

PSC Delegate Assembly

March 26, 2026

Minutes

PRESENT:		ABDALI	CLT	MINOR	HEO	HARRIS	NYCT	STAFF:
BATSON	EC	BATIZ	CLT	NORMAN	HEO	OLERICH	NYCT	AMER
BOSKET	EC	HOPE	CLT	PATESTAS	HEO	SHEPARD	NYCT	CORDERO
DAVIS, J	EC	WALLIS	CLS	PEREZ	HEO	STANDING	NYCT	DAMIANI
DEMPSTER	EC	BARDSLEY	CSI	RANDALL	HEO	WALLJASPER	NYCT	FARKAS
GABOURY	EC	CONTRERAS	CSI	RODRIGUEZ	HEO	CHECKER	Q	FONTES
GALLOWAY-PERRY	EC	COPE	CSI	SADHU	HEO	DORAN	Q	GRAF
JAMES	EC	OZEN	CSI	SHAHIDI	HEO	GUSKIN	Q	HERRICK
KANG	EC	THORNE	CSI	SUE	HEO	HAZAS	Q	LASHLEY
LEWIS	EC	APTEKAR	GC	YEBOAH	HEO	SCHNUR	Q	SALAS
LILLY	EC	DUFF	GC	CLARKE	JJ	SHALKOWSKI	Q	SILVA
OFFENHOLLEY	EC	GOLDBERG	GC	HOVEY	JJ	TUMMINO	Q	VARRONE
PERSINGER	EC	GRASSMAN	GC	MARKOWITZ	JJ	MARCHESE	QCC	
ROMER	EC	HARRIS	GC	MOONEY	JJ	CHAUNG	RFCO	
SCHNEE	EC	PARADISO	GC	MULLIN-ROUABAH	JJ	JAMES	RFFU	
SEO	EC	ROTHMAN	GC	PITTMAN	JJ	COHEN, L	RT	
STEMBERG	EC	BAINES	GCC	VANCE	JJ	FRIEDMAN	RT	
STEPHENS	EC	JOHN	H	CALLY	KCC	KISSACK	RT	
TURNER	EC	KILKENNY	H	ESPINET	KCC	MCCALL	RT	
VASQUEZ	EC	STONE	H	SPEAR	KCC	NEWFIELD	RT	
WHARTON	EC	BENCIVENNI	HCC	ALEXANDER	L	PRITCHARD	Y	
ENTIN	B	BERNARDINI	HCC	AUSLANDER	L	SALEK ASEFF	Y	
FOX	B	CASEY	HCC	BELL	L	GUEST:		
HASHMI	B	ADAMS	HEO	LIZARDI	L	FERA	HEO	
LUDOVICI	B	ALI	HEO	WANG	L	FONTENELLE	HEO	
MANLOW	B	ANGELOPOULOS	HEO	BASTAS	LGCC	ITALIE	GC	
SCHILLER	B	BALLERINI	HEO	BEATY	LGCC	JEU	CLT	
SNYDER	B	BERCO	HEO	CONNERS	LGCC	LOW	BAR	
TOUVAL	BAR	BLOCK	HEO	DURAND	LGCC	MACDONALD	NYCT	
WINE	BAR	BROWN	HEO	KARRAS	LGCC	MAGUIRE	HEO	
DUNCAN	BCC	CAMPBELL	HEO	TANENBAUM	LGCC	MARTINEZ	H	
LANG	BCC	COLEMAN	HEO	ALAPO	MCC	MCCRIE	JJ	
DUNSON	BEOC	DAVEY	HEO	CREACO	MCC	RANIS	RT	
CORCORAN	BXOC	GALLAGHER	HEO	GARTE	MCC	SERDIUK	HEO	
BARNETT	C	HEGNER	HEO	GRONOWICZ	MCC	STARK	QCC	
CAPPETTI	C	KEIER	HEO	SMALLWOOD	MCC			
CARDWELL	C	LANG	HEO	HERRERA	ME			
DAVIS	C	LEE, T	HEO	LASHLEY	ME			
DIRAIMO	C	LLAMAS	HEO	BEHRENT	NYCT			
HUANG	C	MARES	HEO	BISWAS	NYCT			
SINANOVIC	C	MARSHALL	HEO	DECOUX	NYCT			

I. Approvals

A. Agenda

MOTION: To approve the agenda (Motion: J. Gallagher; seconded) **APPROVED.**

B. Minutes - February

MOTION: To approve the February 2026 DA minutes (Motion: J. Gallagher; seconded) **APPROVED.**

II. Executive Council vacancy election

President Davis called for nominations for the University-wide officer vacancy.

Kevin Adams and Jasmina Sinanovic accepted nominations. Candidates agreed to hold the election at tonight's DA meeting and have it conducted by PSC staff. Each nominee was given three minutes to introduce themselves and each was allowed two supporters to speak to their nominations.

III. President's Report and discussion - J. Davis

A. Federal Fightback

The current political climate has raised public awareness and led to organized resistance. Members were encouraged to see upcoming actions as connected steps in a larger, long-term plan. This plan covers key moments, starting with immediate mobilizations, then May Day and Labor Day, moving through the midterm elections, and leading up to contract talks in 2027. As part of this, the "No Kings" national demonstration on March 28 is expected to draw a large crowd as a major coalition event and is a chance to build momentum for May Day.

Regarding academic freedom, the "Fired Four" campaign has made significant progress, with three of the four affected individuals reinstated. A recent large-scale demonstration, including the delivery of 5,000 letters to university leadership, is evidence of strong member engagement and growing pressure on the CUNY administration. This campaign is both a fight for individual reinstatement and a broader effort to resist a chilling effect on academic expression and rights.

The New York City Council passed Intro 175-B, called a "buffer zone" bill. The law requires the NYPD to develop a plan for security perimeters around educational facilities during protests. Members were commended for contacting City Council representatives about this bill. The union's efforts succeeded in weakening the bill and reducing its support. This leaves open the possibility of a mayoral veto. The outcome is a partial but meaningful victory, showing the impact of coordinated member action.

Secretary Vásquez highlighted the growth and impact of the union's immigrant solidarity work, noting that initiatives such as court watch and community organizing have increased the union's visibility and strengthened partnerships with other unions and coalitions. Over the past 10 months, nearly 400 individuals have been trained, with 265 members participating in court watch, resulting in over 900 court visits and support for thousands of individuals. This work has also activated many previously uninvolved members, who have since engaged in broader union efforts, including advocacy and direct action. Organizing has expanded to approximately 17

campuses, with successful events led by new activists and increased collaboration with community organizations. The union is also launching a campaign to establish Immigrant Student Success Centers across all campuses that do not yet have one. A mass meeting is planned to garner increased participation.

B. Tax the Rich Rally & May Day

The urgency of taxing the wealthy was emphasized, citing a recent transfer of wealth driven by federal policy that resulted in substantial tax savings for top earners, including an estimated \$12 billion for New York millionaires alone. Some labor unions have supported this effort, but broader and more vocal backing across the labor movement is still needed. Members were encouraged to attend an upcoming rally at Lehman College featuring a prominent national figure. The rally aims to pressure state leadership, particularly the governor, to reconsider their opposition to tax increases as the state budget deadline approaches. A strong turnout would signal public demand for action.

Building on this momentum, a newly approved national higher education policy and action document from the American Federation of Teachers represents both a strategic vision and an organizing tool. It is intended to guide advocacy, resource allocation, and long-term rebuilding of the higher education sector.

Similarly, ongoing May Day organizing shows how labor can play a pivotal role in efforts traditionally led by community groups. A large-scale mobilization is planned with a goal of tens of thousands of participants citywide and at least 1,500 PSC members participating in one way or another. Members are organized through a structured campaign that includes appointing “May Day captains,” conducting outreach and education, and participating in events leading up to May 1. These efforts are framed not only as a demonstration of labor’s strength but also as a critical test of organizing capacity in response to broader political challenges.

C. Contract Implementation

President Davis gave an update on the upcoming implementation of contractual provisions, emphasizing new equity-based compensation increases in addition to the negotiated across-the-board raises.

D. Membership Challenge & 2025 Full-Timer and Part-Timer analysis - A. Vásquez

There’s been a slight decline in overall membership among part-time and full-time employees compared to the previous year. Members were encouraged to review shared data to understand where declines are occurring and focus on those areas, as well as on new hires. There has also been some growth, with 195 new members joining over three months.

Marlena Fontes, the organizing director, outlined a plan to strengthen recruitment through expanded outreach and training, including campus-based sessions and a union-wide training on conducting one-on-one conversations. Updated “walk lists” help identify where and when colleagues are working to support targeted outreach, though data limitations were noted. Members were urged to take initiative in contacting non-members, aiming for each delegate to

sign up at least five new members. An intensified organizing push is planned for the end of April, with union staff and members conducting coordinated outreach tied to membership growth and May Day mobilization. May Day was framed as a key organizing test.

E. Legislative Report - H. James

Advocacy continues at the state and city levels this budget season. Members joined several trips to Albany for hearings, lobby meetings, and rallies, including a major "Tax the Rich" demonstration, where the union was a leading presence. Other efforts included joining the NYSUT Committee of 100 and supporting Tier 6 pension reform, which affected most state workers. Recent Senate and Assembly budget proposals feature significant new revenue and greatly increased funding for CUNY and SUNY infrastructure over the governor's proposal, though pressure must continue.

Sustained organizing, including phone banking, canvassing, and coalition work, remains crucial to advancing tax equity measures and encouraging city legislators to take a leading role. In addition, efforts are underway to promote "fair share" legislation to expand the city's ability to raise revenue for public services, including higher education. At the city level, members have participated in rallies, hearings, and lobby meetings to advocate for CUNY funding, working closely with supportive City Council leadership. There is also ongoing political engagement through endorsement processes for upcoming elections.

IV. Administrative Items

A. Treasurer's Report - F. Wharton

Summary for Jan 2026:

Total Operating Income: \$ 1,764,000
Total Operating Expenses: \$ 1,685,000
Surplus (Deficit): \$ 79,000

Year-To-Date (5 months): As at Jan 31st 2026, the financial statements show an operating surplus of \$390,000. For the year ending Jan 31st year-to-date income is \$9,416,000 and year-to-date expenditure is \$9,026,000.

MOTION: To accept the January 2026 Treasurer's Report (Motion J. Gallagher; seconded) APPROVED.

B. Executive Director's Report - M. Silva

Amended Feb report

Elections Committee Report:

I. The committee certified the nominating petition for the Research Foundation Central Office special election.

II. University-wide Executive Council Officer vacancy: Luke Elliott Negri is no longer employed by CUNY.

III. HEO Chapter Alternate Delegate vacancies: Tanit Lang and Theoni Angelopoulos moved into Delegate positions, replacing Rachel Ramirez and Alex Romeo. Two Alternate delegate positions are open.

IV. NY City Tech Delegate vacancy: Colleen Birchett is no longer on payroll.

ELECTION SCHEDULE: (this applies to the special election held for the RF field units, different from the RF central office):

1. Tuesday, February 17, 2026, 5:00 PM – Deadline for completed nominating petitions to be received at elections@pscmail.org.
2. Monday, March 2, 2026, 5:00 PM — Ballots will be emailed to members and mailed upon request.
3. Monday, March 16, 2026, 5:00 PM — Deadline for submission of ballot

March report

I. 2026 Spring Chapter Elections: The committee voted to accept nominating petitions for all slates and the following individual candidates,

Slates:

Baruch New Caucus Slate
Brooklyn College New Caucus Plus Unaffiliated Slate
Bronx CC Catalyst Slate
City College New Caucus Slate
CLT Chapter New Caucus Slate
Graduate Center GC United Slate
Guttman Stronger Together Slate
Hostos CC New Caucus Slate
Hunter College New Caucus Slate
John Jay College New Caucus Slate
LaGuardia CC New Caucus Slate
Queens College Unity and Power Slate
York Action Caucus Slate

Individual Candidates:

Hunter College: Sandor John
John Jay College: Nathaniel Wright

There are no contested elections.

Remainder of the 2026 Spring Election Schedule:

MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2026 — Ballots will be emailed to members and mailed to home addresses upon request.

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026, 5:00 PM — Deadline for return of ballots.

TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2026, 10:00 AM – Ballots counted.

II. Research Foundation Central Office Chapter Special Election

The election was uncontested and was conducted electronically. There were 38 votes in favor of the RFCO One Team Slate, and no votes against.

The slate consisted of the following candidates:

Chapter Chair: Orlando Liang Chen, Grants & Contracts

Chapter Vice Chair: Alexis Davis, Grants & Contracts

Secretary: Charles Chaung, SIS

Officers at Large: Barbara Rose, Procurement and Payables

III. QC Delegate Vacancy: Christopher John Williams resigned as delegate and will be replaced by alternate delegate Teresa Hazas.

Executive Council Vacancy Election Results

130 votes

87 Kevin Adams

43 Jasmina Sinanovic

Motion to accept the Elections Committee report (Motion: R. Galloway-Perry; seconded) **APPROVED.**

V. Resolutions

Resolution on AI - Executive Council - Introduction

Resolved that the PSC with the passage of this resolution, acknowledges and endorses resolutions on AI put forth by the AAUP Artificial Intelligence and Academic Professions and the UUP Resolution on the incursion of artificial intelligence companies into public education; and further be it

Resolved that the PSC, through the LMCET and in conjunction with members of the University Faculty Senate, will fight to keep the use of AI aligned with CUNY governance structures and will educate members widely about the risks and threats that AI poses to our members' jobs, the educational professions, and our communities; and further be it

Resolved that the PSC will seek to collaborate with AAUP, UUP, other higher education unions and unions in other sectors, to use activism and the passage of legislation to: fight for the protection and preservation of human labor, organize against the overutilization of technology, fight for the responsible integration of AI in the workplace, fight against worker surveillance and the loss of intellectual property

and institutional knowledge, and to seek transparency in the purchasing of systems that rely excessively and/or solely on artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies to operate; and further be it

Resolved, the PSC will organize against the impact of AI that may violate already established laws and regulations regarding: discrimination, hate speech and hate crimes, confidentiality, disabilities, and economic inequality.

MOTION: To consider the above resolution at this meeting (Motion: B. Davey; seconded) **FAILED to receive required 2/3 vote.**

VI. Announcements

Derek Ludovici announced an Adjunct happy hour at Sycamore Bar on Tuesday the 31st.

Kevin Adams reminded delegates about the Board of Trustees borough hearing on April 6 at City Tech; members encouraged to testify or attend in support of health and safety issues. Registration will close at 12pm on April 3.

Carole Harris announced a health and safety “state of emergency” event planned for April 22 (Earth Day), pending location confirmation. Also, a small contingent of health and safety activists are planning to meet with some city council members including Rita Joseph.

Megan Behrent announced an Academic freedom event on April 27 at the Graduate Center featuring Thomas Alter and a reinstated member of the “Fired Four”.

Evan Rothman announced an informal post-meeting gathering at the Blarney Stone to talk next steps after the latest grievance hearing for the last of the “Fired Four”.

Theoni Angelopoulos announced an Adjunct speak-out on April 30 across multiple campuses and online to promote cross-title solidarity between part-timers and full-timers.

Carole Harris shared that Thomas Chung, HEO at City Tech, was on the Air Canada plane that crashed at LaGuardia airport and had been hospitalized.

VII. Adjourn

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting (Motion: J. Gallagher; seconded) **APPROVED.**