MINUTES OF THE N/C-FACULTY SENATORS COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 4, 2014

The New York University Full-Time Non-Tenure Track/Contract Track Faculty Senators Council (N/C-FSC) met at noon on Thursday, December 4, 2014 in in the Global Center for Academic & Spiritual Life at 238 Thompson Street, 5th Floor Grand Hall.

In attendance were Senators Borowiec, Burt, Carl, Carter, Cittadino, Elcott, Gold-Von Simson, Gurrin, Halpin, Mauro, Morton, Mowry, Rainey, Sacks, Slater, Stehlik, Stewart, Ying, and Youngerman; Active Alternate Derrington; Alternate Senators Bianco, Casey, Cummings (for Killilea), Cunningham, Herman (for Slater), Kim, Lee, Mirabito, Renzi, and White.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting agenda was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 20, 2014

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the November 20, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIRPERSON: ANN MARIE MAURO

See attached Document A: N/C-FSC Chair Update

Meetings with Provost McLaughlin

Chairperson Mauro reported Provost McLaughlin expressed his gratitude for the Council’s timely recommendations regarding the Faculty Handbook and the University Guidelines for Full-time Non-Tenure Track/Contract Faculty Appointments. The Task Force co-chairs, Senators John Halpin and Fred Carl, will join members of the T-FSC Governance Committee and SCOG: T-FSC Senators Warren Jelinek, Jim Uleman and Mitchell Kane, and will meet with Carol Morrow on December 9 to discuss all of the recommendations together prior to bringing them to the Board of Trustees. The Provost plans to review the language regarding grievance and submit the grievance recommendations in the spring.

A Senator asked if the Council will receive a written reply, as stated in the Faculty Handbook when amendments are made. Mauro confirmed the Council will receive a formal, written response.

A Senator mentioned the five principles of Shared Governance, which were adopted by the T-FSC and incorporated into the Faculty Handbook. It was discussed whether the N/C-FSC would be interested in making a formal resolution to endorse these principles, and suggested to continue the discussion at future meetings.

Coles Redevelopment Project

The Steering Committee (SC) met with Lynne Brown and Michael Patullo on the Coles re-development project. Alternate Senator Renzi, who serves as an alumni representative on the Coles Redevelopment Project Advisory
Group, prepped the SC ahead of time. The discussion focused on the broader scope of the redevelopment and the 2031 plan, and also addressed the team situations, membership at commercial gyms, and use of the Lafayette Street building, formerly a Crunch gym. The Council may appoint a dedicated representative from the Council to the Coles Redevelopment Project Advisory Group in addition to Renzi, because he’s serving as an alumni representative.

A Senator asked about the start date for destruction of Coles. Mauro stated they do not want to close Coles in the middle of the academic semester, so they are looking at either the summer or January term.

The University will hire a city required construction monitor in the spring to oversee the demolition and construction process and also submit litigation plans for noise, etc. Renzi added there’s mitigation that needs to happen for asbestos, etc. Also, the University plans to finish the windows in both Silver Towers and Washington Village.

Meeting with Diane Yu

The Steering Committee met with Diane Yu, who has offered to meet with the Council on an ongoing basis as she does with the other Councils. President Sexton will be teaching in Shanghai in the spring and will be less physically accessible, although he will be accessible by email and video conference.

The SC is requesting the following data concerning the Full-Time Non-Tenure Track/Contract Faculty (FTNTT/CF): (1) Current data on the total numbers of FTNTT/CF university-wide and by school as of Fall 2014, to include: length of service, and length of contracts along with the numbers of each type of contract and (2) Trend data for the past 5 years for FTNTT/CF university-wide and by school that includes: total numbers of FTNTT/CF by academic year and length of contracts along with the numbers of each type of contract by academic year.

Yu acknowledged problems with collecting this data given the decentralized structure and inconsistency between the school and central data, HR coding, etc. but will gather any information she can.

Mauro mentioned that the Steering Committee will at times be briefed on confidential items before they these announcements are made public (i.e. announcement of a new Dean, announcement of a real estate purchase).

The report was accepted into the minutes.

QUESTIONS ON COMMITTEE REPORTS DISTRIBUTED

The reports were accepted into the minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Naming Committee: Committee Member Vincent Renzi

Alternate Senator Renzi reported a survey went out today to all Full-Time Non-Tenure Track/Contract faculty requesting suggestions of new names that could be used instead of the current FTNTT/CF and also any data on names used by other academic institutions to represent FTNTT/CF.

Coordination Committee: Committee Chair Randy Mowry

Vice Chairperson Mowry reported the Committee met with the T-FSC Coordination Committee to discuss ideas on how to coordinate the activities of the two Councils. The group discussed the technical issues of coordinating committees between the two Councils, including the size of the committees in each council and whether the committees should meet jointly. It was suggested each Council’s committees consist of six members, which would make 12 members total when meeting jointly. Senators discussed a mechanism for committees discussing matters separately when issues differ between the Councils. It was decided that any votes would
take place separately by Councils. The plan is to develop a document to describe in detail these mechanisms for coordination.

Senators discussed the SCOG directive to examine the size of the University Senate. It was commented there was not consensus of the committee to reduce the size of the Senate.

**Governance Committee: Committee Chair Ezra Sacks**

**Rules regarding Terms of Office and Rotating Elections**

See attached Document C: Governance Committee report from 11/20/14 meeting.

Senator Sacks presented the Governance Committee's two proposals for terms of office and rotating elections:

**Scenario 1**

Each member now serving would serve for a minimum of two years (including the current year.)

At the end of two years (Spring, 2016) one-third of the council members would stand for re-election. The following year (Spring, 2017) another third of the council would stand for re-election, and the year after that (Spring, 2018) the last third of the original council would stand for re-election.

Thereafter, all members would have three-year terms with one-third of the council elected each spring.

**Scenario 2**

As above, but initial elections would not take place until the spring of the third year.

Scenario 1 guarantees each current member a minimum two-year term of service. Scenario 2 guarantees each current member a minimum of a three-year term of service.

In both cases, members may elect to run again. In both cases, members may elect to run again. The initial division of the council into “thirds” rotational purposes would be chosen randomly.

A Senator suggested allowing Senators to decide when to rotate off during the initial division of the Council into terms.

A Senator asked to examine the attendance of Senators at Council and Senate meetings. Mauro commented that during this initial year, this data might not be useful because teaching schedules were set before the meeting dates were announced.

A Senator suggested in schools with multiple senators, that the Senators decide how to divide evenly into the three groups.

A Senator commented that with major decisions coming before the University it may be beneficial to continue serving as the original Council. She suggested it might be useful for all Senators to commit for three years for continuity.

A Senator suggested allowing members the option to resign and the school to elect a replacement if a Senator is not willing or able to serve the full term.

A Senator commented that Alternates may be interested in stepping into the role and will also provide an institutional memory.
A Senator commented that having 2/3 of this group serve for many years may not leave a good impression with the schools or university.

A Senator asked if the term lengths are stipulated in the bylaws. It was clarified they are not, it is the T-FSC Rules of Procedure that specifies the three year terms for T-FSC Senators.

It was noted there should be a procedure for the Alternates role when a Senator steps down. It was suggested the schools could decide their own election procedures and Council would decide the length of the term and the date by which they would have to hold an election.

A Senator commented the term length should be considered in relation to the review of the Senate’s structure in two years.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the following resolution was approved by vote of 13 senators in favor and 3 senators opposed, with 0 abstentions:

IT IS RESOLVED: That each current member serves for a minimum of two years (including the current year.)

At the end of two years (spring, 2016) one-third of the council members will stand for re-election.

The following year (spring, 2017) another third of the council will stand for re-election.

The year after that (spring, 2018) the last third of the original council will stand for re-election.

Thereafter, all members will have three-year terms with one-third of the council elected each spring.

Rules regarding Steering Committee

See attached Document B: Governance Committee proposals.

Sacks presented the Governance Committee’s proposal regarding the Steering Committee:

1. We suggest keeping the Steering Committee and continuing with seven members.
2. Each member’s term will be for one year (with the exception of this initial term which will run for two years).
3. We propose two election methods to the Steering Committee:
   a. The first method would have Council members elect the Steering Committee in May (2016) and they would take office in September. The newly elected members of the Steering Committee would choose its own Chair and Vice Chair.
   b. The second method would be the same as the first except that all Council members in electing the Steering Committee would choose its own Chair and Vice Chair.
4. Any Council member could nominate someone to run for the Steering Committee. Also, self-nominations would be acceptable.
5. In order to prevent the election to the Steering Committee of a member who might not be elected by their own school, we would advise schools to hold their elections early enough so that our Council could have its membership determined by April 15th.

A Senator commented that the University bylaws stipulate elections for Senators must occur prior to Commencement, so it might be difficult to require an April 15 deadline.

It was noted the suggested methods are different than those of the T-FSC. The T-FSC has a Nominating Committee that collects nominations and determines the list of candidates to run for each Executive Committee position. The Council then votes on each position from the list of candidates.
At the conclusion of the discussion, the following resolution was approved by vote of 16 senators in favor and 0 senators opposed, with 0 abstentions:

IT IS RESOLVED:

1. The Steering Committee will continue with seven members.

2. Each member’s term will be for one year (with the exception of this initial term which will run for two years).

3. Council members will elect the Steering Committee in May (2016) and the Steering Committee will take office in September. The newly elected members of the Steering Committee will choose its own Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

4. Any Council member may nominate someone to run for the Steering Committee. Self-nominations are acceptable.

A Senator asked about the term of the Steering Committee and if it continues through the summer. Mauro noted the term would technically end Aug. 31, but suggested an overlap over the summer of the incoming and outgoing Steering Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Faculty Honors

Vice Chair Mowry commented on the section titled “Faculty Honors” in the University Senate’s Report of the President and suggested the Council have a mechanism to communicate the scholarly accomplishments of the N/C-FSC membership and its constituents.

He noted Michael Shenefelt and Heidi White published: If A then B: How the World Discovered Logic, a Forbes review book of the year.

David Elcott received a grant from the Ford Foundation.

Chairperson Mauro received a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing grant award.

Mauro asked Council members to send their accomplishments to Karyn Ridder and a mechanism for communicating this information will be developed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.
Non-Tenure Track/Contract Faculty Senators Council  
Chairperson Ann Marie Mauro  

Updates as of 12/1/14

1. **Steering Committee (SC) Updates** - Our Steering Committee met on 11/25/14 to plan this week’s 12/4/14 council meeting agenda. Vince Renzi gave us an update on the Coles Redevelopment Project on which he serves as an alumni representative. John Halpin was also invited to the meeting to discuss the ongoing process of reviewing the Faculty Handbook and University Guidelines on FTNTT/CF Appointments related to the grievance and disciplinary processes.

   a) **Meetings with Provost McLaughlin**
      
      - Ann Marie Mauro and Randy Mowry met with Provost McLaughlin and Senior Associate Provost/Chief of Staff Carol Morrow on 11/24/14 regarding the proposed Faculty Handbook revisions and the FTNTT/CF Appointment Guidelines. The Provost was very pleased to receive our recommendations reading these documents in such a timely manner. He emphasized that the Faculty Handbook will require ongoing updates. The Provost said our recommendations would require careful review by his office, and any proposed Faculty Handbook revisions would need to be sent to the Board of Trustees by 12/11/14 for its December 18th meeting. Therefore, he said he does not plan to send any revisions related to the grievance procedures for the December meeting. The Provost stated he would like to recommend those changes sooner rather than later, perhaps in the spring or early fall at the latest. Associate Provost Morrow will be reaching out to our Task Force Co-Chairs and the T-FSC Governance Committee to meet in early December to discuss the recommendations regarding the Faculty Handbook revisions made by both councils. Depending on the outcome of this joint meeting, the Provost’s recommendations regarding revisions to the Faculty Handbook may be sent to the BOT in December or February.

   b) **Coordinating Committee** – Has been meeting with the T-FSC Coordinating Committee and some possible proposals are in development and will be discussed at our December 4th meeting.

   c) **Future Meetings Planned** – The SC has several meetings planned in the upcoming weeks with the following groups:
      
      - **Coles Redevelopment Project Meeting 12/3/14** – with Michael Patullo and Lynne Brown.
      - **Meeting with Deputy President Diane Yu 12/3/14**
      - **Meeting with President John Sexton and Deputy President Diane Yu 12/17/14**

2. **Senate Executive Committee**: Met on 11/24/14. The SEC approved a change in the March 26, 2014 meeting time to 9am-11am, changes to the Student Senators Council Committee representation, a remote attendance protocol, and the December 4th meeting agenda. Possible topics for future Senate meetings were discussed.

3. **Welcome Message & Feedback for Naming Committee** – A welcome message will be sent from the Steering Committee on 12/1/14 to the university community and an email requesting feedback from FTNTT/CF regarding a name for our constituency will be sent on 12/2/14.
NT/FSC GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE PROPOSALS FOR DISCUSSION FROM MEETING ON 12/3/2014

1. WE SUGGEST KEEPING THE STEERING COMMITTEE AND CONTINUING WITH SEVEN MEMBERS.
2. EACH MEMBERS TERM WILL BE FOR ONE YEAR (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THIS INITIAL TERM WHICH WILL RUN FOR TWO YEARS)
3. WE PROPOSE TWO ELECTIONS METHODS TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE.
   A. THE FIRST METHOD WOULD HAVE COUNCIL MEMBERS ELECT THE STEERING COMMITTEE IN MAY (2016) AND THEY WOULD TAKE OFFICE IN SEPTEMBER. THE NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE WOULD CHOOSE ITS OWN CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR.
   A. THE SECOND METHOD WOULD BE THE SAME AS THE FIRST EXCEPT THAT ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ELECTING THE STEERING COMMITTEE WOULD ALSO ELECT THE CHAIR AND THE VICE-CHAIR.
4. ANY COUNCIL MEMBER COULD NOMINATE SOMEONE TO RUN FOR THE STEERING COMMITTEE. ALSO, SELF-NOMINATIONS WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE.
5. IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE ELECTION TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF A MEMBER WHO MIGHT NOT BE ELECTED BY THEIR OWN SCHOOL, WE WOULD ADVISE SCHOOLS TO HOLD THEIR ELECTIONS EARLY ENOUGH SO THAT OUR COUNCIL COULD HAVE ITS MEMBERSHIP DETERMINED BY APRIL 15TH.
Report of the N/C-FSC Governance Committee

The meeting was held on November 5, 2014. All members were in attendance (Ron Rainey, Joe Borowiec, David Elcott, Ezra Sacks)

Using the TT-FSC model as a guide (why re-invent the wheel?)

The committee would like Council members to comment on the following two proposals for terms of office and rotating elections.

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