

Faculty Senate Minutes #156

John Jay College of Criminal Justice

May 22, 1997

3:15 PM

Room 630T

Present (31): Yahya Affinnih, Michael Blitz, David Brotherton, Glenn Corbett, Elizabeth Crespo, Edward Davenport, Jane Davenport, Kojo Dei, John Donaruma, Janice Dunham, P.J. Gibson, Amy Green, Lou Guinta, Karen Kaplowitz, Kwando Kinshasa, Sondra Lanzzone, Sondra Leftoff, Gavin Lewis, James Malone, Mythili Mantharam, Ellen Marson, Mary Ann McClure, Robert McCrie, Jill Norgren, Daniel Pinello, Robert Rothchild, Frederik Rusch, Adina Schwartz, Carmen Solis, Davidson Umeh, Bessie Wright

Absent (6): George Andreopoulos, Effie Papatzikou Cochran, Arlene Geiger, Edward Green, Barry Luby, Daniel Yalisove

Invited Guest: Provost Basil Wilson

Agenda

1. Welcome and introduction of the 1997-98 Senators
2. Announcements from the chair
3. Approval of Minutes #155 of the May 9 meeting
4. Review of the history and work of the Faculty Senate and its relation to other College and University bodies
5. Faculty Senate representation on the College Council
6. Election of the 1997-98 Faculty Senate Executive Committee
7. Proposal that the Senate co-sponsor a professional program for seniors: Senator Robert McCrie
8. Invited guest: Provost Basil Wilson

1. Welcome and introduction of the 1997-98 Senators

The members of the 1997-98 Senate were welcomed and introduced.

2. Announcements from the chair

President Karen Kaplowitz said she is pleased to report that she has just been re-elected to the University Faculty Senate's Executive Committee for the 1997-98 year. [The Senate applauded this news.] She said that she does think it is important that a John Jay representative be on the 9-member UFS executive committee. The other members are Sandi Cooper (College of Staten

Island), Bernard Sohmer (City), David Speidel (Queens), Fred Greenbaum (Queensborough), Susan O'Malley (Kingsborough), Anne Friedman (BMCC), Martha Bell (Brooklyn), Cecelia McCall (Baruch).

Professor Harold Sullivan, who chairs the Government Department, was re-elected Chair of the Council of Chairs on May 14. The other members of the Council of Chairs' executive committee are: Professors Ned Benton, Robert Crozier, Jerry Markowitz, and Katherine Wylie (secretary).

Faculty are encouraged to attend the second annual student academic awards ceremony on June 2, which will honor students whose academic achievements and accomplishments deserve celebration. Senator Michael Blitz has been asked to write a poem for the occasion, which he will read at the ceremony.

President Lynch will honor the honorary degree recipients -- Constance Baugh, Geoffrey Canada, Tom Feelings, John Monahan -- at a dinner in his office the night prior to commencement. Also invited to the dinner are those who nominated these honorary degree recipients as well as the members of the Committee on Honorary Degrees, and the president of the Faculty Senate. The Honorary Degree Committee members are: Professors Daniel Gasman (chair), Jane Bowers, Jannette Domingo, Lotte Feinberg, Elizabeth Hegeman, Eli Silverman, and Tony Simpson. The Committee will be seeking nominations again in early fall for the June 1998 commencement. Nominations should be sent to Professor Gasman.

Professor Haig Bohigian, who was invited to today's meeting to discuss student evaluation of faculty and independent study compensation, expressed his regret at not being available today but said he would come to the Senate in September to discuss these issues with us [see Minutes #155].

Dr. Peter Barnett has resigned as the executive director of computer information systems, after serving in an exemplary fashion and being extremely responsive to faculty issues, such as prerequisite course checking, and is resuming his position as a member of the philosophy faculty. He has said he would be pleased to come to the Senate next semester to provide an overview of computing issues at our College.

President Kaplowitz reported that she learned today that many 386 computers will become available for the faculty in June. Those faculty who do not have a computer in their office should ask their department chair to request a computer: the chair must send a brief written memorandum to Associate Provost Kobilinsky providing a justification for the request. The computers in the microcomputer center for students are being upgraded and the 386 computers are being recycled to faculty.

For the benefit of John Jay faculty, Associate Provost Kobilinsky has scheduled a demonstration of distance learning at CUNY's computing center on 57 Street between 10th and 11th Avenues for the morning of June 10, which all faculty may attend.

Senator Sondra Leftoff asked for the opportunity to thank the Faculty Senate for attending her students' presentation about their week-long trip to the Navajo Nation. For the benefit of the new members of the Senate, President Kaplowitz explained that midway through the afternoon portion of our all-day Faculty Senate meeting on May 9, Senator Betsy Gitter told the Senate that 17 Thematic Study students had come to the College, with their

families, to report about their research and experiences during a week-long trip to the Navajo Nation which they had made with Senator Leftoff and Professor Anne Buddenhagen as part of their TSP course. But the College administrators, who had scheduled the presentation for that day and time, were not present and the reception, which was to follow the students' presentations, was cancelled. And so, President Kaplowitz explained, she adjourned the meeting and the Senate members attended the students' wonderful presentations.

Senator Leftoff said that the Faculty Senate really saved the day for the students. Having the faculty attend was wonderful for the students and, she said, the response and presence of her colleagues made the event one of the highlights of her experience as a teacher at John Jay. She said that during the two and a half hour student presentation she saw the faculty listening, being moved, and witnessing how dramatic and transforming an experience it was for the students to live with Navajos.

Senator Leftoff said she would like to read a formal statement prepared for today's meeting, first explaining that she co-taught the course with Anne Buddenhagen, an adjunct member of the Anthropology Department, and that both she and Professor Buddenhagen had accompanied the students and lived with them with a Navajo family for a week. Senator Leftoff praised Professor Buddenhagen, saying that, like so many adjunct faculty, she does not receive the recognition she deserves. Senator Leftoff said this is one of the issues she would like to address in the future.

Senator Leftoff read the statement: "The students and professors of the class on 'Harmony and Discord' would like to thank the Senate for their support of our formal presentation to the College community on May 9. Your attendance at our presentation, your interest in the students' experience, and your enthusiasm on a Friday afternoon were especially meaningful to all of us. Your immediate response and engagement expressed directly the vitality of this academic community and the special nature of this community in our everyday professional lives." She added that she was tremendously moved by what the members of the Senate chose to do.

Senator Kojo Dei noted that prior to attending the students' presentation, the Senate had been discussing ways to improve our pedagogy and what we witnessed when hearing the students' presentations exemplifies one such form of creativity that we can emulate in our teaching to make it meaningful and experiential. He said he enjoyed the students' presentations very, very much.

Senator Leftoff said this was an educational experience that we should try to offer all our students because it enabled students to make breakthroughs in ways no other type of educational experience had accomplished. She said she would like to explore ways to provide these kinds of experiences for students in public institutions of higher education because so many of our students do not otherwise have the opportunity for such experiences. She said that rather than distance learning by means of computers, this is learning that involves traveling a distance and engaging in activities that students think about, do research about, and understand in a different, deeper, more transforming way than they can in a classroom.

Senator Yahya Affinnih said that many faculty do not know the kinds of educational activities that faculty creatively provide

for their students and that had it not been for the unusual circumstances of May 9 we, too, would not know about this particular educational event. He noted that Senator Kinshasa has also engaged in field trips with his students but said he doubts that many know about it. He said that if faculty were to share their knowledge and experiences other faculty might also incorporate such projects in their courses.

Senator Kwando Kinshasa agreed with Senator Leftoff that the ability to take students to a site outside New York City has an extremely positive impact on our students. A couple of years ago, he initiated a program with Harper's Ferry -- the National Park Service -- to take John Jay students to do research about the descendants of enslaved populations in the 1860's to learn what happened to the families of the descendants. He said that while the research project itself was important, the students' ability to relate to each other and to experts outside the John Jay community proved to be even more important. He recalled arriving with his students at the very small town of Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, and being greeted by Southerners who had expected him to be Japanese because his name is Kinshasa. Students had the opportunity to find information dating back to the 1700's, documents that had been wrapped in oilcloths and had never been touched.

Since then, Senator Kinshasa reported, he has been able to establish an internship program: the first student is leaving in a week to research the role of women during the Civil War from 1861 to 1865. He agreed that distance learning should not be distance learning via a technological apparatus but rather should involve getting students to the actual locations. He said, in addition, one learns a tremendous amount about oneself as a professor.

President Kaplowitz said that New York City itself can provide field trips that faculty can create for their students: our students know how to get from their home to the College and back but many have never been in any other part of the City. She recalled that the other day a colleague told her about his discovery that his students had never been to Central Park. She said she often assigns a trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in her literature courses and the students, most of whom had never been there, not only love the museum but become tremendously empowered by the experience.

Senator Affinnih suggested that a Better Teaching Seminar be devoted to reports of these course projects and assignments so that other faculty can benefit from the knowledge and information that their colleagues have developed. He said a Better Teaching Seminar could address very practical issues: how to go about planning and organizing a field trip, the pitfalls to avoid, and so forth. He said many faculty may have ideas for field trips but not know how to implement those ideas.

President Kaplowitz agreed to organize a Better Teaching Seminar on this topic. She added that she was especially proud to be a member of the Faculty Senate when this situation occurred on May 9 because faculty could have taken the opportunity to high-tail it home -- after all it was 3 PM on a beautiful Friday in May and the Senate had been meeting since 9:30 that morning, first with Trustee Crimmins, then with President Lynch, and then was engaged in various items of business. But, instead, the Senate members stayed until 5:30 to witness the students' presentations and, in fact, the room was so crowded with Senate

members that many, such as Senator Dei, had to stand the entire time, and others, such as Senator Dunham, sat on the floor. Senator Dei said he received so much pleasure from listening to the students that he did not at all mind standing. President Kaplowitz recalled that at the conclusion of the presentations, when she congratulated one of her own literature students, the young woman, who had been reserved all semester in her course (and who had never mentioned this TSP trip), hugged and kissed her because she was so moved that she had attended the event. President Kaplowitz noted that if the Senate had not been in session none of us would have been here to support our colleagues and students. She thanked Senator Leftoff for her gracious statement.

Senator Ellen Marson asked how the TSP trip was funded. Senator Leftoff said the students partly paid for the trip and the John Jay administration partly paid for it. She said the administration had been extraordinarily supportive of this project, and she cited Vice President for Student Development Roger Witherspoon as especially supportive and helpful. She explained that she had presented a proposal to Vice President Witherspoon and his response had been that this is precisely the kind of activity he wants for our students. Senator Leftoff said the question of how to fund such projects is something she would like us to further study because it is very difficult to obtain outside funding, despite the excellent efforts of Jacob Marini,

President Kaplowitz suggested that Senator Amy Green report about the theater festival to which she takes her students each year. Senator Green explained that each summer a college theater festival travels to a different state and so she takes a group of students to a different state each year, to attend the 5-day festival which comprises workshops all day and then every night a different play from a different college theater group is performed (these plays are carefully selected from among college theater groups that tour): when the students are not seeing plays being performed they are attending writing and acting workshops. Senator Green said Vice President Witherspoon has been magnificent in his support: he provided some funds from the Student Activities fund which was supplemented with funds from the John Jay Players, a student club, which is funded by the Student Council. She said Vice President Witherspoon's attitude is that he is happy to do whatever it takes to make the project become a reality, including arranging for her to borrow one of the College vans. She said the students have never before experienced an event such as this theater festival, have never before met anyone who is interested in what they are interested in, and that it is a tremendously rewarding experience for them.

### 3. Approval of Minutes #155 of the May 9 meeting

By a motion duly made and carried, the Minutes of the meeting of May 9, 1997, were adopted.

### 4. Review of the history and work of the Faculty Senate and its relation to other Collese and University bodies

President Kaplowitz gave a review of the Senate's history. A Faculty Senate was first created at John Jay in the early 1970s (very

differently structured than the current Senate) but was disbanded during the fiscal crisis of the mid-1970s when John Jay's existence was threatened. The Senate was created again in 1986 because the faculty decided it is important to have an official faculty body, so that faculty can discuss issues as official representatives of their faculty colleagues.

The governance body of the College is the College Council, which has existed since the late 1960s: it now has 56 members: 28 faculty, 15 students, 5 HEOs (higher education officers), 1 alumni/alumnae representative, 1 non-instructional staff, and 6 administrators (who are statutory members): the president, provost, vice president for student development, vice president for administration, dean of admissions and registration, and dean of graduate studies. (Four ex officio members can make motions but cannot vote: a member of the Faculty Senate; a member of the HEO Council; the business director; and the dean of undergraduate studies.)

The Faculty Senate comprises all the faculty members who are members of the College Council and also 15 faculty elected as at-large representatives by the entire faculty: the 15 at-large members comprise 13 full-time faculty elected by the full-time faculty and 2 adjunct faculty elected by the adjunct faculty.

The Faculty Senate is a deliberative and advisory body where issues can be considered from a faculty perspective. Any member of the faculty may submit agenda items and may attend Senate meetings and may participate in discussions. However, only Senate members may make motions and may vote.

Five years ago, the Charter of John Jay College was amended and as a result the Faculty Senate can now elect representatives to the College Council from among its at-large representatives. The amended Charter provides that each academic department has one seat on the College Council. The Senate may fill the remaining faculty seats from among its at-large members. Any seats unfilled by the Senate are allocated as a second seat to the largest academic departments.

The Constitution of the Faculty Senate was written by Professors Robert Panzarella, Lawrence Kobilinsky, and James Malone, and was approved by the Faculty Senate and then ratified by secret ballot of the entire full-time faculty during the Spring of 1988: the faculty voted 168 to 10 to ratify the Constitution, which was a vote of support for the Senate, which had been in existence for two years.

The Faculty Senate Constitution was subsequently approved by the CUNY Board of Trustees when the John Jay Charter of Governance was amended to include the following language: "The Faculty Senate: The Faculty Senate shall meet at least once each semester during the regular academic year with the President of the College to discuss matters of particular concern to the teaching faculty" (Article 111. Section 2). (All Charter amendments must be approved by the Board of Trustees: when this amendment was sent to the Board, the Board reviewed and accepted the Faculty Senate's Constitution and, in voting to approve the Charter amendment, agreed that the Faculty Senate is the voice of the John Jay faculty.) The Faculty Senate Constitution is printed in the John Jay Faculty Handbook.

Each month a Senate meeting is scheduled prior to the College Council meeting so the Senate may discuss items on the College Council agenda for the purpose of informing itself about faculty concerns and faculty perspectives (as well as about the concerns of

other groups whose perspectives are represented either in reports or directly when they write to the Senate or attend Senate meetings).

In addition, the Senate frequently adopts resolutions and sends them to the College Council for action by the Council. The Senate also adopts resolutions for transmittal to the President of the College, or to the Provost, or to other members or organizations of the College, or to the University Faculty Senate, or to the Chancellor or to a Vice Chancellor, or to elected officials.

The "**Preamble**" of the Faculty Senate Constitution states:

The Faculty of John Jay College of Criminal Justice, having been entrusted by the by-laws of The City University of New York with responsibility for policy relating to admission and retention of students, health and scholarship standards, attendance, curriculum, awarding of college credit, granting of degrees, and the conduct of educational affairs customarily cared for by a college faculty, hereby establishes the John Jay College of Criminal Justice Faculty Senate in order to provide a formal means of representing faculty concerns to the administration of the College and the University and to provide a democratic forum for the deliberation of such matters and other matters upon which deliberation by the academic community may contribute to the well being of the University and the society which sustains it and looks to it for enlightenment.

(Preamble, Faculty Senate Constitution)

In writing the "**Preamble**," the authors of the Faculty Senate Constitution purposely included the language of the section of the CUNY Bylaws entitled "Duties of Faculty" (Section 8.6) because the duties and responsibilities and prerogatives of the faculty are not just what John Jay's Senate says they are but what the CUNY Board of Trustees states they are, which is what the role of a college faculty historically is:

The faculty shall be responsible, subject to guidelines, if any, as established by the board for the formulation of policy relating to the admission and retention of students including health and scholarship standards therefor, student attendance including leaves of absence, curriculum, awarding of college credit, granting of degrees. It shall make its own bylaws, consistent with these bylaws, and conduct the educational affairs customarily cared for by a college faculty.

(CUNY Board of Trustees Bylaws, Section 8.6)

The Senate issues resolutions because the Faculty Senate is the official "voice of the faculty" of John Jay College except in those areas (terms and conditions of employment) where the Professional Staff Congress is the voice of the faculty: Article I of the Faculty Senate Constitution: "Powers of the John Jay Faculty Senate" states:

The John Jay College Faculty Senate shall serve as one of the bodies of the College in the shaping of academic and educational policies. The John Jay

Faculty Senate shall concern itself with matters of teaching, scholarship, research and any and all other matters related to faculty concerns as part of the educational mission of John Jay College. The Faculty Senate, acting through resolutions voted upon, shall be considered the voice of the faculty when making recommendations to the College Council, to administrative officials, or to other components of the College and the University, consistent with C.U.N.Y. by-laws, the Professional Staff Congress contract and academic freedom. (Faculty Senate Constitution, Article I)

Examples of Senate advisory positions include letters to the CUNY Vice Chancellor of Budget about John Jay's inequitable underfunding; resolutions calling on City officials to restore the funding for the CUNY Police Cadet Program; a resolution to John Jay's administrators that computerized registration be accompanied by computerized checking and enforcement of prerequisites, etc.

President Kaplowitz noted that the Senate's work contributed to the 1994 establishment by the Chancellory of "Base Level Equity," whereby funded faculty lines are distributed among colleges and are embedded into the base budgets of the colleges that receive such lines. This policy was implemented after John Jay's Senate argued in a number of letters to and in meetings with the Chancellory that the inequitable funding of John Jay must be remedied. Governor Pataki's Executive Budget provides funding for Base Level Equity.

This year, several people from outside John Jay have been guests of the Senate: CUNY Trustee George Rios, Trustee Jerome Berg, Trustee Michael C. Crimmins; New York State Assemblyman Denny Farrell and Assemblyman Scott Stringer.

In past years the Faculty Senate's guests have included Chancellor W. Ann Reynolds; Vice Chancellor for Budget Richard Rothbard; Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs & University Dean for Academic Affairs Elsa Nunez; Vice Chancellor for Construction Emma Macari; Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Richard Freeland; NYS Senators Catherine Abate and Franz Leichter and NYS Assemblymembers Richard Gottfried, Edward Sullivan, and Scott Stringer; NYS Assemblyman and chair of the NYS Black and Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus Larry Seabrook, who has recently been elected to the NYS Senate; and CUNY Trustee Sandi Cooper, chair of the UFS.

Another important College body is the Council of Chairs, which comprises the chairs of all the academic departments, which currently number 20. Since the Senate's creation in 1986, the President of the Senate has attended the meetings of the Council of Chairs. There has always been an excellent working relationship between the Faculty Senate and the Council of Chairs.

Also important is the PSC Chapter, chaired by Professor Haig Bohigian, who was a member of the Senate for many years and who comes to the Senate when there are issues to discuss with us.

The College P&B Committee makes personnel and budget recommendations to the President. A subcommittee is the Budget Planning Committee, chaired by Professor Ned Benton. The President of the Senate attends meetings of that committee.

The University Faculty Senate comprises delegates from all CUNY colleges. John Jay's 1997-98 UFS delegates are Professors Haig

Bohigian, Orlanda Brugnola, Jane Davenport, Karen Kaplowitz, and Maria Rodriguez. Professors Ned Benton and Edward Davenport are John Jay's two alternate delegates.

Among the Senate's additional responsibilities is voting on honorary degree candidates recommended by the Committee on Honorary Degrees. The Senate sponsors the Better Teaching Seminars and has done so since 1986, as well as the Faculty Mentor Program.

5. Faculty Senate representation on the Collese Council

John Jay's Charter provides that the 28 faculty seats on the 56-member College Council shall be allocated as follows: "Each academic department shall be allocated one seat and the remaining seats shall be allotted according to any method duly adopted by the Faculty Senate" (1.3.a). The Senate, thus, may fill up to **8** of the 28 faculty seats on the Council from among the incoming at-large members of the Senate, although the Senate may choose to fill fewer than **8** seats. In April the Senate elected six at-large members of next year's Faculty Senate as representatives on the 1997-98 Council: Professors P.J. Gibson, Edward Green, Karen Kaplowitz, James Malone, Daniel Pinello, and Carmen Solis. (This election must take place prior to May 1 so the academic departments can know the number of Council seats it has been allocated.)

6. Election of the 1997-1998 Faculty Senate Executive Committee

a. President. Karen Kaplowitz was nominated and seconded. Vice President Pinello assumed the chair and invited further nominations. There being none, the Senate voted to close nominations. A motion was made for the Secretary to cast a ballot on behalf of the Senate.

In response to a motion for the Secretary to cast a ballot, Karen Kaplowitz explained that it is the Executive Committee's recommendation and has been the practice of the Senate during the past several years and also her own personal request that voting be by secret ballot: she said the effectiveness of the Senate's officers is potentially weakened if there is no secret ballot and the converse is also true. Vice President Pinello distributed ballots and instructed the Senators to write "yes," "no," "abstain," or the name of a write-in candidate. The vote was 31 yes, 0 no, 0 abstention.

b. Vice President. Daniel Pinello was nominated and seconded. There being no further nominations, the Senate closed nominations. Voting was by secret ballot: 31 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions.

c. Recording Secretary. Edward Davenport was nominated and seconded. There were no further nominations. Voting was by secret ballot: 31 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions.

d. Corresponding Secretary. Carmen Solis was nominated and seconded. There were no further nominations. Voting was by secret ballot: 31 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions.

e. Officers at Large (2). Kwando Kinshasa and Amy Green were nominated. Voting was by secret ballot: Kwando Kinshasa: 31 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions; Amy Green: 31 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions.

All the officers were applauded by the Senate.

7. Proposal that the Senate co-sponsor a professional program for seniors: Senator Robert McCrie

President Kaplowitz congratulated Senator McCrie on his election as the chair of the Department of Law, Police Science, and Criminal Justice Administration and the Senate applauded the news. She invited Senator Robert McCrie to present his proposal.

Senator Robert McCrie said that from general reading he had become aware that ivy league colleges have begun helping their students prepare for employment interviews, and because going to lunch or dinner with a prospective employer is sometimes part of the interview process, the colleges have been helping their students prepare for those experiences as well. He first read about this when Harvard Business School offered a seminar for its students, then when the Wharton School offered one, and then when Columbia offered a program, not for its business students but for its undergraduates. So he contacted Columbia, thinking that we could do something similar here and, after much persuasion on his part, he was invited to a dinner called "Manners for Business" that is open to all Columbia undergraduates for which they are charged \$5. A supplement of \$10 or \$12 is provided per student from student activity funds. The program, which involves an actual dinner (at Columbia), lasts about 3 hours.

The program is taught by Elizabeth Abbott, who first created the program for corporations which felt that some of their trainees from academic backgrounds needed this kind of training. Elizabeth Abbott, Associates, provides this service to such corporations as Xerox, Citibank, and Morgan Guaranty Trust, and has now provided it for Columbia. Along with learning about dining manners and etiquette and social skills, there is common sense information about the interview process and about preparing a resume, but in ways that do not duplicate anything taught in English 235 (our Writing for Business course). The students learn about various pitfalls as Ms. Abbott works the room, moving around the dinner tables, answering questions, Senator McCrie explained.

He noted that his proposal is that the Senate co-sponsor this program so as to assist graduating students prepare for job interviews. He explained that voting for this proposal entails no expenditure, but endorsement would mean co-sponsorship. Funding would be provided from a grant Senator Lou Guinta has obtained.

Senator McCrie said he has discussed this proposal with Vice President Witherspoon, with Dr. Judith Bronfman, to whom the Career Placement Office reports, and with Paul Wyatt, the Director of Advisement, all of whom have seen the explanatory video that Abbott, Associates, provides and which he has brought so the Senate can view a few minutes of it.

Senator Lou Guinta told the Senate that students all over the country are finding that they are not properly prepared for the job market. He said they need to learn basics, including what to order and what not to order at a luncheon interview. He said the ethos of our students, as we see it in our classrooms and in our corridors, is that of young people in today's society. But that is not the ethos of the workplace. He said that Paul Wyatt, the Director of Advisement, with the help of Senator McCrie, has developed a very interesting proposal, called "Professional Development" for our students, whereby we will help students with

the kinds of skills they need in order to be successful. He pointed out that people will judge our students by whether they have these skills or not and that unless we provide them with a way of learning these skills they are at a disadvantage. He called Senator McCrie's proposal an excellent way to assist our students.

President Kaplowitz reported that recently a corporate executive had a very negative experience during a luncheon interview with a John Jay student and this executive announced that as a result of the student's egregious manners he will never interview another John Jay student or graduate and told this to administrators at the College. So not only did this student lose an employment opportunity with this company but so did all current and future John Jay students.

Senator Jill Norgren recalled a PBS program about training for professional etiquette and agreed that this is very important for our students. Senator John Donaruma asked what specifically the program would entail. Senator McCrie explained that Ms. Abbott would actually come to John Jay to conduct the seminar. Asked the cost for this seminar, Senator McCrie said Ms. Abbott is willing to reduce her fee from **\$4,000** to \$550 for John Jay. Senator McCrie then showed an excerpt from a promotional videotape. He apologized for having to leave the meeting at this point.

Senator James Malone noted that during the Freshman Colloquium course students are told they will have to make certain changes to enter the professional world and he thinks the proposed program for seniors would be a nice bookend to that freshman experience. Senator Davidson Umeh wholeheartedly endorsed the proposal and noted that many students could benefit from this exposure because their prior cultural experience has not prepared them for these social skills. Senator P.J. Gibson suggested that we look for opportunities to reinforce these skills in relevant courses at the College. She suggested that the College also create occasions and events so that students can reinforce and practice the skills covered in such a seminar.

Senator Kwando Kinshasa observed that the faculty might take a look at themselves in relation to our students: John Jay could use a seminar to help faculty cross a cultural divide to reach students. Senator Umeh said he understood the purpose of this project was to let students know what the corporate world wants. Senator Donaruma addressed the inconsistency of faculty expectations with reference to student behavior throughout the College.

Senator Leftoff commented that the video represented a white, middle-class milieu and asked whether this is appropriate for our community. Senator Malone asserted that "professional culture" is not the sole property of the white middle class. Senator P.J. Gibson agreed that the images in the video do conform to white middle class culture but said it is for that very reason that the information is very important. Senator Edward Davenport reported having heard a business person in this neighborhood say that he wouldn't hire a CUNY graduate and suggested that literacy is a key factor in these issues as well.

Senator Norgren agreed with Senator Leftoff and said that the brief portion of the videotape we have seen does not provide sufficient information for us to vote to co-sponsor Ms. Abbott's

specific program although it is clear that the Senate supports the importance of providing these skills to our students. Vice President Pinello said that if we do not approve this program as proposed by Senator McCrie, we might not have any program next semester because he does not hear anyone volunteering to mount an alternative program. Senator Dunham concurred. Senator Blitz said he believes that our students can design an alternative program if we had them do research about it. He said he does not think Ms. Abbott does a better job than could be done by the theater people at John Jay.

Senator Malone said he does not know why we could not have both. He, for one, is not against Ms. Abbott's program, he said. Senator Norgren advised against a hasty sponsorship of a specific program the videotape of which has raised concerns for some of us. Senator Guinta noted that Paul Wyatt is designing a program for next semester. Senator Norgren noted that Paul Wyatt may have already rejected the particular program that Ms. Abbott has developed and said she would not want the Senate to endorse a program that does not have the support of Paul Wyatt and she noted that unfortunately Senator McCrie is not here to answer our questions about any of this.

A motion supporting professional training for our students passed unanimously with the agreement that the Senate president will engage in further discussions with Paul Wyatt about the specific proposal and program.

8. Invited guest: Provost Basil Wilson

Provost Basil Wilson was welcomed and said he is pleased to have the opportunity to greet the new Senate at its first meeting. He said that in September we will be having 14 or 15 new faculty and that, in fact, we are getting a new generation of faculty. In response to the Senate's interest in supporting a program of professional training for our students, Provost Wilson spoke in support of any efforts we can undertake to present our students with new options for behavior. The Provost was called away at this point because of an urgent situation and apologized for having to leave. He said he looks forward to meeting with the 1997-98 Faculty Senate in the fall.

By a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward Davenport  
Amy Green

Recording Secretaries