Minutes  
Meeting of a Stated Meeting of the  
Senate of New York University  
November 4, 2010

A stated meeting of the Senate of New York University was held on Thursday, November 4, 2010, at 2:00 p.m., in Room 914 of the Kimmel Center for University Life. The meeting was convened with Dr. Sexton in the chair.

Faculty Senators Council Members Present: Susan Anton, Sylvain Cappell, Ananda Dasanayake (for Anthony Vernillo), Nicholas Economides, Ricki Goldman, Floyd Hammack, Carol Hutchins, Warren Jelinek (for Marie Monaco), Mary Ann Jones, Ted Magder, Terence Moran, Molly Nolan, Laurin Raiken, Victor Rodwin (for Anthony Kovner), Robert Schacht (Chair), Eric Simon, Nicholas Tanis (for Paul Thompson), Arthur Tannenbaum.

Student Senators Council Members Present: Vitali Bourchtein, Mason Braswell, Felipe Cole, Albert Cotugno, Gregory Dussaq, Michael Elias, Eli Fuchsberg (for Eva Gardner), Chirag Hirawat, Kristen Holman, Edline Jacquet, Susan Kuruvilla (for Mustfa Manzur), Michael Miller, Malaika Neri, Melissa Niedfeld, Zoe Robyn, Kathleen Sylvester (Chair), Nipun Tulshian, Apoorva Vadi, Malina Webb.

Deans Council Members Present: Charles Bertolami (Chair), Patricia Carey (for Mary Brabeck), Frederick Choi, Joanne Hvala (for Peter Blair Henry), Robert Lapiner, Tyra Liebmann (for Ellen Schall), Carol Mandel, Louis Scheeder (for Mary Schmidt Campbell), Mal Semple, Otto Sonntag (for Matthew Santirocco), Lynn Videka, Susanne Wofford.

Administrative Management Council Members Present: John DeSantis, Anita Dwyer (Chair), Marguerite Sharkey, Anne Stubing (for Katherine Drummond), Michael Summers.

Review and Approval of the Minutes of the October 7, 2010 Meeting

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Minutes of the October 7, 2010 meeting were approved unanimously.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Sexton referred to the memorandum that was circulated to each Senator and is attached to these minutes as Exhibit A outlining some of the individual and collective achievements at the University since the Senate’s last meeting.

Report on Capital Projects

Dr. Sexton introduced Alison Leary, Senior Vice President for Operations, to report on University Capital Projects. Ms. Leary’s presentation focused on the University’s construction program led by Lori Mazor, Associate Vice President for Planning and Design, and David Alonso, Vice President for Construction Management and Strategic Services, and highlighted projects completed over the past two to three years, including: 715 Broadway/1 Washington Place (faculty offices, classrooms, lounge, gallery, theater); 20 Cooper Square (faculty offices and seminar rooms); 19 Washington Square North (NYU Abu Dhabi); 70 Washington Square South (classrooms, seminar rooms, research rooms, Library Administration offices); 10 Washington Place (Center for Linguistics offices and seminar rooms); 45 West 4th Street (classrooms); 22 Washington Square North (office and conference rooms for visiting scholars and administration); 334 East 24th Street (dental operatories, faculty and administrative offices); 35 West 4th Street (Steinhardt Music Studios); 44 West 4th Street (classrooms); 29 Washington Place (labs, faculty and graduate student offices); 246 Greene Street (seminar rooms, classrooms, faculty offices); 11 West 42nd Street (classrooms, faculty and administrative offices); 133 MacDougal Street (theater and academic research offices); 251 Mercer Street (seminar rooms, faculty offices); 12-16 Waverly Place (research labs, classrooms); 4 Washington Place (Cognitive Neuroscience Psychology Lab); 40 West 4th Street (classrooms, lounge areas); 715-721 Broadway (studios and performance spaces); 25 West 4th Street (general purpose classrooms); 100 Washington Square East (labs and general purpose classrooms); 7 East 12th Street (classrooms, faculty and administrative offices); 58 Washington Square South (classrooms and lecture halls); 1307 L Street, Washington, DC (mixed-use); 120 East 12th Street (student residential); 726 Broadway (retail, café); and Mercer Street between West 3rd and West 4th Streets (cogeneration plant).
Currently, there are approximately 230 open and active construction projects, valued at $900 million, 65% of which are projects that support academics by renovating and adding classroom and laboratory space.

Since 58% of NYU buildings are more than 50 years old, the University has complicated infrastructure and maintenance needs. Many projects successfully maintain historical aspects of a building's architecture, such as the Provincetown Playhouse and The Center for Genomics and Systems Biology.

Additionally, many new construction projects seek to achieve high Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards, such as the recently completed Gallatin School renovation project and the new Center for Academic and Spiritual Life, which currently is under construction.

The new cogeneration plant is a critical infrastructure project that supports two dozen academic buildings by providing better energy efficiency and reduces the University's carbon footprint while ensuring reliability and continuous operation in the event of a power failure at Consolidated Edison (Con Ed). A series of controls automatically monitor the power supply and, if a problem occurs, the system will automatically switch the University to the Con Ed power supply. To the extent that there are periods where the University is not utilizing all of the power generated, the University will sell the excess energy back to Con Ed.

Funding for the new cogeneration plant was from donations and DASNY (Dormitory Authority of the State of New York) tax-exempt bonds. This coming year, the University expects to save $5 million in utility expenses because of the new plant, which will help to pay the debt service on the bonds.

The plant will eventually meet 80% of the Washington Square Campus’ energy needs. Provisions also have been made to augment the plant in the future as part of the 2031 plan, though these additions will be in another physical location, probably south of the plant. The satellite plant will have backup equipment and will expand the network of heating, cooling and electricity. Ms. Leary concluded her presentation stating that the opportunity to tour the new cogeneration plant will be provided later this year. She then took questions from Senators.

Dr. Lynne Brown, Senior Vice President for University Relations and Public Affairs, commented that a common theme in many of the new renovations is a conscious attempt, especially at street-level, to “open up” space and present appealing and transparent views for pedestrians, so that students and the community can see into NYU’s campus.
A question was asked about how other projects are funded and Ms. Leary responded that the source of funds varies. She notes that some construction projects are paid largely or entirely through philanthropy, such as the Gallatin School renovation, and others may be financed through bonds.

REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Professor Floyd Hammack reported that the Committee has had one meeting where they discussed and made recommendation as to recipients for honorary degrees.

He advised that the Committee is considering a recommendation to change the academic calendar and a meeting will be scheduled soon to discuss this matter. The proposal is to begin classes on the Wednesday BEFORE Labor Day, which would reduce Welcome Week, the time between Freshman Move-In Day, and the beginning of classes to a shorter period of time than it is now (nine days). This change also would allow for a two-day Fall Break (October 15 and 16, 2012), Thanksgiving Break to begin on Wednesday, and a Reading Day between the last day of classes and the beginning of exams, as well as an earlier start to exams (December 14, 2012). Dr. Hammack encouraged any Senators who wish to communicate with him about this matter to do so.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNANCE

Ms. Neri reported that SCOG met on October 27 for the second time this year. The Committee continues to work on interactivity of the Faculty Senators Council and hopes to increase the ability for faculty to contact each other and their Senate representatives about important Senate issues. The Committee also continues to discuss issues related to the University’s environmental and energy policies, and how to increase interdepartmental and interschool knowledge of each other’s policies.

REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Mr. Dorph reported that the Financial Affairs Committee had its first meeting last month at which members set the meeting calendar for the year. The Committee will meet after today’s University Senate meeting.
REPORT OF THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

No report was submitted by the Public Affairs Committee.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Administrative Management Council

Ms. Dwyer reported that the Executive Council of the AMC met on October 26 and was joined by SSC leaders Katie Sylvester and Chirag Hirawat to discuss the SSC’s structure as well as opportunities for the SSC and the AMC to work together. A general AMC meeting was held on November 2 to introduce new representatives and alternates to AMC committees and activities, and to encourage committee membership. The AMC also discussed and will be forming an ad hoc committee for communication in order to make improvements to the AMC website and to improve communication among AMC constituents.

In October, the AMC organized 10 NYU teams, including approximately 280 walkers, for the American Cancer Society’s Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. NYU team members included the AMC, the Cancer Center, the Schools of Law and Nursing, as well as other schools and clubs, raising $15,487, which was the 11th most of the approximately 338 organizations that participated.

The AMC is sponsoring a Thanksgiving Food Drive from November 8-15, 2010 to aid the Xavier High School mission pantry. Information is available on the AMC website.

Deans Council

Dr. Bertolami reported that the Deans Council met on October 13, 2010, where the discussion focused on instructional technology, the diversity of systems currently used, including iTunesU, videotaping lectures, Wimba collaborative learning software, and other technological enhancements to teaching and learning in seminars and other settings. Greater dialogue is encouraged among the schools to develop best practices for instructional technology implementation.

Dr. Sexton related that some of the technological enhancements supported by NYU Abu Dhabi are to the benefit of the Washington Square Campus and the Global Network University. An example is the digitizing of library resources for NYU Abu Dhabi, which provides access to students regardless of their location.
**Student Senators Council**

Ms. Sylvester reported that the SSC is hosting the NYC Student Government Alliance meeting on Sunday, November 7, 2010. The SSC also took the first step toward integrating NYU-POLY’s student government by inviting their leaders to attend University Committee on Student Life (UCSL) meetings where they will report along with other school councils. A proposal will be brought to the UCSL next semester to allow POLY to have a vote in the UCSL.

The SSC Executive Committee will conduct a video conference with NYU Abu Dhabi students in the upcoming weeks to make them aware of the support they have from Washington Square students and inform them that when they are ready, the SSC looks forward to discussing plans to set up the NYU Abu Dhabi student government and club life.

The SSC invited representatives from the administration and the adjunct union to today’s SSC meeting to gain more information on the state of current negotiations.

**Faculty Senators Council**

Dr. Schacht reported that the FSC is reviewing three policies to present to the Faculty Senate in two weeks, and will then present them to the Provost’s Office. The FSC also supported the Faculty Forum on the 2031 Plan, which was informative and well-attended by faculty senators. There were many questions posed and several concerns expressed to Senior Vice President Brown, who will schedule an ongoing series of such forums over the course of next year as the plans continue to evolve. The FSC would also like to thank the Core for a positive review on the resolution sent to it by the FSC.

**PRESIDENT’S QUESTION TIME**

The Student Senators Council submitted a question regarding the planned 2031 expansion and if there have been changes in how the Greenwich Village community, New York City, and New York State have perceived the plans. Dr. Sexton referred the question to Dr. Brown.

She advised that the University began engaging the community three years ago in a series of public open houses and appearances before a wide array of groups. Reactions have varied depending on the constituency. For example, while neighbors and residents who live nearby NYU in Greenwich Village have voiced concerns, East
Village residents who have seen NYU locate several dormitories in their neighborhood over the last decade, are more supportive of the Plan 2031 approach to focus development on our own property.

City officials recognize the importance of NYU’s being able to grow to sustain its academic momentum, and see higher education as a sector that will fuel the City’s economy. The formal approval process for development of NYU’s own property in the area around Washington Square has begun with the submission of the plans for the fourth tower on the Silver Tower site to the City Landmarks Commission, as the site was landmarked two years ago. In January 2011 there will be public hearings with the Commission, which will decide on the appropriateness of the buildings and the alterations to this site. The plans also will be brought to the Community Board on Monday, November 8, 2010 to prepare for the Landmark Commission hearings. The Community Board’s opinion is advisory.

A second question was submitted by the SSC relating to the Liberal Studies Program and whether or not it will become an official NYU school and, if so, when. Dr. Sexton answered that creating a separate school creates an autonomous administration and adds more possibilities for disjointed operations among the University’s schools—which is counter to the current trend in higher education of promoting a more integrative and interdisciplinary system of education and research. Additionally, the Liberal Studies Program plays an important role in that it serves as a two-year program most commonly after which the vast majority of students move into a degree-granting program in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Sexton related that, for these reasons, Liberal Studies will not be a separate school anytime soon.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Brier
Secretary
UPDATES FROM PRESIDENT JOHN SEXTON
University Senate Meeting
Thursday, November 4, 2010

It is my pleasure to share with you news and notes from across the university community.

NEWS

Several distinguished guests will be on campus in the following weeks:

- Amartya Sen, the 1998 Nobel Laureate in Economics, will deliver the annual Lewis Burke Frumkes Lecture tonight, Thursday, November 4th at 7:30 p.m. in Hemmerdinger Hall, Silver Center, 100 Washington Square East. Co-sponsored by the Graduate School of Arts and Science along with the Department of Philosophy, the Frumkes lecture showcases prominent philosophers. Sen’s lecture is titled “Global Justice and Political Philosophy.”

- The Silver School of Social Work celebrates its 50th anniversary with a special benefit celebration on Wednesday, November 10th. The celebration will kick off with a conversation featuring Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Harvard University professor; Carol Gilligan, University Professor at the NYU School of Law; and John Sexton; and will be moderated by Lynn Videka, dean and professor at the Silver School of Social Work. A gala dinner that follows will be emceed by Harry Smith of CBS News’ The Early Show.

FACULTY HONORS

Terry Fulmer, dean of the College of Nursing, has been elected a member of the Institute of Medicine (IOM). Election to the IOM, which is recognized as an important national resource for independent analysis and recommendations on health issues, is considered one of the highest honors in the fields of health and medicine. New members are chosen by current members through a highly selective process that recognizes individuals who have made major contributions to the advancement of the medical sciences, health care, and public health.

Paul Light, Paulette Goddard Professor of Public Service at the Wagner School, has won the American Political Science Association’s 2010 Herbert Simon Award for his book A Government Ill Executed: The Decline of the Federal Service and How to Reverse It. The award recognizes the best book on public administration published in the last three to five years that has made a significant contribution to public administration.

Several faculty members have recently been named fellows by the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) for 2010-2011. ACLS sponsors a variety of fellowships in support of research in the humanities and social sciences. NYU’s new fellows include:
• Karl Appuhn, assistant professor of history at FAS, received an ACLS Fellowship to study political and scientific debates surrounding the health of livestock in 18th-century Venice;
• Mark Sanders, professor of comparative literature at FAS, received an ACLS/SSRC/NEH International and Area Studies Fellowship to study the history of attempts to learn Zulu by non-native speakers in South Africa;
• Mara Mills, assistant professor of media, culture, and communication at Steinhardt, is collaborating on a study of rhetoric and the microelectronics industry under an ACLS Collaborative Research Fellowship; and
• Mark Swislocki, assistant professor of history at NYU Abu Dhabi, received an American Research in the Humanities in China Fellowship to study human-animal relations in 19th- and 20th-century China.

Kenneth Silver, professor of modern art in the department of art history, is guest curator of a celebrated new show at the Guggenheim Museum, “Chaos and Classicism: Art in France, Italy, and Germany, 1918-1936.” Called "totally engrossing" by the New York Times and "fascinating" by Time Magazine, the mixed-media show examines the move away from experimental styles following the destruction of World War I towards a classical aesthetic valuing clean lines, order, and harmony. “Chaos and Classicism” is on view through January 9, 2011.

GRANTS AND GIFTS

The Hagop Kevorkian Center for Near Eastern Studies, housed in the Graduate School of Arts and Science, has been awarded a four-year, $2,375,424 grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The grant will support the Center’s ongoing study of the modern and contemporary Middle East and will provide fellowships in less commonly taught Middle Eastern and South Asian languages, such as Arabic, Hebrew, Hindi, Persian, Turkish, and Urdu.

Researchers from NYU and three other New York institutions recently received a five-year, $3.75 million grant from the National Science Foundation to further develop a tool they created that enables the analysis of plant genome sequences according to their evolutionary history. Using data from the tool, called BigPlant v1.0, the group aims to discover the genes that evolved to give rise to important economic traits, such as the development of seeds. Two NYU faculty members are among the team’s principal investigators: Gloria Coruzzi, professor at the Center for Genomics and Systems Biology; and Dennis Shasha, a professor at the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences.

With a $1 million gift from Bradley Goldberg, an alumnus of the Stern School of Business, NYU has created an exciting new program, the Animal Studies Initiative. Housed in the Environmental Studies Program and directed by Dale Jamieson, professor of environmental studies and philosophy and affiliate professor of law at the School of Law, the Initiative will support a newly established Animal Studies minor as well as research in the emerging and interdisciplinary animal studies field. The Animal Studies minor offers opportunities to advance understanding of the current treatment of animals and the roles of animals in society, arts, media, culture, communication, ethics, food, literature, law and public policy.