SUMMARY OF THE FACULTY SENATORS COUNCIL MEETING OF NOVEMBER 18, 2010

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- **FSC Resolution regarding Age-Limit on Tuition Remission**
  - The FSC’s resolution regarding the age-limit on tuition remission resulted in resumed tuition remission benefits for the 14 students affected this fall. They will be allowed tuition remission for this year.

- **Adjuncts Strike Status and Graduate Students’ Appeal for a Union**
  - The Executive Committee met with Provost McLaughlin on Nov. 17. At the meeting, it was reported the adjuncts had a strike authorization vote last week, which means they are able to strike if their contract expires but can not strike if their contract is still in place.
  - The National Labor Relations Board is now requesting all RAs, TAs, and post-grads be incorporated into the graduate student union. The process is still ongoing at the regional level.

- **2031 Plan**
  - Chairperson Schacht reported the administration is considering engaging with an external partner on the plans for the new hotel near the Silver Towers block. At this point, it is yet to be determined whether the site will also house faculty, students, or others.
  - Alternate Senator Reiss responded that she was informed 10 floors are to be for the hotel and the rest for faculty housing. She commented the hotel will be for NYU conference, graduation, and other NYU special event attendees.
  - Senator Economides noted Karen Gulino, Assistant Vice President, Faculty Housing & Residential Services, reported at the Housing Committee meeting that there is no plan to buy or build new housing. Schacht countered that at the faculty forums it was stated that 500,000 square feet or 500 apartments for faculty were part of the 2031 plan.
  - Senator Goldman inquired about how the FSC addresses issues of non-tenure track faculty (NTTF) housing. Economides replied that the housing committee discusses this issue often with contacts from the housing office, but presently they are not looking to expand NTTF housing.

- **Shanghai Campus**
  - Schacht reported the plan for the Shanghai campus is to begin with an executive masters program and then expand to an undergraduate program. Unlike Abu Dhabi, the academics will focus more on subjects such as economics, engineering, and science.
  - Senator Jones expressed her concerns about the lack of faculty involvement in these projects. Schacht mentioned President Sexton is attending the Dec. 9 FSC meeting and this is an opportunity for the Branch Campuses Committee and other members of the council to discuss the FSC’s and faculty’s involvement in these plans.

- **Recommendations to the Administration On Matters Pertaining to Faculty Compensation and to Faculty Benefits For the Academic Year 2011-2012**
  - Economides presented the Finance & Policy Planning Committee’s resolution. The resolution shows in order to match increased living costs, including rises in rent and healthcare costs, salary should be increased by 5.72%. Economides stated the report presents a scientific methodology to this argument.
  - Jones mentioned that the faculty survey revealed financial concerns were a top issue for faculty. She stated the situation is also affected by the rise in benefits cost including medical expenses, co-pays associated with tuition remission, and increases in rent.
  - Economides noted this document has two parts, and information on benefits will be added to the second section.
  - Upon a motion duly made and seconded the resolution was approved unanimously by a vote of 23 senators in favor.

- **Resolution Concerning Letters of Agreement at the School of Medicine**
  - Senator Monaco presented the Tenure Modifications Committee’s resolution.
  - Monaco stated that tenured faculty at the School of Medicine (SOM) are being given contracts to sign away their tenure rights. These change in responsibility letters do not coincide with the handbook’s terms of tenure responsibility and are a breach of the tenure contract.
  - Senator Hammack asked about the reaction of the faculty council at the SOM about this issue. Monaco responded the issue has not been handled by the SOM council. Senator Tannenbaum suggested contacting the head of the SOM council to get his/her response and then share with the FSC.
  - Upon a motion duly made and seconded the resolution the resolution was approved by a vote of 17 senators in favor, 4 senators opposed, and 2 senators abstained. The text of the resolution is as follows:
    - “The current practice of the NYU School of Medicine to request that certain faculty members sign agreements limiting their tenure rights is in violation of the Handbook. We urge that the School of Medicine cease this practice, and that any alterations in the tenure guidelines outlined in the Handbook be subject to the appropriate procedures for instituting such changes. Let it be further noted that any changes to the tenure guarantees outlined in the Handbook will apply prospectively, and will not retroactively affect already tenured faculty.”