

Resolution IN SUPPORT OF “JOURNEY OF HOPE”

*Resolution to the Delegate Assembly – 04/25/02
Submitted by: Susan Schindler, Department of Mathematics, Baruch College
Passed by the PSC Delegate Assembly 04/25/02*

Whereas in recent weeks and days, grave concerns about the implementation of the death penalty have been raised by the exoneration of the 100th death row prisoner in the United States; and,

Whereas the Illinois panel commissioned by Governor Ryan of Illinois called for a sweeping overhaul in that state’s death penalty system and a majority of members of that panel called for an outright abolition of the death penalty; and,

Whereas numerous studies have documented many problems with the fairness, specifically racially discriminatory applications, in the implementation of the death penalty in the United States; and,

Whereas New York State now has a death penalty statute. Although there have been no executions under this statute, there are currently 6 prisoners on death row in this state; and,

Whereas there are problems with the legal process, including inequities in determining when the death penalty is sought by prosecutors and a reduction in funding of the state’s Capital Defender Office; and,

Whereas a pending Resolution in the New York City Council urges a moratorium on the death penalty; and,

Whereas members of the “Journey of Hope: From Violence to Healing,”* parents and children of murder victims who oppose the death penalty, will be appearing in New York City over the next few days along with people exonerated after spending years in prison, convicted of murder; and,

Whereas the PSC wishes to encourage further discussion of this issue; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Professional Staff Congress goes on record in support of events that promote a dialogue on the death penalty, including the Journey of Hope, and urges its members to attend a Journey of Hope event.