

Faculty Senate Minutes #396

November 19, 2012

1:40 PM

Room 9.64 NB

Present (36): Erica Burleigh, Chevy Alford, Andrea Balis, Ned Benton, Adam Berlin, James Cauthen, Kashka Celinska, Demi Cheng, Janice Johnson Dias, Janice Dunham, Peggy Escher, Terry Furst, Lior Gideon, Maria Grewe, Maki Haberfeld, Jay Hamilton, Tim Horohoe, Shaobai Kan, Karen Kaplowitz, Kwando Kinshasa, Anru Lee, Cyriaco Lopes, Amie Macdonald, Vincent Maiorino, Evan Mandery, Roger McDonald, Jean Mills, Brian Montes, David Munns, Richard Oejo, Melinda Powers, Raul Romero, Francis Sheehan, Staci Strobl, Shonna Trinch, Katherine Wylie-Marques

Absent (12): Elise Champeil, Veronica Hendrick, Charles Jennings, Maria Kiriakova, Tom Kucharski, Ma'at Lewis, Richard Li, Yu Ma, Michael Maxfield, Elvin Montgomery, Nick Petraco, Manouska Saint Gilles

Invited Guests: Professor Nivedita Majumdar, Professor John Pittman

Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Announcements & Reports
3. Adoption of Minutes #396 of the November 19 meeting
4. Adoption of a statement about the undercover spying by the NYPD of JJ Muslim students
5. Invited Guests: Professors Nivedita Majumdar and John Pittman, Co-Chairs of the JJ Chapter of the PSC, on the teaching load at John Jay
6. Review of the agenda of the November 20 meeting of the College
7. Oral reports about preliminary draft Chapters 6-10 of the Middle States Self-Study Report at <http://johnjay.ijay.cuny.edu/mstates/reaccreditation.asp>

1. Adoption of the agenda. Approved.
2. Announcements & Report. Noted.
3. Adoption of Minutes #395 of the October 17 meeting. Approved.

4. Adoption of a statement about the undercover spying by the NYPD of Muslim students at John Jay: Executive Committee [Attachment A]

Senator Staci Strobl moved to refer the proposed resolution to the Senate's Public Safety Committee. The motion was seconded and received a vote of 13-12. President Kaplowitz voted in the negative to tie the vote. The resulting vote was 13-13 and, therefore, the motion failed.

The original resolution, proposed by the Executive Committee, was amended in the following ways: first, by adding the phrase "independent of a valid and specific criminal investigation" to all the "resolved" clauses that do not already include that clause, and second, by deleting the phrase "Muslim students and all" from the last two "resolved clauses so that those clauses speak of CUNY students and faculty. The question was called. The resolution, as amended, was adopted by a vote of 13-10-6.

5. Invited Guests: Professors Nivedita Majumdar and John Pittman, Co-Chairs of the John Jay Chapter of the PSC, on the teaching load at John Jay [Attachment B]

Senator Evan Mandery moved to endorse a Resolution on teaching load at John Jay that had been approved in October by the Executive Committee of the John Jay Chapter of the PSC. The following amendments were made: to add the phrase "nor to serving our campus community" in the last "whereas" clause; to add the phrase "across the board" to the "resolved" clause; to correct in the second "whereas" clause the reference to the mission statement when the reference should be to the Master Plan; and, again, in the second "whereas" clause to correct the mischaracterization of the Master Plan as being from the administration when it grew out of work by the entire College community and was approved by the College Council. These changes were agreed to by Professors Nivedita Majumdar and John Pittman, Co-Chairs of the JJ Chapter of the PSC. The resolution, as amended, was approved by a vote of 35-1-0.

6. Review of the agenda of the November 20 meeting of the College Council . Noted

7. Oral reports about preliminary draft Chapters 6-10 of the Middle States Self-Study Report at: <http://johnjay.ijay.cuny.edu/mstates/reaccreditation.asp>

Because the time allotted for the meeting had expired, it was decided that this item would be placed on the December all-day meeting agenda. In the meantime, Senators scheduled to report at today's meeting about Chapters 6-10 of the Middle States Self-Study were invited to send their comments to President Kaplowitz and also, if they wish, their marked copy of their assigned chapter. President Kaplowitz promised to send an email as a reminder.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Submitted by
The Executive Committee

ATTACHMENT A

Resolution of the Faculty Senate of John Jay College of Criminal Justice Opposing NYPD Surveillance of Muslim Students on John Jay's Campus

November 19, 2012

Whereas, an individual recently revealed that until recently he had been an NYPD paid spy and informer of Muslim students at John Jay College since January, infiltrating and reporting about the members and guests of the Muslim Student Association (MSA), a recognized student club on campus, and about attendees at John Jay events sponsored by the MSA, and

Whereas, this information has been widely reported by the news media and has been verified by the Associated Press, which reviewed emails and text messages, including photos, between the self-identified informer and the NYPD, and

Whereas, it appears that this surveillance was not based on any allegations of suspected or actual criminal activity by Muslim students at John Jay, and

Whereas, the NYPD has not denied the veracity of these reports and has not denied the absence of suspected or actual criminal activity and, indeed, has affirmed its belief in the necessity of continued surveillance activities, and

Whereas, the faculty recognize and praise the bravery of the NYPD on and following the terrorist attacks of 9/11 and praise the vigilance of the NYPD in preventing further attacks since then, and

Whereas, at the same time the faculty are deeply dismayed and troubled by surveillance absent suspected or actual criminal activity because such surveillance can create a chilling effect and can threaten the intellectual freedom and freedom of speech and assembly necessary for John Jay's vibrant academic community to thrive,

Now, therefore, be it Resolved, by formal vote undertaken on this date at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Faculty Senate of John Jay College, that the Faculty Senate opposes surveillance activities by the NYPD and affiliated agencies on John Jay College's campus either directly or through the use of informants for the purposes of collecting information independent of a valid and specific criminal investigation, and

Be it further Resolved, that we call upon CUNY's Central Administration to issue its own public statement affirming its opposition to on-campus surveillance, absent knowledge or suspicion of criminal activity, based on the principle of academic freedom and on a robust commitment to civil liberties, and

Be it further Resolved, that we call on Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly to end such surveillance, absent knowledge or suspicion of criminal activity, at John Jay College and at all the CUNY colleges, and

Be it further Resolved, that we call upon the New York City Council to exercise meaningful and transparent civilian oversight on the NYPD's surveillance activities targeting students and faculty at John Jay and at CUNY, absent knowledge or suspicion of criminal activity, and

Be it further Resolved, that we call upon Mayor Michael Bloomberg to stand up for the rights of students and faculty at CUNY.

ATTACHMENT B

Resolution Adopted by the John Jay PSC Chapter Executive Committee on the Reduction of Teaching Load of Full-Time faculty

As Amended and Adopted by the Faculty Senate by a Vote of 35-1-0

November 19, 2012

Whereas the Master Plan for the institution contends that “John Jay explicitly and confidently challenges the notion that the College cannot simultaneously support excellence in both teaching and scholarship,” and pledges to “recruit, support and reward faculty” committed to excellence in teaching and scholarship and create an infrastructure which will allow the “teacher/scholar [to] flourish,” and

Whereas we, the full-time faculty, applauding the above stated goals of the College, note that the College has not made adequate concrete and systemic changes to achieve these goals, and

Whereas the CUNY administered COACHE survey concluded that “the most significant finding here was dissatisfaction with faculty workload. ‘Time spent on Teaching’ rated as a weakness under ‘Nature of Work: Teaching.’ It appeared under Worst Aspect, and appeared as the most frequent comment on the one thing that John Jay could change to improve their workplace,” and

Whereas our teaching load is not conducive to excellence in scholarship and/or teaching nor to serving our campus community, particularly in comparison to other senior CUNY schools which use their resources to offset the contractual teaching load; therefore

Be it resolved, that we call on the administration to re-allocate the College’s resources to provide for an across the board reduction of the teaching load (or its equivalent) of the full-time faculty.