

PSC Delegate Assembly
June 18, 2026
Minutes

PRESENT:		ABDALI	CLT	BORNSTEIN	JJ	WEEKES	Q
ADAMS	EC	AUSTRIA	CLT	CLARKE	JJ	STARK	QCC
BATSON	EC	BATIZ	CLT	HOVEY	JJ	LIANG CHEN	RFCO
BOSKET	EC	HOPE	CLT	MULLIN-ROUABAH	JJ	JAMES	RFFU
DAVIS	EC	JEU	CLT	VANCE	JJ	CERMELE	RT
DEMPSTER	EC	WALLIS	CLS	WRIGHT	JJ	COHEN	RT
GABOURY	EC	BARDSLEY	CSI	CALLY	KCC	DISALVO	RT
GALLOWAY-PERRY	EC	FLANAGAN	CSI	ENAMORADO III I	KCC	FRIEDMAN	RT
JAGIELNICKA	EC	CIPOLLITTI	GC	SHAH	KCC	GREENBAUM	RT
JAMES	EC	GERACI	GC	SPEAR	KCC	KISSACK	RT
LEWIS	EC	MORRELL	GCC	AUSLANDER	L	MCCALL	RT
OFFENHOLLEY	EC	HARDIE	H	LIZARDI	L	NEWFIELD	RT
PERSINGER	EC	JOHN	H			GARLEY	Y
SCHNEE	EC	SCHALLER	H	BEATY	LGCC	HANSEN	Y
SEO	EC	BENCIVENNI	HCC	CLEARY	LGCC	MEDDEB	Y
SHACTER-DECHABERT	EC	BERNARDINI	HCC	GROSSMAN	LGCC	SALEK ASEFF	Y
STEMBERG	EC	DEVERNA	HCC	TALLY	LGCC		
STEPHENS	EC	HERNANDEZ VALDE	HCC	TANENBAUM	LGCC	GUEST:	
TURNER	EC	ANGELOPOULOS	HEO	ACOSTA	MCC	ETHIER	LGCC
VASQUEZ	EC	BALLERINI	HEO	ALAPO	MCC	SMOLARSKI-HEIMS	NYCT
WHARTON	EC	BERCO	HEO	GARTE	MCC		
WOOD	EC	BLACKWELL	HEO	SMALLWOOD	MCC	STAFF:	
ALBARILLO	B	BROWN	HEO	WALKER	MCC	CABRERA	
FERHOLT	B	COLEMAN	HEO	LASHLEY	ME	CORDERO	
LUDOVICI	B	DAVEY	HEO	SNOWDEN	ME	DOAN	
REGALADO	B	GALLAGHER	HEO	CAMERON	MEOC	FONTES	
SCHILLER	B	HEGNER	HEO	BEHRENT	NYCT	HERRICK	
AUBRY	BAR	LEE	HEO	CHENG	NYCT	KAPLOWITZ	
GITTER	BAR	LLAMAS	HEO	HARRIS	NYCT	LASHLEY	
HUDSON	BAR	MAGUIRE	HEO	LOGUERCIO	NYCT	LEWIS	
JAMA	BAR	MARSHALL	HEO	MACDONALD	NYCT	PAUL	
RICE	BAR	MINOR	HEO	OLERICH	NYCT	PINCKNEY	
WINE	BAR	NORMAN	HEO	SMOLARSKI-HEIMS	NYCT	VARRONE	
CALATHES	BCC	OKROSY	HEO	STANDING	NYCT		
DUNCAN	BCC	ORDAZ	HEO	WALLJASPER	NYCT		
LANG	BCC	PEREZ	HEO	CHECKER	Q		
CORCORAN	BXOC	RANDALL	HEO	DORAN	Q		
DAVIS	C	RODRIGUEZ	HEO	HALABI	Q		
DIRAIMO	C	SADHU	HEO	LUCKEN	Q		
FORSYTHE	C	SERDIUK	HEO	MACDOUGALL	Q		
KIDD	C	STEVENSON	HEO	SHALKOWSKI	Q		
SINANOVIC	C	YEBOAH	HEO	TUMMINO	Q		

Remembrance of Tony Gronowicz and Jack Judge

President Davis acknowledged the recent deaths of longtime PSC members Tony Gronowicz and Jack Judd. Members remembered Gronowicz as a dedicated BMCC delegate, adjunct advocate, International Committee member, and union activist, and Judd as a longtime Lehman faculty member, retiree chapter leader, and early member of the Social Safety Net Committee. Their union service and commitment were recognized.

I. Approvals

A. Agenda

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

B. Minutes - May

MOTION: To approve the May 2026 DA minutes (Motion: M. Price; seconded) **APPROVED.**

C. Fall 2026 DA meeting dates

Thursdays, Hybrid 6:30

- September 17
- October 22
- November 19
- December 17
- January 21

MOTION: To approve the Fall 2026 DA meeting dates (Motion: K. Adams; seconded) **APPROVED.**

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

A. Federal Fightback

The federal Office of Management and Budget has proposed a rule, Regulation for Federal Financial Assistance, that would shift authority over federally administered grants away from academic and disciplinary experts and toward political appointees. The proposal could restrict research and collaboration that do not align with the administration's policy agenda, including work involving public health, climate science, diversity, international collaboration, and other politically targeted areas. PSC will hold a member Zoom meeting on July 1 at 5:30 p.m. to support individualized public comments, congressional outreach, and organizing through the PSC Working Group to Defend Research. President Davis also plans to urge CUNY's research and academic leadership to respond publicly and work with the union against the proposal.

Secretary Vásquez reported on immigrant solidarity work, including PSC-supported organizing at Delaney Hall, court watch, accompaniment of students to ICE check-ins, and campus petitioning for immigrant student success centers. The petition campaign for immigrant student success centers on every campus collected more than 3,000 signatures, and LaGuardia and Kingsborough announced they would open centers. Hostos members are beginning neighborhood outreach to local businesses. This work will continue through the summer and intensify in the fall amid expanding federal detention and enforcement activity and the indictment of activists in Minnesota.

B. State and City budgets

The late state budget and compressed legislative session limited progress on several priorities, including substantial new taxes on wealthy individuals and corporations. The final budget increased state operating aid to CUNY, fully covered collective-bargaining increases, added \$7.3 million for community colleges, and included approximately \$18 million in programmatic increases. The state Reconnect program was expanded to City Tech, Medgar Evers College, and the College of Staten Island, extending access to tuition-free associate-degree programs in high-need fields. The state again declined to authorize a general increase in in-state CUNY tuition.

C. Legislative Report - H. James

Several legislative priorities were outlined that did not pass this session but remain PSC advocacy goals for the next session. These include reducing the teaching credit hour requirement for contingent faculty to qualify for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, advancing the PSC's pension bill, codifying academic freedom protections, and introducing a student free transit bill based on an existing program for younger students.

Regarding the city budget, CUNY had previously testified to filling only 45 of approximately 1,000 vacancies. At the recent executive budget hearing, CUNY officials could not provide updated information on the number or location of vacancies. City Council Higher Education Committee Chair Rita Joseph and other Council members, including Lincoln Restler, requested further details. The PSC is circulating a Council sign-on letter urging CUNY to address these vacancies and is collaborating with Chair Joseph on legislation that would require CUNY to report data on current vacancies and its plans and timeline for filling them.

The PSC continues to advocate for its overall budget priorities, with a particular focus on staffing. Despite restored funds and the Mayor's executive budget baselining an additional \$15 million in general operating support, CUNY still faces significant faculty and staff vacancies. The PSC is urging CUNY to use available resources to rebuild staffing, especially as the University expands programs that require adequate faculty and staff.

Delegates were reminded of the upcoming primary election and Get Out the Vote (GOTV) opportunities for PSC-endorsed congressional and legislative candidates. The PSC endorsements page lists NYSUT and Working Families Party endorsements and has information on the candidates and ways to get involved. The PSC Action Fund, formerly Vote COPE, spending grew from about \$50,000 in 2023 to \$80,000 in 2024 and nearly \$150,000 in 2025. The Action Fund is separate from union dues and relies on voluntary contributions. In addition to supporting candidates directly, the fund also contributes to allied organizations and independent expenditure campaigns. Delegates were encouraged to contribute to sustain and expand the PSC's political and electoral work.

The City Council Higher Education Committee held an oversight hearing on racial equity at CUNY, providing an important opportunity to publicly examine CUNY's record and hold the University accountable for its hiring and retention practices. Treasurer Wharton testified on the need for greater investment in recruiting and retaining Black and Brown faculty and staff, citing declines in Black faculty at City Tech and Hispanic faculty at Hostos. She emphasized the importance of faculty diversity for CUNY students and raised the additional

service and mentoring responsibilities often placed on Black and Brown faculty, known as “cultural taxation,” which the PSC will again seek to address through contract negotiations.. The hearing provided the PSC and other members of the CUNY community an opportunity to place these concerns on the public record and press for concrete action on racial equity.

D. Membership and summer drive - A. Vásquez

PSC enrolled 379 new members during the year to date, including 156 teaching adjuncts, 115 HEOs, and 46 full-time faculty members. Hunter, City College, Baruch, and the Graduate Center accounted for the largest numbers of new members. Membership recruitment remains fundamental to strengthening the union.

Organizing Director Marlena Fontes outlined the summer membership campaign. PSC will prioritize strategic outreach to HEOs, adjuncts teaching summer courses, full-time faculty, and adjunct CLTs, focusing first on people hired after 2017. The campaign identified approximately 790 non-member HEOs, 330 non-member adjunct CLTs, and 854 non-member full-time faculty. Full-time CLT membership density was reported at 93 percent, compared with approximately 30 percent among adjunct CLTs. Members were asked to join campus walkarounds and phone banks, contact full-time faculty, and help organizers improve nonmember lists. Two intensive drives are planned, including one the following week and another from July 27 through July 31.

E. May Day Strong St. Louis convening

PSC members reported on their participation in the May Day Strong convening, which united labor unions, community organizations, faith groups, racial justice and immigrant rights organizations, and other partners nationwide to discuss organizing strategies for the coming months. The event focused on a “build and block” framework: strengthening organizations and networks to create a more equitable society, while using collective economic action and solidarity to oppose harmful policies and practices.

Participants stressed the need for ongoing collaboration across organizations and stronger organizing networks within the PSC and with labor and community partners. They also underscored the importance of including underrepresented groups, such as people with disabilities, in coalition efforts. The convening was discussed in the context of broader labor organizing leading up to 2028, including the UAW’s call for coordinated contract expirations and potential strike actions. Members noted that, although the Taylor Law restricts some PSC actions, the union can continue to strengthen its internal organizing and support partners involved in collective action.

F. Celebrating Juneteenth and All Roads Lead to the South

Treasurer Wharton and Rulisa Galloway-Perry, HEO chapter co-chair, reported on participating in an AFT delegation to the All Roads Lead to the South mobilization in Montgomery, Alabama, supporting Black voting rights. The event was part of the response to ongoing threats to voting protections and the start of a broader Freedom Summer voter-mobilization effort. In recognition of Juneteenth, members were encouraged to reflect on freedom as an unfinished project that requires continued participation, courage, and commitment from the labor movement.

III. Administrative Items

A. Treasurer's Report - F. Wharton

Summary for Apr 2026:

Total Operating Income: \$ 1,898,000

Total Operating Expenses: \$ 1,795,000

Surplus (Deficit): \$ 103,000

Year-To-Date (8 months) :

As at April 30th 2026, the financial statements show an operating surplus of \$972,000. For the period ending Apr 30th the year-to-date income is \$15,098,000 and year-to-date expenditure is \$14,126,000.

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

IV. Committee reports

Health & Safety Watchdogs

Jean Grassman reported that volunteer Health and Safety Watchdogs serve across CUNY campuses to hold the University accountable for healthy and safe working conditions, including air quality, ventilation, building conditions, workplace stress, noise, and workplace violence. She reviewed the committee's State of Emergency campaign concerning unsafe conditions at Brooklyn campuses, which expanded campus efforts to include City Council meetings and a public demonstration in Brooklyn attended by city officials and the borough president.

Monthly Watchdog Updates will continue during the summer on July 16 and August 20 at 3:30 p.m. A two-hour ergonomics workshop led by the New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health is scheduled for June 30 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., with particular attention to CLTs, HEOs, laboratory work, and workstation design. Watchdog coordinators can also provide thermometers and logs so members can document excessive workplace temperatures for labor-management action.

Labor-management committee on Educational Technology

This report was postponed until the next meeting.

V. Announcements

Treasurer Wharton announced that PSC would participate in NYSUT Yankees Day on Sunday, August 30, at 1:35 p.m., when the Yankees will play the Boston Red Sox.

Jeff Ballerini announced forthcoming federal changes to the duration-of-status rules for F-1 students. The anticipated rule would replace duration of status with a four-year limit and was expected to have a 60-day compliance period after publication. Members who work with international students were encouraged to prepare to assist them.

Melissa Checker reported a projected \$28 million deficit at Queens college, resulting in reductions to temporary-services budgets, cuts affecting CLTs and college assistants, and difficulty replacing critical

positions. PSC leadership offered to work with the chapter on organizing and advocacy so the deficit would not be balanced on the backs of workers.

Susan DiRaimo encouraged members to review their pension records, ask coworkers to do the same, and submit stories about pension problems for a planned video campaign.

Several members raised concerns about remote work following City Tech's decision to require HEOs and other staff to work fully in person during the summer. City Tech HEOs reported that efforts to meet with the administration and obtain a rationale for the change were unsuccessful, despite a statement signed by approximately 130 employees across titles. The administration subsequently responded that remote work is discretionary and that campus presidents may determine work arrangements based on operational needs.

Malcolm Macdougall from Queens College raised concerns about the administration attributing budget pressures and staffing cuts to the new contract. The member reported significant reductions to CLT lines and noted that unfilled faculty positions have resulted in increased workloads for remaining CLTs and adjunct faculty. In some departments, adjuncts are being asked to cover additional course offerings as staffing declines.

Claudia Shacter-DeChabert cautioned members against absorbing the work of positions eliminated through staffing cuts, noting that doing so can allow reduced staffing levels to become normalized. She encouraged members to establish appropriate workload boundaries and referenced a workshop on strategies for respectfully declining additional work.

VI. Adjourn

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting (Motion: E. Hovey; seconded) APPROVED.