

PSC/CUNY Delegate Assembly

Minutes: January 19, 2012

Present:

Delegates:

BOWEN	EC	BARNETT	C	NELSON	JJ, ALT
BRANDON	EC	FEIGENBERG	C	OKAMOTO	JJ, ALT
BUCHSBAUM	EC	DUNKEL	CCO	PITTMAN	JJ, ALT
CERMELE	EC	SHERMAN	CLT	ROONEY	KCC
COHEN	EC	GRAHAM	CLT, ALT	YARMISH	KCC
DELUTRO	EC	KRITT	CSI	DE LA CRUZ	L, ALT
DESOLA	EC	GABOURY	H	EGGER-SIDER	LGCC
FABRICANT	EC	PERNA	H, ALT	FORD	MCC
FRIEDHEIM	EC	STEINBERG	HCC	GRONOWICZ	MCC
FRIEDMAN	EC	BRENNAN	HEO	MELTZER	MCC
LEWIS	EC	CHITTY	HEO	MOORMAN	MCC
LONDON	EC	IRONS	HEO	OFFENHOLLEY	MCC
MENNA	EC	MUCHITA	HEO	HUTCHISON	MCC, ALT
MORAN	EC	NELSON	HEO	AWOLABI	ME
PANAYOTAKIS	EC	RODRIGUEZ	HEO	MASON	NYCT
PEARLMAN	EC	WASHINGTON	HEO	SANUDO	Q
VASQUEZ	EC	WINTER	HEO	BARBANEL	QCC
ESTEY	B	WU	HEO	CESARANO	QCC
GRASSMAN	B	CROWNOVER	HEO, ALT	SINCLAIR	QCC
HILL	BAR	LILLY	HEO, ALT	KOTELCHUCK	RET
WINE	BAR	WEEKES	HEO, ALT	MCCALL	RET
DICK	BCC	BORNSTEIN	JJ	PERLSTEIN	RET
MAZZATENTA	BCC	CLARKE	JJ	BALMUTH	RET, ALT
PERSINGER	BCC	MAJUMDAR	JJ	WURMAN	RET, ALT
WOLF	BCC	NARKUNAS	JJ	FRANK	Y
BALDWIN-JONES	C	MARKOWITZ	JJ, ALT	METCALF	Y

Staff:

ALLADIN, F.	CHENG, I.	HERST, J.	MUNOZ, A.	TARLETON, J.
BELL, D.	CLARK, F.	HUGHES, S.	PFORDRESHER, K.	VANDEBURGH, J.
BERGEN, D.	GABRIEL, B.	LASHER, R.	REILLY, A.	WRIGHT, C.
BRILL, D.	GERGELY, J.	MAGALHAES, A.	SIMMONS, A.	ZAUDERER, N.
				ZWIEBACH, P.

Guests:

Jackie DiSalvo (Ret); Bill Rosenthal (LGCC); Andrea Tienan (Bar/LGCC); Adam Tripp (BCC);  
Mike Vozick (BMCC)

I. Approvals

A. Agenda

**Motion to accept the agenda, amended to include two resolutions under New Business, was approved.** (Motion: L. Dick; second: I. DeLutro)

B. Minutes

**Motion to approve the December DA minutes was approved.** (Motion: E. Moran; second: P. Lewis)

II. President's Report and Discussion – B. Bowen

- Governor Cuomo released his proposed FY 12 State Budget this week, marking the beginning of the budget approval process.
  - Funding for adjunct health insurance is included in the Governor's proposed mandatory cost funding for CUNY—a victory for members who pressed CUNY to include it in the University's budget request; union members must now work to be sure the funding is included in the final budget.
  - State funding for CUNY: the Governor fulfilled his maintenance-of-effort promise and provided the same level of funding as last year. This amount, however, represents a deep reduction from 2008 levels. Speaker Silver proposed additional funding for community colleges; PSC hopes to work with him on a vision of what community colleges can accomplish in NY State.
  - Governor has announced that passage of a Tier 6 pension plan for new hires is a priority; PSC will continue to fight this effort to shift the costs of the economic crisis to the middle class and working class.
- On collective bargaining: PSC is still making progress on issues away from the table, though CUNY has not made an economic offer.
- EC has approved the nomination of Marcia Newfield, VP for P/T Personnel, as NYSUT Higher Education Member of the Year and of Joan Greenbaum, Co-Chair of the Health & Safety Committee, as NYSUT Retiree of the Year.
- The EC has voted to invest in a leadership training program to empower the next generation of PSC activists. Delegates are invited to suggest members for the candidate pool for the next 2 years to Naomi Zauderer ([nzauderer@pscmail.org](mailto:nzauderer@pscmail.org)) who can also explain the program criteria.
- Pathways – deep concern persists across the campuses about the effect of this program on every aspect of CUNY life. PSC is working in collaboration with UFS and will file a legal complaint at the appropriate point in the process.

III. Administrative Action Items

A. Executive Director's Report – D. Bell

- Bell introduced Renée Lasher, new Coordinator of Contract Administration.
- Bell reported that 101 declarations of candidacy were received for the 100 positions (including officers and delegates) in the 2012 union elections. Petitions, preprinted with the names of candidates, will be available on 2/1/12 from the PSC Office and from chapter chairs. Per revisions to the election rules approved by the DA, only preprinted petitions may be used to collect signatures.
- The Health & Safety Committee will follow up with chapter chairs about the need for annual risk assessments and walkthroughs under the Workplace Violence Prevention program.

B. Report on AAUP Membership – S. London

- Consistent with the PSC's AAUP membership policy, an updated membership roster has been developed. Memberships are extended to PSC members in elected and appointed positions, to elected UFS representatives who are union members, and to union members recommended by chapter chairs and EC members, for a total of 1,000 AAUP memberships.
- **Motion to accept the report on AAUP membership was approved.** (Motion: I. DeLutro; second: S. Ford)

C. Use of electronic mail for DA material – A. DeSola

- Requested the sense of the body about preferences for surface mail or email communications of DA material, which will continue to be available in paper form at the meeting.

D. Treasurer's Report – M. Fabricant

Monthly Report – November

Summary of Financial Report for November 2011

Income: \$1,681,000                      Expenses: \$1,648,000                      Surplus: \$33,000

Year-to-date (3 months)

Income: \$4,200,000                      Expenses: \$3,879,000                      Surplus: \$321,000

For this quarter of PSC's fiscal year, there is a surplus, even though a deficit was projected. Therefore, there is a favorable variance of nearly half a million dollars, resulting primarily from vacant positions and retiree dues payments concentrated at the beginning of the year.

**Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was approved.** (Motion: L. Crownover; second: A. Sherman)

IV. Reports and Action Items

A. NYSUT Resolutions

1. **Support for the Jazz Musicians of Local 802: The Soul of the City**

**RESOLVED, that NYSUT express its solidarity with the American Federation of Musicians, Local 802, in their campaign to achieve collective bargaining agreements with club owners; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that NYSUT urge its members to participate in all support actions for Local 802's campaign; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that this resolution be circulated to the AFT for similar action.**

**Motion to forward Resolution #1 to NYSUT RA was approved.** (Motion: A. Pearlman; second: E. Moran)

2. **Education and Action in Support of NYSUT's Position on Withdrawal from Afghanistan**

**RESOLVED**, that NYSUT advocate within its national affiliate, AFT, on the basis of this resolution and the resolution passed at the 2011 NYSUT RA, to call on the U.S. government immediately to begin the withdrawal of all armed forces and military contractors from Afghanistan, a withdrawal to be completed by January 1, 2013; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that NYSUT report to members on the steps it has taken to advocate for this position, and that NYSUT publish educational materials for its own membership on the importance of ending the war and the relation between the cost of the war and the deficits in state budgets; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that NYSUT call for the funds that would be spent on the war in Afghanistan to be spent on jobs, with preference given to the two-to-three million recent veterans, who have particular problems finding employment; as well as urgently needed social programs and infrastructure both in this country, and in Afghanistan.

Motion to forward Resolution #2 to NYSUT RA was approved. (Motion: L. Dick; second: A. Wolf)

**3. Resolution in Support of Occupy Wall Street and Occupy Albany**

**RESOLVED**, that NYSUT commends Occupy Wall Street—together with Occupy Albany and the Occupy movement—for its nerve and imagination, for its refusal to accept the unacceptable and for its willingness to explore new forms of political organization and protest.

Motion to forward Resolution #3, as amended, to NYSUT RA was approved. (Motion: G. Dunkel; second: L. Dick)

**4. New York Still Needs Progressive Tax Reform**

**RESOLVED**, that NYSUT welcomes Albany's recognition that the way to create jobs and stimulate the economy is to address the State's tax structure, not to cut spending on essential services such as schools, healthcare, roads and bridges; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that NYSUT continue to call on the governor and the legislature to enact comprehensive progressive tax reform that will close corporate loopholes but also go beyond that change and effect broader progressive reform: requiring the richest 1% and the richest one-tenth of a percent to pay a share proportionate to their income, bringing fairness to the tax requirement for the middle class, eliminating the excuse for imposing disguised taxes – such as the 30% tuition increase at CUNY; and providing the State with the revenue it needs in order to invest in jobs, education, housing, healthcare and other human needs.

Motion to forward Resolution #4 to NYSUT RA, subject to addition of Whereas paragraphs and revision of Resolved language, was approved. (Motion: E. Moran; second: D. Kotelchuck)

5. **Resolution in Support for Financial Aid for Undocumented Immigrant Students**  
**RESOLVED**, that NYSUT support the State Board of Regents' proposal to reform New York college financial aid programs and related measures to allow financial aid for undocumented immigrant students who qualify for in-state tuition so that they may obtain a college degree; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that NYSUT and its higher education affiliates will work actively in coalition with student, labor, immigrant rights and other partners to enact the Regents' resolution.

Motion to forward Resolution #5 to NYSUT RA was approved. (Motion: I. DeLutro; second: L. Cohen)

6. **NYSUT Resolution on Reinvestment in and Parity for Community Colleges**  
**RESOLVED**, that NYSUT call for reinvestment in public higher education, with parity of funding for public community colleges and four-year institutions; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that NYSUT call for the implementation of a "compensatory education" policy that recognizes and addresses the greater needs of public community college students as a result of systemic race and class inequalities in K-12 education and gross income disparities by providing (a) free tuition, (b) money for textbooks and necessary equipment, (c) stipends for students facing extreme economic hardship, and (d) smaller classes for remedial courses; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that NYSUT lead and support organizing efforts to achieve parity of workload and salary for faculty at public institutions of higher education across the state.

After discussion, Motion to reformulate the resolution for submission to the 2012 AFT Convention was approved. (Motion: J. Perlestein; second: D. Kotelchuck)

7. **Resolution to End the New York City Police Department's Ineffective, Unjustifiable, Racist, Massive "Stop and Frisk" Policies**  
**RESOLVED**, that NYSUT develop and disseminate educational materials for students and parents from middle school through college, including for students of criminal justice, that identify the risks to democracy and civil rights of such police practices, and be it further
- RESOLVED**, that NYSUT oppose the NYPD's massive, racist, ineffective stop and frisk practices that bluntly target communities of color, and be it further

**RESOLVED, that NYSUT support the Center for Constitutional Rights' demand for accountability that includes independent oversight and reform of the NYPD's use of stop and frisk practices.**

**Motion to forward Resolution #7, with possible amendments, to NYSUT RA was approved. (Motion: J. Perlstein; second: I. DeLutro)**

**8. Resolution on the Civil Rights Challenge of the Decade: Mass Incarceration as the New Jim Crow**

**RESOLVED, that NYSUT educate its members about the true costs that the War on Drugs has imposed both on New York's poor communities of color and on educational stakeholders; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that NYSUT support public policies that promote drug treatment rather than persecution for drug-users; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that NYSUT support the restoration of full citizenship rights for non-violent drug offenders on probation or parole including the right to vote, serve on a jury, and full access to government services such as financial aid for education and housing and employment assistance; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that NYSUT support legislation that ends the federal financial incentives that result in racist police practices of targeting and criminalizing poor communities of color within the context of the "War on Drugs."**

**Motion to forward Resolution #8, with amendments, to NYSUT RA was approved. (Motion: J. Perlstein; second: B. Friedheim)**

**V. Old Business**

**A. In Memoriam – David Montgomery: Delegate Ben Chitty introduced a PSC statement in memory of labor historian David Montgomery which will be shared at his memorial service at Yale next weekend.**

**B. Motion to change the date for the May DA meeting was approved. (Motion: D. Kotelchuck; second: I. DeLutro)**

**VI. New Business**

**A. On behalf of PSC International Committee, Delegate Tony Gronowicz introduced a resolution in support of the ILO ruling in support of TWU Local 100 and NY State Public Workers' Right to Strike.**

**Motion to refer motion to PSC EC for consideration after review by legal counsel was approved. (Motion: S. London; second: R. Cermele)**

**B. Motion to revise and adopt resolution condemning use of US Military to escort scab grain ship in Longview, WA was approved, as amended. (Motion: L. Dick; second: B. Friedheim)**

**VII. Motion to adjourn was approved. (Motion: I. DeLutro; second: A. Pearlman)**