Minutes
The Lehman College Senate Meeting
Wednesday, February 2, 2005

Senators Present:  Akan, A.; Banoum, B.; Blot, R.; Bradshaw, R.; Bullaro, G.; DeMinco, S.;
Digby, A.; DiPaolo, M.; Eschenauer, R.; Esteves, C.; Feinerman, R.;
Kolb, P.; Kunstler, R.; Lerzundi, P.; Levitt, J.; Maantay, J.; Magdaleno, J.;
Manclière, S.; Marianetti, M.; Mazza, C.; Mineka, J.; Muller, S.;
Ostrow, R.; Panossian, M.; Perez-Morales, I.; Philipp, M.; Phillips, R.;
Polashek, T.; Polirstok, S.; Prohaska, V.; Rachlin, J.; Reid, A.; Rothstein, A.;
Sailor, K.; Saravia-Shore, M.; Schultz, L.; Seraile, W.; Silverman, H.;
Sloan, H.; Stefan, V.; Tananbaum, D.; Tramontano, W.; Vaughn, R.;
Wheeler, D.; Wilder, E. Zucchetto, V.

Senators Absent:  Baum, L.; Bawa, G.; Beazer, P.; Benefo, K.; Bennett, K.; Blalock, F.;
Buckley, N.; Byland, B.; Capetola, L.; Carey, R.; Caroleo, O.; Castillo, J.;

President Ricardo R. Fernández called the meeting to order
at 2:10 p.m.

Minutes Adopted

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adopt the minutes of the
December 1, 2004 meeting with the amendment that Grace Bullaro was
present. The motion was so moved, seconded and approved.

Announcements and Communications-
a.  President Ricardo R. Fernández-

1. President Fernández welcomed everyone back to the new semester.

2. He reported that to date 10,000 students have been enrolled in comparison to
9,700 last Spring.

3. The President referred to the Governor’s new budget proposal, pointing out
that we are now in the 30 day comment period. Most significantly, the Governor
has proposed major tuition increases both for SUNY and CUNY. These will be
monitored carefully during the next several months. The President indicated that
he has been asked to coordinate activities with the other Bronx campuses in
bringing CUNY’s concerns to the legislators in Albany.

4. Also in Albany later this month, there will be a meeting of the Black and Latino
caucus. Representatives of Lehman will be present at that conference, as well as
at future conferences in April. We will have ample opportunity to meet with
elected officials to share our concerns.

5. Three events are taking place on campus. Two will be tomorrow: at 12 o’clock
noon in the Center for the Performing Arts, Borough President Adolfo Carrión
will give his State of the Borough address. At 2 p.m. there will be an invitational
luncheon in honor of the artist, Chita Rivera who will visit the campus as a guest
of the Walt Disney Company and Lehman College. For the last three years, we
have had a partnership with Disney in which the company holds a regional
audition at Lehman. Some of our students in theatre and dance and other
programs are able to participate. The purpose is to identify talent for their theme
parks and cruise ships. Next week, the Martin Luther King lecture will be held on
Tuesday, February 8 at 11 a.m. in the Lovinger Theater. Former Bronx Borough
President Fernando Ferrer will deliver the talk.

6. President Fernández distributed the annual Attendance Sheets of Senate
members for the Fall of 2004. The record indicates how many meetings each
Senator attended. The President stressed the importance for each Senate member
to attend the meetings, pointing out that a number of individuals have a zero by
their names. He emphasized that the Senate “is a serious side to the governance
of this institution and the University” and requires regular attendance of elected
representatives.

b. **Student Conference** –

1. Vice Chair Syka Manclière said she was the acting chair in the absence
of Chair G. Bawa who is in Albany on an internship.

**REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES**
Committee on Governance –

1. Prof. Vincent Prohaska said the Governance Committee has one piece of business and a request. The Committee has a faculty vacancy on the Committee on Academic Standards and Evaluations with the Committee nominating Prof. David Rothschild from the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science to fill the vacancy. There were no other nominations from the floor. The motion was moved, seconded and approved.

2. Committee Chairs, in giving their reports today, were requested to announce the time of their next meeting and of their regular meetings. (The Governance Committee next meets at 10 a.m. on Thursday, February 17.)

b. University Faculty Senate-

1. Prof. Philipp reported on last night’s plenary session of the University Faculty Senate. Both the Chancellor and Mr. Ernesto Malave, the Vice Chancellor for Budget and Finance, gave extensive presentations. The Chancellor expressed distress due to “being out there alone and abandoned by SUNY” in the issues of tuition and support since SUNY is moving to a system of regular tuition increases.

2. The Faculty Experience Survey was developed by the University Faculty Senate and contains input from the Chancellor, who believes that the survey should not be done during this period of collective bargaining because it would be an intrusion on the process. If there is blockage from the Chancellery, the University Faculty Senate is prepared to proceed on its own.

3. The University Faculty Senate’s Spring Conference on the relationship between private corporations and universities is scheduled for Friday, April 22. The group is also going to Albany on March 15 on CUNY Lobby Day.

4. Vice Chancellor Malave reported that the executive budget is 1.3 billion, but we are $40 million in the hole. The Friends of CUNY in the legislature asked the University to put the main burden of tuition increases on non-resident students, including graduate students, who will bear the largest tuition increase. The resident undergraduates will be protected as much as possible.

c. Undergraduate Curriculum-
1. Prof. Jacobson said that the proposals from Department of Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences are being pulled from the packet. She then presented the proposals from the Department of Nursing, the Department of Health Sciences, and the Women’s Studies program. There is one information item from the Department of Political Science as well as the Department of Journalism, Communication, and Theatre. The report was moved, seconded and approved.

2. Prof. Jacobson announced that the Undergraduate Committee meets between 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. every Monday in the IT Center.

d. **Committee on Graduate Studies**

   There was no report.

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

   There was no report. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for February 15 at 10 a.m.

f. **Committee on Academic Freedom**

   1. At the last Senate meeting, Prof. Liesl Jones raised several issues of immediate concern on CUNY’s Workplace Violence Policy. The Committee was particularly concerned that the Administration is not covered under the PSC-CUNY contract. Mr. Esdras Tulier was granted floor rights to clarify the CUNY Workplace Violence Policy & Procedures as expressed in a recent memo received from the Deputy General Counsel of the University. A copy was distributed to the Senate. Mr. Tulier, quoting the memo, indicated that the Violence Policy covers everyone associated with the campus: “The policy applies without exception to each and every CUNY employee as well as each and every vendor, contractor, consultant, and other individuals or entities who do business with the University, whether the business is done at the University facility or in off-campus locations. The policy applies to all instructional staff, administrative staff, classified employees, exempt employees, employees in the executive compensation plan, and outside contractors. The policy applies also to others not affiliated with the University
but are present on the University property such as former employees and
visitors.” Prof. Jones pointed out that in the official Violence Policy document
under the subhead “Scope,” there is no mention of administrators. The Committee
would like to see that they are covered as well. Mr. Tulier said the second part of
the University memo addressed due process. Anyone who violates the policy is
subject to disciplinary action under the relevant contract. Individuals who are
executive compensation personnel such as deans and vice presidents, do not have
due process rights but serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority. Faculty
and Staff who are covered under the PSC agreement derive benefits from that
collective bargaining agreement. Prof. Jones said that everyone should be included
in due process “so that everyone understands what their rights are.” Under the
current circumstance, she argued, there would be no due process in which anyone
in the administration could be brought up on charges. President Fernández
commented that we have an opinion from the University that says the policy
includes every employee and although there may be issues that need to be
clarified, the President concluded that the present policy is clear. Discussion
continued.

Following this discussion, the Committee submitted three resolutions, included in
the packet. Discussion followed. The resolutions as amended were:

1) Resolved, that the Lehman College Senate strongly encourages the
College Administration to uphold its obligation under the Workplace
Violence Policy to: a) inform in writing all College students, faculty,
administrative staff and other employees of the existing details of the
policy; b) post the Policy on campus in a variety of locations easily
accessible to vendors and contractors; c) include the Policy in the College
Graduate and Undergraduate Bulletins as well as the faculty handbook; d)
provide training as stated in the policy to all security staff, administrative
staff, and faculty. The resolution was moved, seconded and approved with
abstentions.
2) Resolved, that the Lehman College Senate recommends that training on Workplace Violence be made available to all faculty, staff and students as is done for Sexual Harassment. The resolution was moved, seconded and approved.

3) Resolved, that the Lehman College Senate express its concern to the University Faculty Senate and to the CUNY Trustees that due process procedure is not specified in the Violence Policy and that certain University employees affected by the Violence Policy are not covered by the due process procedure provided in the CUNY Bylaws. And be it further resolved that the Senate suggests to the CUNY trustees that consideration be given to revision of the Violence Policy to include a description of due process under the policy that is consistent with the University Bylaws and the CUNY contract that covers all University employees affected by the Policy. The resolution was moved, seconded and approved with abstentions.

2. The next meeting of the Committee has not as yet been determined but will be in the next week or so and the date and time will be e-mailed. (The Committee usually meets on Tuesday morning.)

g. **Committee on Admissions, Evaluations and Academic Standards** - There was no report.

h. **Committee on the Library, Technology and Telecommunications** -

1. Prof. George Chaikin said the Committee had a lengthy meeting in December on “paid for printing.” A vendor made a presentation on a paid for printing program that would be implemented with a CUNY identification card, designed to maintain privacy.

2. The Committee will meet every Wednesday the week after the Senate meets at 2 p.m. with the next meeting scheduled for February 9.

i. **Committee on Campus Life and Facilities** -
There was no report. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for February 14 from 2 to 3 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Esdras Tulier