



**Faculty Committee on NYU's Global Network**  
*Tuesday, February 4, 2020, 8:30am-10:00am EST*  
*PCR (Bobst Library, 1218)*

ATTENDANCE

**Eliot Borenstein**, Co-Chair, FAS (Russian and Slavic Studies)  
**Martin Klimke**, Co-Chair, NYU Abu Dhabi  
**Rawan Dareer**, Student Government Assembly  
**Alexander Geppert**, NYU Shanghai  
**Nicolas Graf**, School of Professional Studies  
**Andrew Hamilton**, President  
**Benjamin Hary**, Global Sites  
**Deborah Kapchan**, Tisch School of the Arts  
**Maya Kesrouany**, NYU Abu Dhabi  
**Robin Klar**, Rory Meyers College of Nursing  
**Matthew Kleban**, FAS (Physics)  
**Heather Lee**, Assistant Professor, NYU Shanghai  
**Linda Mills**, Vice Chancellor and Senior Vice Provost for Global Programs and University Life  
**Marilyn Moffat**, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development  
**Yaw Nyarko**, Provostial At-Large  
**Adedamola Osinulu**, Liberal Studies  
**Marianne Petit**, Tisch School of the Arts  
**Ramesh Raghavan**, Silver School of Social Work  
**Paul Smoke**, Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service  
**Carol Sternhell**, FAS (Journalism)  
**Josh Taylor**, Associate Vice Chancellor for Global Programs and University Life  
**Deepak Unnikrishnan**, Continuing Contract Faculty Senators Council (NYU Abu Dhabi)  
**Peter Voltz**, Tandon School of Engineering  
**Paul Wachtel**, Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee (Stern)

MEETING MINUTES

Eliot Borenstein and Martin Klimke opened the meeting by welcoming new members to the group, and continuing the discussion from the previous meeting about revising the committee structure. The proposed new structure includes an executive committee comprising one representative each for Abu Dhabi, New York, Shanghai, and the sites for the purpose of ensuring that more voices are represented in committee's administrative planning and preparation. While planning will be centralized among the co-chairs and executive committee, all members are always welcome to provide agenda items.

The committee discussed putting together a background document, and making it available on the Faculty Committee on the Global Network webpage. It was agreed that the committee would benefit from a background paper that describes the meeting structure, elections and appointment of members, and the role of the co-chairs and executive committee. It was noted that there is wisdom in this idea, particularly because the Committee operates in a way that is distinct from other University bodies.

The committee recognized that its members bring a different voice about the Global Network to their departments. Within the committee, they learn about the realities of the Global Network and bring that knowledge back to their departments. The committee is useful to both hear concerns within departments and to address them, as well as to ensure that accurate information reaches the wider NYU community. Faculty also discussed the importance of the committee as a forum for discussing Global-related issues and concerns. Recognition was also given to the committee's commitment to making new, global opportunities available that are independent of faculty status, facilitating access for both Tenure-line and Continuing Contract Faculty.

Linda Mills, Vice Chancellor and Senior Vice Provost for Global Programs and University Life, and Josh Taylor, Associate Vice Chancellor of Global Programs and University Life, joined the meeting and discussed the University's response to the Novel Coronavirus. Mills remarked that she has been involved in emergency response for the past two decades, including after 9/11, and that experience framed how she thinks about crisis situations: "You can't just think about tomorrow, but you must be planning several months out." In response to the committee's question about emergency plans going into the future, Mills noted that NYU has a team that plans for contingencies in a wide variety of scenarios.

Committee members raised concerns about the academic situation of students who may be unable to leave China. Taylor explained that, along with health concerns, the University is addressing students' academic needs, and ensuring that temporary and long-term academic options are available. He explained that distance learning courses have been set up on an ad hoc basis to allow students to make progress toward their degrees, but this is a short-term solution. He added that there are clear avenues for students based on their goals, e.g. those who are seeking visas through the Optional Practical Training (OPT) provision and those who are not. The Office of Global Services will join advisory sessions to help students arrive at their decisions.

President Andrew Hamilton spoke to the committee about the fast-moving nature of this crisis, but also the way in which the University quickly marshaled its forces, including its skilled health professionals, while taking advantage of the opportunities provided by Global Network. He noted that a high degree of flexibility and creativity has been required to accommodate a diverse range of academic needs and goals as well as the practical challenges associated with the range of visa statuses of an international student body.

President Hamilton lauded the work of the Public Safety Department and the Office of Global Programs, and their vast experience in the complexities of a highly international set of students located in challenging parts of the world. He highlighted that it is far too early to write the story of the current crisis, but noted that he is convinced that one of the things that will become clear is how NYU's Global Network has helped manage this highly personal crisis – every student has a worry and a concern – while ensuring that our community is safe and as ready as can be for emergency situations and concerns related to the virus. "We see a university that has become highly experienced in all things international."

The discussion turned to President Hamilton's perspectives on the Global Network. He stated that this has been a very significant year, and it bodes very well for future years. He reminded the committee of the discussions during the year about the critical importance of "global" in the minds of current students and the ever-increasing number of applicants for undergraduate studies. President Hamilton remarked on the way the university has made the global network an integral part of its identity, and by offering students

and faculty the potential of engaging in deep ways with the world. The number of NYU undergraduates going abroad – 49% is really impressive – is far more than at any other university in America.

President Hamilton noted that this past year has also seen very significant developments. In Abu Dhabi, for the first time, there was a transition of leadership with Mariët Westermann's appointment as Vice Chancellor. In Shanghai, another huge step was taken; the beginning of construction work on a new campus. NYU Los Angeles, has had a successful start, with increasing enrollments of students engaging in academic and entertainment industry internships. The other big development he discussed was the continuing expansion of space and collaborations at NYU London. And there are conversations with different partners in Central London that will allow expansion of the capacity of student engagement. NYU Tel Aviv celebrated its tenth anniversary—"a reminder of how long standing our presence is. It was a good opportunity to see the strong links between Tel Aviv and Abu Dhabi with Benny himself teaching in Abu Dhabi in J-Term. This has been an exciting past year. Everything I've spoken about speaks to the ever increasing importance of the Global Network and the academic profile of NYU."

The committee raised the question of plans for further expansion of the Global Network. President Hamilton informed the group that the answer is "no" at this stage, but he recognized that there are glaring holes if the global network is to be a true reflection of the world. He pointed to the need to see the academic rationale and momentum before we move into another country. "I look to explore and encourage ideas from faculty, for why it makes sense for us to be thinking about a particular location at a new site. At the moment, we await those kinds of academic rationales to come forward."

The co-chairs thanked the committee members for their participation and invited the committee to bring forward agenda items for future meetings.