



Faculty Committee on NYU's Global Network
Wednesday, March 17, 2020, 8:30am-10:00am EST

ATTENDANCE

Eliot Borenstein, Chair (FAS Russian and Slavic Studies)
Awam Amkpa, Tisch School of the Arts
Amy Bentley, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development (Nutrition and Food Studies)
Mosette Broderick, Faculty of Arts and Science (Art History)
Sylvain Cappell, Tenured/Tenure-Track Faculty Senators Council (Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences)
Scott Collard, Division of Libraries
Duane Corpis, NYU Shanghai
Nicolas Graf, School of Professional Studies
Zhan Guo, Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service
Christian Haefke, NYU Abu Dhabi
Benjamin Hary, Global Sites (FAS Hebrew and Judaic Studies)
Deborah Kapchan, Tisch School of the Arts
Maya Kesrouany, NYU Abu Dhabi
Gavin Kilduff, Leonard N. Stern School of Business
Jung T. Kim, School of Medicine
Robin Klar, Rory Meyers College of Nursing
Martin Klimke, NYU Abu Dhabi
Marilyn Moffat, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development
Alexander Nagel, Institute of Fine Arts
Yaw Nyarko, Provostial At-Large Appointment (FAS Economics)
Danielle Ompad, College of Global Public Health
Adedamola Osinulu, Liberal Studies
Rohini Pahwa, Silver School of Social Work
Marianne Petit, Technology-Enhanced Education (Tisch School of the Arts)
Jon Ritter, Continuing Contract Faculty Senators Council (FAS Art History)
Deepak Saxena, College of Dentistry
Peter Voltz, Tandon School of Engineering
Paul Wachtel, Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee (Stern)
Joseph Weiler, School of Law
Jiawei Zhang, Leonard N. Stern School of Business

Katherine Fleming, Provost; Alexander S. Onassis Professor of Hellenic Culture and Civilization in the Faculty of Arts and Science

MEETING MINUTES

Update on Fall 2021

Provost Katherine Fleming thanked the committee for inviting her to join the meeting and opened with a discussion on how the University is approaching a return to normalcy for Fall 2021. Noting that all plans are subject to health directives and guidelines, the administration plans to have as much in-person teaching as

possible given physical distancing requirements and classroom scheduling constraints, and the Registrar and Joe Juliano are working through every iteration to ensure the University is prepared. Faculty should plan to be back in New York and in person in the fall; in order to alleviate peak demand on classroom space, the administration is hoping that faculty who are able to will consider teaching during less desirable timeslots, so as to help de-densify the campus and allow for more in-person class time. Mask usage will likely still be required in larger lectures, though it may be relaxed in smaller seminars depending on public health directives.

Planning for international students is extremely complicated as so much of immigration is outside of the university's control. Given the large cohort of students from China and the time zone challenge, the Go Local program in Shanghai will likely continue for the fall semester. For students from other countries, the Provost's office is encouraging deans to consider faculty teaching two sections of the same course (one in-person and one remotely) to count towards a full course load so as to minimize the need for hybrid teaching.

Katy also encouraged the committee to think beyond COVID-19 and whether there are elements of Go Local we might want to retain in some format. This could be an opportunity to establish programs at some sites that incorporate local students, allowing our students to more meaningfully engage with the local academic community. The committee shared the desire to better integrate the global sites and agreed that it would likely work better in some locations given local regulations. The committee also felt that any Go Local program should be integrated into the larger program and not be separate and distinct.

Lastly, NYU's application numbers indicate that the university is poised to admit a very strong and diverse incoming class in the fall. Katy encouraged faculty to think critically about their programmatic offerings and to use the past year's hiring lull to explore new directions and different areas of focus.

The future of Zoom at NYU

The pandemic has given us all a better understanding of the benefits and challenges of delivering courses via the Zoom platform. Katy noted that the extent to which Zoom can be incorporated into the curriculum of any program will be determined in large part by accreditors. Any decisions to incorporate Zoom into a curriculum should be intentional and based on the opportunities it provides to students.

Faculty connectivity and circulation

Katy confirmed that the university plans to continue faculty connectivity initiatives that were in place or were being planned before the onset of COVID-19. She noted that this may take longer to return to normal since it is dependent on immigration and local public health decisions. The administration recognizes the importance of face-to-face interactions, though she encouraged faculty to focus on deeper and more meaningful relationships.

Summer as third semester

Being a highly tuition-dependent institution, it is important for NYU to continue to find ways to grow to cover new programmatic and operational costs. While better classroom utilization could help, NYU is limited in its ability to grow in the fall and spring semesters. Summer is underutilized and presents an opportunity for growth, though Katy recognized the myriad challenges of changing the academic calendar and noted that it is not something the university is aggressively pursuing in the short term. To the extent that the Global Sites could establish more efficient and regular summer sessions that align with New York's calendar, that would be encouraged, though this may be challenging in some locations given local culture and shut downs.

The committee thanked Katy for joining and Katy encouraged faculty to email her directly if there are any questions.

Committee business

The committee discussed Go Local and some of the difficulties of extending it post-pandemic. At NYU Shanghai, it has been challenging to integrate the Go Local students to the regular student body due to the physical separation of the campuses, but also due to the different curricular interests and perspectives of the NYU Shanghai and NYU New York students.

It was also acknowledged that the committee has been more reactive this year considering the circumstances and that it hopes to have a more proactive approach to issues next year.