Minutes of a Stated Meeting of the Senate of New York University
November 10, 2016

A stated meeting of the Senate of New York University was held on Thursday, November 10, 2016, at 9 a.m., in the Colloquium Room of the Global Center for Academic and Spiritual Life, 238 Thompson Street. The meeting was convened with President Hamilton in the chair.

Tenured/Tenure Track Faculty Senators Council (“T-FSC”) Members Present: Allen Mincer (Chair), Mark Alter (for Sharon Weinberg), Awam Amkpa, Juan Bello (for Arvind Rajagopal), Sylvain Cappell, Stephen Duncombe, Nick Economides, Stephen Figlewski, Robert Hoffman, Angela Kamer, Robert Lapiner, Wen Ling, Julie Livingston, Béatrice Longuenesse, Darcey Merritt, Carol Reiss (for Kwame Anthony Appiah), Tamar Schlick (for Daniel Tranchina), Ivan Selesnick (for Phyllis Frankl), Robert Shapley, Paul Smoke, Arun Sundararaj, Nancy Van Devanter, Amanda Watson, and Bradley Weslake (by telephone).

Full-Time Continuing Contract Faculty Senators Council (“C-FSC”) Members Present: Fred Carl (Chair), Joseph Borowiec, John Burt (by telephone), Ghania Chaudhry, Sally Cohen (for Larry Slater), Eugene Cittadino (for Mitchell Joachim), Michael Ferguson, John Halpin, Neal Herman, Sam Howard-Spink, Leila Jahangiri, Mary Killilea, Brian Mooney, Peggy Morton, Vincent Renzi (for Ethan Youngerman), Ezra Sacks, Susan Stehlik, Ben Stewart, and Heidi White.

Student Senators Council (“SSC”) Members Present: Ryan Thomas (Chair), Michael Avgerinos, Hannah Byford, Brandon Camacho, Tamara Cesaretti, Husniye Cogur, Riyanna Dasgupta, Amanda Ezechi, Armando Figueroa, BeamleK Hailaram, Reed Hodkin (by telephone), Josy Jablons, Stephen Kho, Tatiana Lascu, Emeka Mba-Kalu, Julian Miller (for Jim Wiltsee), Joey Onwughalu, Angel Parker, Steven Ramdilal (for Rose Liu), Muzmml Raufy, Tara Ready, Amanda Regalado, Peter Shivery, and Louis Slade.

Deans Council Members Present: Charles Bertolami, Dominic Brewer, Deborah Chyun (for Eileen Sullivan-Marx), Anastasia Crosswhite (for Peter Henry), Dennis Di Lorenzo, Anna Harvey, Cheryl Healtion, Randy Hertz (for Trevor Morrison), Carol Mandel, Celeste Orangers (for Susanne Wofford), Erin Potter (for Rohit Deo), Iskender Sahin (for Katepalli Sreenivasan), David Schachter (for Sherry Glied), and Gabrielle Starr.

Administrative Management Council (“AMC”) Members Present: Raymond Lutzky (Chair), John DeSantis, Regina Drew, Pamela Kavalam, and Juan Tie.

University Administration Members Present: Martin Dorph, Katherine Fleming, Andrew Hamilton, and Terrance Nolan.

Senate Committee Chairs (not mentioned above) Present: Arthur Tannenbaum.
President Andrew Hamilton welcomed members of the Senate to the meeting.

**Review and Approval of the Minutes of the October 6, 2016 Meeting**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Minutes of the October 6, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously as presented.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Executive Committee Report**

Professor Fred Carl said that, at its meeting on October 21st, the Senate Executive Committee discussed two Student Senators Council resolutions: one in support of free menstrual hygiene products for the NYU student community and a second in support of assistance for Syrian students and scholars. The Committee also heard from Associate Vice Chancellor for Global Programs Josh Taylor about the Supplier Code of Conduct for Abu Dhabi that has since been published on the NYU Abu Dhabi website.

**Academic Affairs Committee Report**

Committee Chair Ben Stewart said that, at its first meeting of the academic year, the Academic Affairs Committee elected a Chair and discussed the Committee’s charge for this year. The Committee also revived discussions from last year around the future of the Founders’ Day Awards and decided to establish a subcommittee to continue the work. At its next meeting, the Committee will discuss proposed Honorary Degree recipients and also meet with the registrar to begin work on developing the University calendar.

**Financial Affairs Committee Report**

Anthony Jiga, Vice President for Budget and Planning, said that the Financial Affairs Committee welcomed Lynne Brown, Senior Vice President for University Relations and Public Affairs, at its meeting on November 9th to learn about NYU's sustainability efforts. The Committee also reviewed preliminary considerations for undergraduate student charges for fiscal year 2018 and began to look at opportunities for savings in the areas of IT, procurement of goods and services, and energy to help support the University's affordability initiative. Lastly, Mr. Jiga said that the Committee reviewed financial metrics and indicators that the University uses in reporting to the Board of Trustees and outside rating agencies.

**Committee on Organization and Governance Report**

Vice Chair of the Committee on Organization and Governance (SCOG), Vincent Renzi, reported that the Committee met on October 20th to elect a Chair and Vice Chair and organize itself around its charge to review the functions of the University Senate. He said that SCOG is exploring whether or not to develop a mission statement for the Senate and is
examining the six functions of the Senate outlined in the University Bylaws. SCOG also plans to look at the appropriate representation in University governance for the Liberal Studies program, Post-Doctoral Fellows and Research Scientists, and union employees.

**Public Affairs Committee Report**

Arthur Tannenbaum presented the report of the Public Affairs Committee. He asked the Senate to approve the resolution regarding the date of Commencement that was included with the Senate’s materials. Upon motion duly made the following resolution passed unanimously:

> WHEREAS, the University Bylaws state that the Senate will determine the time, place, and manner of the University’s Commencement Exercises; and

> WHEREAS, the Rules of Procedure of the University Senate provide that the Senate Public Affairs Committee shall be concerned with matters relating to the timing and location of the Commencement exercises.

> NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that upon the recommendation of the Public Affairs Committee, the 2017 All-University Commencement Exercises will take place on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 in Yankee Stadium. Accordingly, Grad Alley will take place on Tuesday, May 16, 2017.

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Administrative Management Council (AMC)**

AMC Chair Raymond Lutzky reported that the AMC held a luncheon for Senior Unit Representatives on October 28th and its second General Meeting of the year on November 1st. The Council discussed the new Bias Response Line and appointed Mike McCaw as Acting Vice Chair, with an official vote to make this appointment permanent scheduled for the next AMC General Meeting on December 6th. AMC officers participated in the University Committee on Student Life meeting of the Student Senators Council (SSC) in Brooklyn on November 3rd. Dr. Lutzky said they look forward to working with the SSC on matters of mutual interest.

The AMC Professional Development Committee held its WorkHACK showcase for administrators on November 3rd and looks forward to more events later this year and its continuing mentor program. The AMC Community Service Committee held a post-election mindful meditation session on November 9th and is currently gathering donations through November 23rd for its annual Thanksgiving Food Drive to support Xavier Mission (Manhattan) and City Harvest (Brooklyn). Dr. Lutzky urged the Senate to look for drop-off locations in NYU buildings in Manhattan and Brooklyn or donate online.
Deans Council

Deans Council Vice Chair Dominic Brewer gave the Deans Council report in the absence of Deans Council Chair Thomas Carew. He said that the majority of the Council’s meeting on November 9th was devoted to a productive discussion with Provost Katherine Fleming. The Council also briefly discussed the University’s revised Personal Digital Content Policy.

Tenured/Tenure Track Faculty Senators Council (T-FSC)

T-FSC Chair Allen Mincer said that the T-FSC had met twice since the last Senate meeting. Tracey Gardner, Deputy Chief of Staff to the President, and Mary Signor, Executive Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity, joined the T-FSC to discuss the Bias Response Line and possible faculty concerns. Ms. Gardner also met with the T-FSC about the Chief Diversity Officer (CDO) search. The T-FSC expressed its desire for additional communication with faculty around the search and the work of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Task Force. The Committee also heard from Josh Taylor about the Supplier Code of Conduct for Abu Dhabi. Professor Mincer noted that the T-FSC was pleased to learn that the policy’s design will help prevent the sorts of problems that arose under the previous policy. Professor Mincer said that the Council also discussed the draft Personal Digital Content Policy, student applicants to NYU with criminal records, and the NYU Protection of Minors Policy. He stated that two candidates have been nominated for the position of T-FSC Chair for academic year 2017-2018, with a vote scheduled for the December Council meeting.

Full-Time Continuing Contract Faculty Senators Council (C-FSC)

C-FSC Chair Fred Carl provided the report of the Council. He said that, at its meeting on October 20th, the Council approved a resolution creating a new Standing Committee for Communications. The Council also welcomed Tracey Gardner for a C-FSC Listening Session, which allowed members to express their thoughts, concerns, and recommendations for the new CDO position. In addition, Mary Signor gave a presentation to the Council and addressed questions and concerns around the Bias Response Line. Professor Carl said that the C-FSC Steering Committee met with Provost Fleming for the first time on Thursday, October 27th, and the Council is looking forward to having her join its December 6th meeting.

Student Senators Council (SSC)

SSC Chair Ryan Thomas reported that SSC committees are off to an incredible start. He said that the Council is excited about the pilot program around providing free menstrual hygiene products for the NYU student community. The student community is also working with stakeholders across the University to offer support to students following the recent U.S. presidential election and encourage continual dialogue. Mr. Thomas invited members of the NYU community to a gathering at the Kimmel Center for University Life at 6:00 pm that day coordinated by the NYU Muslim Students Association. Finally, he said that representatives from NYU’s global sites will soon join the Council for a meeting at the
President Hamilton invited Dean Gabrielle Starr, Chair of the Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Sexual Misconduct, to give a report on the Committee’s work. Dean Starr said that there have been updates to NYU’s Sexual Misconduct, Relationship Violence, and Stalking Policy in response to changes in the regulatory environment. Significant modifications were made to the appeals process in the summer of 2015, moving to a system where all cases are now adjudicated by the Director of the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards, with the opportunity to appeal to a small panel composed of highly-trained staff. Dean Starr noted that this process appears to be working well to help ensure that all cases are evaluated with as much consistency, fairness, and care as possible.

Dean Starr said that last spring the Committee reviewed the mandated climate survey on sexual violence and misconduct in depth, and results will be made available in the coming weeks. The Committee will also continue discussions this fall around the possibility of revising NYU’s Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy, which currently does not prohibit romantic or sexual relationships between faculty and students.

The Committee had previously been charged with looking at whether to recommend uniform sanctions for particular offenses under NYU’s Sexual Misconduct, Relationship Violence, and Stalking Policy. Dean Starr said that the Committee carefully considered the purpose and range of available sanctions in light of the range and severity of violations. The Committee recognized that the University faces challenges in this regard because the University is not meant to act as, or replace, the court system where different standards apply. She also noted the nature of sanctions in the University process, which seek to address the violation of the community and keep the community safe.

Dean Starr said that after lengthy deliberation, the Committee decided against recommending uniform sanctions, believing it to be in the best interest of the University community to have individual circumstances guide appropriate sanctions. However, Dean Starr said that in cases of a University finding of forcible rape, the Committee recommended a presumptive sanction of expulsion and that any deviation from this sanction be justified in writing by the adjudicator and submitted to the responsible University officer as well as to both parties.

Dean Starr then invited questions and comments from members of the Senate. In response to a question about criminal offenses, Dean Starr noted that the University has good communication with law enforcement in every jurisdiction where it operates, and that it is NYU’s policy to help complainants connect with law enforcement should they desire. In response to a question about whether the lack of uniform sanctions could expose the University to liability, Dean Starr responded that the purpose of moving toward a single adjudicator model was to ensure a level of consistency across similar cases. Following discussion, and in response to the Committee’s request, the Senate expressed its
acceptance of the Committee’s recommended decision against uniform sanctions and in favor of a default punishment of expulsion for violent offenses with any deviation from that justified in writing.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Hamilton echoed the words of SSC Chair Ryan Thomas that the U.S. presidential election results have left some members of the NYU community unsettled, and he underscored the need for the community to reach out and support all of its members. President Hamilton then outlined three areas of the University’s operations that could be affected by the change of administration. First, he noted that there could be a negative impact on NYU’s foreign student applications. Second, he said that there could be significant cuts in government funding of research as a result of tax cuts that will likely be paid for through cuts in public expenditure. Third, President Hamilton said that the new administration’s position on student loans is uncertain. He said that the University will begin to plan and prepare around these three areas of concern.

President Hamilton then gave a brief update on the progress of the 181 Mercer Street project, noting that a more detailed report will be given to the Senate at its December meeting. He said he is excited by the impact the project will have across the University, noting that there will be a new state of the art gymnasium, performing arts facilities, studio space for the Tisch School of the Arts, music performance and practice space for the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, and a large number of classrooms that will contribute to the decompression of space in other NYU buildings that are currently heavily utilized. The building will also include additional student and faculty accommodations.

President Hamilton said that in addition to the presidential inauguration events held in New York City, he also traveled to Abu Dhabi and Shanghai to participate in ceremonies there. He noted that there are discussions at NYU Abu Dhabi about the planned increase in the number of students there, which will also lead to an increase in recruitment of faculty. NYU Shanghai will reach an important milestone in May with the first graduation ceremony. President Hamilton said that a five-year review of NYU Shanghai has been completed and we are awaiting feedback from the local government and academic reviewers.

As we enter the holiday season, President Hamilton encouraged the community to support the NYU Combined Campaign, which provides funds to nonprofits that serve the needs and promote the health and wellbeing of the local community.

President Hamilton then invited questions and comments from members of the Senate. A question was raised about the current emphasis on affordability and ensuring that NYU has adequate resources to finance the ambitious initiative given the constraints around significant tuition increases or increasing the size of the student body, the issue of which President Hamilton responded that administration is aware. The Senate engaged in further discussion about the potential impact of the U.S. presidential election on NYU in areas
such as philanthropy and the flow of students between portal campuses. In response to a question about the future of the portal campuses, President Hamilton noted that his recent visit to NYU Shanghai also included a trip to Beijing where he had a productive meeting with China’s Minister of Education; NYU is also in constant conversation with the government of Abu Dhabi and its oversight organization about NYU Abu Dhabi. Finally, Professor Fred Carl expressed how the rhetoric around the election increases the importance of conversations happening at NYU around equity, diversity, and inclusion.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Graham
Director, Office of the Secretary