

PSC Delegate Assembly, December 16, 2021

6:30-9:15

Present:

BATSON	EC	BALUN	C	DEMPSTER	HEO	JAMES	MCC
BOSKET	EC	BARNETT	C	FREEMAN	HEO	JOHNSTONE	MCC
DAVIS	EC	DIRAIMO	C	GALLAGHER	HEO	OFFENHOLLEY	MCC
ELLIOTT- NEGRI	EC	MANO	C	GALLOWAY- PERRY	HEO	ROBERTS	MCC
GABOURY	EC	RUMSCHITZKI	C	JAGIELNICKA	HEO	SMALLWOOD	MCC
HATCHETT	EC	ABDALI	CLT	LEE	HEO	SMART	MCC
JEU	EC	BATIZ	CLT	MILLER	HEO	WALKER	MCC
KANG	EC	ELLIOTT	CLT	OKROSY	HEO	CAMERON BLOOMFIELD-	MEOC
KURTZ	EC	GIRGIS	CLT	PATESTAS	HEO	ALVES	ME
LILLY	EC	GRUBER	CLT	PEREZ	HEO	BEHRENT	NYCT
MARTINEZ	EC	HERTZBERG	CLT	PEREZ-CABEZAS	HEO	CHENG	NYCT
MELTZER	EC	COPE	CSI	RANDALL	HEO	DOUGLAS	NYCT
PERSINGER	EC	GALATI	CSI	RODRIGUEZ	HEO	LOGUERCIO	NYCT
ROMER	EC	KARACAS	CSI	ROMAO	HEO	MACDONALD	NYCT
SANCHEZ	EC	LAWRENCE	CSI	SANTIAGO	HEO	RUDDEN	NYCT
SCHNEE	EC	SILVERBERG	CSI	WAYLER	HEO	SHEPARD	NYCT
SQUILLACOTE	EC	TOURNAKI	CSI	BELCHER	JJ	VEY	NYCT
STEMBERG	EC	DICKINSON	GCC	EPSTEIN	JJ	GENAO	Q
TURNER	EC	BIANCHINO	GS	HOVEY	JJ	GEORGE	Q
UTAKIS	EC	BLAIN	GS	MAJUMDAR	JJ	GERWIN	Q
VASQUEZ	EC	DEVLIN	GS	MARKOWITZ	JJ	GIARDINA	Q
WHARTON	EC	FOUNTAIN	GS	PITTMAN	JJ	WEINGARTEN	Q
WINTER	EC	GRASSMAN	GS	SEXTON	JJ	CLINGAN	QCC
BANK MUNOZ	B	HARAKAWA	GS	CALLY	KCC	ROSENTHAL	QCC
FOX	B	KAGAN	GS	REPETTI	KCC	STARK	QCC
HASHMI	B	MERRIWETHER SHACTER-	GS	ROSSON	KCC	CERMELE	RT
JUHASZ	B	DECHABERT	GS	YARMISH	KCC	DISALVO	RT
MANLOW	B	WOOD	GS	ALEXANDER	L	FRIEDHEIM	RT
NESS	B	BERUBE	H	AUSLANDER	L	FRIEDMAN	RT
CAPLAN	BAR	DEVANY	H	LIZARDI	L	KISSACK	RT
DAVIS	BAR	JOHN	H	WANGERIN	L	KOTELCHUCK	RT
DIGIROLAMO	BAR	KAUFER	H	BEATY	LGCC	MCCALL	RT
GAREIS	BAR	STONE	H	CLEARY	LGCC	NELSON	RT
HERNANDEZ	BAR	BERNARDINI	HCC	COHEN	LGCC	CHAUNG	RF
SINGLETON	BAR	COLON	HCC	CONNERS	LGCC	ROTHSTEIN	RFFU
WINE	BAR	BALLERINI	HEO	KARRAS	LGCC	HANSEN	Y
EDWARDS	BCC	BINK	HEO	CREACO	MCC	HENRY	Y
KOLOZI	BCC	BROWN	HEO	HOFF	MCC	PRITCHARD	Y
ARAM VEESER	C	CHITTY	HEO	HUTCHISON	MCC	SALEK ASEFF	Y

Guest:

Sofya Aptekar
Jay Arena
Holly Clarke
Jeanette Gralau
Carol Lang
Laura Meltzer
Corinna Mullin
Nic Nicoludis
Anthony O'Brien
Peter Ranis
Ian Ross
Nancy Silverman
Kelly Spivey
Lorna Thaxter

Staff:

Faye Alladin
Michele Barreto
Tiffany Brown
Greg Douros
Brian Graf
Dean Hubbard
Sam Lewis
Faye Moore
Ari Paul
Sam Rasiotis
Felicia Wharton
Naomi Zauderer
Eduardo Zevallos
Pete Zwiebach

I Approvals

Agenda and Minutes for November 18, 2021 meeting

Motion: Approve the Agenda [motion: Shauna Vey] **APPROVED**

Motion: Approve the Minutes for November 18, 2021 meeting [motion: Howard Meltzer]
APPROVED

II President's report and discussion - J. Davis

President Davis talked about the December 11th rally in support of a New Deal for CUNY, which had close to 1,000 attendees. He discussed next steps for the campaign, including the work of the campus action teams, expanding support among legislators, and upcoming actions including

helping with the CUNY Rising Alliance's petition with students, a February and a March action. On health and safety, he reported that the union is circulating a petition to the Chancellor regarding flexibility in the spring semester regarding in person work and teaching. Colleges are responding to our FOIL requests for ventilation data, but not all of them, and we are considering an effort to conduct ventilation spot checks in January. If needed, professional staff and librarians should renew their remote work agreements, ideally before their current agreement expires. We need to hold the Chancellor accountable on his statement that colleges should be flexible in scheduling. The union is also creating a web form for people to report issues. Some final updates shared: The NYSUT Representative Assembly is coming up in April. So far the DA has approved four resolutions to bring. The EC approved Professor Jean Grassman as nominee for educator of the year with NYSUT.

Motion: Approve the Spring DA schedule [motion: Howard Meltzer] **APPROVED**

The spring DA's will be held February 17, March 17, April 14, May 19, June 16

III Legislative update: L. Elliott-Negri

Legislative Representative Elliott-Negri reported on the work of the legislation committee, including the work of identifying CUNY champions among City legislators. The union is looking for district captains – the work is 1-2 hours a week in January-July, engaging colleagues where you live about contacting legislators to support NewDeal4Cuny. If we can get 25% on COPE, it would increase our voice at the state capitol.

IV Treasurer's Report—F. Wharton

October Financials

Total Operating Income \$ 1,913,000

Total Operating Expenses \$ 1,531,000

Surplus (Deficit) \$ 382,000

As of October 31, 2021, the financial statement shows an actual two-month surplus of \$362,000 when year to date expenditures is compared with year-to-date income. \$3,195,000 was spent and \$3,557,000 was received over the two-month period.

Motion: Accept the Treasurer's Report [motion: Felicia Wharton; seconded] **APPROVED**

V Executive Directors Report D. Hubbard

Executive Director Hubbard reported on the progress being made toward hiring a new Associate Executive Director and a Director of Contract Enforcement, and the opening of a search for Director of Financial Services. He also shared the election schedule, and the Elections Committee report as follows:

I. The Elections Committee certified the following elections.

A. York: Jake Apkarian elected as alternate delegate on 12/10 replacing Alexander Birk

B. Cara Kronen elected as BMCC alternate delegate on 12/8

MOTION to accept the Elections Committee report (H. Meltzer, seconded). **APPROVED.**

BREAK

VI Report back from Chapter discussions re: "Resolution in Support of the Palestinian People"

As stipulated in the June 10 “Resolution in Support of the Palestinian People,” chapter representatives reported on campus discussions following from the resolution. Representatives from Brooklyn College, College of Staten Island, Retirees, Lehman and Baruch reported back concerning discussions and other actions their chapters took this fall.

VII Resolutions

Build Public Renewable Power Through Expansion of NYPA (for NYSUT
MOTION to accept for submission to the NYSUT RA (Nancy Romer, on behalf of the Environmental Justice Working Group)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

NYSUT supports the Build Public Renewables Act (A1466A/S6453) to expand public power in order to accelerate the transition away from burning fossil fuels for energy; and

NYSUT informs its locals how public power will facilitate democratic accountability and achieve the renewable energy goals for their communities and for NYS.

MOTION APPROVED.

Resolved, that the PSC adopts this new procedure for resolutions (version 2021) with the following additional changes (lines 36-53)

Proposed resolutions-will be-considered if they meet the first and second conditions below, and also satisfy at least one of the remaining conditions:

- 1) A resolution with the same intent has not been passed by PSC, NYSUT, AAUP or AFT.
- 2) The resolution will serve to begin organizing, educating, or activating members around the issues it raises. The resolution should include a plan for such activity and take into account current union priorities and resources.
- 3) The resolution will have a beneficial impact on organizations or individuals with whom the PSC has an established relationship or demonstrable affinity, for instance, a resolution in support of a strike action or one for raising money for a cause.
- 4) The issue addressed in the resolution has a direct bearing on the welfare of our members, for instance, a labor issue, a NYC issue or a higher education issue.

All proposed resolutions must be fact checked according to mechanisms to be further established by the PSC, in order to vet the accuracy and full context of factual claims and the use of unbiased language that purports to be an objective profession of the truth, and that these mechanisms be of the highest intellectual standards and ethical rigor, befitting an academic union.

Resolved, that unless it is deemed urgent by the Delegate Assembly, a resolution introduced at a DA meeting will be debated and voted on no earlier than the next regular DA meeting, allowing delegates the opportunity to review and confer with members in advance of voting. Urgency shall be determined by a two-thirds majority vote of the delegates voting; and be it further

Resolved, in order to “ensure a transparent and democratic process” proposed resolutions not deemed urgent must be submitted to the PSC Executive Council no fewer than 45 days prior to the DA meeting in which it will be debated and voted on, and shared on the PSC website within ten

working days of submission also informing members about how to contact their elected delegates and attend the DA meeting where the debate and vote on the resolution will occur

And be it further

Resolved, that this revision to the Procedures for EC and DA Resolutions signals a collective rededication among Delegates to our commitment to strengthen our union through internal and external solidarity and organizing as we engage all members of the bargaining unit.

Motion: Amend the motion on the floor by substitution [motion: The Executive Council; seconded] **APPROVED**

Motion (Giacomo Bianchino: Postpone discussion of this resolution until the February DA [motion: Giacomo Bianchino; seconded] **FAILED**

Motion: Approve the substitute resolution [motion: The Executive Council; seconded] **APPROVED**

REVISED PROCEDURES FOR EC AND DA RESOLUTIONS

These procedures, effective upon approval, are designed to ensure a transparent and democratic process for submitting resolutions to the Executive Council and Delegate Assembly.

Submitting Resolutions: Responsibilities and Deadlines

- The Delegate Assembly is “the principal governing body of the Professional Staff Congress” (PSC Constitution). The resolutions adopted by the DA become *union policy*. For that reason, delegates are asked to make every effort to develop resolutions through broad-based discussion among members, using the democratic forums of the union, such as chapter meetings or union committees.
- As in the past, only delegates or alternate delegates may submit resolutions to the Delegate Assembly. Resolutions may be submitted on behalf of a chapter, a DA or EC committee, or an individual delegate.
- Committees of the DA should normally submit resolutions to the DA, and committees of the EC should submit resolutions to the EC. Especially complex resolutions are also best submitted to the EC before coming before the DA so they can receive the detailed discussion they require. The DA may also vote to refer resolutions to the EC for further discussion.
- To ensure that a resolution qualifies to be introduced at the relevant meeting, it must be submitted electronically to the PSC Secretary *and* their administrative assistant at resolutions@pscmail.org *at least 10 working days prior to the next scheduled DA or EC meeting*. If the resolution addresses a time sensitive issue, the sponsor should submit the resolution and call the PSC Secretary to request special consideration.
- A resolution introduced at a DA meeting will be placed on the agenda as a regular item subject to debate and voting at the next regular DA meeting, allowing delegates the opportunity to review and confer with members in advance of voting. A resolution can be made a regular item on the agenda of the same meeting at which it has been introduced if a

motion to do so is approved by a two-thirds majority of the delegates voting. Such a motion will not be subject to debate.

- If more than one resolution has been submitted for a DA or EC, resolution(s) that emerge from member-participatory processes, such as committee or chapter meetings, will be considered before those that originated with a single delegate.
- Proposed resolutions should meet the first and second conditions below, and also satisfy at least one of the remaining conditions:
 - 1) A resolution with the same intent has not been passed by PSC, NYSUT, AAUP or AFT.
 - 2) The resolution will serve to begin organizing, educating, or activating members around the issues it raises. The resolution should include a plan for such activity while taking into account current union priorities and resources.
 - 3) The resolution will have a beneficial impact on organizations or individuals with whom the PSC has an established relationship or demonstrable affinity, for instance, a resolution in support of a strike action or one for raising money for a cause.
 - 4) The issue addressed in the resolution has a direct bearing on the welfare of our members, for instance, a labor issue, a NYC issue or a higher education issue.

Proposed resolutions must be fact-checked, copyedited and referenced before being submitted.

Responding to Resolutions: Responsibilities and Deadlines

- Resolutions received by the PSC Secretary and administrative assistant will be acknowledged in writing, electronically, within 48 hours of receipt. (If such acknowledgement is not received, the sponsor of the resolution should contact the PSC Secretary and their administrative assistant.)
- The principal officers will review the proposed resolution for impact on existing PSC policy, technical accuracy and implications for the bargaining unit as a whole. A principal officer or staff member will contact the maker of the resolution in advance of the DA or EC if the officers wish to propose any changes or technical revisions. The maker of the resolution is, of course, free to accept or reject any proposed changes and to bring the original or revised resolution to the floor.
- Copies of the final proposed resolution will be distributed electronically to members of the DA and/or EC at least 48 hours prior to the next scheduled meeting. Every effort will be made to distribute resolutions earlier.
- If the maker of the resolution is not in attendance at the meeting where the resolution is considered, he or she will receive notification of the status of the resolution from the PSC Secretary and/or her administrative assistant no more than two working days after the meeting.
- Resolutions approved by the DA will be uploaded to the PSC website within 2 weeks of approval.

- Within 10 working days after the DA or EC, the PSC Secretary will transmit copies of approved resolutions to any organizations specified in the resolution, such as other unions, community groups or national affiliates, with a copy to the maker of the resolution.
- In the interest of serious consideration of proposed resolutions and to make sufficient time for other union business, the EC and the DA will normally consider no more than two resolutions at any meeting. Resolutions will be prioritized in the order in which they are received, and priority will continue to be accorded to time sensitive resolutions.

Each Resolution Must Include:

- Title
- “Resolved” statement
- “Whereas” statements, if desired
- The name of the maker of the resolution
- Date of submission
- Brief statement of the process leading to the resolution’s approval (e.g., vote at chapter meeting, committee meeting, forum or ad hoc group, with number of participants; individual author).

Revised policy to be in effect February 2022.

VIII Unfinished and New Business

Motion: The PSC shall endorse the Don’t Scab letter from the UAW in solidarity with the Columbia University strikers [Motion: Giacomo Bianchino; seconded] **APPROVED**

Marc Kagan raised the question if the PSC could go back to the NLRB and see if we can get a better ruling on RF units being separate units as opposed to one collective bargaining unit.

IX Adjourn

Motion to adjourn [motion: ; seconded] **APPROVED**