



**Minutes of a Stated Meeting of the  
Senate of New York University  
December 2, 2021**

A stated meeting of the Senate of New York University was held on Thursday, December 2, 2021, at 9 a.m., in the Colloquium Room of the Global Center for Academic and Spiritual Life, 238 Thompson Street with some members attending by videoconference. The meeting was convened with President Andrew Hamilton in the chair.

**Tenured/Tenure Track Faculty Senators Council (“T-FSC”) Members Present:** Darcey Merritt (Chair), Mark Alter (for Ying Lu), Shara Bailey, Andrew Battista, Ryan Branski (for Judith Zelikoff), Virginia Chang (for Donna Shelley), Zhe Chen, Salo Coslovsky, Siddharth Garg, Alexander Geppert, Anindya Ghose, David Grier (for Wendy Suzuki), Andras Gyorgy, Ryan Hartman, David Irving, Anja Jauernig, Wen Ling, Ritty Lukose, Danil Makarov, Qing Miao, Geoffrey Miller, Elizabeth Morrison (for Nick Economides), Christopher Park, Sara Pursley, Gwendolyn Quinn, John Ricci, Tamar Schlick, Carol Sternhell, Celia Stewart (for Marilyn Nonken), Amy Stimpfel, Frank Upham, and Robert JC Young.

**Full-Time Continuing Contract Faculty Senators Council (“C-FSC”) Members Present:** Ethan Youngerman (Chair), Gay Abel-Bey, Preneet Brar, Kelly Bridges (for Marlene McCarty), Eva Chalas, Cora de Leon, Chris Dickey, Richard Gallagher (for Christopher Gharibo), Bruce Gelb, James Grendell, Karen Hornick, Steven Iams (for Yanyue Yuan), Scott Illingworth, Mary Killilea, Beth Latimer, Sylvia Maier, Noelle Molé Liston, Ashley Maynor, Robin Mitnick, Maria Patterson, Vincent Renzi, Silvia Spivakovsky, Scott Taitel, Agnes Tourin, Analia Veitz Keenan (for Leila Jahangiri), Heidi White, and Andrew Williams.

**Student Senators Council (“SSC”) Members Present:** Mehrin Ali (Chair), Patrick Angiolillo, Christina Beck, Jessica Blodgett, Megan Chen, Katarina Demos, Nicholas Felber, Cameron Grant, Ron Hall, Mark Hu, Ethan Johnson, Noa Kimura, Shamon Lawrence, JiJi Lee, Demetri Lopez, Tien Nguyen, Ana Roudebush, Mahima Sharda, Mira Silveira, Sameera Singh, Aniket Somwanshi, Charles Theiner, Shawn Thibault, Jay Thompson, Christopher Van Demark, Jessie Wang, and Iman Yusuf.

**Deans Council Members Present:** Sherry Glied (Chair), Charles Bertolami, H. Austin Booth, Mehmet Darakcioglu (for Susanne Wofford), Allyson Green, Cheryl Healton, Randy Hertz (for Trevor Morrison), Angie Kamath, Lynne Kiorpes, Jack Knott, Antonio Merlo, Julie Mostov, Erin Potter (for Rangarajan Sundaram), Matthew Santirocco, Eileen Sullivan-Marx, and Yao Wang (for Jelena Kovačević).

**Administrative Management Council (“AMC”) Members Present:** Michael McCaw (Chair), Cassandra Bizzaro, Daniel Esquivel, Norma Kenigsberg, Carrie Meconis, Nicole Najera (for Regina Drew), and Joseph Sierra.

**University Administration Members Present:** Lisa Coleman, Georgina Dopico (for Katherine Fleming), Martin Dorph, Andrew Hamilton, and Aisha Oliver-Staley.

**T-FSC Members Absent:** Shady Amin, Ayşe Baltacıoğlu-Brammer, Chris Barker, Sylvain Cappell, Jane Friedman, and Thomas Wisniewski.

**C-FSC Members Absent:** Jung Kim, Ken Nielsen, and Shaline Rao.

**SSC Members Absent:** Jasper Chang, Emily Chow, John Kallas, Jeremy Moskowitz, Ayo Osobamiro, Shiv Pai, Nancy Rutishauser, Ariana Zhao, and Alexandra Zimmerman.

**Deans Council Members Absent:** Robert Grossman, Neil Guterman, Jeffrey Lehman, Steven Shelov, and Mariët Westermann.

**AMC Members Absent:** None.

President Hamilton welcomed members of the Senate to the meeting, noting this is the last Senate meeting of 2021 and there is a full agenda. He asked the Senate to provide feedback on the hybrid meeting format, which was also employed at the prior meeting.

## **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

### **Review and Approval of the Minutes of the November 4, 2021 Meeting**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the November 4, 2021 meeting were approved unanimously as presented.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Organization and Governance Committee**

President Hamilton introduced Mary Killilea, Chair of the Senate Committee on Organization and Governance (“SCOG”). Dr. Killilea noted that the full SCOG report is included in the meeting materials but drew particular attention to the goal of achieving 100% attendance at Senate meetings. She explained that attendance was at 82% for the November 2019 meeting, 90% for the November 2020 meeting (which was during the pandemic and remote), and 88% for the November 2021 meeting (which utilized the hybrid format). She highlighted that attendance did not go up significantly with the remote and hybrid formats. She reminded the Senators of the use of alternates when a Senator is unable to attend a meeting, which can be done by notifying Jessica Graham, Director of the Office of the Secretary. She directed the Senators to Ms. Graham or Karyn Ridder, Manager of Faculty Governance, in the event that a Senator would like to confirm who is designated as their alternate.

President Hamilton invited questions and comments from members of the Senate regarding the Standing Committee reports that were included in the materials distributed in advance of the meeting.

## **COUNCIL REPORTS**

### **Administrative Management Council**

AMC Chair Michael McCaw referred to his written report in the materials distributed in advance of the meeting and highlighted the launch of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Award for Administrators and Clerical/Union Staff and the annual toy drive.

### **Student Senators Council**

SSC Chair Mehrin Ali reported on a Student Government Assembly (“SGA”) Town Hall on November 17, 2021 with President Hamilton to discuss student concerns, which addressed campus safety, COVID-19, academic life, student life, health and wellness, diversity, equity, and inclusion, affordability, and budget and investments. She added that a number of University representatives were in attendance to respond to questions and that the SGA found it to be an effective discussion and looks forward to future conversations.

She also reported that the SGA Organization and Governance Committee passed two resolutions regarding changes to the SGA Bylaws relating to the SGA Professional Standards Committee and regarding alternates, guests, and observers. She explained that these changes were made to make SGA more equitable and more restorative, which is reflective of the philosophy that guides SGA’s advocacy work. She added that the SGA Global Humanitarian Issues Ad Hoc Committee presented a Letter of Support concerning at-risk scholars and students in Afghanistan. She explained that the resolutions and letters of support were approved by the SGA body.

She noted that SGA is forming a Working Group on Divest NYU which will focus on an overall greener agenda at the university level.

She concluded her report noting that three resolutions approved by SGA last year will be brought to SCOG: Anti-Racism and Justice, Notice and Comment, and Holistic Representation on the NYU Board of Trustees.

President Hamilton invited questions and comments from members of the Senate regarding the Council reports that were included in the materials distributed in advance of the meeting.

## **BRIEFINGS TO THE SENATE**

### **Public Health Update**

President Hamilton introduced Carlo Ciotoli, Vice President of Campus Health, to provide a public health update. Dr. Ciotoli opened his report with an update on the changing landscape of COVID-19. He reviewed that, as expected, there had been a bump in case counts at NYU after Halloween followed by a decrease in case counts during Thanksgiving week and then an uptick since the return from Thanksgiving. He explained that there are also increases in city, state, and national case counts. He spoke about the new variant, first reported in South Africa and now in 20 countries including the U.S. He noted that based on the limited data to date, it is more transmissible and results in less severe disease, with mixed reports on the effectiveness of vaccines against this variant.

Dr. Ciotoli also reported that the White House's winter surge mitigation strategy would be announced later that day, which includes changes in testing requirements for international travelers when returning to the U.S., expansion of insurance coverage for at-home testing, extension of mask wearing requirements on transportation, and heavy investment to encourage vaccination. He noted that the most consistent recommendations are for individuals to get vaccinated if not yet vaccinated and to get a booster if eligible. He also noted that the CDC has strengthened and simplified its booster recommendation to cover anyone over the age of 18 and that encouraging boosters will be a significant thrust for the University as it tries to mitigate the winter surge. He said that he will work with the University's Public Affairs office to ensure the messaging around boosters is disseminated. He reported that the University community will be asked to upload booster documentation, although the University has not yet determined whether boosters will be required.

Dr. Ciotoli explained that the University will continue the mask requirements and further encourage testing, including discretionary testing. He noted that while the University hoped to lift some restrictions, that will need to be explored in a cautious manner.

President Hamilton thanked Dr. Ciotoli for his presentation and invited questions and comments from members of the Senate. The Senators asked questions and engaged in discussion with Dr. Ciotoli, including with respect to the availability of boosters, testing for the new variant, response strategy for positive tests for the new variant, and the efficacy of vaccines and prior infection against the new variant.

### **Sustainability Update**

President Hamilton introduced Cecil Scheib, Chief Sustainability Officer. Mr. Scheib opened his report highlighting that NYU had jumped to #29 in the Princeton Review's 2022 list of Top 50 Green Colleges, after being #43 in 2021 and being unranked in 2020. He reported that NYU has completed the first year of the cool food pledge, reducing 8.3% of food-related greenhouse gas emissions towards the goal of 25% by 2030.

Mr. Scheib also reported on the launch of the Climate Change Initiative led by the Office of the Provost, which included the first of Climate Flash Talks by faculty and the award of ten faculty research grants. He explained Green Workplace Certification, which is a way for University departments to show they are providing a greener workspace. He reviewed the pilot phase, noting that the three departments in that phase are now certified and that more departments would be involved shortly. He provided the following examples of funding ideas and advancing opportunity: the Green Grants and Microgrants Program, the first-year launch of the Sustainability Internship Grant for summer internships in the sustainable space, and direct funding to the Environmental and Racial Justice Network for projects that advance environmental and racial justice. He also spoke about a Green Events Standard for event planners which has been incorporated in NYU's 2021 Business Expense Policy with training to begin in January 2022.

Mr. Scheib reviewed developments at the Abu Dhabi campus, which are unique to the needs of that campus and region. He highlighted the hiring of the campus' first sustainability staff member, the campus' Go Green Week, and the formation of a sustainability steering committee.

He also highlighted some upcoming events around sustainability. He challenged the Senators with a short visioning exercise to picture how things will look in 2040 if the University achieves all of its sustainability goals. He explained that there are plans for a University-wide event next fall which will address this question. He concluded by reminding the Senators how to stay connected with sustainability initiatives and highlighting the new sustainability guides.

President Hamilton thanked Mr. Scheib for his presentation and invited questions and comments from members of the Senate.

### **Government Affairs Update**

President Hamilton introduced Lynne Brown, Senior Vice President for University Relations and Public Affairs, and Steve Heuer, Assistant Vice President for Government Affairs. Dr. Brown opened her report by noting the high level of activity at the federal, state, and city level and emphasizing that the University must focus on how government affects the programs and people of the University as well as the University as an institution.

Mr. Heuer then provided an overview of President Biden's agenda, identifying the administration's overarching goals (managing the COVID crisis, managing the economy, and working to pass two infrastructure initiatives) and the challenges the administration is facing (declining public approval ratings, democratic infighting, and December government funding and debt limit deadlines).

Mr. Heuer reviewed the components of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill that passed in November, highlighting the benefits to New York State and City. He also discussed the

components of the pending Build Back Better, Social Spending Package, highlighting a \$550 increase in maximum Pell Grant awards, access to Pell Grants by Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (“DACA”) recipients, and \$550 billion for investments in clean energy and other climate initiatives. He reviewed upcoming initiatives including the Biden administration’s efforts to strengthen the DACA program, the new U.S. Innovation and Competition Act which would enable the U.S. to compete better with China, and the University’s Student Aid Advocacy Days in Albany and Washington D.C.

He concluded with a discussion of developments on the city and state level, including a discussion of how the policies and priorities of the new governor, Kathy Hochul, and the new mayor, Eric Adams, may impact the University.

President Hamilton thanked Dr. Brown and Mr. Heuer for their presentation and invited questions and comments from members of the Senate. The Senators asked questions and engaged in discussion with the speakers, including with respect to voting drives for the community for the 2022 midterm elections and providing a day off on Election Day.

### **Office of Global Inclusion Update**

President Hamilton introduced Lisa Coleman, Senior Vice President for Global Inclusion and Strategic Innovation. Dr. Coleman began her presentation by explaining GIDBEA (Global, Inclusion, Diversity, Belonging, Equity & Access) and its current context within the University. She reviewed examples of inclusive leadership and global collaborations such as the Global Inclusive Leadership Management Institute, inclusive teaching seminars, faculty mentoring, toolkits, SGA’s efforts, and the Global Inclusion Officers Council.

She reviewed the NYU Be Together program, a University-wide effort to center global inclusion, diversity, belonging, equity and access. She provided an update on the Foundations for Global DEI Excellence Module Pilot, noting that the University-wide pilot would begin at the start of the Spring 2022 semester and be officially released during the 2022-23 academic year, after incorporating feedback collected during the semester.

She concluded by reminding the Senators that applications for the Be Together Ambassador Program are open now and asking the Senators to get involved.

President Hamilton thanked Dr. Coleman for her presentation and invited questions and comments from members of the Senate.

### **Capital Projects Update**

President Hamilton introduced Linda Chiarelli, Senior Vice President for Capital Projects and Facilities. Ms. Chiarelli began by reminding the Senators that there had been some pause in construction projects due to COVID. She described and showed photographs of the completed projects for the Clive Davis Gallery at 370 Jay Street and the School of

Global Public Health at 404 Lafayette/708 Broadway.

Ms. Chiarelli discussed the project at 181 Mercer Street, explaining that construction had been shut down due to COVID, and when it resumed, the Department of Buildings put in place strenuous guidelines which impacted productivity and the timeline. In addition, she reported that the University was forced to deal with supply chain issues. She presented photographs of the project, in various stages of construction, including the faculty housing tower, student housing tower, common space, stairwells, athletic courts and running track, pool, and theaters. She highlighted the sustainable purpose of the metal planes and the grand staircase which would hopefully encourage use of the stairs. She concluded her presentation noting that occupancy is expected for November 2022.

President Hamilton thanked Ms. Chiarelli for her presentation and invited questions and comments from members of the Senate. The Senators asked questions and engaged in discussion with Ms. Chiarelli, including with respect to the size and use of the classrooms, the anticipated use of the purpose-designed space for the Tisch School of the Arts and the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, the timetable for occupancy, gender-neutral bathrooms, and safety precautions.

### **Rory Meyers College of Nursing**

President Hamilton introduced Eileen Sullivan-Marx, Dean of the Rory Meyers College of Nursing and the Erlene Perkins McGriff Professor of Nursing. Dr. Sullivan-Marx began by providing a history of the Meyers College since its start in the 1930s. She reviewed highlights of the Meyers College during the pandemic including high vaccination rates, increased minority student and faculty representation, maintenance of existing graduation rates, and the ability to pivot quickly to remote learning. She provided an update on the Meyers College's strategic plan which emphasizes Belonging, Innovation and Global (BIG). To demonstrate belonging, she highlighted the Meyers College's receipt of the 2021 Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award as well as two alumni who are serving as commissioners for the National Commission to Address Racism in Nursing. As an example of innovation, Dr. Sullivan-Marx described the collaboration with Howard University College of Nursing and Allied Sciences and the NIH grant studies underway at the Meyers Biological Lab. In concluding, she spoke about initiatives in Liberia and Rwanda and the WHO Collaboration Center in Aging to illustrate the Meyers College's global work.

President Hamilton thanked Dr. Sullivan-Marx for her presentation and invited questions and comments from members of the Senate. The Senators asked questions and engaged in discussion with Dr. Sullivan-Marx, including with respect to steps taken to prepare for and prevent burnout in the nursing field.

## **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

President Hamilton referred to his written report in the materials distributed in advance of

the meeting and emphasized that the University is keeping a close watch on Omicron.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

President Hamilton invited questions and comments from members of the Senate. A Senator raised an issue with respect to the Ad Hoc Committee on Student Caregivers, requesting that one of the co-chairs be a student. The President thanked the Senator for his suggestion and agreed to take it under consideration.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Sawyer  
Senior Associate General Counsel