

Minutes for the 148th Meeting of the Faculty Senate

for Thursday, April 22, 2021 from 3:30 to 4:20 pm held virtually.

Attendance: Jonathan Peters, Chang-Hui Shen, Angelo Bongiorno, Yumei Huo, Rachel Grant, Simone Wegge, Gene Fellner, Neo Antoniadis, Lee Papa, John Wing, Jonathan Cope, Carles Solà Belda, Soon Chun, Carlo Lancelloti, Tara Mateik, Natalie Fischetti, Siona Wilson, Robert Lovering, Zaghoul Ahmed, Bill Schreiber, Jane Marcus Delgado, Florette Cohen, Christine Flyn Saulnier, Jay Arena, Lucas Marchante-Aragón, Alyson Bardsely, Alan Benimoff, Jason Bishop, Vandana Chaudhry, Katie Cumiskey, Deborah De Simone, Maryann Feola, Ellen Goldner, Susan Imberman, Catherine Lavender, John Lawrence, Alfred Levine, Gerry Milligan, Michael Paris, George Sanchez, Francisco Soto, Thomas Tellefsen, John Verzani, Cindy Wong, Alan Zimmerman, Roshen Hendrickson, Andrew Colbeck, Brian Farr, Peter Galati, Victor Miller, Sarah Zelikovitz, Wilma Jones, Cynthia Chris, Sylvia Kahan, Mark White, Comfort Asanbe, William Fritz, Michael Parrish, Michael Cavagnero, Sarolta Takács, Susan Holak, Marcus Tye.

Guests: A. Leykam, Alan Hoffner, Alberto Sanchez, Alexander Scott, Ali Elkomy, Aliza Martini, Amila Goonawardena, Amy Stempler, Anat Niv-Solomon, Angela Cartmell, Angela RAio, Angie Ramos, Barbara Cohen, Beth Livensperger, Brian Farr, Cary Karacas, Caterina Scarimbolo, Catherine Ferrara, Celeste Del Maestro, Chris Conidis, Christina Anastopolou, Christina Boyle, Christina Hagedorn, Christine Cohen, Christine Myers, Christina Toti, Crystal Deosaran, Daniel Kurzweil, Darryl Hill, David Pizzuto, Deborah Meise, Donna Sauthoff, Donna Scimeca, Edward Patri, Elena Tzen, Eric Ivison, Erma Tacopino, Ewa Dzurak, Greg Phillips, Gregory Brown, Hernan Green, Holly Block, Intissar Hasan, Isabel Rechberg, Ivan Scott Lee, Janine Scotto, James Hamilton, Jay Arena, Jeff Vilkov, Jenn Pizzuto, Jennifer Durando, Jessica Collora, Jessica Stein, Joanne LaPilusa, Jodi Merendino, Jonelle Knox, Joyce Taylor, Juline Robinson, Karen Contreras, Karen Contreras, Katrina Fama, Kenneth Wolpin, Kerri Gerson, Koby Kohulan, Leonardo Pignataro, Leonora Chiaruntini, Linda Conte, Lucy Lombardo, Lynne Lacomis, Manuela Alongi, Maria Levine, Maria Xenakis, Mark Lewental, Mark White, Matthew Ganz, Maureen Garvey, Maurya Wickstrom, McKala Neese, Michael Anderson, Michele Callahan, Michael Chiacchiero, Michael IVany, Michael Lederhandler, Michele Karpeles, Michelle Borowski, Mike Cavagnero, Nada Michael, Nancy Casey, Natalie Fischetti, Nina Del Gatto, Nina Long, Nina Morgenlander, Orit D. Gruber, Qiao-Sheng Hu, Patricia Kahn, Ralf Peetz, Rob Wallace, Robert Engler, Roberta Klibaner, Shannon Cammarano, Sharon Christian, Spozmi Nouri, Stefanie Gardiner, Stephanie Gonzalez Allen, Stephen Ferst, Steven Monte, Susan Massara, Susan Mee Crimmins, Sylvia Kahan, Tara Mastroilli, Terianne Darragh, Terri Sangiorgio, Tom Lauria, Veronica Dimeglio, Warrick Bell, Wilma Jones,

- I. Approval the agenda.
Moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.
- II. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of the Faculty Senate of March 18, 2021.
Moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.
- III. Executive Committee Report: Appendix A: FSXC report and remembrance of Calvin Holder

IV. Provost's Report : Appendix B

Question: Some members of the Faculty & Staff would like your Diversity Committee to investigate the killing of Corey Holmes, how do we contact you?

Provost: On the Steering Committee is Tyehimba Jess, Cathy Ferrara and myself. Please contact any of us.

Question: I would like to publicly thank the Provost for the town Hall on Re-opening. This was a great opportunity for the Community to come together and discuss some of the anxieties that people are having and. Your willingness to answer questions live was greatly appreciated

Provost: Thank you. It was wonderful to have Hope help out so we could manage the chat and field question. We thought it went well. Glad others did too.

Question: Regarding the Diversity Council, what are we doing in terms of diversity & students, as we have quite an issue with achievement gaps. Will the Council be discussing how we can do a better job for our students?

Provost: That's something that is outside the purview of this current committee – but the point is important, and institutional research and Student Success are analyzing data to develop ways to approach the diversity issues our students experience. Equity is so important – and not just achievement gaps, equity gaps – what might cause a student to not have the resources they need but that other students have

Question: Given the increase in hate crimes against Asian Americans and the decision of Asian students to decline acceptance to CUNY (especially the Grad Center, perhaps not CSI), is this something the Diversity Council will look at?

Provost: Absolutely we will address this. We were very thoughtful to make sure that the membership was as representative as possible.

Question: I was encouraged to hear that Institutional Research and Student Success are looking into equity and equity gaps, as the USC Racial Equity Center report ranks every institution in the 50 states and our institution was in last place in all of New York State – not just in all of CUNY. Is there a timeline for creative action steps to be taken by the Administration regarding how we, as an institution, and the practices we employ, change to address these issues? Are there efforts to see this work as that of the whole institution, and not a separate committee or a task force, but as a central activity of our administration and our whole college?

Provost: Thank you, I wholeheartedly agree.

V. Reports of the Committees of the Faculty Senate

- a.* Admissions Committee – none
- b.* Curricular Committees –
 - i. General Education Committee –
 - ii. Graduate Studies Committee –
 - iii. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee –

Consent Agenda for April 22, 2021

AIII. CHANGE IN EXISTING DEGREE

AIII.1 DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY: GRADUATE COURSE DOUBLE-COUNTING POLICY

AIII.2 DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY: CHEMISTRY BS AND MHC CHEMISTRY BS

AIII.3 CHAZANOFF SCHOOL OF BUSINESS: BUSINESS BS AND MHC BUSINESS BS
AIII.4 CHAZANOFF SCHOOL OF BUSINESS: ACCOUNTING BS AND MHC ACCOUNTING BS

AV. NEW COURSES

AV.1 DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS: MTH 034 Elements of Intermediate Algebra
AV.2 DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS: MTH 111 INTRODUCTION TO PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS WITH INTEGRATED ALGEBRA REVIEW
AV.3 DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS: MTH 125 COLLEGE ALGEBRA AND TRIGONOMETRY WITH INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA REVIEW

AIV. CHANGES IN EXISTING COURSES

AIV.1 DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY: PHT 806 CLINICAL AFFILIATION I
AIV.2 DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY: PHT 886 CLINICAL AFFILIATION II
AIV.3 DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY: PHT 889 CLINICAL AFFILIATION III
AIV.4 DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL THERAPY: PHT 890 CLINICAL AFFILIATION IV
AV.5 DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS: ECO 250 INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS
AV.6 DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS: ECO 285 ECONOMICS FOR ENGINEERS
AV.7 DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS: ECO 256 ANALYSIS OF UNDERDEVELOPED AREAS
AV.8 DEPARTMENT OF NURSING: NRS 220 FAMILY-CENTERED MATERNITY NURSING
AV.9 DEPARTMENT OF NURSING: NRS 221 CHILD HEALTH NURSING
AV.10 DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING AND CREATIVE ARTS: ART 220 INTERMEDIATE DRAWING
AV.11 DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING AND CREATIVE ARTS: ART 320 ADVANCED DRAWING

Consent agenda was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

- b. Course & Standing – none
- c. Library Committee – none

Question for Library: Given the chronic budget cuts to the Library that have affected us all, do you have any idea of how we recover from all those cuts, not that we are in a slightly better economic budget situation? What are your plans, your priorities?

Director of Library: We do not have the budget yet so I cannot really say, but your support for building the Library back up is appreciated! Please remember that we work as a consortium most of the major resources are negotiated and purchased on behalf of the office of library services part of CUNY central.

FSXC Chair: The FSXC & the Library Committee will try to meet to plan how the FS can support the Library and get an update on where things stand.

- d. Academic Research Committee – none
- e. Academic Facilities Committee – none
- f. Academic Freedom Committee – none
- g. Academic Technology committee – none
- h. Faculty Personnel Policy Committee – We drafted and circulated a Policy Declaration on Modes of Instruction – focused on a post-pandemic environment, suggesting that during an emergency, additional changes to CUNYwide policies can take place –but our real intent was to clarify that students deserve notice of mode of instruction under all but the most extreme circumstances; that there should not be changes to mode of instruction except for extreme circumstances. We want to bring this discussion to the Senate in May..

- VI. University Faculty Senate Report – none

VII. Old Business- none

VIII. New Business-

Suggestion that the Faculty Senate create an Ad-Hoc committee of the Faculty Senate, to be called by the FSXC to discuss opening in terms of academic issues.

The nomination period is open now for University Faculty senate, 2 seats for faculty and 1 seat for CLT and adjunct representation, If anyone is interested, please send the nomination to Warrick Bell or the Committee on Organization

John Wing suggested that we use the remaining time to remember CALVIN HOLDER and to share remembrances of him. For 12 minutes, faculty from across the schools and divisions shared their memories of Calvin.

IX. Adjournment. *Motion made, seconded, and passed unanimously at 4:28 pm.*

APPENDIX A

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Report and remembrance of Calvin Holder

April 22, 2021

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Report

I am pleased to submit this report on behalf of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. We would like to begin by remembering all of those we have lost to COVID-19, and to honor those who continue to struggle on a day-to-day basis in battling the pandemic's many repercussions, both big and small. As we near the end of a third semester of this unprecedented situation, we wish to express our gratitude for the CSI heroes among the faculty, staff and students who have worked tirelessly to fulfill our community's mission.

Last weekend CSI lost one of its most distinguished and beloved former faculty members, Dr. Calvin Holder. Professor Holder taught History at the College for over four decades. We have asked John Wing, chair of the History department, to say a few words in remembrance of his former colleague. (John's remarks follow). I would ask us all to have a moment of silence in Dr. Holder's memory. There is also a memorial scholarship set up in his name. Please contribute to it if you can.

The Executive Committee met with Provost Parrish, the Associate Provost and the Deans on April 6. The main topics of discussion were plans for re-entry and fall semester teaching modalities, and the president's proposed governance plan. There have been very few changes to the re-entry plans since our March meeting, although we recognize that the pace of vaccinations has increased exponentially, which bodes well for a gradual return to campus. We urged the Provost to focus on revitalizing opportunities for faculty research and expressed concern about the possible negative effects of remote learning, over-sized

classes and the ongoing budget crisis on academic life at the College. We also asked about planning efforts for the spring semester of 2022, as well as a longer-term strategy for remote and in-person instruction in the post-COVID environment.

At the April 6 meeting, the Executive Committee reiterated its objection to the president's unilateral replacement of our current governance. We highlighted the detrimental effects this would have, especially in the throes of the Middle States evaluation process.

On April 19, President Fritz announced that he would be extending the timeline for his proposal into the fall. He stated his intention to assemble small task forces to work on aspects of the proposal. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee appreciates the president's extension of the proposal's timeline. But we reject the formation of top-down task forces and urge the president to submit any proposed reforms to the established channels of shared governance, including the Institutional Planning Committee, the ByLaws Committee, the College Council and Faculty Senate. These committees exist to undertake such proposals for reform and are well-suited to respond to the changing needs in college governance.

The two final issues addressed at the April 6 meeting were the committee's approval of a proposed faculty commencement speaker Michael DeConzo, and our repeated request for a parliamentarian for this body. The provost agreed in principle to the latter; we will pursue this matter further.

We hope that you are well and looking forward to the final weeks of the semester. In conclusion, we would like to thank the hundreds of faculty, students and staff members who stood together this month in a united front to support our elected leadership on campus. We have never felt prouder to be members of the CSI community, and we are grateful for your collegiality and solidarity. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Marcus-Delgado

Chair

Remembering Calvin Holder

I'd like to take a moment to recognize the life and service of Professor Emeritus Calvin B. Holder, who retired from the Department of History in 2018. Cal passed away recently in London. Cal was a joy to have around. He was admired, respected, and loved by students, staff, and faculty throughout his 43 years at CSI. He could hold a large room of students riveted with nothing but his voice and his presence. He was a leader on campus, one that built consensus; when he spoke, people listened. The African and African Diaspora Studies major and program started under his guidance, the first of its kind at CUNY. He was an accomplished scholar of West Indian immigration to the US, and 20th –century African American social and political history. He has mentored students and junior faculty. Back when we as a college were able to hire, I entered CSI with 4 other colleagues at the assistant professor level. Cal was a mentor for all of us, a role model, which was vitally important. He was a mentor, really, for the whole department.

Calvin Beresford Holder was born in Barbados in 1946, moved to New York in 1962, finished high school, and then attended City College. I'll quote from an article about him: "[Holder] recalls that due to his family's financial position he was required to work more than twenty hours per week to cover his student fees as well as other living expenses. He reflects: "It was not an easy time and there was not a cushion to support me." He applied to five of the top US universities for graduate school and was accepted by all. And so, with an enviable choice before him he opted to move to Harvard University. After earning his doctorate, he began at CSI in 1975, reached full professor by 1990.

He has family in New York, and they have made clear that there will be a memorial to celebrate his life in the fall or whenever pandemic conditions improve enough to allow people to fulfill his wishes for a party with food, music, champagne and lots of dancing.

Link to the Calvin B. Holder Scholarship:

<https://www.givegab.com/campaigns/calvin-b-holder-scholarship>

Link to Barbados Today article:

<https://barbadostoday.bb/2021/03/14/btcolumn-the-harvard-man-from-sweet-bottom/>

APPENDIX B

Provost's Report

April 22, 2021

Happy Earth Day to everyone. It's hard to believe that 51 years have elapsed since this event was first held, and I think we have more reason for optimism that we can move the needle on global environmental goals now than we have in several years. Closer to home, though, I would like to bring your attention to a panel discussion hosted by CSI sustainability next Wednesday night called Cooked: Survival by Zip Code. Racism as a Public Health Crisis. This event will focus on social equity concerns related to environmental and health issues, particularly as they have been exacerbated by the pandemic.

I would like to thank Lynne Lacomis and Dean Sarolta Takacs, and the entire team involved (Lynne Lacomis

Jennifer Straniere, Mariya Gershkovich, Joyce Taylor, Cheryl Craddock, Doriann Hyland, Mark Lewental, and Sarolta Takacs) for their work in organizing CSI's 20th Undergraduate Student Research Conference, which will be held virtually next Thursday, April 29 from 1230-430. This year's conference comprises 98 presentations representing the work of 142 CSI undergraduate students. I urge you to participate if time permits. I am also pleased to note that faculty with approved research Site Safety Plans

can now bring undergraduate researchers to campus with prior approval, and that researchers can also come to campus on both Saturdays and Sundays, again with prior reservations through the existing system.

On Tuesday we held a Re-Entry town hall that drew over 300 people. I apologize to those who could not participate because demand exceeded our account's cap of 300 logins. The session was recorded and is currently on the re-entry web site in raw form as we figure out how to make it available in closed caption format.

As you know, we are planning for a virtual commencement this spring. We had an amazing crop of student applicants for the Val/Sal positions this year, and I am pleased to report that Nicole Agu has been chosen as Valedictorian and Anes Ahmed has been selected as Salutatorian. Both will be speaking in our virtual commencement.

The faculty speaker for Commencement this year will be School of Education Adjunct Michael DeConzo, a CSI grad who has taught at Curtis High School and IS 49 in addition to CSI. Professor DeConzo was enthusiastically nominated by the students on the Commencement committee, and his selection was supported by the chairs from the School of Ed and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. He also just published his first novel, *Two Nickels*, which is loosely based on Dante's *Inferno* and set in Staten Island and Manhattan.

Last week, the CSI Diversity Council held its initial meeting. We started with a moment of silence for Daunte Wright, and then everyone in the council introduced themselves. We have targeted three initiatives for which we will develop short, medium, and long-range goals. The broad topics, each of which will be reviewed and prioritized by a subcommittee, are hiring a diverse faculty, retaining and supporting faculty and staff from underserved backgrounds, and addressing issues in campus climate related to our richly diverse CSI community. As a council, we are committed to making real changes, I look forward to working with my colleagues in the months to come.

I would like to echo the sadness expressed by my colleagues on the passing of Professor Calvin Holder, who had such a lasting impact on our campus and generations of our students.

I would be happy to field any questions.