



**Minutes of a Stated Meeting of the  
Senate of New York University  
March 1, 2012**

A stated meeting of the Senate of New York University was held on Thursday, March 1, 2012, at 2:00 p.m., in Room 914 of the Kimmel Center for University Life. The meeting was convened with Dr. Sexton in the chair.

**Faculty Senators Council Members Present:** Mark Adelman, Sylvain Cappell, Jennifer Carpenter, Nicholas Economides, Floyd Hammack, Warren Jelinek, Mary Ann Jones, Carl Lebowitz, Wen Ling, Ted Magder (Chair), Marie Monaco, Molly Nolan, Jason Philips, Laurin Raiken, Carol Reiss, Victor Rodwin, Robert Schacht, Eric Simon, Carol Sternhell, Arthur Tannenbaum, Nancy Van Devanter and Anthony Vernillo.

**Student Senators Council Members Present:** John F. Boyd, Tai Cooper, Albert Contugno (Chair), Whitney Coulson, Mason Dettloff, Mariam Ehrari, Yvonne Feiger, Anderson Heinz, Nara Kasbergen, Sabira Lakhani, Rocco Puno, Rick Stern, Ashley Valencia, Malina Webb and May Zhan.

**Deans Council Members Present:** Charles Bertolami, Mary Brabeck, Mark Callahan (for Lynn Videka), Robert Cameron (for Mary Schimdt Campbell) Thomas Carew, Trena Drayton (for Ellen Schall), Susan Greenbaum (for Geeta Menon), Joanne Hvala (for Peter Blair Henry), Carol Mandel, Celeste Orangers (for Susanne Wofford) and Gabrielle Starr.

**Administrative Management Council Members Present:** Katherine Drummond, Anita Dwyer (Chair), Thomas Helleberg, Marguerite Sharkey and David Vintinner.

**University Administration Members Present:** Michael Alfano, John Beckman (for Robert Berne), Bonnie Brier, and David McLaughlin.

**Review and Approval of the Minutes of the February 2, 2012 Meeting**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Minutes of the February 2, 2012 meeting were approved unanimously as presented.

## PRESIDENT'S QUESTION TIME

Dr. Sexton responded to the AMC's question about growth in the University's Senior Administration. He advised that the University Administration recently completed a reengineering process, including the elimination of positions, which resulted in significant savings. He related that certain areas, such as Student Wellness and Global Programs, have seen growth due to program expansion and increased investment. Dr. Sexton also noted that many of the new titles are the result of promotions given to current employees who have taken on more responsibility, rather than an increase in the number of full-time equivalent positions.

In response to the FSC's question about whether the GNU will have core liberal arts academic requirements, Dr. Sexton advised that students already have language requirements associated with their specific study-away sites. He explained that NYU Abu Dhabi also has a core liberal arts curriculum similar to that of Washington Square, but slightly modified by the faculty in Abu Dhabi, and Shanghai will be similar. He related that students in the Liberal Studies Program (LSP) have the option to spend their first year at a number of study-away sites, and still participate in the LSP curriculum.

Dr. Sexton responded to the FSC's question about Google's proposed new privacy policy and its effect on the University community given the University's contractual relationship with Google, stating that the new privacy policy does not change the University's security agreement with Google. He added that the new privacy policy will not be an issue unless NYU implements Google Plus and Dr. Alfano noted that if Google Plus is implemented, a new contract will be renegotiated, but the University is still considering whether or not it will implement Google Plus. He noted that individual users may use Google Plus, but the account will not be covered under NYU's agreement.

In response to the SSC's question about the role of tenure in higher education, Dr. Sexton advised that NYU is an outlier, and described the recent decline in adjunct faculty in favor of tenured and tenure-track faculty and contract faculty, which he considers an optimal blend of faculty. Dr. Sexton characterized contract faculty as "master teachers." In the context of the Global Network University, adjunct faculty are of particular value because they provide an insider's view of the cultural, political or business environment at the study-away site, and adjunct faculty at Washington Square often teach after work. Dr. Sexton noted that the number of tenured and tenure-track faculty has increased significantly at NYU in the past ten years due to program expansion and the University's current emphasis on hiring science faculty to do research.

Dr. Sexton responded to the SSC's question about the 2031 Plan, asking students to assist in disseminating information throughout the community and correct misinformation. He noted that NYU's plans for expansion began in 2001 when he

commissioned a report by a group of faculty and administrators, the results of which indicated that many NYU facilities, including classrooms, dorms and science labs, were in disrepair and there was insufficient space. Dr. Sexton related that the University put off building maintenance projects in the 1970s and 1980s due to severe budget constraints, and has been playing catch up ever since, in addition to the planned expansion. He also noted that current interest rates are very low, making it a good time to invest in real estate, rather than to continue to rent space. Since 2001, the University has engaged in a strategic plan to move from rented space into University-owned properties, resulting in more certainty and significant savings on a long-term basis. Dr. Sexton emphasized increasing and improving University facilities for future generations, and that construction work is done as quickly and quietly as possible, with the local residents in mind.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Executive Committee**

Dean Bertolami referred to the list of revised committee assignments that was included in the mailing for today's meeting, reporting that the Committee unanimously approved the changes by mail ballot.

### **Academic Affairs Committee**

No report was submitted by the Academic Affairs Committee.

### **Financial Affairs Committee**

Mr. Dorph reported that the Committee met yesterday and discussed the AMC, FSC and SSC budget submissions.

### **Committee on Organization and Governance**

Mr. Cotugno reported that the Committee reviewed the FSC proposal regarding representation of non-tenure track faculty (NTTF) in the Senate. The Committee members agreed that NTTF should be eligible for representation if they desire it and will inform the NTTF of the current discussions. He noted that SCOG will discuss the incorporation of NTTF into the Senate at a future meeting.

### **Public Affairs Committee**

Mr. Tannenbaum gave a summary of recently released Federal and State budget data and the changes affecting higher education. He related that the Federal budget increased Federal investments in research, education and student aid, and the Obama administration proposed to increase the maximum Pell Grant to \$5,635 and to double

the Federal Work Study Program over five years. Mr. Tannenbaum stated that Governor Cuomo's budget maintained student aid programs at their current levels and reflects a continued commitment to higher education.

## **COUNCIL REPORTS**

### **Administrative Management Council**

Ms. Dwyer related that the AMC met on February 7 and heard a presentation by Jeremy Freidman, Manager of Sustainability Initiatives, on the University's sustainability initiatives. She stated that the AMC is collecting greeting cards, cell phones and eyeglasses for its recycling program and referred those with donations to the AMC website for drop-off locations. She advised that Martin Dorph, Executive Vice President of Finance and Information Technology, and Anthony Jiga, Vice President of Budget and Planning, will be presenting at the AMC meeting on March 6 regarding the University's Budget process.

### **Deans Council**

Dean Bertolami reported on the February 29 Deans Council meeting, at which Lynne Brown, Senior Vice President for University Relations and Public Affairs, was invited to attend to participate in a discussion of the 2031 Plan, its status and how it relates to the space needs of the individual schools. He advised that the Council also hosted Professor Kathryn Fleming, Senior Vice Provost and Vice Chancellor, Europe, who gave a presentation on global master's degree programs.

### **Faculty Senators Council**

Dr. Magder related that the FSC is working with the SSC regarding the cost of course materials and the FSC's Student Relations Committee is reviewing a number of school-based policies regarding student course evaluations. He noted that he and the Chair of the FSC Benefits Committee has discussed retirement fund issues such as early withdrawal and types of investment funds with University administrators, which resulted in Federal Tax Assistance for same-sex married couples, similar to plans at Columbia and Yale. Finally, Dr. Magder announced that the FSC will host a Forum on NYU 2031 on Friday, March 9 as an opportunity for the University administration to gather feedback from NYU faculty.

### **Student Senators Council**

Mr. Cotugno stated that the SSC met on February 2 and February 16, and continues to work with the FSC to address the high cost of course materials. He noted that the SSC recently hosted the first Town Hall of the semester with President Sexton, as well as the first Violet 100, a weekend dedicated to school spirit.

## **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

Dr. Sexton referred to the memorandum that was circulated to each Senator, and is attached to these minutes as Exhibit A, outlining some of the individual and collective achievements at the University since the Senate's last meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bonnie Brier  
Secretary



**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT  
University Senate Meeting  
Thursday, March 1, 2012**

It is my pleasure to share with you recent news and notes from across the university.

**NEWS**

**The Sustainability Task Force has announced its 2012 “Green Grants” recipients: eight projects from students, faculty, and staff were chosen from numerous proposals to receive over \$52,000 in grant monies.** Projects this year include a study to determine the most valuable upgrades for energy efficiency in NYU buildings, a public art installation of kinetic sculptures that will showcase sustainable energy sources, and a student-run eatery serving local, organic, and fairly-traded food. For more information on the grant projects and on how to apply for the next round of Green Grants, please visit [www.nyu.edu/sustainability/greengrants](http://www.nyu.edu/sustainability/greengrants).

**On Tuesday, February 28, a delegation of NYU students traveled to our state capital for the 27<sup>th</sup> annual “NYU in Albany Day.”** Nearly 50 undergraduate and graduate students, led by administrators and faculty, met with state legislators and elected officials to advocate for increased student aid and support for higher education initiatives.

**HONORS**

**The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation has named the Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy a recipient of the MacArthur Award for Creative and Effective Institutions.** The Furman Center, a joint project of the School of Law and the Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, will receive a grant of \$1 million with the award. One of only 15 organizations from six countries to receive the prestigious award this year, the Furman Center was recognized for its excellence in providing objective, policy-relevant research to address the challenges facing neighborhoods in New York City and around the nation.

**Herschel Garfein, adjunct professor in the Department of Music and Performing Arts Professions at the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, has won a Grammy Award for Best Contemporary Classical Composition for his opera “Elmer Gantry.”** The album also won the Grammy for Best Engineered Classical Recording.

**Three NYU faculty have been awarded Sloan Foundation Fellowships,** which are given to early-career scientists and scholars “whose achievements and potential identify them as rising stars – the next generation of scientific leaders.” They are:

- **Robert Froemke, assistant professor in the Departments of Otolaryngology, Physiology, and Neuroscience at the Langone Medical Center;**
- **Pierre Germain, assistant professor of mathematics at the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences; and**

- **Virgiliu Midrigan, assistant professor in the Department of Economics, Faculty of Arts and Science.**

**At the 84<sup>th</sup> Annual Academy Awards on February 26, Tisch School of the Arts alumnus Mark Bridges (TSOA '87) won an Oscar for Best Costume Design for *The Artist*. This was the first Oscar nomination for Mark, who graduated from Tisch with an MFA in Design.**

**Nine other NYU alumni and community members were nominated for Academy Awards, including:**

- **Martin Scorsese** (TSOA and Steinhardt '64/'68/Hon. '92): Best Picture (as producer) and Directing for *Hugo*
- **Chris Columbus** (TSOA '80 and Dean's Council): Best Picture (as producer) for *The Help*
- **Michael Barnathan** (TSOA '80): Best Picture (as producer) for *The Help*
- **Michael De Luca** (TSOA '95): Best Picture (as producer) for *Moneyball*
- **Scott Rudin** (TSOA Dean's Council): Best Picture (as producer) for *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*
- **Rooney Mara** (Gallatin '10): Actress in a Leading Role for *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*
- **Lucy Walker** (TSOA '98): Documentary Short Subject for *The Tsunami and the Cherry Blossom*
- **Bruce Sinofsky** (TSOA '78): Documentary Feature (as producer/director/editor) for *Paradise Lost 3: Purgatory*
- **Andrew Bowler** (TSOA '96): Short Film (Live Action) for *Time Freak*

In addition, TSOA alumnus **Billy Crystal** (TSOA '70) returned to host the ceremony, serving as the night's master of ceremonies for the ninth time.

**Larry Wolff, professor in the Department of History and director of the Center for European and Mediterranean Studies, has been awarded the 2012 Karl von Vogelsang State Prize for History for his book *The Idea of Galicia: History and Fantasy in Habsburg Political Culture*. Awarded bi-yearly by the Austrian government, the prize will be presented in Vienna in April.**

**Five School of Nursing students in the Accelerated BS program have been awarded Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing (NICN) Scholarships. The \$10,000 scholarships support students who are traditionally underrepresented in the field of nursing, with the goal of addressing the national nursing shortage and developing a diverse professional nursing workforce. The 2012 NICN Scholars are Maritess Cabrera, Veronica Cepin, Sheyla Reyes, Luis Sanchez, and Danielle Spencer.**

## **GRANTS**

**Richard Arum, director of the Institute for Human Development and Social Change and Professor of Sociology and Education at the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, will lead NYU colleagues in a new study funded by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. The 1.5-year, \$830,000 grant will investigate whether implementation of innovative curricula such as game design and digital learning changes the behaviors and attitudes youth exhibit towards schooling and digital media use.**