

THE ACADEMIC *Senate* reporter

MAY 1997 • REPORT FROM PRATT INSTITUTE'S ACADEMIC SENATE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Robert Anders,
President (FT/A&D)

Carole Sirovich,
Vice President
(FT/LA&S)

Norman Rhodes,
Secretary (PT/LA&S)

MEMBERS

Tom Angotti (CH/Arch)

Don Arieu (CH/A&D)

Rick Barry (CH/A&D)

Howard Buchwald
(PT/A&D)

Donald Cromley
(PT/Arch)

Ronald DiDonno
(PT/Arch)

Thomas Graham
(PT/A&D)

Dimitri Hazzikostas
(FT/A&D)

Anne Kelly
(FT/LibS)

Christian Lischewski
(CH/Arch)

John Lobell (FT/Arch)

Marsha Morton
(FT/A&D)

Gerson Sparer
(FT/LA&S)

Inez Sperr-Brisford
(CH/LibS)

Introduction

The Academic Senate is Pratt's faculty administration governance body, chosen from the faculty and chairs of the entire Institute, which directly advises the President and the Provost about academic matters and concerns, without

review by any other group. It is called the Academic Senate, not the Faculty Senate, because its membership includes not only full-time and part-time faculty, but also chairs.

Accomplishments of the 1996-1997 Senate

A series of academic concerns were discussed and prioritized at the beginning of the Academic year. These concerns then served as the

themes for meetings throughout the year to which appropriate administrators were invited to participate in our deliberations.

Topic: Proposed Policy on Chairs

Guest: E. Colker, Provost

- Action:
1. A revised document was produced jointly by the Academic Senate and the Provost.
 2. It is pending final approval.

- Action:
1. The Admissions office evaluates the transfer credits of undergraduate credits only, working with transcripts and portfolios.
 2. For applicants applying for admission above the sophomore level, department chairs make the evaluation.

Topic: Maintenance of classrooms and the campus as a whole

Guest: E. Rutkowski, Vice President Finance and Administration

- Action:
1. The maintenance audit has been completed by outside consultants, and will be implemented to the extent of financing availability.
 2. Should there be a policy on restricting food and beverage consumption in classrooms?
 3. What role does the faculty have in instructing students to pick up after themselves.?

Topic: 500 level courses

Guest: None

- Action:
1. Still under review. Please complete the enclosed survey so we may understand your opinions.

Topic: Grade Inflation/Erosion

Guest: E. Colker, Provost

- Action:
1. Lessen concern with retention. Pratt's increasing selectivity should provide a good outlook for this.
 2. Accept the possibility that some students may be unable to meet the standards.
 3. Embrace the positive nature of the critique model.
 4. The Senate will produce a document

Topic: Transfer credits

Guest: H. Metcalf, Director of Admissions & E. Edgarian, Admissions Counselor

reviewing the meaning of grades in each school at the Institute.

5. Develop guidelines for chairs to distill further guideline from the general faculty recommendations

6. Grading guidelines should not be impositional or intrusive.

Topic: Admissions Policy

Guest: J. Aaron, Vice president for Enrollment

Action: 1. Students may add courses and change sections before the third session of the term.

2. No withdrawals from a course will be accepted after the fourth week of a semester.

3. Students are expected to attend all classes.

4. Any unexcused absences may affect the final grade.

5. Three unexcused absences may result in course failure at the discretion of the instructor.

6. These policies will be added to the student handbook.

1996-1997 Committee Actions

ACADEMIC POLICIES & PROGRAMS

Chair: *Dimitri Hazzikostas*

This committee has an important overview and facilitator role in curriculum development. All matters pertaining to curriculum are

with its' purview and responsibility. The following courses were reviewed and approved this academic year:

Action:

ARCH 123P/124P
Morphology Studio, 3 Credits

Change of title and structure.
Previous title: Morphology

ARCH 525P/526P
Morphology Lecture, 3-5 Credits

Change of title and structure.

A new Graduate Degree Program
Arts & Cultural Management, 42 Credits.

A two-year management program for non-profit, public sector and commercial arts and cultural professionals.

A new Graduate Degree Program
in Dance/Movement and Body Mind Studies

This program has the approval of the American Dance Therapy Association.

Twinning Agreement with the Limkokwing
Institute of Creative Technology (LICT),
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Pratt would provide its undergraduate curriculum for the first two and a half years of the Graphic, Industrial, and Interior Design departments in the School of Art & Design and the first three years in the School of Architecture. Graduates of LICT would complete their studies at Pratt.

SS 601 Art Worlds [E] 3 credits

Course emphasizes the institutional and structural aspects of creative practices (e.g., topics on censorship, public funding, cultural hybridity, etc.

SS 602 Ways of Knowing: Research Methods [E] 3 credits	This methodology course fills a need for first year graduates, and provides a direct curricular linkage between SLAS and the School of Art & Design.
Minor in Cultural Studies, 18 credits	A minor in cultural studies integrating theory and practice should strengthen the students' understanding of the dynamics of a world in flux.
SS 499 Senior Thesis Seminar [E], 3 credits	The final thesis that is part of the minor in Cultural Studies
EMS 620 Planning for Sustainable Communities [R]	Previously titled "Environmental Policies and Politics" with a revised course description.
TECH 516 Pop-up Paper Engineering [E], 2 Credits	This course provides instruction in the complex properties and use of paper in 3-D and 4-D and has wide applications for all BFA students
DES 625 Psychology of Visual Perception [R], 3 Credits	Contact hours changed from 2 to 3.
CG 150 Introduction to Computer Graphics II [R], 3 Credits	Revised catalog description.
CG 250 Imaging with a Computer [R], 3 Credits	Change of title and catalog description.
CG 570 Audio for Electronic Media [E], 3 Credits	Change to contact hours only.
CG 575 Video Editing for Computer Graphics [E], 3 Credits	Change to contact hours only.
MGMT 205 Small Business: The Basics [E], 3 Credits	Catalog description to be revised.

ACADEMIC CONCERNS
& SUPPORT
Chair:: Paul Glassman

This committee address all non-curricular academic issues like faculty development and support. It also oversees the election of the Institute Distinguished Teacher Award, conferred by the Academic Senate, the Provost and the Board of Trustees.

Action:

This committee has undertaken the significant responsibility of developing a Faculty Handbook, required by the Middle States Accreditation

ELECTIONS
Chair:: Carole Sirovich

This committee is responsible for running the election of members to the Academic Senate and in nominating faculty representation to the Standing Committees of the Board of Trustees as well as to other committees as may be required.

Action:

Next semester will be the final term for the current members of the Academic Senate. Your participation in the elections during the Fall '97 semester is vital to provide the Senate with a full and enthusiastic membership. We need your willingness to serve the Institute.

Meet Your New Senate Representatives

The following resignations from the Senate were received and accepted with reluctance:

Resigned:	Replaced by:
Greta Ernest	Paul Glassman
Norman Rhodes	Bill Obrecht
Gene Garfinkle	Bill Saylor
John Pile	Ted Kurahara (Unavailable)
Bill Toulis	?

PAUL GLASSMAN has served as Art & Architecture Librarian at the Institute since the beginning of the 1995-1996 academic year, and he also teaches a section of the Art Survey in the Department of Art History. His subject area is architecture, with an emphasis on nineteenth and twentieth-century American Modernism. He gained his previous professional library experience as Architecture Librarian and Archivist at The Art Institute of Chicago and spent the interim in the fields of museum education and museum administration. He was a regular contributor to *Inland Architect*, contributed essays to the *International Dictionary of Architects and Architecture* (St. James Press, 1993), and writes reviews regularly for *Library Journal*, *Choice* and *Art Documentation*.

An Alumnus of Bowdoin College, he holds a Master of Architecture degree from the University of Colorado and a Master of Science degree in library science from Simmons College.

BILL OBRECHT has been a member of the faculty of Pratt's Department of English and Humanities since 1988. Currently holding the rank of Adjunct Instructor, he teaches a wide variety of courses, including Speech, Languages of Music and English as a second language. He is a 1977 graduate of Sarah Lawrence College, where he concentrated in Music. His compositions have been performed in New York at Alice Tully Hall,

the State Theater, Merkin Hall, Symphony Space and the Brooklyn Academy of Music, and at a wide variety of National and International Venues. He has received grants and awards from the Lilla Atchison Wallace Foundation, the New York and Massachusetts Councils on the Arts and Meet the Composer, among many others.

BILL SAYLER received his BFA from Syracuse University and his MFA from the University of Illinois in 1962 and has been a member of the Pratt Faculty since 1969 teaching in the Foundation Art Department. He innovated and developed two International Programs for Pratt; the Pratt in Mexico Program and the England Program. He has been a commercial photographer since 1963. In 1986 he established a business consulting practice specializing in organizational and personal transformation. He exhibited his photographs from Bali Indonesia March 1996 at Pratt and had a show of "Works on Paper" at the TAI gallery this past October.

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.

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.

While 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, take a look at the list of Senate members here on page one. Enclosed in parentheses 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*).

Furthermore, 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.

Please Note

Two Surveys are enclosed. We need your thoughts on these issues. Please fill the survey forms out and mail them to us. Thank you.

