

Faculty Senate Minutes #342

Monday, April 20, 2009

3:20 PM

Room 630 T

Present (39): Simon Baatz, Elton Beckett, Adam Berlin, Teresa Booker, Marvie Brooks, Erica Burleigh, Elise Champeil, JoEllen Delucia, Virginia Diaz, Janice Dunham, Joshua Freilich, Gail Garfield, P. J. Gibson, Maki Haberfeld, Jay Hamilton, Kimberly Helmer, Heather Holtman, Ping Ji, Karen Kaplowitz, Joseph King, Erica King-Toler, Ali Kocak, Tom Litwack, Vincent Maiorino, Evan Mandery, Mickey Melendez, Michael Pfeifer, Tanya Rodriguez, Jodie Roure, Francis Sheehan, Richard Schwester, Arthur Sherman, Staci Strobl, Robert Till, Shonna Trinch, Roberto Visani, Thalia Vrachopoulos, Valerie West, Joshua Wilson

Absent (11): Michael Alperstein, Andrea Balis, Shuki Cohen, Edward Davenport, DeeDee Falkenbach, Beverly Frazier, Amy Green, Richard Haw, Allison Kavey, Nicholas Petraco, Raul Romero

Invited Guest: President Jeremy Travis

Agenda

1. Announcements from the chair
2. Adoption of Minutes #341 of the April 2, 2009, meeting
3. Discussion of agenda items on the February 21 College Council agenda
4. Election to fill 2 newly vacant Senate seats on the Comprehensive Planning Committee
5. Election of 8 additional members of the 2009-10 Faculty Senate & College Council
6. Review of the agenda of the April 22 meeting of the College Council
7. Review of updates on the Workload Policy Guidelines
8. Invited Guest: President Jeremy Travis

1. **Adoption of the agenda.** Approved.

2. Approval of Minutes #341 of the April 2, 2009, meeting. Approved.

3. Announcements & Reports [Attachment A, B]

An update was given on the status of Professor Luis Barrios, who had been convicted and sentenced to prison for an act of civil disobedience. Professor Barrios' release date is May 8. Professor Barrios has expressed great appreciation toward President Travis for writing to the warden of the Manhattan Correctional Center [Attachment A]. Another letter was drafted by Professors David Brotherton, Blanche Wiesen Cook, Karen Kaplowitz, and Gerald Markowitz and was signed by more than 400 John Jay faculty, staff, and students [Attachment B] and was delivered to the warden of the Manhattan Correctional Center and also to U.S. Attorney General Holder. A meeting is scheduled for May 12 at 3:30 PM in 630 T to celebrate Professor Barrios. A welcome home party is scheduled for the evening of May 15.

4. Election to fill a newly vacant seat on the Comprehensive Planning Committee

The Senate's continuing representatives on Comprehensive Planning Committee are Karen Kaplowitz, Kwando Kinshasa, and Evan Mandery. A fourth and fifth seat are open for nominations and election by the Senate.

5. Election by the Faculty Senate of 8 additional members of the 2009-10 Faculty Senate & the 2009-2010 College Council

By secret, written ballot, the Senate elected the following 8 candidates from among 16 candidates to serve on both the Faculty Senate and College Council during the 2009-10 academic year:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Andrea Balis – History/ISP | Kimberly Helmer – English |
| Erica Burleigh – English | Rick Richardson – Sociology |
| Elise Champeil – Science | Staci Strobl – Law, PS, CJA |
| Maki Haberfeld – Law, PS, CJA | Valerie West – Criminal Justice |

6. Review of the agenda of the April 22 meeting of the College Council

The agenda includes: a proposal for a dual/joint associate in science in accounting for forensic accounting (AS) Bachelor of Science in Economics (BS); a proposal for the revision of the

Criminology Major; a proposal for a revision of the Economic Major; proposals for five new courses in Music, Government, and Economics; a proposal for a postgraduate certificate program in Forensic Psychology; a proposal for a Master of Arts program in International Criminal and Justice; recommended award recipients from the Committee on Honors, Prizes and Awards.

7. Review of updates on the Workload Policy Guidelines

President Kaplowitz reviewed the changes to the document used to provide guidance about faculty workload expectations. Senators again expressed disagreement with the provision for partial workload credit for team teaching. The new proposed language is in Section III.F:

Team Teaching

The workload credit for faculty members who participate in team taught courses will be shared. The total instructional contact hours of a course, as indicated in the Undergraduate or Graduate Bulletins, will be split among all faculty members participating in a team taught course. For instance, three faculty members who are team teaching a 3-credit course will each earn one contract hour of workload credit. Only in special cases, and upon approval by the Provost in advance, may faculty members who are team teaching receive more than partial workload credit.

The Senate proposed that there should be a start date after next year for the implementation of this section of the workload guidelines because many faculty members have already committed themselves to team teach next semester, thinking the compensation would be the same as it has been until now. Senators spoke about how ISP will be irrevocably harmed because of this policy. Others spoke about the many graduate courses that are team taught. And others still spoke about the interdisciplinary nature of so many of our programs, which requires team taught courses.

President Kaplowitz, a member of the ad hoc task force on workload, said that team teaching was never discussed during the development of the guidelines. Several suggested that before final language is decided, a critical analysis of team teaching should be conducted and that there should be requirements in terms of how team teaching is conducted since there are many models. Faculty Senate members strongly disagreed with the language in the current document and would like to know how team teaching is handled and compensated at other CUNY colleges. Questions were asked about the consequences if these guidelines are not followed and whether these guidelines violate any collective bargaining provisions. This policy affects the way hours/credits are defined.

The following motion was made and carried by unanimous vote: The Senate strongly disagrees with the language about team teaching in the draft Workload Guidelines and urges the Provost

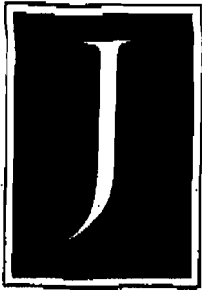
to delay implementation of any change in team teaching workload compensation for at least a semester, during which time an analysis should be conducted of the various types of team teaching that are possible, the ways that other CUNY colleges handle this matter, and what is fair compensation to faculty.

8. Invited Guest: President Jeremy Travis

President Travis discussed the successful John Jay Justice Awards Ceremony held at the College describing it as a high profile event. The latest news is that the State Legislature passed the budget and that it protects the University. A tuition increase was approved by the Legislature and the Governor and is expected to be approved by the CUNY Board of Trustees shortly. The College will start a serious study of retention and graduation rates which will be conducted by Keeling and Associates. The strategic planning process will begin soon and consultation with the Faculty Senate will take place. Senator Litwack asked that the report be shared with the Senate as well as with the Budget committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

ATTACHMENT A



JOHN JAY COLLEGE
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
JEREMY TRAVIS

March 24, 2009

Mr. Rocky Dowd
Interim Warden
Metropolitan Correctional Center
150 Park Row
New York, NY 10007

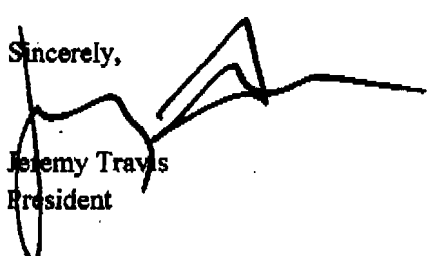
Dear Warden Dowd:

I am writing to express my deep concern about information I have received regarding the treatment of a member of our faculty detained in your custody. On March 9, 2009, Professor Luis Barrios reported to the Metropolitan Correctional Center to serve a 60-day sentence for trespassing onto Fort Benning Military Base as part of a civil disobedience protest. Individuals close to Professor Barrios have forwarded to me a number of troubling allegations of mistreatment. These complaints claim that:

- For the first nine days of his incarceration, Professor Barrios was placed in punitive segregation where he was locked in his cell 23 hours a day. This exceedingly harsh treatment has no apparent justification.
- While in punitive segregation, Professor Barrios became ill. Despite notice to facility staff that he had a fever, was vomiting and was experiencing severe pain in his kidneys, Professor Barrios did not receive adequate medical treatment for 14 hours. He was eventually treated for kidney stones at a nearby hospital.
- Since his incarceration, Professor Barrios has been denied the use of a phone and has not been permitted to have visitors. Especially troubling is the allegation that he was not permitted any contact with his lawyer until two weeks after his incarceration.

Given the seriousness of these allegations, a full and fair investigation of Professor Barrios' treatment at the Metropolitan Correctional Center is warranted. The College community is very concerned about the treatment received by this respected colleague and would appreciate a report from you at your earliest convenience. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jeremy Travis
President

3/22/09

ATTACHMENT B

The Warden
Metropolitan Correction Center
150 Park Row
NY 10007

Eric Holder, J.D.
United States Attorney General
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs,

On January 26, 2009, a federal judge in Georgia found Dr. Luis Barrios (a well-published senior academic at John Jay College of Criminal Justice where he is Chair of the Department of Latin American and Latino/a Studies and a long standing Episcopalian priest in Washington Heights) guilty of a B Misdemeanor for trespassing on government property at the School of the Americas (renamed the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation in 2001) operated by the Department of Defense at Fort Benning military base. The act was part of a civil disobedience protest against the continuing operations of a "school" that has trained and enabled hundreds if not thousands of Latin American and Caribbean members of the military and police establishment in interrogation, counter-insurgency and coercive social control techniques for the past twenty-five years. Professor Barrios, along with four others, Kristin Holm; Sr. Diane Pinchot, OSU; Al Simmons; and Theresa Cusimano received sentences of 60 days in a federal penitentiary while a sixth, Louis Wolf, was sentenced to six months of house arrest due to his age and ill health.

On Monday March 9th 2009, Professor Barrios began his sentence at the Metropolitan Correction Center located at 150 Park Row, Manhattan. At 2pm on that day, members of the John Jay faculty joined a throng of community supporters in a farewell meeting outside the prison and watched as Professor Barrios was escorted into the institution by an administrative official. According to letters sent out of the prison by Professor Barrios to his wife we should be greatly concerned at the abuse, neglect and vindictive treatment meted out to Professor Barrios since his detention.

On entry into the prison, during what are called "intake procedures," Professor Barrios was placed into the Special Housing Unit. This unit is normally used as a

punishment cell or as a segregated unit to control unruly inmates. The cell measures 10 foot by 6 foot and has a small window 1.5 foot by 3.5 foot. Professor Barrios was kept in the cell for 9 days, 23 hours a day, and released into the general population only on March 18th. On his 4th day in isolation Professor Barrios became ill complaining of severe pain in his kidneys along with vomiting, fever and head aches. He was denied proper treatment for more than twelve hours and eventually transported to an emergency room at a nearby hospital. On his way to and from the hospital, while shackled from head to foot, he was given repeated body and cavity searches which resulted in his intimidation and humiliation. The authorities know full well that Professor Barrios has a pre-existing condition of high blood pressure for which he is taking medication.

During his stay at MCC he has been denied the use of a phone, access to writing materials, attendance at Sunday worship, heat in his segregated cell, visits from his wife, family, friends and colleagues and, until today, contact with his lawyer. The implausible situation in which Professor Barrios has been placed, the vindictive treatment consistently being meted out to him by the federal prison administration, the consistent isolation and denial of basic human rights which have characterized his treatment are all intolerable and unconscionable. We the undersigned members of the John Jay College of Criminal Justice community protest the ill-treatment Professor Barrios has hitherto endured and demand that his safety be guaranteed during the rest of his stay and that he be accorded a level of respect and humanity expected of civilized institutions in a democratic society. In addition we demand a public investigation that will answer the following questions:

- How does someone receive a prison sentence of 60 days for a B Misdemeanor?
- Why is someone who has committed no prison infraction and is a "prisoner of conscience" placed in a Special Housing Unit for 9 days?
- Why is someone denied medical treatment for so long especially when it is known that this person has a pre-existing health condition that places them at risk?
- How is someone who is obviously no threat to prison security denied access to the phone, a lawyer and other visits for the first two weeks of his 60 day sentence?
- Why is a low-risk inmate, sentenced to two months, only allowed one visit every fourteen days?
- Is this abusive treatment of Professor Luis Barrios so normalized in our prisons that the correctional system has lost all humanitarian base lines?

This letter was signed by

David Brotherton (Chair, Department of Sociology)
Blanche Wiesen Cook (Distinguished Professor of History)
Gerald Markowitz (Distinguished Professor of History)
Karen Kaplowitz (President, Faculty Senate)