Minutes of
The Lehman College Senate Meeting
Wednesday, May 2, 2007

Senators Present: Akan, A.; Albelda, A.; Albelda, V.; Awoyomi, T.; Bailey, M.;
Banoum, B.; Bard, A.; Blot, R.; Bonastia, C.; Calvet, L.; Chowdhury, N.;
DeMinco, S.; Digby, A.; DiPaolo, M.; Em, C.; Feinerman, R.;
Ferraro, M.; Figueroa, J.; Fiol-Matta, L.; Fleitas, J.; Folsom, C.;
Kunstler, R.; Lawrence, D.; Lazarus, M.; Lerzundi, P.; Levitt, J.;
Lowenstein, D.; Magdaleno, J.; Marianetti, M.; Matthews, E.;
Philipp, M.; Polirstok, S.; Prohaska, V.; Sailor, K.; Salamandra, C.;
Salvatore, R.; Silverman, H.; Sloan, H.; Tananbaum, D.; Tilley, J.;
Wilder, E.; Xia, Z.;

Senators Absent: Amaechi, C.; Ameen, S.; Aronowitz, J.; Bahadourian, J.;
Bambshad-Alavi, M.; Berrhe, K.; Bird, E.; Blanco, W.; Boyar, A.;
Esteves, C.; Fernández, R.; Fields, J.; Fletcher, D.; Garanin, G.;
Natividad, R.; Nwogu, E.; Ogunjemilusi, O.; Pascal, A.; Perry-Rider, G.;
Philipp, M.; Pirch, K.; Polirstok, S.; Rice, A.; Ricourt, M.; Salvatore, R.;
Selwyn, S.; Sim, L.; Tesoro, M.; Tobgay, K.; Totti, X.; Troy, R.;
Vielot, C.; West, J.; Whittaker, R.; Williams, L.; Wilson, S.; Winter, J.;
Wyckoff, S.; Zucchetto, V.; Zuss, M.

In the absence of President Ricardo Fernández and the Chairperson of the
Senate, Prof. C. Alicia Georges, the meeting was called to order at
2:05 p.m. by the Senate Vice-Chairperson, Student Conference Chair,
Mr. Avraham “Rami” Albelda.

Minutes Adopted
A motion was made and seconded to adopt the minutes of the Senate
meeting of April 11, 2007. The minutes were unanimously approved.
Announcements and Communication-

a. President Ricardo R. Fernández-

There was no report due to the absence of President Fernández.

b. Student Conference-

Student Chair, Mr. Avraham Albelda reminded the Senators of an important upcoming event. A Senate luncheon will be hosted by the Student Conference on Wednesday, May 16 in Carman B-16. It will take place immediately after the Senate meeting that will be held that day. All those affiliated with the Senate are invited to participate.

REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES-

a. Committee on Governance-

1. Professor Vincent Prohaska discussed the document posted on the Web regarding faculty membership of the Standing Committees of the Senate. The list included the names of faculty members serving on committees to May 2008, as well as the nominees for 2007-2009. Also, two student nominees were listed for committee membership to May 2008, although one student, Mr. John Figueroa, was struck from the list because he is graduating this year. Prof. Prohaska noted other changes and corrections to the document.

Prof. Prohaska then submitted the nominations for the faculty membership of the Senate Standing Committees. Discussion was open for nominations from the floor. There were no additional nominations. The following individuals were elected to the Standing Committees to serve 2007-2009: Academic Freedom: Prof. Liesl Jones; Prof. David Manier; Prof. Heather Sloan. Admissions, Evaluations, Academic Standards: Prof. Joan Fleitas; Prof. Anne Rice; Prof. Kevin Sailor. Budget and Long Range Planning: Prof. Helene Silverman; Prof. Joyce West; Prof. John Mineka. Library, Technology and Telecommunications: Prof. James Carney; Prof. Esther Wilder; Prof. Patricia Cockram. Campus Life and Facilities: Prof. Christy Folsom; Prof. Janette Tilley and Prof. Maryam Bamshadalavi. Undergraduate Curriculum: Prof. Victoria Sanford; Prof. Robert Feinerman and Prof. Bertrade Banoum. Graduate Studies: Prof. Sharon Freedberg; Prof. Dwight Kincaid; and Prof. Margo Dellicarpini. In addition, student
nominee Ms. Simone Brookes was elected to serve on the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee to May 2008.

2. Prof. Prohaska also submitted the nominations for the Faculty membership of the Lehman College Association for Campus Activities as well as the Auxiliary Enterprise Corporation. Discussion was open for nominations from the floor. There were no additional nominations. The following nominees were approved for the Lehman College Association for Campus Activities: Prof. Andrea Boyar; Prof. Grace Bullaro; Prof. David Manier; Prof. Margot Mifflin; Prof. Xavier Totti and Prof. Elin Waring. The President will select three of the six nominees. The following nominees were approved for the Auxiliary Enterprise Corporation: Prof. Diana Battipaglia and Prof. Richard Blot. The President will select one of the two nominees.

3. The next Governance Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, May 3 at 2:30 p.m. in Shuster 179.

b. Committee on Admissions, Evaluations and Academic Standards-
Committee Chair, Prof. Kevin Sailor presented a list of the graduates for May 31 and September 1, 2007, pending final review by the Registrar’s office. The list was approved.

c. Undergraduate Curriculum –
1. Prof. Barbara Jacobson presented proposals from two departments: the Department of Journalism, Communication & Theatre, and the Department of Languages and Literatures. Also included were several informational items. The report was approved.
2. The next meeting will be on Monday, May 07, 2007 at 9 a.m.

d. Committee on Graduate Studies-
Prof. Kunstler presented two experimental courses from Music, minor course changes from the Department of Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences and a minor course change from the Department of History. The report was approved.

e. Committee on Academic Freedom-
There was no report.
1. Prof. Esther Wilder reported on a discussion, at a recent meeting, concerning the 2005 Faculty Technology Survey. Also reviewed were the results of the technology questions from the 2006 Student Experience Survey. The results of the Faculty Technology Survey revealed the need for more Smart Classrooms, more lab assistants, and a variety of different kinds of software. The survey also revealed areas where faculty want training, such as in digitizing reserve readings into Blackboard, advanced Blackboard techniques, Web page design, and statistical software packages. The results pointed to a strong desire among Lehman faculty for IT and library users’ guides for students, faculty and staff. In spite of what appears to be a compelling need, these guides do not exist. As a result, many faculty and students are unaware of the kinds of resources and facilities available. For example, in the 2005 Faculty Technology Survey, several faculty members expressed a desire for certain kinds of hardware and software that were already available on campus. In addition, one area in particular where a users’ guide is needed relates to the new print/copy management system. Presently, library faculty are spending numerous hours providing help to students with the new print/copy management system rather than doing reference work. The Committee is exploring strategies to ensure that both IT and library users’ guides are developed. The Committee also believes that it would be helpful to undertake a regular faculty and student technology survey at Lehman. It is the Committee’s hope that such surveys would be used to assess student and faculty needs and to develop effective responses. The Committee is discussing ways in which regular student and faculty surveys might become institutionalized at Lehman. If any one would like to see the committee’s analyses of the surveys, Prof. Wilder invites such requests.

2. In other news, the Committee has been keeping an eye on technology on campus as well as in the library. To highlight a few developments: the college has set aside about $400,000 to replace old computers. In addition, this year Lehman has about 10 new Smart Classrooms, 17 mobile presentations systems (with laptops, projectors and so on), and 450 new internet connections (this supplements the 2,600 existing connections). Meanwhile, CUNY Central is still negotiating the possibility of getting Hotmail to supplement the existing Mirapoint email system. An important development at the Leonard Lief Library is that the Education Library has moved to the third floor, where there is additional space for a number of computers and a seminar room.
3. The next Committee meeting will be held from 11 to 12:30 p.m. on May 22 in the Library Conference Room.

g. **Committee on Campus Life and Facilities**

There was no report.

h. **Committee on Budget and Long-Range Planning**

There was no report.

i. **University Faculty Senate**

1. Prof. Manfred Phillip reported that Vice Chancellor Frederick Schaffer’s proposed procedure on Student Complaints and the proposed policy on Acceptable Use of Computer Resources both came before the Board of Trustees on January 29 and passed.

2. The Multiple Position Policy Proposal was passed by the Board Committee on Faculty Staff, and Administration on February 5. The proposal was subject to criticism that resulted in a revision, which took place after the committee meeting. The Policy was passed by the full board on February 26.

3. The proposed Research Misconduct Policy is expected to go to a Board Committee on June 4.

4. The proposed Conflict of Interest Policy is also expected to go to a Board Committee on June 4. The University Faculty Senate and its Executive Committee have taken no positions on these two items. The University Faculty Senate Executive Committee solicits input on both draft policies.

5. The reports on the disposition of faculty grant-generated overhead recovery funds, which are mandated by CUNY Board of Trustees Resolution, have not been delivered to the Board of Trustees. They have as far as we know, never been delivered. The University Faculty Senate demands that these reports be submitted to the Board of Trustees and become public documents.

6. The University Faculty Senate is holding discussions with the University Director of Technology Commercialization on the activity and status of the University Patent Committee.

7. The Chancellery has proposed that the School of Professional Studies be allowed to offer on-line degree programs in direct competition with programs at the colleges. This is not allowed by the current School of Professional Studies Governance Plan and is in
contradiction to the promises made when School of Professional Studies was established. Members of the University Faculty Senate Executive Committee have discussed these plans with the Chancellery and have provided counter-proposals that are consistent with normal considerations of university governance. It was passed by the School of Professional Studies Governing Board on April 18 and is expected to go the Board of Trustees in June.

8. The School of Professional Studies Governing Board has approved a Letter of Intent for an online BS in Business. This will be the second School of Professional Studies online program and the first intended degree program in competition with the colleges. This will be a baccalaureate degree in business administration. The financial and other reports on School of Professional Studies that were mandated in the current governance plan have not been delivered to the Board.

9. Members of the University Faculty Senate Executive Committee and the counterpart from the SUNY Community Colleges met on March 16 at the University Faculty Senate Office at 80th Street. Topics on the agenda included joint lobbying efforts in Albany and a proposal to allow state funding for higher education in prisons.

10. The 10th annual Feliks Gross Endowment Award will be presented to Prof. Katherine Pence of Baruch College and Prof. Barbara Montero of the College of Staten Island. The award presentation and luncheon will take place on Tuesday, May 8 at the Graduate Center, from 12 to 2 p.m. in the Skylight Conference Room. Another presentation will be the annual Abe Eisenstadt lecture in American History which will be delivered by Professor Joshua Freeman on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at 12 noon in Room 8402 at the Graduate Center. He will speak on “The Persistence and Demise of Ethnic Union Locals in New York City after World War II.”

11. At the plenary on May 15, the University Faculty Senate will conduct elections for the at-large positions on the University Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Service as an at-large member brings with it released time from teaching one course per semester. The position of University Faculty Senate Chair is full-time and gets complete release from teaching.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.
NEW BUSINESS
Acting Provost William A. Tramontano opened the discussion on “The Mission, Vision, and Values Statements”. He noted that it has been on the web for a while, and comments were asked to be submitted by April 30. He sees this as an ideal time for such a project since we are simultaneously preparing for our Middle States review. A short discussion, which ensued, will be broadened at the Senate meeting on May 16. At that time, President Fernández will be calling the question for a formal Senate approval of the revised Mission statement.

ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Esdras Tulier