HOSTOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Amendments to the Charter of Governance

RESOLVED, That the proposed amendments to the Charter of Governance of Hostos Community College be adopted, effective July 1, 2014.

EXPLANATION: The amendments to the Charter of Governance (“the Charter”) of Hostos Community College (“Hostos” or “the College”) primarily synchronize the Charter with CUNY policies, reflect current practices, and increase representation in the College Senate. The changes were approved by the College Senate on March 20, 2014 and are recommended by the College President.

As proposed, the Charter would eliminate the Senate’s power to formulate policy recommendations regarding the academic calendar and schedule, since that is decided by CUNY’s Central Office. It would directly reference the Open Meetings in sections on notice of meetings, attendance, and the recording of ballots, in order to ensure that the law’s requirements are understood.

To increase representation, the Charter would add two adjunct faculty representatives to the Senate, as well as increase the number of non-teaching instructional staff (HEO series employees) on committees from one to two, unless otherwise specified in the description of each committee. It also would remove the requirement that student members of the Senate be “full-time.”

Further, the Charter would explicitly require the Senate Chair to have faculty rank or faculty status. It would add a provision that allows for the removal of the entire Senate Executive Committee, including the chair, and specifies that two-thirds of Senate members eligible to vote must sign a petition for such removal. There also are new provisions for amendment of the Charter; a motion to amend could be initiated by the entire Executive Committee or by written petition of at least ten Senators. The Charter would not permit amendment via referendum.

Finally, there are technical changes that would reflect the present names of departments at units at the College, eliminate certain job titles that do not exist at the College, and reformat or reorganize many of the provisions.