

Testimony for Board of Trustees Hearing
May 08, 2023
Stuart Davis

Dear Members of the CUNY Board of Trustees,

My name is Stuart Davis, I am an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication Studies at Baruch College. I am also the PSC chapter chair at Baruch College.

I'm here to discuss the lack of funding to hire full-time faculty and professional staff, particularly during the so-called "hiring freeze" announced in February 2023 by Executive Vice Chancellor Batista. As chapter chair I'm frustrated and saddened when hearing about jobs that were not filled this year. I'm concerned when faculty colleagues tell me that a full-time line in their department that would potentially help them maintain accreditation is frozen indefinitely. I'm saddened when I hear about staff colleagues in areas like adjunct services retiring because I know that they will not be replaced. Their work will be redistributed among existing employees, creating additional workload pressures.

Finally, I'm inspired by the CUNY students on my campus and across the system who are tabling on campus, protesting in Baruch's main plaza, and leading marches across the Brooklyn Bridge to fight for better funding for our university. To all members of the Board of Trustees: If the students can fight, why can't you?

Thank you.