunct budget. He explained that full-time English Department faculty who currently teach the required literature courses would teach fewer of those sections and would, therefore, teach more of the composition courses and we would, therefore, need fewer adjuncts to teach those composition courses. He said this is a very business oriented opinion.

President Kaplowitz said that the executive committee's proposal does not concur with Dean Gray's opinion at all. Dean Gray said that the Faculty Senate's proposal should not concur with his opinion because this is rightly a faculty decision and because he does not have a humanities background, he has a business background (he has an Y.B.A.), and he worked in a private college where those were the kinds of parameters that he worked within.

President Raplowits said it is very Pike Dean Gray to acknowledge and to be the one to assert that his perspective is not and should not be the one that informs this decision. She added that, in addition, Dean Gray does not have something that many of us on the Senate and on the Council of Chairs do have and that is a history of what happened when we revised the core 10 years ago at the College, which was before Dean Gray came in 1990, and that reworking of the core almost destroyed the College. Dean Gray acknowledged that there is an entire history that goes against his proposal. But, he also added, if one compares our core with the cores of the other senior colleges then when anyone says that John Jay might have soft requirements one has only to look at those core requirements and compare them with those of the other senior colleges especially in the areas of math, writing, literature.

President Kaplowits said the other senior colleges, almost without exception, have very different, more stringent, admission requirements, and most do not permit students to take any college level courses until they pass the proficiency tests. By contrast at John Jay students can take college-level courses without having passed even the reading or writing proficiency tests. Furthermore, she said, most of the CUNY colleges also do not permit a student to even declare a major unless the student has a certain minimum grade in certain key, upper-level courses, gate courses. For example, at Baruch a student cannot even declare an intent to be a finance major unless she or he receives the grade of 'B' in at least three specifically designated upper-level courses. We do not have any requirements like those.

Dean Gray agreed that this is all true. President Kaplowitz said it is not fair to compare colleges without presenting all of those differences. She said that we are "soft" in a lot of academic ways. Dean Gray agreed and noted that President Kaplowits can attest, having been present, that he had not said a word at the Council of Chairs meeting during their discussion of this issue because he did not want to get into the mix. She concurred that was true. He said that this is a faculty decision and it should be and that the faculty have to ultimately make the decision.

Senator Pinello asked Dean Gray whether he has a profile of the first-year students who have registered at John Jay. Dean Gray said he does not yet have that in a final form because today is the deadline for freezing the data for the reports required by CUNY and those reports give that data and he will have the information in two to three weeks. There is some concern that we are losing upper division students, he said. He explained that we tried to reduce the number of readmitted students, which are traditionally the academically weaker students, and to accept more freshmen. We took in 1600 freshmen this year as compared to the 1400 freshmen we usually register.

Senator Litwack asked whether we know what percentage of the freshman class passed one, two, and all three of the proficiency tests. Dean Gray said the numbers are very frightening: this is the poorest freshman class in terms of academic skills and it rakes one wonder about CPI [College Preparatory Initiative] and what is going on in the high schools. The number of students tested was 2200. Of those, 1657 students were programmed with courses for their first semester (since not everyone who is tested decides to attend). Of the 2200 students who were tested, 29% failed the Reading Assessment Test [RAT], 54% failed the Math Assessment Test [MAT], and 66% failed the Writing Assessment Test [WAT]. He said he does not yet have comparable data for last year's class. This data was distributed by Pat Sinatra's Office of Freshman Programs.

Senator Litwack asked how many of the students tested failed all three tests which, he said, is the crucial question. Dean Gray said he does not have that information but he can get that data once the numbers are frozen.

President Kaplowitz asked Senator Quinta what John Jay is using as the passing reading score this semester. Senator Quinta said we are using CUNY's minimum passing score. President Kaplowitz said that is a tenth grade reading level. Senator Quinta said the DTLs test is not scored in that manner and so one cannot say what grade of reading the minimum passing grade is. He said the minimum standard has become the standard for CUNY and that fact is crucial for all discussions.

Senator Geiger asked Dean Gray to elaborate on his statement about the academic preparedness of this class compared to previous students. Dean Gray said he would provide the data once it is available but that he is quoting Pat Sinatra who has reported that this freshman class is her worst testing group in seven years.

Senator Geiger asked why alternate ways of cutting 8 credits from the degree would, in his opinion, be less cost effective than his approach. Dean Gray said that if the credits are taken from the elective credits, he thinks the electives will still carry and that the electives will not be cancelled because students will take them (although the numbers of students enrolling in the courses may drop) and, therefore, no money will be saved by cutting elective credits. He said this is based on who takes electives, the number of students we dismiss in the lower divisions. President Kaplowitz said the reason is that we are bottom heavy: we have so many freshman and sophomores and so few who are juniors and seniors and since it is the juniors and seniors who take electives and since their numbers don't change the likelihood is they will still take electives.

Dean Gray agreed, adding that if one's criterion is a bottom line dollar criterion, taking from the core is the way to save dollars. President Kaplowitz said that is precisely why this is a faculty responsibility and a faculty prerogative: bottom line dollar criteria



are not the way to make decisions about the academic programs of our students.

Senator Dunham said that information about the number of students who failed one, two, and three proficiency tests is very important and would be useful for the Senate's work. Dean Gray said he will make sure that Pat Sinatra sends the Senate a copy of her report when it is completed. Senator Dunham asked Dean Gray to explain how we would save \$40,000 by removing one humanities course from the core. Dean Gray said that if we did not have to mount have the number of sections of Literature 232 and half the number of sections of History 232 and with the full-time faculty who currently teach those courses moving down to teach the composition courses currently taught by adjunct faculty, we would reduce the number of adjunct faculty.

Senator Litwaek said that this does not make sense to him. He said that history and literature core courses have 44 students in each section and those sections all fill and, therefore, if we are looking to save money clearly we would save more money by eliminating those required courses, those core courses, that have a cap of much fewer students: for example, some required core courses have 20 students.

President Kaplowitz suggested we continue our discussion with Dean Gray with the knowledge of the proposal being recommended by the Faculty Senate's Executive Committee, which, she explained, is based on the resolution passed by the Council of Chairs the previous day. She distributed copies of the proposed resolution [Attachment B]. She explained that we have to take this up today and that the Senate's Executive Committee has added this item to the agenda because as Dean Gray has told us we have to tell 80th Street by November what we are going to do. Since the Curriculum Committee is scheduled take this up on October 13 and is holding a hearing on this subject on October 5, today is the only opportunity for the Senate to take a position on this crucial issue.

President Kaplowitz noted that the previous night she reported to the University Faculty Senate -- and Senator Jane Davenport was at that meeting -- the information that Dean Gray gave the Council of Chairs the previous day with regard to the November 1 deadline for reporting the way each college will reduce degree credits. She said that no one knew that this was due November 1: Professor Sandi Cooper did not know, the other Faculty Senate chairs did not know.

Dean Gray said that he had spoken to Dean Proto [CUNY Dean for Admission] last week and it was he who gave the date to him. Dean Gray said that because he knew that each college's plan would have to be approved by the State Education Department, he called Dean Proto to learn the timetable. Dean Proto said the changes have to reach the State Education Department by December and, therefore, 80th Street must have the information by November. President Kaplowitz said she explained to the UFS the reasons but no one had known the date. Senator Jane Davenport concurred that it was clear that no one at last night's UFS meeting had been informed of the timeline.

President Kaplowitz then read the proposed resolution of the Senate's Executive Committee [Attachment B].

Senator Deforest asked whether the reduction in graduation credits is a fixed policy with no recourse, and President Kaplowitz said it is. The Board of Trustees approved the change in June. She, among other faculty, testified at the Board of Trustees public hearing on June 19, specifically against this item but to no avail. Her testimony, she noted, argued that our students come to the University

needing more college level studies not fewer. A college may, however, request an exemption for particular majors: if a major has so many mandatory courses either because an external accrediting association mandates such a large number of credits that a 120 or 60 credit degree is impossible or because of national norms for a major that is not subject to an accrediting association, and a student majoring in that subject could not reasonably complete the degree in 120 credits, an exemption can be requested by the college: that request can be granted or denied by the Board.

Senator Jane Davenport said there might be recourse in terms of the lawsuit challenging the trustees' action which was filed in July. President Raplowits explained that Irwin Polishook, the head of the PSC, and Sandi Cooper, the chair of the University Faculty Senate, and four other faculty (from CUNY, NYC Tech, Brooklyn, and CSI) are plaintiffs in an Article 78 suit. The lawsuit argues that financial exigency did not truly exist on June 26 when the Board voted to retrench faculty, to close departments and programs, and to change the degree requirements and the other 36 policy changes: the argument is that because the NYS Legislature restored some of the proposed cuts, and because tuition was increased, the financial exigency was no longer in place and, therefore, the actions of the Board were illegal.

The plaintiffs argue against the change to 120 credits partly based on the fact that this change was made because of budgetary reasons, to save the University money, and because the Board abrogated a faculty prerogative. Senator Davenport said that her understanding of what PSC President Irwin Polishook told the UFS the previous night is that we have to go through the process of reducing the degree credits and that if the plaintiffs ultimately win the lawsuit the Board's actions could be nullified. President Kaplowits agreed but noted that Dr. Polishook had said he doubted that a judge would nullify such a specific academic policy as the number of credits required for a degree. Rather, she said, it seemed to her that the hope is that the court will reverse the retrenchments and the closing of the 44 degree programs. Senator Davenport agreed.

Senator Kinshasa asked Dean Gray whether the data about the freshmen supported or led to his suggestion that the history and literature requirements in the core be changed. Dean Gray said he did not factor the data into his comment. He said the issue he is really focused on in his role at the College and what really worries him is that the Admissions Office brought in a 14% increase in applications of entering freshmen and a 12% increase in transfers and yet the total headcount, after all that, increased by only 4%. The show rates on the transfers and on the freshmen is approximately 60%, which means that we are losing a lot of students, we are dismissing a lot of students. Information like that is not encouraging in terms of retention.

President Kaplowits said that the reports from Chancellor Reynolds and from Vice Chancellor for Budget Rothbard is that the upper-level students have not been returning this semester at all the campuses: it's not just at John Jay. Students used up their TAP semesters (and STAP was ended), they discovered the tuition increased by \$750 and yet TAP was decreased to a maximum of 90% of tuition and the eligibility for TAP became more stringent, and these are being presented as the reason for this pattern. Dean Gray said we will have more information in the next few weeks when the data can be analyzed.

Senator Kinshasa said that these stats would lead one to argue against cutting credits from the electives. And, he asked, what would the curriculum look like three years from now if the electives were

decreased by 8 credits. Dean Gray said that since the core is 60 credits and most majors are 36 credits, students are left with 24 elective credits if the degree is 120 credits: that is, 8 elective courses. Students who enter with academic weaknesses, such as the proficiency test results demonstrate, will have even less room for elective credits because they will be using up the elective credits with developmental courses, for which they get 5 or 6 credits. Thus instead of 24 elective credits they will have room for only 18 elective credits, which is only 6 courses.

Senator Kinshasa said that Dean Gray is assuming the students will get past the one-year limit on remedial courses. Dean Gray said he wanted to address that issue as a separate item today because that is a real problem for us. He said we need to talk about that one-year limit. There is some flexibility for us, he said, because we are both a two-year and a four-year college.

Senator Rusch asked what the rationale for this cut in graduation credits was. Was it purely financial, as Dean Gray is suggesting, or is it also academic? He added that either way he disagrees with Dean Gray but he is raising this because Dean Gray presented the issue in terms of cost savings for the College. Dean Gray said that the Board of Trustees included in item #27 language that focuses on cost: the Board policy says that the change is to bring CUNY "into conformity with national practices and reduce the cost of tuition to the student by up to \$1080." President Kaplowits said that the financial aspects are several but have nothing to do with colleges making savings: some students will be able to eliminate one semester of study and, therefore, will save one semester of tuition: this is particularly important especially because the legislature just cut the number of semesters of TAP that a student may receive and eliminated BTAP [Supplemental TAP] to cover the extra semesters that students requiring remediation need. She said there is also a wish to increase the numbers of students who graduate and the percentage of students who graduate and by making the degree more easily reached this might happen. Also, she said, there is a tremendous desire by CUNY to be in conformity with SUNY so that tuition changes and other changes are kept in synch. All SUNY colleges have a 120 degree Baccalaureate.

All these reasons, however, have nothing to do with a mandate or even a recommendation by 80th Street or the Board that colleges develop dollar saving solutions to the 120 credit issue. She said in all her discussions she has participated in and has witnessed at 80th Street, with Vice Chancellors, with the Chancellor, by the Trustees, she has never heard anyone ever even allude to the 120/60 degree credit issue as a way for colleges to save money. In fact, students taking fewer credits generate less tuition for CUNY and on that level the degree reduction is fiscally counterproductive.

President Kaplowits recommended that we hear the rest of Dean Gray's report on the impact of the Trustees' actions and then vote on the resolution. In the meantime, she said, we also have to understand more fully the issue that Dean Gray briefly alluded to and which is one of the 37 policy issues. She explained, as Dean Gray reported to the Chairs the previous day, at John Jay the students with the weakest academic preparation can earn as many as 17 credits of non-college level courses: this means that the least well prepared student who graduates, will graduate with only 103 college-level course credits (17 credits fewer than 120 credits) and the best academically prepared student will graduate with the full 120 college level course credits. Therefore the academically weakest students get the least amount of college level work.

Senator Gitter said that few such student do, in fact, graduate. President Kaplowitz said there is also the issue, however, of what message we are giving -- to our students and to those outside John Jay -- when we continue to give college credit for pre-college work especially now that the Board has raised this issue and has mandated that colleges review its policies.

President Kaplowitz said that one thing she thinks we do have to take up, as we did to some extent last year at the Senate, is the development of a course of action of recruiting for students who are academically better prepared. She reported that last night the Chancellor spoke about this to the UFS and reported that Brooklyn College faculty did this last year and succeeded in not only increasing their enrollment but in getting academically better prepared students than they've had in years. Chancellor Reynolds said that she and Ernie Banks (the great Chicago Cubs ballplayer) together recruited on behalf of their college, the University of Illinois. Chancellor Reynolds said that if she could do it, the CUNY faculty can do it, can go to college fairs, can go to the high schools, can go to college nights at the high schools and say, "I teach at John Jay and I want you to come to John Jay. Let me tell you about the college and answer your questions." Today's "New York Times" has a news story about our former provost, Dr. Jay Sexter, who is the president of Mercy College, who raised enrollment, in part by stemming attrition by having the faculty telephone every student at the end of the year to ask how was the semester, whether there were problems getting courses, whether there were things the student needed advice or help with. Jay Sexter is quoted in the "Times" article as saying that nothing can make students feel more welcome and wanted than faculty calling them to ask about their educational experience at the college. Chancellor Reynolds last night recommended doing the same thing. We should be doing this at John Jay. But we need a coordinated plan and a commitment by all the members of the College. The Senate did start a "Adopt a High School or Police Precinct or Community College" program but too few people participated. We need to be out there telling potential students that, as Senator Litwack says, we have not just criminal justice but also public service majors.

Senator Agarwal said that the Forensic Science Department does quite a lot of its own recruitment: the forensic science faculty do go to the high schools, and high school science classes come to John Jay to learn about our program. And that is an ongoing process. There is also coordination with the high schools whereby our forensic science faculty help high schools develop their own forensic science courses. Senator DeForest said that there are also a lot of high school teachers who became aware of our forensic science program and then developed forensic science courses at their school and the students who take those courses are potential forensic science majors at John Jay. Be noted that there is a synergistic result. He added that John Jay's forensic science faculty serve as liaisons to high schools. President Kaplowitz said that is a wonderful model and noted there are some high schools that focus on criminal justice and yet we have no relationship with them. She called this a mistake on our part.

Dean Gray asked to raise another issue with regard to the 120 credit degree. The 120 credits will be in place for students who start college in September 1996. The Trustees also intend to grandfather the 120 credit rule so that students who are returning students in Fall 1996 can also graduate with only 120 credits. He said he would like to ask 80th Street for approval whereby such returning students can graduate with 120 credits only if they have satisfied the major and the core as they now exist; the free electives would be waived. He said Dean Proto said he is comfortable with such

an approach but again that would have to be formally decided by the College.

Dean Gray said that item #17 is also important and pertains not to new students coming in but to continuing students who are already here. Item #17 states: "It shall be University policy that a senior college student not be permitted to repeat a remedial or ESL course after receiving either a no credit or a failing grade twice previously in that course. In rare circumstances a president may grant an exception to this policy." Dean Gray said he called Dean Proto and asked if we have students who fail a remedial or ESL course twice whether we can transfer the student to the associate degree program and let the students continue. Dean Proto's answer was that it is likely that we would be granted such an exception if we asked for it. Dean Gray said that he considers such an approach to be ill advised for John Jay and feels that we should not do this.

Dean Gray raised the question as to where the flexibility is. He explained that he looked at the spring 1994 data (not yet having the spring 1995 data): if policy #17 had been in place in spring 1994, there would have been 1200 problems and by problems he means English, Communication Skills, and Mathematics. When duplication is removed, there are still 990 students involved that we would dismiss from the College. For the most part these are full-time students. In other words 990 students, out of John Jay's 8800 students at that time, would have been dismissed because they twice failed any one of our remedial courses. He explained that Item #17 states that a student who fails any one remedial course is out. But a student gets two tries at each course. But once a student fails one of those courses twice, regardless of how they are doing in their other courses, they are dismissed. President Kaplowitz asked what percentage of those 990 students failed mathematics.

Dean Gray said that there are two big issues: in the strict interpretation of this policy, if a student registers for a course and withdraws and gets a "W" that counts as one of the two attempts at the course. In Math 103, if the strictest interpretation is applied, 423 students would be dismissed. But if the "W" grade is not counted as an attempt, the number drops to 237 students. And then on the third attempt, 123 students gassed the course. He said he has a background in mathematics and has taught math at John Jay and thinks there is a math phobia. In the other two categories, English and Communication Skills, when "W" is not counted the drop in the number of students who would be dismissed decreases by only between 20 and 50 students. With mathematics, the drop is almost 200 students. And so, he said, he wants to look at math and have us consider whether we want to consider the "W" grade as one of those two attempts at the course. Senator Litwack asked whether we have a choice. Dean Gray said that because of our associate/baccalaureate status we have some flexibility but, he added, we want to be careful that we do not become associated as a fully two-year college but we also want to be fair to the students.

President Kaplowits asked whether one of the ideas behind these resolutions is that students need to be given the signal early on about what they are permitted to do and if the "W" starts counting and starts having consequences that students will start get tutoring early and take the coursework seriously from the beginning. Dean Gray said that is true but added that he thinks that when we look into this issue more thoroughly we may find that not counting the "W" will not have a harmful effect: the students who conscientiously withdraw from a course often have good reasons. They are not just disappearing the way students who get a "WU" are. He said Gail Hauss, director of Institutional Research, is preparing lots of tables on this and we

have more time to decide this than we do tho 120 credit issue but, he said, he wants the senate to study this issue and help with developing the College policy on this. We will have to come to a decision by the end of the academic year.

Senator Karmen said he wanted to clarify the cost saving estimate that Dean Gray gave us when we were discussing the 120 credit issue. The assertion was that if we cut history or literature from the core we could save \$40,000 a semester. He asked if the cut were made elsewhere, for example, in the majors, what would be the cost saving. Dean Gray said savings by cutting from the core jumps out as an easy road because we are bottom heavy in that we have so many lower freshman and sophomore students. Senator Karmen said in other words cutting courses from the majors, which juniors and seniors take, won't lead to as much in cost savings: but, he asked, to what extent will there be a difference: \$10,000 less, \$20,000 less? He pointed out that a \$40,000 saving isn't very large in terms of our annual budget.

Dean Gray said that he does not personally believe that the decision should be made on the basis of dollars in any case. He noted he attended a business college where he took only three liberal arts electives, because he took a business core and a business major, and he felt cheated later on in life. Senator Karmen asked, then, was the recommendation the administration's recommendation or his personal opinion. Dean Gray explained that Professor Litwack had asked him to give his personal opinion and he responded and he added that his response is probably contrary to that of most people at the College.

President Kaplowits noted that Senator Karmen's point about the College's annual budget is an important one: John Jay's annual budget is \$34 million. Dean Gray said that his point is that this is a window of opportunity to look at several things concurrently. He said what he is most interested in looking at is the issue of students taking a course two times or three times. He said he is almost certain that if we want to stay with our current three time and you're out rule we would be granted that exception: whether we want to do that or not is a different question.

Senator Litwack asked whether there is any evidence that the relatively large size of our core discourages good students from coming to John Jay? Dean Gray said there is none that he is aware of.

President Kaplowits thanked Dean Gray and said that as usual he has provided invaluable information and important perspectives. And, she added, the Senate depends on his excellent work at the College. She said the Senate will undoubtedly invite him back soon to discuss these other issues and in the meantime we will take up the 120/660 issue question and let him know our position on that.

#### 7. Proposed resolution on the mandated reduction of degree credits to 120 and to 60 [Attachment B]

Senator Gitter said she would like to give some history about the core and some sense of what it was like when we redid the core ten years ago. She said the experience was horrible in a particularly disturbing way because the faculty who were involved were either insensitive to or particularly sensitive to (depending on one's discipline) the reality for both faculty and students resulting from having no liberal arts majors, diminishing resources, diminishing numbers of faculty. There developed an "us against them" mentality and reality among people who had been colleagues and, in some cases,

friends for all or most of their professional lives. Individuals and groups turned on each other. It brought out real divisions of a particularly uninformed kind between the social sciences and the humanities. The philistinism was painful and, quite frankly, often shocking.

Senator Gitter recalled that the then dean, Eli Faber, had sent her to a seminar at Brooklyn College on core curriculum: it focused on the ideal way to deal with core curriculum and also how to deal with the core curriculum at our individual colleges. The one rule in revisiting and revising a college's core curriculum is that it should be a process that brings the college together and that colleges that decide to redo their core curriculum have an opportunity to do something creative and interesting. And so, she said, she can see redoing the core at a time when there is energy and ideas to rethink how we would do the nine credits in the social sciences, and when there is energy and ideas to develop ways to teach literature and history and philosophy. But just redoing it to cut credits will always, at every college, result in a bloodbath. And so, she said, she urges that the principle by which we be guided be the least destructive. Times are tough enough around here without taking on the core. Senator DeForest said that for those not here at that time, the experience of redesigning the core was quite simply a civil war.

President Kaplowitz said that the Senate's Executive Committee adopted the position of the Council of Chairs (although the language of the Senate's resolution is different) because the Chairs wisely paired their proposal of not changing the core and of taking the credits from the electives with a call to the departments with majors to reduce the number of credits needed for the majors. Most of the majors are 39 or 42 credits: by reducing the number of credits for a major, we will enable our students to continue to have room to take electives. These two aspects are linked: that the cut be from the electives but that the majors consist of fewer credits and so the net effect would remain the same in terms of elective credits. President Kaplowitz praised the Council of Chairs for their leadership on this issue.

Senator Kinshasa said that during registration during the last seven years there have been at least two or three different catalogs floating around. He said that looking at the most recent catalog one sees that African-American courses that were required for criminal justice majors are no longer required. So many of us are concerned that this is a slippery slope: that majors will be made smaller by eliminating the cognate courses.

President Kaplowitz said that this proposal does not prevent us from looking at the core but proposes not doing so under the pressure of both time constraints and the necessity of making cuts in credits. Rather the core, if revisited, should be studied in a deliberate, informed way. Our decision, on the other hand, about the 8 and 4 credits has to be made this month because the Curriculum Committee and the College Council must vote on this.

She said that under the pressures we are faced with we should not be looking at the core at all. She said she has already heard one colleague or another propose eliminating just about every core requirement. She said everyone has some discipline that they did not do well in or enjoy as a student and that is the course they suggest not subjecting our students to.

She moved the proposed resolution on behalf of the Executive Committee. The motion was seconded. Senator Guinta said that if the

speech requirement is taken out of the core, the Speech Department would be obliterated. If Ethnic Studies is taken out, the African-American Studies and Puerto Rican Studies Departments would be in deep difficulties. He said a core is important but that if we are out of line with CUNY by having a larger core then we should rethink our core. He said electives are important and we have to make sure students have the opportunity to take electives.

Benator Solis said that her concern about the resolution is that it should require that majors be reduced in size. Benator Gitter asked what the size of majors in CUNY is since the concern seems to be that John Jay not be out of line. Vice President Blitz said that he can speak to the question in terms of SUNY, having called Stony Brook, Buffalo and Albany and more than two-thirds of their majors comprise 36 credits.

Benator Litwack offered as a friendly amendment the addition of the phrase "or fewer" so that the resolution states: "reduce the degree credits needed for the major to a maximum of 36 credits, and, if possible, reduce the number to 33 or fewer credits." Senator Litwack said he can think of majors that can be brought down to below 33 credits. President Kaplowitz accepted this as a friendly amendment, noting that she majored in English at Queens College and that the major consisted of 24 credits in that discipline.

Benator Umeh spoke in support of the resolution. He said that the resolution provides a way of meeting the Board of Trustees' mandate and yet maintaining a quality degree for our students.

Benator Geiger asked whether the credits were not being taken from the majors rather than from the electives as stated in the resolution. President Kaplowitz explained that the proposal is a phased in process since departments need time to revise their majors. Benator Geiger suggested adding the phrase "in the interim." Senator Litwack proposed amending the resolution by listing the electives as the third item instead of the second to show the relationship between the parts. Both amendments were accepted.

Senator DeLucia said he wanted to thank Senator Litwack for his amendment because to have 36 credit majors will not change the picture sufficiently. He said many students take electives in the area of their major and so a reduced major does not necessarily mean students will take fewer courses in a particular discipline. But it does give the student flexibility. He said he is inclined to think that a major of 30 to 33 credits is advisable, given the rationale that many students will take electives in that discipline anyway. Senator Karmen said he is the coordinator of the Criminology major. The Sociology Department is in the process of trimming the major down: and are going from 39 to 33 credits but hidden prerequisites in some cases result in a major that is larger than it seemingly is. He said also it is possible to defeat the spirit of the resolution by making cuts in the cognate areas: many majors have liberal arts, humanities, cognate areas and that is what might get cut and that is not what is intended. The resolution, he noted, is intended to foster a spirit of inclusion and to enable the students to be more adventurous in their choice of courses and to enable them to have a broad based liberal arts education. So if we cut the cognate portion of the major that is undermining the spirit of the resolution. Benator Litwack said he would cut all the cognate courses and pare down the major: colleges with a 24 credit major have only courses in that discipline in the major. President Kaplowitz said this is a decision of the departments involved and we should not interfere or try to dictate to them. What we are doing and what we should continue to do in discussions is raise



these issues and inform our colleagues and our students about these concerns and positions and about the possible repercussions, such as the ones Senator Karmen raised.

The question was called. The motion to call the question passed. The proposed resolution, as amended, was approved by a vote of 22 yes, 3 no, and 5 abstentions. President Kaplowitz said she will forward this resolution to the Curriculum Committee and to the College Council and she will testify at the public hearing on October 5 on behalf of the Senate.

Senator Guinta spoke of his dismay at the tight timetable we were working under. Senator Dunham said that the Board of Trustees passed 37 major policy resolutions with even less notice to the faculty and that it is clear that this is the way things will be done henceforth. Senator Jane Davenport said that that is what the lawsuit is about.

Senator Rubin said she does not know why people are so surprised at how fast this whole issue was imposed on us in view of the fact that the Congress is redoing the whole Medicare system with only one day of hearings. Senator McCrie said that he had voted against the resolution because he believes the core should not be sacrosanct but should also be considered for cuts.

#### 8. Election of a Co-Recording Secretary of the Faculty Senate

The Senate's Executive Committee, in compliance with the Senate Constitution which permits co-recording secretaries, nominated Senator Daniel Pinello to be Co-Recording Secretary. Senator Pinello, who was elected to the Executive Committee at the Senate's first meeting in May, accepted nomination. The Benate approved Senator Pinello's election as co-recording secretary by unanimous vote and with applause. He will share the duties with Co-Recording Secretary Edward Davenport.

#### 9. Election of Senate representatives to College committees

Senator Orrantia was nominated and unanimously elected to serve on the ad hoc committee on the Personnel Committee procedures and guidelines. Having served as chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, Senator Orrantia has the requisite experience of having served on the College Personnel and Budget Committee.

Senator Karmen was nominated and unanimously elected to serve as the fifth Senate member on the College's Comprehensive Planning Committee and on the College's Academic Planning Committee.

#### 10. Report on the proposed CUNY Certification Review Guidelines

President Kaplowitz drew the attention of the Senate to a document which was issued by 80th Street earlier this week. It consists of 23 recommendations about placement exams and skills assessment and most importantly a certification exam which students would have to pass in order to move into upper level (junior) status. Several vice chancellors, namely Vice Chancellor Freeland and Vice Chancellor Nunez-Wormack, and Professor George Otte (English/Baruch),

who chaired the 85-member taskforce, will be visiting each campus this semester to hold hearings among the faculty. President Kaplowitz said that Provost Wilson has requested that a Faculty Senate meeting be the occasion of the hearing and that all faculty be invited. The Provost's Office is arranging the date with 80th Street.

President Kaplowito noted that the last time such campus visits for the purpose of holding hearings took place was when 80th Street was proposing the College Preparatory Initiative (CPI). Although CPI was implemented in very much the way it was proposed, the preparation that the Senate did and the education about CPI the Senate provided to the faculty was well worth the effort: the repeated refrain that she and others heard was that John Jay's faculty was the most informed and most engaged of all the colleges. In addition to wanting to present a positive image of the John Jay faculty, she said that the proposals have very important implications for John Jay and for our students, especially because we are so inequitably underfunded. Even though we received by far the largest Base Level Equity allocation this year of all the colleges, we received by far the smallest Academic Program Planning allocation and we remain severely and inequitably underfunded. This has to have an impact on our ability to prepare our students to the level needed to pass a certification exam.

11. Discussion of the College Council's September 28 agenda

The date of the meeting of the Executive Committee of the College Council had been changed and the agenda of the September 28 Council meeting has not yet been received by the members of the College Council and so the agenda items could not be discussed.

12. New business

President Kaplowito concluded the meeting by reporting on comments at the previous day's meeting of the University Faculty Senate by Assemblymember Ed Sullivan, chair of the Assembly's Higher Education Committee, on the motives behind the political and fiscal attack on CUNY. Then she reported on the formation by CUNY faculty of The Higher Education Political Action Committee (T.H.E. P.A.C). Senator Geiger said it is important to reach out to the business community which is cognizant of the value of an educated labor force. President Kaplowitz agreed but said we have to first demonstrate faculty and student commitment by raising a sufficiently large amount of money from among CUNY faculty, staff, and students.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM by a motion duly made and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Davenport  
Daniel Pinello  
Co-Recording Secretaries



ATTACHMENT A

JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

*The City University of New York*  
445 West 59th Street, New York, N.Y. 10019  
212 237-8000

RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY SENATE  
OF JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

IN APPRECIATION OF ASSEMBLYMEMBER LAWRENCE B. SEABROOK

OCTOBER 11, 1995

WHEREAS, Lawrence B. Seabrook is a longstanding member of the New York State Assembly, representing the 83rd Assembly District in the Bronx, and

WHEREAS, Assemblymember Seabrook serves as Chair of the New York State Black and Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus, and

WHEREAS, Assemblymember Seabrook is an alumnus of John Jay College of Criminal Justice, having received his bachelor of arts degree in 1974, and

WHEREAS, Assemblymember Seabrook is a tireless advocate for public higher education, in general, and for the City University of New York, in particular and has devoted his enormous energies and talents to articulating the issues and to creating legislation which further the goals and missions of public higher education for the benefit of all students and society at large, and

**WHEREAS, Assemblymember Seabrook has been unceasingly generous with his time, attention, skills, and knowledge at John Jay College, helping the College and its students in countless ways, including by moderating the first Town Hall Meeting, by mentoring students, by bringing elected and appointed officials to the College, and by advancing the name, reputation, and mission of John Jay College of Criminal Justice, therefore be it**

RESOLVED, That the Faculty Senate of John Jay College of Criminal Justice expresses its heartfelt appreciation and admiration of Assemblymember Seabrook in **his capacities** as legislator, as a friend of John Jay College, as a champion of **CUNY**, and as a visionary and effective leader of the New York State Legislature.



ATTACHMENT B

JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

*The City University of New York*  
445 West 59th Street, New York, N.Y. 10019  
212 237-8000 / 8724

RESOLUTION OF THE FACULTY SENATE  
ON THE REDUCTION OF DEGREE REQUIREMENTS  
TO 120/60 CREDITS

SEPTEMBER 20, 1995

WHEREAS, An integral part of the education provided by John Jay College of Criminal Justice is a liberal arts education that affords both the foundation for, and the complement to, its special mission majors, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That to continue John Jay College's historic and groundbreaking decision to provide a liberal arts education for students who are current or future criminal justice practitioners and members of other public service agencies, and because the CUNY Board of Trustees has mandated a reduction from 128 to 120 baccalaureate degree credits, and a reduction from 64 to 60 associate degree credits, the John Jay Faculty Senate recommends, regarding the 8 (or 4) credit reduction:

1. These credits not be taken from the Core.
2. To provide room for students to take electives, by October 1996 all departments offering majors reduce the degree credits needed for the major to a maximum of 36 credits, and, if possible, reduce the number to 33 or fewer credits. (The Forensic Science major is to be exempted from this reduction.)
3. In the interim, the 8 (or 4) credits be taken from the electives.