**Minutes for the 143rd Meeting of the Faculty Senate**

**for Thursday, October 15, 2020 from 3:30 to 4:30 pm held virtually.**

**Attendance:**George Sanchez Mark White, Susan Imberman, Angelo Bongiorno*,* Maryann Feola*,* Catherine Lavender*,* Katie Cumiskey, Michael Parrish, Jason Bishop, Sarah Zelikovitz, Christine Flynn,Saulnier, Francisco Soto, Bill Fritz, Cindy Wong, Lee Papa, Deborah De Simone, Jane Marcus-Delgado*,* John Verzani*,* Sarolta Takács, Alfred Levine, Mark Feuer, John Wing, Simone Wegge, Marcus Tye, Jonathan Peters, Gerry Milligan, Carles Solà Belda, Comfort Asanbe, Alan Benimoff, Cynthia Chris, Thomas Tellefsen, Lucas Marchante-Aragón, Vandana Chaudhry, Alyson Bardsley, Sylvia Kahan, Alan Zimmerman, John Lawrence, Chang-Hui Shen, Natalie Fiscetti, Siona Wilson, Yumei Huo,*,* Ellen Goldner, Michael Paris, Jonathan Cope, Carlo Lancelloti, Michael Cavagnero, Gene Fellner, Susuan Holak, Wima Jones, Peter GalatiJohn Arena, Andrew Colbeck, Zaghloul Ahmed, Victor Miller, Rachel Grant, Soon Chun, Tara Mateik, Neo Antoniades,.,

**Guests**:Susan Massara, Leonardo Pign..,Marrianne Weil, Patricia Khan, Cheryl Adolph, Charles Gomes, Beth Livensprerger, Intissar Hasan, Amy Stempler, ,Kerri Gerson, Jasmine Cardo.., Jennifer Durando, Ali Elkomy, Christina Hagedorn, Sharon Christian, Miguel A. Aragon, Mel Pipe, Terri Sangiorgio, Rob Wallace, Tara Mostrorilli, Linda John, Veronica DiMeglio, Koby Kohulan, Spozmi Nouri, Florinda Mattia, Christina Tortora, Peter Simpson, Ken Wolpin., Amila Goonaw.., Patti Gross, Andrew Lambert, Kenneth Gold, Jennifer Borrero Danielle Dimitrov, Ralf Peetz, Alberto Ballesteros, Emmanuel Esperance, Warrick Bell, Jessica Collura, *,* Hernan Green*,* Hope Berte*,* Mary Murphy, Jessica Stein *,* Juline Robinson*,* Suzy Shepardson*,*  Asher Abraham,*,* Shawn Abraham, Deborah Franzblau, Juline Robinson, Mary Murphy, Catherine Ferrara,Susan Crimmins, Joyce Taylor, Manuela Alongi, Debby Meise, , Neila Green, Benji Kuriakose, , Christina Hagedorn, Michelle Borowski, Orit Gruber, Mario D'Alessandro, Thomas Lauria, Ewa Dzurak, Alexander Scott, Nina Del Gatto, Shannon Cammarano, Ruth Silverberg, Linda Conte, Christine McEvilly, Greg Phillips, Lynne Lacomis, James Hamilton, Vinay Vaishampayan, Donna Scimeca, Eric Ivison, Maxwell Velikodny, Byron Taylor, Christina Boyle, Eli Hollander.

1. Motion to reorder the agenda in order to hear the report of the Faculty Personnel & Policy Committee was moved, seconded and unanimously approved. Approval of the revised agenda

*Moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.*

1. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate on October 15, 2020. *Moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.*
2. Executive Committee Report: Appendix A

Question: Will the members of the Faculty Senate unanimously endorse the Executive Committee’s letter on behalf of Mustafa Ali Hassanien? *Motion was seconded.*

A draft of the letter will be forwarded to the members for a vote.

1. Provost’s Report : Appendix B

**Question:** Can you clarify what is happening with the use of the Proctoral Program – the Student government President mentioned concerns about its use. It is important to have a way to monitor students taking tests on line. What guidance can the Provost give regarding the implementation and monitoring of exams that protect students’ rights and the integrity of the course?

**Answer:** CUNY has looked into various programs to proctor exams. The program the students were concerned about had to be installed in their computers and the students were concerned that their identity safety and privacy. CUNY settled on a system called Proctor Track that stores data for a short amount of time and has access to a relatively small amount of people. This program will be available to anyone who identifies in his or her syllabus that this system is in use. Student will be fully aware that this system will be used and can be required. If you are using a proctoring program this semester and it is ***not*** in your syllabus, you will need to make accommodations for those students who do not opt to use it. We recommend using low stakes rather than high stakes evaluation.

**Question:** Jane’s XC report mentioned that there are no standards or priorities set for to deal with Tenure & promotion – we know that there have been problems and we have not seen guidance from your office. Are there plan to establish these? Also, regarding class size, you say there is an average of 23-26. How many classes do we have over 50, and how many over 100?

**Answer**: to the first question – this issue is being discussed by the General Chairs and at P&B. The recent New York Times article of articulated the problem women are having during the pandemic and in general. I support extending the tenure clock if it is going to be helpful to someone. This is something that I am very focused on.

Regarding class size – there are a variety of class sizes and a variety of methods to address class size this is why we are starting to have conversations about On-Line Pedagogy. We need to address the needs of the students for whom large class sizes doesn’t work but we cannot have every class at the college below 25 students and be able to function as a University.

**Question**: Why not? It is not just the students complaining, it’s the faculty as well.

**Question:** You have been pushed for some time on the issue of academic continuity. 1300 students were dropped from classes where normally that number is 800 per semester. Students & Faculty remain unclear about the mode of instruction for next semester and about what the meaning and expectations for each mode of instruction presently offered. Students who are the most vulnerable are the most effected. Many of the 1300 dropped from classes are students of color who we may not get back. It is hugely important whether a class is synchronous or asynchronous if you work full time and go to school or go to school full time and work. Will you put some parameters; will you create some clear and coherent policies around instruction? What is the *plan* for Mode of Instruction in the spring and to make sure students are not dropped from classes?

**Answer**: there is a degree of Academic Freedom the Administration does not want to impinge upon regarding mode of instruction. Regarding what is expected of students and what students can expect of the faculty we will have in place before the beginning of the semester.

**Response**: If you give us parameters, we can work within them and still have freedom. But we need basic guidelines.

1. Reports of the Committees of the Faculty Senate
2. Faculty Personnel Policy Committee – Joint Appointment Proposal

***Moved, seconded, and passed - 34 yes, 4 no, 6 abstain)***

* 1. Admissions Committee – Emergency Admission Policy – Appendix C

***Moved, seconded, and passed unanimously***

Curricular Committees –

* + 1. General Education Committee –
    2. Graduate Studies Committee –
    3. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee –

**Curriculum Consent Agenda**

**AIII. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS**

AIII.1 SCHOOL OF BUSINESS: BUSINESS BS AND MHC BUSINESS MS

**AIV: NEW COURSES**

AIV. 1 PROGRAM IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING: ELE 756 SMART GRID

AIV.2 PROGRAM IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING: ELE 746 POWER ELECTRONICS AND INSTRUMENTATION

AIV 3. DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY: HST 130 U.S. HISTORY TO 1865

AIV 4. DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY: HST 131 U.S. HISTORY SINCE 1865

**AV: CHANGE IN EXISTING COURSES:**

AV.1 DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY: PHY 110 COLLEGE PHYSICS I

AV.2 DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY: PHY 111 COLLEGE PHYSICS LABORATORY I

***Moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.***

* 1. Course and Standing – none
  2. Library Committee– none
  3. Academic Research Committee - none
  4. Academic Facilities Committee– none
  5. Academic Freedom Committee– none
  6. Academic Technology committee– none

1. University Faculty Senate Report – none
2. Old Business

1. New Business

IX. Adjournment. *Motion made, seconded, and passed unanimously.*

**Appendix A**

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Report

October 15, 2020

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Report

I am pleased to present this report on behalf of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Before I begin, I would like to extend the Executive Committee’s condolences to the families and friends of our student, Dior Berkeley, and our former student, Kimani Foster, who lost their lives recently in a car accident. Our thoughts are with those whose lives they touched.

We hope that everyone is having a productive and safe semester. We have had a busy month, and I will briefly summarize our activities in this report.

We recently learned that Mustafa Ali Hassanien, a filmmaker and student at the College, was arrested in May at the Cairo airport. Mustafa is still being held in pretrial detention in Egypt and faces a number of charges that appear to be a politically motivated response to his criticism of the Egyptian government. Both PEN America and the International Coalition for Filmmakers at Risk (ICFR) have denounced this detention. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee will be sending a letter in support of our student, and we urge the College to do the same. We very much hope for his safe and rapid release.

On September 29, the Executive Committee met with the provost, the deans, and the associate provosts. The provost discussed budget challenges that the College is facing and reiterated that CSI’s classes will be primarily online this spring. He explained that, due to a union grievance filed against CUNY, he could not provide specific data we had requested on class size and numbers of faculty, staff and others who had been terminated and/or rehired. He stated that the average class size increased from 23 to 26 students this semester. In terms of planning for the future, there does not seems to be a clear recommendation from the provost on the following issues: no plans for new approaches to tenure and promotion in the coming semesters (other than an extension of the tenure clock); no plans for retaining CSI’s large population of new students; no contingency plans on teaching modalities, communication, or re-entry strategies (other than to state that additional buildings will be opened); and no plans for addressing anti-racism concerns (other than a call to faculty for suggestions). It should also be noted, for the record, that a study on the extension of tenure clocks has been shown to actually have a negative impact on the progression of women’s academic careers. Questions about seeking institutional funding from outside sources, such as foundations, were also addressed by indicating that it was up to the faculty to pursue such initiatives. We also noted that the campus-wide Re-Entry Committee had not met this semester, although there is a meeting of subcommittee chairs scheduled for October 16.

The Faculty Senate and College Council Executive Committees have expressed concern about the results of the COACHE survey that was conducted last year. We have learned that the COACHE committee had not met since February. (A few days ago we were told that the committee is meeting this week). We urge the Administration to transparently address the problematic issues that the survey has revealed. CSI is one of the few CUNY campuses in which faculty and staff morale, job satisfaction, and overall professional environment have declined precipitously. With this in mind, we will hold a joint Town Hall on October 29 to address concerns about the college’s direction. We hope you will join us.

In closing, we would like to recognize the outstanding work of CSI’s faculty and staff in this difficult time. We applaud the professionalism, creativity, and sheer grit of our colleagues and our students as we face the unprecedented challenges of college life during the pandemic. We look forward to a fruitful second half of the semester, a happy fall, and a rewarding electoral season.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Marcus-Delgado

Chair

**Appendix B**

Provost’s Report 10.15.20

We are near the midpoint of the Fall 2020 semester, and I would like to extend my gratitude to all of you for your dedication, resilience, and creativity during this very atypical year in the history of our institution and our country.

**Re-Entry**. Campus re-entry continues to unfold cautiously, and within the limits of our approved re-entry plan. Although I know some are frustrated with the pace of this process, progress is being made to improve building safety, and we are currently working to accommodate some additional on campus class meetings in Physical Therapy, Nursing, Media Culture, and Biology. We are also starting to slowly increase the number of researchers on campus. However, as long as our COVID case counts remain within acceptable limits, we will be able to continue to move forward with very slow re-opening, but any spike in on-campus cases could cause us to close down again temporarily. As President Fritz mentioned, we are planning on winter and spring sessions that look very much like the current semester.

**Online Education.** Thanks to the faculty who presented and all who attended the first town hall on online pedagogy last week. As you have probably heard, CUNY has approved Proctortrack as an online proctoring tool. An FAQ on its use will go live shortly, and the program should be available for use by October 26. Michael Castelli in the Faculty Center is the CSI Liaison for Proctortrack, and he is reaching out to chairs and deans to assess the amount of anticipated usage for this software.

**COACHE.** The faculty/Administration team preparing the report on the CSI COACHE Survey are working on finalizing their report and recommendations. They will be reporting out their results to the campus shortly, and expect to have the documents ready on or before the due date of Dec 15.

**Middle States**. At the beginning of the month, our Middle States Liaison, Idna Corbett, performed a virtual site visit, meeting with a number of stakeholder groups. Thanks to those of you that participated. During this semester, the leadership team, Christopher Miller, Tara Mastrorilli, and Mel Pipe, have been assembling the steering committee and the working groups for each of the seven Middle States standards. Again – thanks for those of you who have agreed to participate. If you are not yet on a team, and would like to participate, please contact Chris, Mel, Tara or me. The kickoff for the working groups is tomorrow, and they will be crafting the self-study over the rest of the academic year, and holding town halls in the spring to gather feedback to incorporate in the final draft of the self-study report. Next October, the Evaluation team chair will visit campus, preparatory to the team visit in Spring semester 2022. During the study process, the coordinating committee will make regular presentations to the college council, general chairs, the council of deans, IPC, and the Cabinet.

**Antiracism Programming**. In my meeting with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee earlier this month, we discussed creating a Provost’s lecture series on antiracism and related social, economic, and political issues, focusing on the expertise of faculty from CSI and around CUNY. This is intended to build on existing programming such as the CSI Library’s excellent web resource on Race, Matters, and Social justice prepared by Dr. Wilma Jones antiracism training developed by Dr. Lara Saguisag for the Department of English and the upcoming lecture series on Race, Law, and Justice presented by the CSI Legal Studies Institute. Yesterday I challenged the Deans to draw on the expertise from their respective schools and divisions to support this effort.

**Accreditation.** During the last month, two programs in the School of Health Science received good news regarding Accreditation. On October 5, the school of social work received a visit from Sue Pearlmutter, Interim Provost of Rhode Island College, representing the Council on Social Work Education. The visit went extremely well – Dr. Pearlmutter was very impressed with the department’s self-study report, its commitment to Staten Island and particularly the north shore, and the way the faculty and administration share a vision for the legacy and future of the department. Thanks go to Barbara Teater for doing the bulk of writing the report, to Christine Flynn Saunier and Marcus Tye for their outstanding leadership, and to the faculty, staff, and students of the Social Work Department.

The Clinical Nursing Doctorate Program has had its initial accreditation approved through 2025 by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing at that Society’s September meeting. Particular thanks go to Chair Natalie Fischetti, Danna Curcio, Marie Giordano, Catherine Paradiso, and all of the nursing faculty, whose hard work resulted in this affirmation of accreditation for the program.

**NYFA Fellowships**. Our faculty did very well in the recent round of New York Fine Arts fellowships. Michael Mandiberg in Media Culture received a fellowship in Digital/Electronic Arts, Miguel Aragon received one in Printmaking, and Bang Guel was a finalist in Digital/Electronic Arts. Please join me in congratulating these outstanding artists.

As the seasons change and the national and regional elections draw near, the next few weeks should be critical in assessing both the progress of the Pandemic and the state of our nation. I encourage all of you to participate in the election process, and thank all of you once again for your efforts on behalf of our students during this extraordinary time.

Appendix C

Emergency Admission Policy

The University Board of Trustees has decided that all CUNY schools will be SAT and ACT blind for admissions in Spring 2021, Fall 2021, and Spring 2022 because of COVID. Even if students submit scores, Admissions cannot consider them. OIR and the Admissions office ran several simulations to figure out how to get a similar number accepted students as in the past with adjusted criteria. They estimate the accepted class profile will be similar.  In fact, the data they shared with us seems to suggest that the new criteria might produce an acceptance pool that is more likely to succeed in freshman year than in the past.  They presented the new criteria to the Admissions Committee today, and we unanimously approved their proposal as a temporary measure for the next three semesters, while the University mandate is in effect.​

The old baccalaureate criteria all required students to take the SAT or ACT. Essentially, students from previous classes in each of these criteria groups achieved an average first year GPA of 2.5 or higher. That is significantly better than the average first year GPA achieved by students admitted under the lowest of the old criteria groups. The criteria target students on a college preparatory path in HS with the verbal skills they will need for college classes. As usual, the Admissions Office will review individual student applications to manage borderline cases and class size. Students not eligible will receive an Associate degree offer instead.

**New Criteria**

·      Admit students who have a high school average of 85 or higher

·      Students with a high school average of 80-84 need a

o  High school English average of 70 or greater

AND

o   Must have completed two credits of math in elementary algebra and geometry

·      Students with a high school average of 70-79 need **either**

o  High school English average of 80 or greater

AND

o   Must have completed two credits of math in elementary algebra and geometry

§  OR

o   High school English average of 75-79

AND

o   Have completed three credits of math in elementary algebra, geometry, and intermediate algebra