

Meeting Minutes of the Faculty Student Council
Wednesday, December 12, 2018, 2:30pm – 4:30pm
7th Floor Auditorium

Call to Order and Approval of the Minutes

Andrew Maroko, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:40pm. He requested and received approval of the minutes of the meeting of October 31, 2018.

Dean's Report

Ayman presented the highlights of the recent ASPPH Report, “Trends in the Conferral of Graduate Public Health Degrees: 1992-2016” and showed a graphic depiction of the report’s key findings. The findings include the following statistics: the number of degree conferrals has increased by more than 300% from 1992-2016; the number of institutions awarding at least one graduate degree has quadrupled from 74 in 1992 to 310 in 2016 and about one third of these institutions are unaccredited or seeking accreditation; 65% of degrees are awarded by just 17% of all institutions awarding degrees—few programs are large enough to be schools and are programs within large institutions; the percentage of women graduates has grown from 63% in 1992 to 73% in 2016; and there have been about 280,000 graduates with public health degrees in this time period. One of the conclusions to be drawn from this data is that there is growing competition among schools of public health. In order to meet this competition head on SPH needs to broaden its expectations of career opportunities for graduates and explore many domains and areas of practice, including considering practicums for students outside of the traditional areas of public health.

Ayman noted that the Board of Trustees’ CAPPR Committee, at its December 10th meeting earlier this week, approved the two new online MS programs in Population Health Informatics and Global and Migrant Health Policy. At the meeting, SPH received special commendation from the UFS and student representatives who said that these were two of the best applications the Committee had ever seen. They are retaining the applications as a template for how to apply for approval of new programs. These programs will now go to NYSED for approval. He congratulated the staff and faculty who worked on these applications for their excellent work. Turning to other university updates, he noted that the Board of Trustees position on early tenure is not to support it as the Board sees tenure as something earned through time and service to the university and not just earned through academic performance. Regarding the status of the application now before NYSED to change the doctoral degree award from a DPH to a PhD, Ayman said that no decision has yet been issued and it is difficult to predict when NYSED will issue its decision. Finally, in regard to SPH actions before the Board of Trustees, Ayman noted that the resolution to allow CUNY SPH to confer its own degrees, which was approved at the FSC’s October 2018 meeting, will be brought to the CAPPR Board Committee and the full Board of Trustees early in 2019. A preliminary letter has been sent to NYSED explaining this intention.

Ayman noted that SPH is part of the Graduate School's Middle States Accreditation process which is just getting underway. Ayman said that Scott Ratzan has joined CUNY SPH as a new senior scholar. This appointment is made by the dean and is given to senior scholars with distinguished reputations who will help enhance the scholarship and programs at SPH. Scott is pioneer in the field of health communications and he is working with Chris Palmedo to create a program at SPH in this area.

Department of Health Policy and Management (HPAM) Report

Betsy Eastwood, HPAM Department Chair

Betsy said that HPAM's new Health Management Concentration, which she reported on at the FSC's last meeting on October 31st, is now ready for approval. She thanked the HPAM Committee and Robyn Gertner for their good work on the new concentration. As a reminder, it is an online program scheduled to be launched by Fall 2020. Final approval will be required from NYSED. Betsy then requested and received unanimous approval from the FSC for HPAM's new Health Management Concentration.

APT Committee Report

Luisa Borrell, APT Committee Chair

Luisa announced that grades for the Fall 2018 semester are due by December 28th. She also announced that an email was sent to all faculty on November 26th from SPH's Human Resources Department regarding requests for sabbaticals. A faculty member must have seven years of service in order to be eligible. Any faculty interested in applying should start the process now with the department chair. Approval of the APT Committee, which meets next on January 9, 2019, and SPH is also required. Faculty with questions on the process should speak to Arthur McHugh in HR or her.

Admissions Committee Report

Brian Pavidonis, Admissions Committee Chair

Brian provided the FSC with an update on Spring admissions. To date, 36 applicants have paid deposits versus five deposits at this same time last year. Of these 36, 12 have enrolled in courses and follow up to provide counseling is now happening with the other 24. The goal is to have 50 new matriculants for the spring semester. The deadline for applications is being extended into January.

Associate Dean for Research's Report

Michele Kiely, Associate Dean for Research

Michele introduced SPaR's new grants officer Michaela Ekowo, who comes to SPH from the University of Miami. She then reminded anyone who is working on a DHHS grant that they need to be registered in eRA commons; her office can help with this process if needed. She said that there is going to be a new process for the HHS grant's Research Performance Progress Report. One of the changes is that anyone who works for more than one month on the project has to be listed, even if they are not key personnel. She also reviewed the cost-sharing compliance standards for these federal grants, and additionally reminded the faculty that any durable goods purchased on grants belong to CUNY and need to be tagged. With regard to news from the Research Foundation, she reminded the FSC that everyone who is paid by the RF must

complete an online mandatory sexual harassment training. Her office is looking into whether the CUNY sexual harassment training will also satisfy this RF requirement. She also noted that anyone hiring a city or state retiree on RF funds must request a 211 waiver. Finally, Michele reported on Export Control, which is becoming more stringent. An export control form must be completed every time a faculty member goes out of the country for work, starts a project in a foreign country, invites a foreign speaker or sends a student out of the country to do research. An export control form was attached to the materials for the meeting that the FSC received on Monday.

Senior Associate Dean of Student and Academic Affairs' Report

Ashish Joshi, Senior Associate Dean of Student and Academic Affairs

Ashish demonstrated a prototype for the new student outcomes dashboard (SMAART) which provides a platform that centralizes student data including academic data and utilization of student services. This platform will be used to integrate all student academic and support services within the student module including academic progress towards the degree, eligibility for the field practicum, and students at academic risk. Staff and faculty will have access to the dashboard based on their roles, and students will have access to their individual course plan. Ashish said that he is now working on three other modules for the platform, in addition to the student module: a faculty module, which should be available in March, an administrative module, and a module for student support staff. The faculty module will centralize the data collection of all faculty forms, provide access to the list of students advised by each faculty member, include faculty committees and assignments, and track all important dates and deadlines. This centralization of data, which will include the ability to track the use of student support services, track enrollment trends and graduation rates, and track faculty workload, for example, will allow for informed planning and decision making. In the discussion that followed, Ashish noted that much of the data is being downloaded from CUNY First, and Ayman said that the dashboard is an internal data monitoring system for the school. The FSC congratulated Ashish for getting this important and complex project off the ground.

Senior Associate Dean of Administration's Report

Susan Klitzman, Senior Associate Dean of Administration

Susan noted that faculty members without tenure will need to sign a reappointment letter for FY19 and she requested these faculty members see Daneen Anderson-Mercer in HR. Faculty members with part-time appointments should also see Daneen. She then invited Mohit Arora to present the work her office has been engaged in to automate the on-boarding process. Mohit provided an overview of the new electronic on-boarding system (E-On-Boarding), which will be effective December 14, 2018 and replace previous hiring mechanisms. E-On-Boarding will be used to initiate hiring actions for all employees, on-board new employees and current employees to a new title or new unit, and on-board visiting scholars and guests who may require access to SPH resources. Mohit then demonstrated how the E-On-Boarding process works through the website, reviewing the various steps of the process: initiation, approval, e-boarding and notification.

Update on Faculty Searches

Professor Terry Huang and Associate Professor Glen Johnson

Glen said that the search for a new faculty member in the EOGHS department is progressing well. Currently there are five strong candidates out of more than two dozen applications, and the pool is growing. He said that interviews will begin in February. Terry said that HPAM has two faculty searches underway and there are excellent slates of candidates for both searches. Currently the committee is reviewing the applications and interviews should get underway in early February.

Faculty Retirements

Ayman recognized two faculty members who are retiring after many years of service to CUNY and SPH: Associate Professor Barbara Berney and Professor Gerry Oppenheimer. Barbara began at CUNY as faculty at Hunter College. Her research and practice has focused on public health policy and the intersection of race, class, employment and health. She has published many articles on numerous subjects including lead poisoning and race, neighborhood racial segregation and health, and the history of the Mine Workers' Health and Retirement Funds. Last year she completed her riveting documentary *Power to Heal* about how Medicare was used to desegregate America's hospitals. Ayman thanked Barbara for her dedication and motivation. Barbara thanked Ayman for the recognition and she thanked the faculty for their collegiality during her many years at CUNY and SPH. She said that she looks forward to staying in touch with SPH.

Ayman said that Gerry has been a faculty member at CUNY for over 30 years, beginning his career at Brooklyn College before coming to SPH. His work has been on policy, in particular HIV and AIDS, and he published two important books on the subject including *Shattered Dreams: An Oral History of the AIDS Epidemic in South Africa* (2007). His article "McGovern's Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs versus the Meat Industry on the Diet-Heart Question" (1976-1977), published in the January 2014 issue, was named an AJPH article of the year. Ayman noted that historians in public health are a very important part of the field and he said that Gerry's scholarship contributed greatly to the field. Gerry thanked Ayman and his colleagues, and noted that his 33 years at CUNY have been a great part of his life. He said his time at SPH has been a perfect way to end his career.

The FSC thanked Barbara and Gerry for their significant contributions to CUNY and SPH with a standing ovation.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Andrew Maroko adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Doris Suarez