Minutes of Proceedings, June 1, 1990

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

HELD

JUNE 1, 1990 AT 2:00 PM

AT THE BOARD HEADQUARTERS BUILDING
535 EAST 80TH STREET – BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

The Chairperson called the Special Meeting to order at 2:00 P.M.

There were present:

James P. Murphy, Chairperson
Blanche Bernstein
Sylvia Bloom
Gladys Carrion
Louis C. Cancl
Michael J. Del Giudice

Stanley Fink
William R. Howard
Harold M. Jacobs
Calvin O. Pressley
Thomas Tam
Brenda Farrow White

Gregorio Mayers, ex officio

Robert A. Picken, ex officio

Etta G. Grass, Acting Secretary of the Board

Dean Richard Barsam
Dr. Albert H. Bowker
Prof. Mohamed Yousef
Ms. Genevieve Mullin

The absence of Mrs. Everett was excused.

The Board heard from Mr. Mayers and Ms. Carol Bullard-Caros, President of the Hunter College Evening Student Government.

Upon motions duly made, seconded and carried, the Board went into executive session to consider a personnel matter. The public meeting was adjourned at 2:25 P.M.

ACTING SECRETARY ETTA G. GRASS
The Chairperson called the Executive Session to order at 2:26 P.M.

There were present:

James P. Murphy, Chairperson

Bianche Bernstein
Sylvia Bloom
Gladys Carrion
Louis C. Cenu
Michael J. Del Giudice

Stanley Fink
William R. Howard
Harold M. Jacobs
Calvin O. Pressley
Thomas Tam
Brenda Farrow White

Gregorio Mayers, ex officio
Robert A. Picken, ex officio

Etta G. Grass, Acting Secretary of the Board

Dean Richard Barsam
Dr. Albert H. Bowker
Prof. Mohamed Yousef
Ms. Genevieve Mullin

The absence of Mrs. Everett was excused.
Upon motions duly made, seconded and carried, the following resolution was adopted:

NO. E1. THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK – DESIGNATION OF THE CHANCELLOR: RESOLVED, That Dr. W. Ann Reynolds be designated Chancellor of The City University of New York, effective September 17, 1990, at the applicable salary of the Chancellor, subject to financial ability, and that she be appointed Professor with tenure in the Ph.D. Program in Biology at the Graduate School and University Center.

EXPLANATION: Dr. W. Ann Reynolds is recommended by the Search Committee for a Chancellor to the Board of Trustees for appointment as Chancellor of The City University of New York, following the conclusion of an extensive national search. She has served most recently as Chancellor of the California State University system and has many years of experience as a faculty member and university administrator.

Mr. Mayers abstained.

Upon motions duly made, seconded and carried, the Executive Session was adjourned at 2:55 P.M.

ACTING SECRETARY ETTA G. GRASS
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

HELD

JUNE 1, 1990 AT 3:24 PM

AT THE BOARD HEADQUARTERS BUILDING
535 EAST 80TH STREET – BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

The Chairperson called the Special Meeting to order at 3:24 P.M.

There were present:

James P. Murphy, Chairperson

Blanche Bernstein
Sylvia Bloom
Gladys Carrion
Louis C. Cencio

Gregorio Mayers, ex officio

Stanley Fink
William R. Howard
Calvin O. Pressley
Thomas Tam

Robert A. Pickem, ex officio

Robert E. Diaz, General Counsel and Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs
Etta G. Grass, Acting Secretary of the Board

Chancellor Joseph S. Murphy
Deputy Chancellor Laurence F. Muccholo
Vice Chancellor Leo A. Corble
Vice Chancellor Jay Hershenson
Acting Vice Chancellor Richard F. Rothbard
Dave Fields, Esq.
18 Students
Charles Powell, Esq., Counsel to the Students

The absence of Mrs. Everett, Mr. Del Giudice, Dr. Jacobs, and Mrs. White was excused.
The Chairperson stated that the purpose of the meeting grew out of the events of the last twelve days relating to the expression of concern by the students of the University and the occupation of the Headquarters Building last week. A court process resulted in a court order last Thursday that could be characterized as a settlement. Part of the terms of that settlement was for the Board to meet with students to give students an opportunity to express their concerns. The Chairperson stated that the Board is present to hear and to listen. This is a process, and not an event. He hoped that, after hearing from students at this meeting, there will be opportunities in various ways to continue to discuss, to consider, to dialogue with respect to issues currently of concern and certainly issues that may emerge in future.

The Chairperson stated that his understanding was that the thrust of the court order is to offer an opportunity to those eighteen who were named defendants in the court action to express their views, and the Board will hear from those among the eighteen who wish to speak.

Mr. Mayers stated that Carol Bullard-Caros and Onix Sosa would present a statement written and compiled by the students concerned in the issue.

Ms. Bullard-Caros stated that this was not a public meeting but should be closed to everyone but Members of the Board of Trustees and the eighteen student representatives. The presence of anyone else is in violation of the agreement.

Vice-Chancellor Diaz stated that the court order requires that a meeting be held to hear the concerns of the students. There is nothing in it that requires that it be at a closed meeting. In the interests of having the University community hear the concerns of students, the Board has exercised its discretion to have an open meeting. That does not violate the court order.

Ms. Carrion moved to close the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pressley.

In reply to a question from the Chairperson, Vice-Chancellor Diaz stated that the Board had the option of going into a closed session with the eighteen students who were named in the court action.

In response to a request from Mr. Mayers, the Chairperson stated that the Counsel to the students could also remain present.

Upon motions duly made, seconded and carried, the Board went into a closed meeting to hear the concerns of the 18 student representatives. The public meeting was adjourned at 3:35 P.M.

ACTING SECRETARY ETTA G. GRASS
Minutes of Proceedings, June 1, 1990

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD BETWEEN
THE PLAINTIFFS AND DEFENDANTS IN CUNY V. ALVAREZ
IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ORDER OF JUSTICE SHAINSWIT
HELD
JUNE 1, 1990 AT 3:45 PM
AT THE BOARD HEADQUARTERS BUILDING
535 EAST 80TH STREET – BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 3:45 P.M.

There were present:

James P. Murphy, Chairperson

Blanche Bernstein
Sylvia Bloom
Gladys Carrion
Louis C. Cenci

Stanley Fink
William R. Howard
Calvin O. Pressley
Thomas Tam

Gregorio Mayers, ex officio

Robert A. Picken, ex officio

Robert E. Diaz, General Counsel and Vice Chancellor for Legal Affairs
Etta G. Grass, Acting Secretary of the Board

Chancellor Joseph S. Murphy
Deputy Chancellor Laurence F. Mucciolo
Vice Chancellor Leo A. Corble
Vice Chancellor Jay Hershenson
Acting Vice Chancellor Richard F. Rothbard
Dave Fields, Esq.
18 Students
Charles Powell, Esq., Counsel to the Students

The absence of Mrs. Everett, Mr. Del Giudice, Dr. Jacobs, and Mrs. White was excused.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Before commencing the discussion, Ms. Bullard-Caros asked that the vote on the designation of the Chancellor be nullified and that amnesty be granted to all students involved in any occupation of any CUNY building. The students considered the meeting on the Chancellor a meeting in bad faith since that was one of the demands on the students' list. The Board had made a unilateral decision, thereby removing that item from the negotiation process. With respect to the issue of amnesty, the students were not prepared to negotiate "under the gun."

The Chairperson replied that the action taken at the previous meeting of the Board will stand. The matter of amnesty is a discussable item in the context of the students' concerns. The Board is seeking a peaceful and peaceable solution and is anxious to hear the students' concerns.

In reply to the Chairperson's request, Ms. Bullard-Caros read the list of student concerns:

1. There be no tuition increases and no cuts in services.
2. The Chancellor's Search Committee be reopened to include persons of color in the final process.
3. A University-wide policy be established which would protect students against the atrocities of police brutality on college campuses.
4. Medgar Evers College be funded as a senior institution.
5. At Lehman College there be a President to represent the ethnic composition of the Lehman student body.
6. Tuition for foreign students be rolled back immediately to pre-1988 levels.

Ms. Bullard-Caros stated that Lehman has been removed from the list of concerns.

The Chairperson offered to present a tentative list of reactions to the student concerns. Ms. Bullard-Caros stated that the students were not willing to go further until they heard on the first two issues. The Chairperson reiterated that the matter of the selection of the Chancellor would not be reopened and provided tentative reactions to the other items on the list.

The Chairperson stated that he had made his statement on behalf of the Board with respect to the points raised by the students so that the record of the meeting, which was called and ordered by a court would be a complete one. The Board would like to continue the dialogue.

Mr. Mayers stressed the difficulty of the students continuing with the threat of disciplinary action held over them. He urged the Board to grant amnesty to the students.

The Chairperson stated that in order to show good faith, he was prepared to appoint a committee of three Trustees to work with Chancellor Murphy to resolve the amnesty situation without coming back to the Board and this matter to be resolved no later than by the evening of Tuesday, June 5, 1990. He asked Mr. Pressley to chair that committee, and Ms. Carrion and Mr. Cenci to be members of that committee. They would have the power to resolve the amnesty issue that related to the court action with respect to the 80th Street occupation.

The Chairperson read the two-part resolution that the Board was prepared to adopt at its next business meeting with respect to amnesty:
RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees hereby agrees to withdraw immediately the disciplinary charges against the defendants in CUNY vs. Alvarez with respect to the occupation of 535 East 80 Street, which ended on May 25, 1990; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees, having consulted with Pres. Gerald Lynch, hereby agrees to withdraw the student disciplinary charges brought against students for the occupation of North Hall, provided the building is vacated by noon, Saturday, June 2, and full and unimpeded access and control of the building is restored at that time.

Upon motions duly made, seconded and carried, the resolution was adopted by the Board for inclusion in the calendar for its next business meeting.

Ms. Bullard-Caros went back to Item 1 on the student agenda, which dealt with the cuts in service and a tuition increase. The students asked that certain programs be immunized from budget cuts. The students' list included laboratory and library hours, child care, all ethnic programs, women's studies programs, all evening programs, all speech and English as a Second Language programs, all tutoring services and other student services, and all remedial programs. The Chancellor added pre-freshman summer programs to the list.

The Chancellor stated that virtually all of these were highlighted in the University's budget request as high priority items, and virtually all of them will be held harmless. He mentioned freshman year programs and other service programs to reduce the erosion of students in the freshman year. The cuts in the budget were almost exclusively management cuts. The budget is now in the process of being allocated to the colleges. There will be cuts in the senior college budgets and undoubtedly in the community college budgets as well. There will be an attempt to hold immune the items mentioned by the students. The two areas that will have to be watched are women's studies and ethnic studies programs. None of the cuts entail decreases in number of personnel. Therefore, these programs should not be cut. The budget will be allocated to the various colleges, and it is impossible to guarantee that there will be no cuts in some of the areas.

The Chancellor discussed briefly the list of programs presented by the students, indicating that some would undoubtedly have to be cut. It is impossible to address the particular problems on every campus.

The Chairperson presented the following statement:

1. The Board endorses the spirit of the above list of student budgetary concerns.

2. The Board directs the Chancellor in the allocation of the budget to the campuses to take into account and endeavor to incorporate the spirit of the list into each budget.

3. The Board strongly urges the Presidents to include participation of the student governments in the budget allocation process.

4. The Board requests the Presidents to report back to the Chancellor on how the campus budgets have been allocated in accordance with the spirit of the above list.

Upon motions duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

ACTING SECRETARY ETTA G. GRASS