

**Testimony of Lynne Turner**  
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**PSC-CUNY Vice-President for Part-time Personnel**  
**CUNY Board of Trustees Hearing at LaGuardia Community College**  
**May 8, 2023**

The recently adopted NY State Budget for CUNY increases the operating budget by more than \$100 million, contains more than a billion dollars in new capital funding and commits to INCREASES in CUNY funding over the next two years. While falling short of all of the transformative elements within New Deal for CUNY legislation, which also includes free tuition, community college support, major increases in hiring of full-time faculty and advisors, capital expenditures, and pay parity for adjunct faculty, it demonstrates the prospect for building upon CUNY's stature as the "Greatest Urban University in the World" and the fallacy of the "there is no alternative" austerity cuts demanded by the CUNY administration. It's time to rescind these cuts which undermine CUNY's essential mission to educate the whole people of New York City and which put a target on the backs of adjunct jobs. Rescind the cuts. Increase investment in teaching and learning instead.

Our ambitious PSC CUNY bargaining agenda casts its vision high towards the realization of the people's university that CUNY students, workers and communities need and deserve. For those in part-time positions - teaching and non-teaching adjuncts, CLT's and graduate workers – many laboring for decades to serve our students this agenda includes provisions for just compensation, job security, stable expanded benefits and access to full-time positions. Come to the table with the PSC and negotiate a just contract.

Be bold. Reject the austerity cuts. No layoffs, no loss of health insurance, no increased workload, and no increased class size. No more missing adjuncts, missing advisors, missing full-time faculty positions and more. Our students deserve more. Fulfill your mandate to protect and preserve the historic mission of CUNY to serve the working class communities of New York City.