

Meeting Minutes of the Faculty Student Council
Wednesday, February 26, 2020, 2:30pm – 4:30pm
7th Floor Auditorium

Call to Order and Approval of the Minutes

Luisa Borrell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:35 pm. She said that she is chairing the FSC for the semester to complete Andrew Maroko's term. An election for a new Chair will be held at the May FSC meeting and nominations should be sent to her and Paulo Lellis. She then requested and received approval of the minutes of the meeting of December 11, 2019.

Farewell to Professor Shiro Horiuchi and Public Safety Officer Tondalayo Bracey

Ayman said that Shiro Horiuchi is on TRAVIA from the EPI-BIOS Department and will begin retirement this summer. He recounted the highlights of Shiro's long and extremely accomplished career, which included roles at the UN and Rockefeller University. His career at CUNY began in 2007 at Hunter College before he moved to CUNY SPH. His research has consistently been funded from the National Institutes of Health, and he is an internationally recognized demographer and health services researcher. During his career, he authored more than 75 peer-reviewed publications in English and Japanese. Ayman said that the school honors him today for his lasting legacy.

Shiro thanked his colleagues, the staff, the students, and most of all, the Dean. He said it has been a great pleasure to participate in the process for developing the new CUNY SPH. He said that he plans to retire to Japan. The FSC then gave Shiro an enthusiastic round of applause in thanks for his years of scholarship, service and dedication to CUNY and CUNY SPH.

Campus Public Safety Sergeant Desiree Joyner thanked Public Safety Officer Tondalayo Bracey for her 8 years of service to CUNY, 3 of them at CUNY SPH. On behalf of all at SPH, she wished Tondalayo good luck as she moves to a new state. Tondalayo expressed her thanks to all, noting she was glad to have been a part of the school.

Dean's Report

Reporting on news from CUNY Central, Ayman said that 2020-21 budget process is now taking place in Albany. He reported on the highlights of the budget, including NYS state funding of the increase in benefits tied to the new PSC contract and likely approval of the 5-year plan for tuition increases for CUNY's graduate schools. He also noted that a new president for Baruch College, Dr. S. David Wu from George Mason, has just been announced, and Hostos Community College President David Gomez has announced his retirement in June. Ayman then reported on SPH news. The Graduate Center and SPH are in the final stages of preparing for the Middle States Accreditation site visit at the end of March, which will include a visit to the school. Meetings will be set up with some faculty, staff and students. He also commented on the continued enrollment growth at SPH, including 100 new students enrolled this spring semester, noting that this growth stands out against declining enrollments in many public and private schools of public health.

Finally, he introduced Deborah Levine, the new Community Program Outreach Director of the Harlem Health Initiative.

APT Committee Report

Christian Grov, APT Committee Chair

Christian made two announcements. He reminded first year faculty that they need to submit their resumes to digital measures by next week, and he noted that annual evaluations of faculty with their chairs should take place between March 2 and April 20, 2020. He also reminded faculty to update their resumes in digital measures.

Admissions Committee Report

Ghada Soliman, Admissions Committee Chair

Ghada reported that PhD applications for Fall 2020 admission are now under review. The Fall 2020 applications deadline is March 1, 2020 for all masters programs and May 1, 2020 for the certificate programs. She asked all faculty to continue to review the applications in a timely manner. She also noted that an information session and an open house were held in February for the Macaulay Honors College/CUNY SPH 4 + 1 program and for potential students, respectively.

Assessment Committee Report

Ilias Kavouras, Assessment Committee Chair

Ilias reported that the additional support for students for writing services discussed at a prior meeting is now being developed with the Senior Associate Dean of Student and Academic Affairs and should be in place for Fall 2020. The Assessment Committee is also working on a five-year plan regarding admissions and he will report on this plan at a future meeting.

Senior Associate Dean of Student and Academic Affairs' Report

Ashish Joshi, Senior Associate Dean of Student and Academic Affairs

Ashish provided two brief updates on Fall 2019 course evaluations and the conceptualization of an e-Library at SPH. Student course evaluations were done for the new courses offered during the Fall semester and data were collected for both in person and online courses. He noted that there was no significant difference between the evaluation scores of in person and online courses, and overall, the evaluations were very positive, especially for the Dietetic Internship program. He then noted that he is gathering info on an e-library for access to books, journals, etc. This is a work in progress and the FSC will receive additional updates at future meetings.

Dean for Research's Report

Michele Kiely, Associate Dean for Research, SPaR

Michele introduced Malini Lall, the new Research Program Manager, who started last month. Reporting on news from the RF, she said that PIs should encourage their staff to use and charge their annual leave before

the end of their appointment. She also reminded faculty with PSC CUNY awards that ended in June 2019 that their final report is due by March 1. Michele then reviewed the FY2020 Mid-Year Grant Report of IRB submissions, which have been growing over time in terms of both numbers of submissions and funding received.

Senior Associate Dean of Administration's Report

Susan Klitzman, Senior Associate Dean of Administration

Susan said that the Ground Floor renovation, which is shared space between SPH and CUNY's Workforce Development Group, is nearly complete. Faculty will be notified when the space is ready to be occupied and the conference room space will be on Outlook for reservations. Maximum occupancy of the entire Ground Floor is 74 people. She introduced the new facilities and security staff who have been hired due to this expansion: Lanessa Torres and Juan Guzman in facilities and Security Officer Pete Malachi, who comes to SPH from CCNY. A new hire for IT starts next week. Planning for the expansion of the 6th floor space continues.

Report on Governance Plan

Spring Cooper, Associate Professor, CHASS

Karen Florez, Assistant Professor, EOGHS

Nicholas Freudenberg, Distinguished Professor, CHASS

Luisa said that review of SPH's Governance Plan and Bylaws began last semester. After widespread consultation with the faculty, former FSC Chair Andrew Maroko formed a group of faculty from each academic department charged with making recommendations on the Governance Plan. Three members of this faculty group, Spring Cooper, Karen Florez and Nick Freudenberg, will update the FSC on the process.

Nick said that the Governance Plan Task Force, which includes the Dean and members of the senior administration, has been meeting since January, holding four meetings almost 15 hours, in a model of shared governance. He noted that a Town Hall meeting with the community has been scheduled for March 3. The Town Hall is a starting point for the discussion and is intended to clarify the revisions suggested in the Governance Plan. He said that the faculty members of the Task Force will also continue to solicit additional input from their peers at departmental meetings etc. He noted that the revised Governance Plan must meet several imperatives: it must meet university guidelines; it needs to include the role and authority of the Dean; it should be a model for shared governance reflecting a voice for students and staff, as well as faculty; and it should fix the deficiencies and problems in the current plan.

Spring said that consensus was reached quickly on many of the plan's proposed revisions but several proposed revisions are still open for discussion and the latter will be a focus at the Town Hall meeting. Karen emphasized that the main tenet of the Task Force was shared governance. All members of the Task Force were clearly committed to that goal and to the process. She also noted that no decisions have been reached and the community's input is needed on March 3 before the proposed new plan is finalized. She said that several documents will be sent to the community prior to the Town Hall including the "blue-lined" copy of the revised Governance Plan and a high-level one-pager summarizing the major deficiencies in the current plan and the major proposed revisions to the current plan. She said that the Task Force looks forward to

wide participation in the Town Hall. The goal is to vote on the revised plan at the March 25 FSC meeting and then bring the revised plan to the CUNY Board of Trustees at their April and May meetings.

Report on Strategic Plan

Emma Tsui, Associate Professor, CHASS

Emma provided the FSC with an update on the Strategic Planning process—launched in November 2019. A consultant, Joshua Mintz of the firm of CHP Mintz, has been brought on to provide high-level assistance. The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC), composed of faculty, staff and a student, met on January 31 to begin to develop a draft strategic framework. This will be shared with the academic and administrative leadership and then input will be sought from the entire SPH community through focus groups and a formal survey. There will also be a simultaneous and informal process of consultation between members of the SPC and their faculty, student and staff colleagues. She encouraged all individually to share their ideas and thoughts with members of the SPC.

Faculty Announcements

Heidi Jones, Associate Professor, Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Heidi announced that the CDC recommends planning for the Coronavirus and she suggested that SPH begin work on a plan. Ayman noted that SPH will need to take direction from CUNY so that the school is in step with the university's plan, and he said he would encourage CUNY to begin to develop this plan.

Jean Grassman then announced that a PSC meeting would take place at 4:30 p.m. today, following this meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Luisa adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Doris Suarez