

PSC/CUNY Delegate Assembly

Minutes: June 16, 2011

Present:

Delegates:

BARKER	EC	DUNKEL	CCO	MARKOWITZ	JJ, ALT
BOWEN	EC	LITTLEHAWK	CLT	PITTMAN	JJ, ALT
CERMELE	EC	MCINTYRE	CLT	ROONEY	KCC
DELUTRO	EC	SHERMAN	CLT	FARRELL	L
DESOLA	EC	GRAHAM	CLT, ALT	PHILIPP	L
DIRAIMO	EC	GABOURY	H	EGGER-SIDER	LGCC
FABRICANT	EC	GOLD	H	TANENBAUM	LGCC, ALT
FRIEDHEIM	EC	JOHN	H	CROCCO	MCC
FRIEDMAN	EC	COLÓN	HCC	GRONOWICZ	MCC
LINDSKOOG	EC	PHILLIPS	HCC, ALT	KURTZ	MCC
LONDON	EC	WEISS-LANE	HCC, ALT	MELTZER	MCC
MENNA	EC	ANDREWS	HEO	OFFENHOLLEY	MCC
MORAN	EC	BARRERA	HEO	POST	MCC
NEWFIELD	EC	BRENNAN	HEO	NAVARTNE	MCC, ALT
PANAYOTAKIS	EC	IRONS	HEO	AWOLABI	ME
PEARLMAN	EC	MUCHITA	HEO	PETTAWAY	MEOC
PIMENTEL	EC	PACIFI-ELEJALDE	HEO	JAMES	NYCT
VASQUEZ	EC	RODRIGUEZ	HEO	EISENSTEIN	Q
VITALE	EC	WASHINGTON	HEO	ENGLISH	Q
WEISBLATT	EC	WINTER	HEO	HYLAND	RET
ESTEY	B	CROWNOVER	HEO, ALT	PERLSTEIN	RET
GRASSMAN	B	LILLY	HEO, ALT	SELTZER	RET
HILL	BAR	WEEKES	HEO, ALT	BALMUTH	RET, ALT
MAZZATENTA	BCC	GATES	JJ	FRANK	Y
PERSINGER	BCC	MAJUMDAR	JJ	STAUB	Y, ALT
RANGEL	C	MULDER	JJ		

Staff:

ALLADIN, FAYE	CLARK, FRAN	MURRAY, ROB	TARTLETON, JOHN
BELL, DEBBIE	GABRIEL, BARBARA	PFORDRESHER, KATE	WRIGHT, CAROL
BERGEN, DEBRA	GERGELY, JOHN	ROSATO, DIANA	ZAUDERER, NAOMI
BILLS, JEN	GRAF, BRIAN	SIMMONS, ALISA	ZWEIBACH, PETER
BRILL, DEIRDRE	HOGNESS, PETER		

Guests:

Sandi Cooper (UFS); Berkis Cruz (H); Soloman Kone (LGCC); Danny Shaw (JJ); Mike Vozick (BMCC)

I. Approval of Agenda

A. Agenda

Motion to accept the agenda was approved. (Motion: A. Pearlman; second: C. Post)

B. Minutes – Moved to later in the agenda.

New delegates introduced themselves.

D. Bell introduced Jared Herst, the new Director of Pensions and Employee Benefits who comes to us from TIAA-CREF.

II. Action Item – Nominations and Secret Ballot Election for University-wide Officer
Nominations for University-wide Officer were opened. A. Friedman nominates Michael Spear.
Motion to close nominations was approved. (Motion: A. Pearlman.)
Michael Spear was elected with 72 votes in favor and 1 blank ballot.

III. President's Report and Discussion – Barbara Bowen

B. Bowen reported the following:

- Update on CUNY Bylaws changes – PSC leadership met with CUNY General Counsel and presented the issues raised at our last DA. CUNY agreed to prepare a revised draft, which is nearly ready. The Board of Trustees' vote on the revisions is now scheduled for the end of September. The union has informed CUNY that if the changes still do not respond to our concerns, we will push hard for another delay.
- Board of Trustees reversed its decision to deny Tony Kushner's honorary degree. Kushner spoke twice at the John Jay commencement. The PSC has supported proposed legislation in Albany calling for an independent commission to study nominees to the Board of Trustees.
- General Education - We support the UFS in their efforts to maintain the role of elected faculty governance bodies in formulating curriculum policy, as specified in the Bylaws.
- EC voted to affiliate with NY Neighbors for American Values, which was formed in response to the opposition to Park 51, the Muslim community center nearby.
- EC passed a resolution to recommend to the DA affiliation with the Working Families Party. Discussion will occur at the September DA.
- There have recently been discussions between the Municipal Labor Committee and the City aimed at averting layoffs, especially of teachers. Bowen is involved in those discussions as a vice-chair of the MLC.
- PSC is working to address the impact of budget cuts on CUNY's instructional budget. CUNY is still feeling the impact of last year's budget cuts. There is no resolution on next year's budget for the community colleges. Overall adjunct expenditures are expected to be about the same in 2010 and 2011. However, adjunct expenditures in senior colleges are declining 3.5% from \$340 million to \$335 million, while community college adjunct expenditures (including summer) are increasing (8.2%) from \$72 million in 2010 to a projected \$78 million in 2011. We are planning to contact provosts, labor designees and department chairs to seek further information about the impact of budget cuts on instruction.
- Contract Campaign Advisory Committee met earlier this week and is strategizing to find ways to support the union's contract demands. Budget cuts degrade educational quality

and erode working conditions for all of us. We called on Chancellor Goldstein to address this in our last Labor/Management meeting.

- You have the opportunity to be trained this month as a marshal or a chant leader; please sign up tonight.
- The Board of Trustees hearing at Hostos on Monday, June 20, is a borough hearing where people can speak on any issue. The PSC will deliver testimony.

Motion that the union expand the committee of activists who want to mobilize against adjunct layoffs and to facilitate having that committee work with the contract campaign committee on developing an action plan against the *de facto* layoff of adjuncts and present a timeline for taking that action was approved. (Motion: D. Menna; second: C. Lindskoog)

IV. Administrative Action Items

A. Treasurer's Report – M. Fabricant

Summary of Financial Report for April 2011

Income: \$1,326,000	Expenses: \$1,328,000	Deficit: (\$2,000)
Year-to-date (8 months)		
Income: \$10,531,000	Expenses: \$10,371,000	Surplus: \$160,000

A deficit of \$419,000 was budgeted for eight months. The financial statement, however, reflects an actual eight-month surplus of \$160,000 when year-to-date expenditures are compared with year-to-date income. Over eight months, the PSC spent \$448,000 less in expenses than budgeted and received \$131,000 more income than anticipated. This resulted in a favorable bottom line of \$579,000.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was approved. (Motion: I. DeLutro; second: M. Philipp)

B. Executive Director's Report – D. Bell

- Sarah Hughes is a new Organizer who will start during the summer. You will meet her in September.
- The office will be closed on Fridays from July 1 through mid-August.
- Please visit the website over the summer and think of ways to engage with it to make it a useful organizing tool.

(IB) Approval of Minutes

Motion to accept the May minutes was approved. (Motion: A. Sherman; second: A. Pearlman)

A-N-N-O-U-N-C-E-M-E-N-T-S

V. Reports and Action Items

Legislative Report – S. London

- NYSUT is supporting legislation for increased transparency of the CUNY and SUNY Research Foundations, college foundations, and auxiliary organizations on campuses.
- Extension of 8.25% rate of return for TRS annuity was passed by both houses for another year.
- In the Assembly, there is a bill to increase tuition at a predictable rate for the next 3 years. Discussion about the bill includes maintenance-of-effort funding and funding of mandatory cost increases. London also discussed the Governor’s proposed bill on the subject. Lower-income students wouldn’t have to pay the increase because of TAP, but there would be no way for the University to make up the lost revenue.
- There is no agreement on the property tax cap.
- Adjunct Unemployment Insurance has not moved at all this year.
- The independent trustee legislation that B. Bowen spoke of earlier never got to committee.
- The marriage equality vote is scheduled. The proponents in the Senate are 1 vote shy of being able to pass it at this point.
- Rent control has expired. The Governor and Assembly want to expand rent control; the Senate wants to merely extend it. The Governor is packaging expanded rent control with the property tax cap. If the tax cap goes through, there will be fewer resources from local property taxes for schools and greater demands on the general budget for K-12 education.
- On the City budget, the situation is on hold pending the outcome of the negotiations over averting teacher layoffs, firehouse closings and other consequences of the budget cuts.
- The EC passed a resolution recommending affiliation with the Working Families Party (WFP). In September, you will hear directly from Dan Cantor, the Executive Director of the Working Families Party. The Legislation and Solidarity Committees are strongly supporting affiliation.

VI. New Business

Resolution: CUNY Transfer Policy

Motion to pass the Resolution in Defense of Shared Governance was approved. (Motion: B. Bowen; second: A. Pearlman)

Be it resolved, that the PSC Delegate Assembly calls on the CUNY Board of Trustees to reject the CAPPR “Resolution on Creating an Efficient Transfer System,” and the PSC Delegate Assembly further calls on the Chancellor to enter into good faith discussions with the University Faculty Senate leadership to reformulate the CAPPR resolution so that the University Faculty Senate’s governance role is properly structured into the University’s general education and transfer policy and is in accordance with CUNY Board of Trustees’ Bylaw Article 8.13.

VII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was approved at 8:50pm (Motion: A. Vitale; second: A. Sherman)