

THE ACADEMIC *Senate* *reporter*

MAY 1996 • REPORT FROM PRATT INSTITUTE'S ACADEMIC SENATE

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Introduction

The Academic Senate is a faculty administration governance body, chosen from the faculty and chairs of the entire Institute, which directly advises the President about academic matters and concerns, without review by the

Provost or any other group. Today, we are called the Academic Senate, not the Faculty Senate, because our membership includes not only full-time and part-time faculty but also chairs.

About the Academic Senate

The responsibilities of the Academic Senate include, but are not limited to, the following: approving academic policies and procedures, reviewing structures of programs, curricula, and schools, reviewing course additions and changes, reviewing academic services, establishing committees on appropriate subjects, interviewing prospective deans, vice-presidents, provosts, and presidents, appointing faculty to standing committees of the Board of Trustees, nominating a Faculty Trustee, structuring search committees and appointing faculty and chair membership.

MEMBERSHIP

Senate members are elected by their peers for three-year terms. Full-time Senate members include at least one from the Library faculty, and the balance from the Schools of Architecture, Art & Design, Graduate Information and Library Science, Liberal Arts & Sciences, and Professional Studies. There should be one full-time Senate member for each 12 full-time faculty in each school. Part-time Senate members include three part-time faculty members from the School of Art & Design, two part-time members from the School of Architecture, and one part-time member elected from the faculties of the other Institute schools. Chairs are one each from undergraduate Architecture, graduate Architecture, undergraduate Art & Design, graduate Art & Design, and Liberal Arts & Sciences. An alternate member, if needed, is the person receiving the next highest number of votes for that position. Pratt personnel eligible for Senate membership include full-time, adjunct, and visiting faculty, and chairs who teach regularly scheduled courses in their subject area.

MEETINGS

The Academic Senate holds regular meetings bimonthly during the Fall and Spring semesters, or as often as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee. Additionally, at least once after the eighth week of both the Fall and Spring semesters, the Senate convenes a meeting, which is presided over by the President of the Senate and to which all Institute faculty and chairs are invited, where reports on issues confronting the Institute and its academic governance are presented by the President of the Institute and by the President of the Senate and are discussed by the audience.

COMMITTEES

The Academic Senate fulfills its responsibilities in part through standing committees and special committees which the Senate establishes as needed. The following descriptions enumerate some of the duties of the various committees.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS (*Vasilios A. Toulis*)

With representatives from all schools of the Institute, the Academic Programs and Policies Committee has an important overview and facilitator role in curriculum development, the creation of new courses, and the revision of existing ones. We assist in ascertaining redundancies or conflicts in courses from more than one department with similar concerns. Examining each course proposal, our findings and recommendations are reported to the full Senate for its input before implementation. All matters pertaining to curriculum are within our purview and responsibility.

ACADEMIC CONCERNS & SUPPORT (Greta Earnest)

The Academic Concerns Committee is charged with addressing non-curricular academic issues like faculty development and support. It has an ongoing responsibility to oversee the election of an Institute Professor/Distinguished Teacher Award, conferred by the Academic Senate, the Provost, and the Board of Trustees. The recipient usually addresses the student body at Honors Convocation, presents the mace at graduation ceremonies, and delivers a lecture for the Institute community. The Committee and the Senate is currently revising the award process in order to standardize it more effectively.

Other Senate Committees include:

ELECTIONS (Carole Sirovich)

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GUIDE (Dimitri Hazzikostas & John Lobell)

BYLAWS (Carole Sirovich)

ACADEMIC CALENDAR (Carole Sirovich)

Summary of Open Meeting with President Schutte, 4/16/96

QUESTIONS POSED BY ACADEMIC SENATE PRESIDENT ROBERT ANDERS, AND INSTITUTE PRESIDENT SCHUTTE'S REPLIES:

(1) Regarding the budget:

(A) About the configuration of the budget — How does the percentage of major expenditures get allocated? How much goes to academic concerns, and how much goes to administrative concerns? How do these percentages compare to past years at Pratt and to other similar institutions?

We do not start with percentage allocations. The budget is based primarily upon needs. Much of the budget covers fixed costs. Regarding educational and administrative costs, studies show past historical trends, up to 1982, had been approximately 52% academic costs, and this ratio has slowly declined to about 47% this year. However, scholarships and fellowships have been going up during the past fifteen years while maintenance has been going down. And our ratios seem to be similar to those of comparable colleges and universities.

(B) We understand that our dependency on tuition has increased. Are there remedies envisioned for this imbalance of tuition dependency? For example, if we are too tuition dependent, why are we not supporting and expanding graduate programs more?

For last year, we were 90% tuition dependent. However, this is typical of Pratt over the past twenty years. For example, in 1980-81 we were 88% tuition dependent. What can we do about this? State aid has declined to less than 1% of our yearly income. Also our endowment has shrunk and is currently required contractually to be very conservatively invested. Finally, our gifts and grants have not increased. Thus, although we are in a bind, we currently are in a net positive budget position. Future efforts

will involve increasing gifts and grants, increasing the endowment, and increasing the return on endowment investments.

Regarding increasing graduate programs, this will not reduce our tuition dependency. Strategic planning goals include increasing enrollment to 4,000 plus. The proportion of graduate to undergraduate enrollment is currently being considered. But there are no current restrictions, other than considerations of quality, that exist on graduate enrollment. There is no institute policy restricting graduate student growth.

A member of the audience observed that graduate financial aid support is shrinking, and salaries of instructors in graduate level courses continue to be reduced. President Schutte responded that faculty salaries do not affect admissions, but that it is true that we allocate fewer dollars to graduate scholarships.

(C) In terms of faculty's access to information, when can the Senate see the proposed budget figures so that we can furnish our input?

President Schutte welcomes the presence of an Academic Senate member at budgetary discussions at Senior Staff meetings.

(2) Regarding the Corcoran School and Pratt Institute:

(A) Why has the Academic Senate been excluded from curriculum input and advice? Is there a Pratt academic liaison for this project?

The Corcoran is a consultant for a school being formed in Delaware as a state art and design prep school. David Levy suggested that Pratt should be involved in this project. Funding would be provided by corporations and other institutions in Delaware with Pratt serving in an advisory capacity. These negotiations are in very preliminary

nary stages, and Pratt has no current plans for how to implement them. However, President Schutte is enthusiastic about the prospects for this venture. Hopefully, in the future, it would engender fifty students yearly for Pratt.

(3) Regarding the Puck Building:

(A) What is the status of Institute plans concerning academic programs for the Puck Building? Specifically, what is being done about Design Management, Art Therapy, and other current degree programs?

The Board of Trustees and the Administration believe the undergraduate programs should remain in Brooklyn. Further, Puck programs should be oriented toward Manhattan or New York City students and concerns. There are ongoing discussions about programs like Art Therapy possibly moving to the Puck Building. If there were to be future program moves to the Puck Building, the chairs, deans, and provost will surely be involved.

(B) Will Brooklyn campus services be connected to Pratt Manhattan, specifically in terms of transportation and indigenous library facilities?

There are no current plans to connect Brooklyn campus to the Manhattan campus by bus service. Regarding library services at Puck, clearly there is need for more resources.

(4) Regarding graduate programs:

(A) Why have they not been given the same promotional impetus and budget priorities that undergraduate programs appear to be receiving?

There is no envisioned increased emphasis on graduate programs or on increasing the number of graduate assistants in the near future. He would appreciate suggestions from the faculty about means to expand graduate education's profile at Pratt.

A member of the audience observed that the institute does not make graduate education a priority.

President Schutte replied that we currently have a substantial graduate program, but certainly more support could be construed to be important.

(5) Regarding faculty and faculty salaries:

(A) What endeavors are being made to provide more academic and faculty positions to meet demands of the new, higher enrollments? Specifically, what is envisioned concerning needs for new space and new full-time and part-time faculty?

Both Provost Colker and he want to increase the number of full-time faculty members. Studies are being conducted with deans about areas where more full-time versus part-time faculty can be hired. This question is also being considered in the Strategic Planning process. Clearly, the percentage of full-time faculty should be higher.

(B) Chairman Fulton and the Board of Trustees have voiced their concern about low faculty salaries. What plans are being made to increase faculty salaries?

Regarding salaries for faculty, we surely have some soft areas in our levels. Provost Colker is now researching this question, and he is analyzing levels at comparable schools. Immediate increases above planned raises are not probable, but our upcoming increases seem to be reasonable.

Senate President Anders noted that most schools in the Institute have very low ratios of full-time to part-time faculty. There is an imbalance, for some departments have a healthier ratio than others.

President Schutte replied that these imbalances are known, and the administration considers this a priority area for their attention.

(6) Regarding the current UFCT agreement, when will the faculty be receiving copies of the current union contract?

President Schutte spoke to Vice President for Finance Edward Rutkowski about the UFCT contract. It is currently with the institute's attorney, and hopefully in a few weeks, there will be progress on this. President Schutte declared he will follow up about the contract personally, and also about the progress of the refurbishment of the faculty lounge.

QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

(7) What is the state of campus physical construction?

Generally around the institute, we are making good progress, but the finishing up of work on the Library Plaza and deck will take a while longer. The deck in particular is more profound a problem than anticipated.

(8) Concern was voiced about the Library's slide collection.

Efforts for fundraising to cover issues regarding the Library's centennial celebration are being emphasized.

(9) A question was asked about current administrative policies re. visiting status, adjunct status, and also CCE status.

Admittedly this is a complex issue, and promotion from adjunct and CCE to full-time status is a difficult area. The provost is also concerned about this set of problems. Other comparable institutions are also currently dealing with this problem.

(10) Finally, a question was proffered about the state of plans for refurbishing Memorial Hall.

We have surpassed our goal for fundraising. This project to reopen Memorial Hall is now slated to have construction begin by this coming summer of 1996.

At this point, Academic Senate President Robert Anders thanked Institute President Schutte, and the meeting was adjourned.

Accomplishments of the 1995-1996 Senate

The following are some of the actions of the Academic Senate during the past academic year:

Meetings with President Thomas Schutte: Under the auspices of the Academic Senate, two open faculty meetings were held with Institute President Thomas Schutte, each moderated by Academic Senate President Robert Anders. At these meetings, which came toward the end of the Fall and Spring semesters, academic issues and concerns of faculty were aired and were responded to.

Dialogues with Senior Staff: A number of Senior Staff Members were invited to visit the Academic Senate in order to explore ideas about the Institute and to answer questions from the Academic Senate. Senior Staff Members who visited this year included: President Thomas Schutte, Provost Edward Colker, Vice President of Student Life Kathleen Rice, Vice President of Finance Edward Rutkowski, Human Resources Director Dian Jones, and Director of Institutional Advancement Mack Goode.

Evaluation of Proposed New and/or Revised Courses: The Academic Programs and Policies

Committee, chaired by Professor William Toulis, examined and reviewed dozens of proposed new courses and revisions of existing courses. Additionally, the committee is helping to develop a new form for course proposals and revisions which will expedite and clarify the approval process.

Reassessment of the Institute Distinguished Professor Award: The Academic Support Committee, chaired by Professor Greta Earnest, has been reevaluating the Institute Distinguished Professor Award to make it more efficient and more representative. The Committee and the Senate has considered numerous aspects of the award process including nomination, voting, and remuneration.

Professor Rolf Fjelde: Also through the efforts of the Academic Support Committee and the Senate, Professor Rolf Fjelde was given the honor of carrying the mace, which his father had designed, at the commencement ceremonies.

We're Here to Serve You

Academic Senators are elected by their faculty peers to represent and serve their best interests. It is therefore no small honor and responsibility to serve on the Senate.

But if it's the Senate's job to serve you, the faculty, it's your job to let us know what's on your mind. Do you know who your Senate representative is? If not, you can easily find them in the list of Senate members here, on page one. Enclosed in parenthesis after each member's name is an abbreviation of their status or position and their school affiliation (*FT/A&D = Full-time/Art & Design, CH/Arch = Chairperson/Architecture*).

And you're certainly not limited to communicating with a Senator from your school or department, alone. There are twenty-one Senators at your service, and they're all just a phone call, e-mail, lunch table or office visit away.

It's your Academic Senate; make it work for you.

Meet the Academic Senate

ROBERT ANDERS has a B.I.D. from Pratt. He has a long career as a design consultant to major corporations as well as the U.S. government. He has designed fifteen United States exhibitions at fairs in twelve countries. He was formerly Director, Staff Design at Bristol-Myers Co. and Director, Visual Merchandising at Revlon, Inc. He started his teaching career at Pratt in 1984 in the Industrial Design Department. He was subsequently promoted to full professor with full-time status in that department. He served as Acting Associate Dean of the School of Art and Design from 1992 to 1994. He created and serves as the Head of the Graduate Design Management Program. He was elected to a three year term as President of the Academic Senate in January 1995.

TOM ANGOTTI is Associate Professor and Chair of the Graduate Center for Planning & Environment. He is author of two books, *Metropolis 2000: Planning, Poverty, & Politics* and *Housing in Italy*, as well as many articles on community development, housing, and urban planning. He is a Fellow of the American Academy in Rome and an editor of the journals *Planning, Practice, & Research* and *Latin American Perspectives*. He is co-chair of Planners Network, a national organization of progressive planners. He has a PhD in Urban Planning & Policy Development from Rutgers University, and has worked in city and state government and as a consultant.

DONALD ARIEV is a graduate of Pratt and currently Professor of Graphic Design and Chair of the Graduate Communications/Packaging Design Department. He has lectured internationally at various conferences, and is a design consultant for one of the largest privately-owned gift products companies in Japan. In the past few years he has visited and lectured in China, Brazil, and Denmark. He has designed and written more than a dozen corporate identity manuals, designed trademarks and directed graphics programs at many major U.S. and international corporations. He is a partner in Arieiev & Arieiev/Design Consultants.

RICK BARRY is an Adjunct Assistant Professor and the acting Chair of the Department of Computer Graphics and Interactive Media. He is an award-winning graphic designer and illustrator who has worked with a variety of prominent NYC-based advertising agencies and design studios during the past three decades. For the past 15 years, he has run his own computer graphics design and consulting firm, DeskTop Design Studio. His work appears on the *Adobe Illustrator 6.0 CD-ROM*, and is featured in *The Illustrator WOW! Book* by Peachpit Press. He is a frequent lecturer at major professional trade conferences.

HOWARD BUCHWALD is a painter represented by the Nancy Hoffman Gallery. He is the

winner of two NEA fellowships, a Guggenheim fellowship, an Elizabeth Foundation grant, and a Pollock-Krasner and New York State Council Award. He is a juror for the American Academy in Rome Prize as well as the New York State Council on the Arts Awards. He is a member of the advisory committee for the Elizabeth Foundation, and his work is in many collections both public and private.

DONALD CROMLEY is an architect and architectural educator. He received a B. Arch from MIT and a M. Arch from the University of Pennsylvania where he studied with Louis Kahn. He won a Fulbright Grant to Finland in 1961, working in the office of Alvar Aalto. He worked at the New York office of Marcel Breuer and earned his NYS license in 1968. He maintains his architectural practice and also teaches as an Adjunct Professor at Pratt where he served for six years as department chair.

RON DIDONNO is an Adjunct Associate Professor of Architecture. He received his B. Arch. from Pratt in 1970 and has taught numerous courses here. He has served as Chair of Faculty Affairs, Vice President of the Academic Senate, Coordinator of First Year Design, and Chair of a Budget Advisory Committee. Since 1977, he has been a partner in DiDonno Associates Architects, a firm which is recognized for its work in restoration and renovation.

GRETA EARNEST is Art & Architecture Librarian at Pratt, and she is Chair of the Academic Concerns Committee of the Senate. She received a BA from Bard College and an MLS from SUNY Albany. Previous experience includes: The Thomas J. Watson Library, Metropolitan Museum of Art; The Museum of Modern Art Library; The Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute; and The J. Paul Getty Art and Architecture Thesaurus. She is an active member of the national and local chapter of the Art Libraries Society of North America.

GENE GARFINKLE is a painter as well as an Associate Professor of Drawing and of Light, Color and Design at Pratt. He has been an Institute faculty member since 1962 and has held several administrative positions including Foundation Admissions Coordinator, Chair of Foundation Art, Associate Dean and Acting Dean of the School of Art and Design. He is currently the Acting Chair of Foundation Art.

TOM GRAHAM is a graduate of Pratt Institute (MFA, 1975). He is a freelance illustrator who has worked for many years as a contributor to The New York Times. And he is the author and/or illustrator of five picture books for children. He is a member of the Board of Trustees Honorary Degree & Events Committee.

DIMITRI HAZZIKOSTAS is an art historian and archaeologist. He is a member of the Hellenic Archaeological Society and has participated in excavations at Corinth, Lechaion, and Troezen. He has received an MA, a MPH, and a PhD from Columbia University. He is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Art History where he teaches courses in Ancient and Medieval Art. He was the recipient of the Sears Foundation Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1990 and is a contributor to the Encyclopedia of Comparative Iconography.

ANNE KELLY is an Associate Professor in the School of Information and Library Science. She is a member of the Academic Programs & Policies Committee of the Academic Senate. She received a BA from Washington University and an MLS from Columbia University. She has worked for numerous university and institutional libraries, and in addition to membership on many Pratt committees, she is active in a number of professional organizations and associations. Her publications include reviews in several journals.

HANS CHRISTIAN LISCHEWSKI is Acting Chair of Undergraduate Architecture and Director of Architecture Computing. He is establishing for Pratt's School of Architecture a suite of electronic design studios. He is an expert in applied information technologies for architecture practice. He has lectured, taught, researched, consulted, and practiced internationally, and he received various grants and awards. Before committing full-time to Pratt, he was the Chief Information Officer (CIO) at Perkins & Will, an international architecture design firm. He was educated in Germany and received his professional degrees in architecture from the University of Karlsruhe, Germany and from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

JOHN LOBELL is a full professor in the school of Architecture where he teaches courses in the area of Undergraduate Architecture. He received a BA in Architecture and an MA in Fine Arts, Design Criticism both from the University of Pennsylvania.

MARSHA MORTON received an MFA from the University of Chicago and a PhD from New York University. She is Assistant Professor in the Department of Art History where she teaches courses in Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Art. Dr. Morton has published articles on topics in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century German art in *Art Journal*, *The Burlington Magazine*, *Source*, and the *Zeitschrift fur Kunstgeschichte*. She contributed to the catalogue *Visions of Antiquity* for the Los Angeles Museum of Art, and she has presented papers at various conferences.

JOHN PILE is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania in architecture. He worked in several New York design offices including eleven years with George Nelson. He has taught at Pratt for many years in Interior Design, Industrial Design, and Design History. He is the author of many published articles and books.

NORMAN RHODES is a playwright and a director as well as an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of English & Humanities at Pratt. Currently, he is serving as Secretary of the Academic Senate. He received an MFA in Playwriting from Carnegie-Mellon University and a PhD in Theater from Columbia University. He has published several articles on various aspects of theater, and his book *Ibsen & The Greeks* appeared in 1995.

CAROLE SIROVICH is Vice President of the Academic Senate and a member of several Senate committees. She received her PhD in Mathematics at the Courant Institute at New York University. She has been teaching mathematics for thirty-three years; the last twenty at Pratt Institute.

GERSON SPARER has a PhD in Mathematics, and he has been a Professor of Mathematics at Pratt for over twenty-five years. He is currently President of the Pratt Institute chapter of the United Federation of College Teachers.

LINEZ SPERR-BRISFJORD is Associate Professor and Chair in the School of Information and Library Science. She is a graduate of Columbia and Fordham Universities. Active in professional associations as well as Pratt committees, she is a national officer of several professional organizations and a past president of the National Federation of Abstracting and Information Sciences. She is invited often to speak at conferences. For more than ten years she has been a consultant on business information sources in Sweden.

VASILIOS A. TOULIS received a BDES from the University of Florida. He was an officer in the United States Army and was active in the business world prior to receiving his BFA from Pratt Institute. He was the recipient of a Louis Comfort Tiffany Grant in 1967. In 1971 he became Chair of the Printmaking Department at Pratt, and he currently is Full Professor and Head of the Printmaking Area. He is a member of Typophiles. He has served on numerous committees, panels, and on the Faculty Council/Academic Senate where he is currently Chair of the Academic Programs and Policies Committee. Additionally, he is an artist-printmaker with a special interest in Caribbean arts and printmakers.