

**PSC Delegate Assembly  
November 16, 2023  
Final Minutes**

Present:

Batson	EC	Forsythe	C	Llamas	HEO	Gronowicz	MCC	Menna	RT
Davis	EC	Mano	C	Martini	HEO	Hutchison	MCC	Nelson	RT
Elliottt-Negri	EC	Batiz	CLT	Murphy	HEO	James	MCC	Newfield	RT
Gaboury	EC	Bardsley	CSI	Norman	HEO	Johnstone	MCC	Garley	Y
Jeu	EC	Bishop	CSI	Perez	HEO	McBride	MCC	Hansen	Y
Kang	EC	Cope	CSI	Randall	HEO	Offenholley	MCC	Jackson	Y
Kurtz	EC	Lavender	CSI	Rodriguez	HEO	Roberts	MCC	Pritchard	Y
Lewis	EC	Lawrence	CSI	Romeo	HEO	Smallwood	MCC	Salek Aseff	Y
McIntyre	EC	Powers Silverberg	CSI	Santiago	HEO	Smart	MCC	Snyder	Y
Meltzer	EC	Aptekar	GS	Silverman	HEO	Walker	MCC		
Persinger	EC	Bianchino	GS	Sue	HEO	Lashley	MEC		
Schnee	EC	Devlin	GS	Clarke	JJ	Sanchez	MEC		
Seo	EC	Goldberg	GS	Epstein	JJ	Stephens	MEC		
Shacter-Dechabert	EC	Hu	GS	Hovey	JJ	Cameron	MEOC		
Stemberg	EC	Kagan	GS	Majumdar	JJ	Behrent	NYCT		
Turner	EC	Kane	GS	Markowitz	JJ	Birchett	NYCT		
Utakis	EC	Merriwether	GS	Mullin-Rouabah	JJ	Brown	NYCT		
Vasquez	EC	Rothman	GS	Pittman	JJ	Cuordileone	NYCT		
Wharton	EC	Sellie	GS	Szajngarten	JJ	Harris	NYCT		
Winter	EC	Bidell	H	Vance	JJ	Loguercio	NYCT		
Albarillo	B	Chinn	H	Cally	KCC	MacDonald	NYCT		
Bank Muñoz	B	Cusick	H	Hernandez	KCC	Shepard	NYCT		
Hashmi	B	John	H	Rosson	KCC	Standing	NYCT		
Juhasz	B	Kenigsberg	H	Alexander-Street	L	Checker	Q		
Manlow	B	Stone	H	Auslander	L	Doran	Q		
Snyder	B	Walker Kilkenny	H	Farrell	L	Gerwin	Q		
Davis	BAR	Bencivenni	HCC	Fernandez	L	Guskin	Q		
Gareis	BAR	Bernardini	HCC	Hayes	L	Hazas	Q		
Plochocki	BAR	Casey	HCC	Manier	L	Nir	Q		
Rice	BAR	Pimentel	HCC	Vega	L	Schnur	Q		
Wine	BAR	Adams	HEO	Wangerin	L	Tummino	Q		
Donica	BCC	Ballerini	HEO	Bastas	LGCC	Williams	Q		
Duncan	BCC	Baptiste	HEO	Beaty	LGCC	Pecorino	QCC		
Lang	BCC	Brown	HEO	Cleary	LGCC	Stark	QCC		
Pita	BCC	Gallagher	HEO	Connors	LGCC	Chaung	RF		
Dunson	BEOC	Galloway-Perry	HEO	Durand	LGCC	James	RFFU		
Barnett	C	Hegner	HEO	Fess	LGCC	Cermele	RT		
Cardwell	C	Jagielnicka	HEO	Miller	LGCC	Friedman	RT		
Diraimo	C	Lee	HEO	Creaco	MCC	McCall	RT		

Guest:

Jonathan	Buchsbaum	RT
Frank	Cioffi	BAR
Mariposa	Fernandez	L
Katy	Hansen	Parliamentarian
Walter	Leucken -	Q
Peter	Ranis	RT
Brad	Rappaport	H
Clara	Wajngurt	QCC
Alex	Wolf	BCC

Staff:

Eve	Cabrera
Fran	Clark
Enrico	Doan
Greg	Douros
Ava	Farkas
Thandi	Farley
Brian	Graf
Natalie	Grieco
Jorge	Guzman
Dean	Hubbard
Dan	Hunt
Kim	Lashley
Sam	Lewis
Mitchell	Manning
Faye	Moore
Ari	Paul
Denise	Poché Jetter
Denyse	Procope Gregoire
Sam	Rasiotis
Carol	Rial
Samantha	Sherry
Anais	Surkin

**.Approvals**

A. Agenda  
**MOTION: To approve the agenda** (Motion: H. Meltzer; seconded) **APPROVED.**

B. Minutes for October 23, 2023 meeting  
**MOTION: To approve the October 23, 2023 DA minutes** (Motion: C. Shacter-DeChabert; seconded) **APPROVED.**

**II. President’s report and discussion (including written) - J. Davis**  
 In response to concerns about academic freedom, free speech, and member rights, the contract enforcement staff and grievance counselors are actively addressing member concerns and attending Weingarten meetings. The union has organized workshops on academic freedom, conflict de-escalation, and handling right-wing media tactics.

President Davis emphasized the importance of maintaining pressure on the CUNY administration and creating spaces for dialogue. In addressing the politics around the war and freedom of expression complaints, we want to provide support for Department Chairs on how to respond to student complaints. On October 25th, the PSC sent a letter to the Chancellor on upholding freedom of speech and it's available on the website. It has been a challenge to locate a space where people with different opinions can discuss differences reasonably. The central union aims to be a clearinghouse for resources and our members who have the skills and expertise to participate in and facilitate those kinds of forums where people start with a position of good faith and empathy.

### **Contract and Budget campaigns**

We had successful “Five Boroughs in Five Weeks” actions around the contract.

Our next event is December 2, “Sing out, Shout out” and we are looking for large turnout to build power and exert pressure on the governor and CUNY administration. The event will start with a sing-out at the Governor's Office for increased CUNY funding and then march two blocks to CUNY Central to demand a strong contract. President Davis acknowledged the One-on-One Committee's work and announced upcoming phone banks.

President Davis updates that there are no dates for bargaining sessions listed on the website because the lead negotiator for CUNY had an accident and had to undergo surgery, so they are currently recovering and unable to schedule in-person sessions. We are considering possibly scheduling a Zoom session as a temporary solution until the negotiator can attend in person. The bargaining team continues to meet. Orientation sessions for members are being held, with the next session scheduled for November 20.

### **ABC Committee request to become permanent standing committee**

The Anti-Bullying Committee has requested to become a permanent standing committee of the DA. Previously, they have been getting reapproved each year as an ad hoc committee. The EC has unanimously approved this proposition, and the committee is working with the EC on the language that will be inserted into the Constitution. The proposal will be shared with the membership two weeks before the vote. The vote will hopefully take place at the next DA meeting.

The committee also requested that they be approved for another year while this process plays out since their current ad hoc committee status expires on December 15. The committee consists of: Amy Jeu, Pam Stenberg, Iris DeLutro, Cecilia McCall, Andrea Vasquez, Clara Wanjgurt, Jeanette Batiz, Cheryl Morrison, Lori Rothstein, and Sheridan Abraham.

**MOTION: To approve the Anti-Bullying Committee as an ad-hoc committee for another year.**

Motion: (P. Lewis, seconded). **APPROVED.**

### **Membership Update - A. Vasquez**

At the last meeting, a detailed report was provided, and since then, all chapter chairs have received comprehensive reports on their members and non-members. The focus is on setting numeric goals for the current and next semesters, with individual assignments. The approach mirrors the successful strategy employed around Janus. The Principal Officers and the Executive Council are engaged as well, with each member assigned to support a specific campus or title. Regular reporting within the EC and the DA is planned to track progress. Initiatives include a campaign where a pair of organizers along with DA delegates and interested members visit every campus for a membership blitz.

### **Membership—Organizing conversations**

Rico Doan, the organizing director, introduced the importance of having membership conversations and provides a conversational guide. He emphasized the need to get the story of the individual, articulate the union vision, anticipate management's response, and make the ask for membership. Delegates divided into small groups to practice these member-organizing conversations.

### III. **Legislative Report - H. James**

Heather James, the new legislative representative and Chair of the Legislation Committee, provided a detailed report. The committee discusses local legislation and their next meeting will address the "dirty buildings law" or local law 97, which faces opposition from the Mayor. She outlined the committee's work on the state budget platform in collaboration with other higher education unions, aiming for a new deal for public higher education. The committee is concerned about budget cuts, particularly the mayor's plan to cut 5% from CUNY, and she outlined the union's coalitional response – working with advocacy coalitions, using grassroots tactics to pressure the mayor, and collaborating with union partners and council allies. The union had mixed success and disappointment in City Council elections, but District Captains did exemplary jobs across the city. Delegates were urged to participate in a council hearing on December 11th to push back against CUNY cuts.

### IV. **Administrative Reports**

#### A. **Financial Report - F. Wharton**

August Finances

#### **Monthly Financial Report - August**

Summary for one (1) month:

Total Operating Income: \$ 1,902,000

Total Operating Expenses: \$ 1,506,000

Surplus (Deficit): \$ 396,000

Commentary:

Year-to-date (12 months):

As of August 31st 2023, the financial statements show an twelve-month operating surplus of \$302,000. For the twelve-month period, year-to-date income is \$19,903,000 and year-to-date expenditures are \$19,601,000.

**MOTION: To accept the August 2023 Treasurer's Report** (Motion: C. Shacter-DeChabert; seconded) **APPROVED.**

#### B. **Executive Directors Report - D. Hubbard**

I. Staff:

a. Hiring

We have posted vacancies for contract enforcement and strategic research professional staff positions and have a goal of hiring for both positions before the end of the year.

b. Elections Committee report:

The elections committee met on November 1, 2023, and took the following action:

City Tech: Recognized the election of Lise Hunter from Paralegal studies as Alternate Delegate at the chapter meeting on Sept. 28.

**MOTION: To accept the Election Committee's Report** (Motion: H. Meltzer; seconded) **APPROVED.**

### V. **Resolutions**

**Resolution Condemning CUNY Administration's Persecution of Pro-Palestine Organizing and Disregard for Palestinian Lives**, Submitted by Graduate Center Executive Council

**Let it be resolved** that the PSC condemns the CUNY administration's political persecution of Palestinian students, community members, and Palestine solidarity activists in recent days;

**And let it be further resolved** that the PSC condemns the supposed leaders of our institution for lending credence to far-right campaigns to defund and dismantle public education; that senior administrators would help the far-right wield a political cudgel against CUNY's grassroots organizing efforts is a profound betrayal of their duties to the university community.

**And let it be further resolved** that the PSC demands an end to the repression of free speech and intimidation of organizers, which is a stain on our academic institution.

**WITHDRAWN**

Submitted for introduction:

**Resolution to condemn the leadership of the AFL-CIO and the AFT for its complicity with the genocide of the Gazan masses and the Palestinians in general**, Submitted by Carol Lang, BCC

**MOTION: To introduce the resolution to the floor in this meeting** (Motion: I. Hansen, seconded).

**FAILED.**

## **VI. Unfinished Business New Business**

Adjunct Liaison Leadership Program - P. Lewis

The EC has reformulated the Adjunct Liaison Project into an Adjunct Liaison Leadership Program. Involving mentors and mentees, with regular leadership development, liaisons will participate for 1-2 years which will bring more members through the program and back to the campuses.

### **Announcements**

The anti-racism committee is holding a training on implicit bias. It's a NYSUT workshop and they need 10 participants for November 28 and 29 to test it out and see if it should be used or adapted for CUNY purposes. If you are interested, you can email John Pittman, Felicia Wharton, or Andrea Vasquez.

## **VII. Adjournment**

**MOTION: To adjourn 9:35pm** (Motion: E. Hovey; seconded).