

PSC/CUNY Delegate Assembly

Minutes: September 22, 2011

Present:

Delegates:

BARKER	EC	FEIGENBERG	C	PHILIPP	L
BATSON	EC	WILNER	C	EGGER-SIDER	LGCC
BOWEN	EC	DUNKEL	CCO	WALTERS	LGCC
BUCHSBAUM	EC	SCALICI-	CCO	CROCCO	MCC
CERMELE	EC	CARAGIULO	CCO, ALT	FORD	MCC
COHEN	EC	JEU	CLT	GRONOWICZ	MCC
DELUTRO	EC	LITTLEHAWK	CLT	KURTZ	MCC
DESOLA	EC	MCINTYRE	CLT	MELTZER	MCC
DIRAIMO	EC	SHERMAN	CLT	MOORMAN	MCC
FABRICANT	EC	GRAHAM	CLT, ALT	OFFENHOLLEY	MCC
FRIEDHEIM	EC	PETRATOS	CSI	POST	MCC
FRIEDMAN	EC	GABOURY	H	RAUSHER	MCC
GILL	EC	GOLD	H	BERRY	MEOC
LONDON	EC	GOODMAN	H	PETTAWAY	MEOC
MENNA	EC	JOHN	H	CUORDILEONE	NYCT
MORAN	EC	COLÓN	HCC	DOUGLAS	NYCT
NEWFIELD	EC	STEINBERG	HCC	JAMES	NYCT
PANAYOTAKIS	EC	ABREU	HEO	MASON	NYCT
PEARLMAN	EC	CHITTY	HEO	SANUDO	Q
PIMENTEL	EC	GALLAGHER	HEO	BARBANEL	QCC
SPEAR	EC	NELSON	HEO	CESARANO	QCC
VASQUEZ	EC	PACIFI-ELEJALDE	HEO	KUSZAI	QCC
WEISBLATT	EC	WASHINGTON	HEO	MARSH	QCC
ESTEY	B	WU	HEO	MERTZ	QCC
GRASSMAN	B	CROWNOVER	HEO, ALT	SINCLAIR	QCC
WILLS	B	LILLY	HEO, ALT	HOCK	QCC, ALT
HILL	BAR	CLARKE	JJ	KLAU	QCC, ALT
WINE	BAR	GATES	JJ	KOTELCHUCK	RET
DICK	BCC	MAJUMDAR	JJ	LEBERSTEIN	RET
MAZZATENTA	BCC	NARKUNAS	JJ	MCCALL	RET
PERSINGER	BCC	MARKOWITZ	JJ, ALT	PERLSTEIN	RET
WOLF	BCC	NELSON	JJ, ALT	SELTZER	RET
APOSTOLAKIS	BCC, ALT	OKAMOTO	JJ, ALT	BALMUTH	RET, ALT
MUÑOZ	BXEOC	PITTMAN	JJ, ALT	BERGER	RET, ALT
UTAKIS	BXEOC	BARNHART	KCC	WURMAN	RET, ALT
BALDWIN-JONES	C	ROONEY	KCC	CLINE	Y
BARNETT	C	YARMISH	KCC	FRANK	Y

Staff:

ALLADIN, F.	CLARK, F.	HERST, J.	MURRAY, R.	TARTLETON, J.
BELL, D.	GABRIEL, B.	HUGHES, S.	PFORDRESHER, K.	VANDEBURGH, J.
BRILL, D.	GERGELY, J.	MAGALHAES, A.	REILLY, A.	WRIGHT, C.
CHENG, I.	GRAF, B.	MUNOZ, A.	ROSATO, D.	ZAUDERER, N.
			SIMMONS, A.	ZWIEBACH, PETER

Guests:

Dan Cantor (WFP); Oskar Kuszai; Marilyn Neimark (Ret.); Mike Vozick (BMCC)

I. Approvals

A. Agenda

Motion to accept the agenda was approved. (Motion: H. Meltzer; second: A. Sherman)

B. Minutes

The June minutes were distributed; to be voted on in October.

II. President's Report and Discussion – Barbara Bowen

- Visual tribute to John Jay Chapter Chair Carl Williams, who died during the summer. In addition to PSC's \$500, delegates contributed \$532 for his children's scholarship fund. President Bowen thanked the John Jay Chapter Executive Committee for keeping the chapter together.
- Bowen announced that CC Officer Carl Lindskoog resigned this summer to accept a full-time faculty position at Raritan Valley CC. Nominations will be taken and a vote held at the October DA.
- CUNY Bylaws Revision – In response to intense pressure by members organized by the PSC, including a letter signed by nearly 1,000 faculty in a single afternoon, the CUNY Board of Trustees rescheduled the vote on proposed Bylaw revisions from June to September, and now again from September to November; PSC expressed serious concerns about some of the proposed revisions and about the lack of University-wide discussion of the changes.
- There is an agreement in principle with CUNY to make the Paid Parental Leave benefit permanent starting in 2012; still need to finalize the agreement.
- The CUNY Board approved a revised general education/transfer policy in June over substantial and vocal faculty opposition, a resolution of opposition from the University Faculty Senate and more than resolutions from campuses and departments across the University. The PSC is preparing to file litigation against the University's action.
- The report on this summer's research on the impact of budget cuts at the department level, including non-reappointment of adjuncts, will be made at the October DA.
- Upcoming events: The first Labor Goes to the Movies of the year on Friday; PSC-sponsored conference on Defending Public Higher Education on 10/7 at Grad Center; Defending the Social Safety Net Forum on 10/25 sponsored by PSC Retirees Chapter; Forum to announce preliminary findings from CUNY & Race research project in Nov. or Dec.
- Collective Bargaining Update:
 - Continuing to work on various side agreements like continuation of payroll agreement (which included 15 weeks of pay for adjuncts), continuing paid parental leave benefit, various calendar agreements.
 - There has been very little movement and no financial offer from CUNY. Bowen discussed relevant negotiations of other public-employee unions in New York City and State, and the union's collective bargaining strategy in the current political moment.

- PSC is continuing to build a coalition to demand that the richest 3% of New York taxpayers not receive a tax break in December. Bowen discussed the relation between the State’s budget deficit for next year, which could be resolved by continuing “the millionaires’ tax,” and the demand for layoffs and concessionary contracts.
- The Adjunct Health Insurance Campaign is a key component of the PSC contract campaign, one we cannot lose; ensuring health insurance for eligible adjuncts takes on the heart of the labor contradiction in higher education where there are increasing numbers of adjuncts teaching more and more courses with inadequate benefits. After the demonstration on September 26 at the Board meeting, and organizing activities on the campuses in Oct., we will be back at the BOT hearing Nov. 21st maintaining the pressure on CUNY to ensure ongoing funding of adjunct health insurance.

III. Administrative Action Items

A. Treasurer’s Report – M. Fabricant

Summary of Financial Report for July 2011

Income: \$1,129,000	Expenses: \$1,015,000	Surplus: \$114,000
Year-to-date (11 months)		
Income: \$14,245,000	Expenses: \$14,338,000	Deficit: \$93,000

PSC received less income than projected, but spent less than projected, particularly because some staff positions were unfilled and because of adjustments in the reimbursement formula the PSC negotiated with NYSUT.

Motion to accept the May, June and July Treasurer’s reports was approved. (Motion: I. DeLutro; second: J. Pittman)

B. Executive Director’s Report – D. Bell

Staff changes: Jennifer Bills, Organizer, resigned.

New Staff: Ida Cheng, Professional Assistant to the President
 Sarah Hughes, Organizer
 Arsenia Reilly, Coordinator of Contract Administration & Outreach
 Jonathan Vandenburg, Organizer

IV. Reports and Action Items

M. Neimark, Chair of Elections Committee discussed proposed revisions to PSC Election Rules that had been mailed to Delegates and received comments from Delegates.

Motion made to amend Article III 2.d. (Motion: R. Yarmish; second: J. Gallagher) was initially ruled out of order. Motion to consider the amendment at the next DA was tabled. (Motion: J. Gallagher; second: I. DeLutro).

Motion to accept revised Election Rules with minor amendments in language suggested from delegates was approved with no dissenting votes. (Motion: M. Neimark on behalf of Elections Committee)

V. Old Business
None.

VI. New Business

In response to recommendations by the PSC Legislation Committee and the PSC Solidarity Committees, the Executive Council voted to recommend affiliation with the Working Families Party. First V.P. Steve London introduced Dan Cantor, WFP Executive Director, who presented the WFP's history and electoral accomplishments and how it works.

Delegates raised questions and comments. There will be further discussion and a vote on whether or not to affiliate at the October DA.

VII. Treasurer's Report – Part II – Proposed PSC Budget 2011/12 – M. Fabricant

- There will be a budget review meeting before the next DA; at the next DA, Delegates will vote on the proposed budget.
- Last year, PSC projected 5% growth; this year only 3% growth.
- The budget reflects the union's political priorities, such as support for campaigns for increased funding for CUNY, for a strong collective bargaining agreement, for funding of adjunct health insurance, for defense of our members' rights and responses to their needs.
- It also reflects areas of growth and new initiatives.
- Increased expenses this year: the cost of university-wide elections, an intense contract campaign and work related to new space needed for additional staff, among other increases.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was approved. (Motion: M. Fabricant; second: R. Cermele)

Respectfully submitted,



Arthurine DeSola

Secretary