

THE COOPER UNION  
MEETING OF THE FACULTY-STUDENT SENATE

Minutes

Regular meeting, November 29, 2016

PRESENT:

Faculty and Library Representatives: Denis Adams, Diana Agrest, Julie Castelluzzo (Secretary), Day Gleeson, Atina Grossmann, Sam Keene (Vice-Chair), James Lowder, Stan Mintchev (Chair), Sohnya Sayres.

Student Representatives: Maya Krtic, Parker Limon, Jeremiah Pratt, Romaniya Voloshchuk, Clara Zinky.

Ex-Officio Members: Acting Dean Mike Essl, Dean William Germano, Acting President & Vice President for Finance and Administration William Mea, Acting Dean Richard Stock, Library Director Carol Salomon.

Guests: Student Monica Abdullah (ChE '17), CUFCT President Peter Buckley, Chair of Engineering Admissions Committee Fred Fontaine, Assistant Dean of Admissions Adrienne Greth, CUFCT Representative Anne Griffin, Vice President of Enrollment Services Mitchell Lipton, Student Trustee Jessica Marshall (EE '17). CUOP President Maren Stange, CUOP officer Alexander (Sasha) Tochilovsky.

The second regular meeting of the 2016-2017 academic year was held on Tuesday, November 29, 2016 in the Peter Cooper Suite on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor of the Foundation Building. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 12:15 p.m. The minutes of the previous meeting (held on October 25, 2016) were read and approved as corrected.

## GENDER DISPARITY IN THE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING: SENATE QUESTIONS FOR DEAN LIPTON AND RELATED DISCUSSION

After introductory remarks by Stan Mintchev, Mitchell Lipton addressed the membership regarding admissions and retention of students, and, in particular, engineering students, referring to data in a document<sup>1</sup> which he had distributed to the members present. Additional geographic breakdown was requested from V.P. Lipton. Following the discussion, Sam Keene introduced a resolution, which was adopted, as follows:

“The Faculty-Student Senate hereby formally requests that the Board of Trustees, Administration, and Office of Admissions and Financial Aid urgently devise a strategic plan to substantially increase the female applicant pool to the School of Engineering, with the goal of implementing this course of action in recruitment efforts for the class of 2021.”

## SEXUAL HARASSMENT AT THE COOPER UNION

Sam Keene provided information on how issues related to incidents of sexual harassment in the School of Engineering were brought to his attention by female students. Discussion followed on topics including Title IX procedures, the extent of the problem, the relationship between a disproportionately male student body and the culture in the School of Engineering, and an upcoming campus climate survey. Atina Grossmann introduced a motion to “form a subcommittee to study the problem of sexual harassment and report back” to the membership. The motion was adopted after debate.

1 [filename] *Faculty Student Senate Notes Women In EngineeringV2.docx*

NATIONAL PETITION ADDRESSING POTENTIAL  
DISCONTINUATION OF DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD  
ARRIVALS (DACA)

Atina Grossmann introduced the following motion, which was adopted:

“The Faculty-Student Senate expresses its strong support for the action of President-Elect Laura Sparks, along with over 300 other U.S. college presidents, in adding her signature on behalf of the Cooper Union, to the public 'Statement in Support of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program and our Undocumented Immigrant Students.'”

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Julie Castelluzzo, Secretary