

Welcome to the Research Foundation Field Units of the Professional Staff Congress (PSC CUNY)! I am Antonica James, your Chapter Chair, serving from May 2022-2025.

Many factors have led to the erosion of union power in recent decades, while at the same time most of us have seen our workloads balloon. Some of us work multiple jobs, go to school, have long commutes, or other commitments that make union participation seem like a pipe dream. It's hard enough to make time for our families and communities, and so easy to think of "the union" as a nebulous entity that negotiates our contracts and, if worst comes to worst, backs us up if we do have a dispute with our employer.

But in reality, through the PSC, we have an opportunity to be much more than that. We can:

- help Research Foundation employees with shared interests and concerns network across the campuses
- foster dialogue with the Research Foundation outside of contract cycles
- work on issues that aren't specifically covered in the contract
- contribute to the various economic, social justice, and environmental issues the public sector chapters of the PSC are already involved in: <https://psc-cuny.org/issues>.

The first order of business is to ***make sure that you have a membership card on file***. Without it, you cannot vote on contracts, but even more importantly, it's hard for the PSC to make a case for your interests with the Research Foundation. Your membership card is not only your vote; it backs up your voice!

To sign up, go to <https://psc-cuny.org/join-psc> and click on "**Research Foundation Membership Application**."

We encourage you to write to us at the address below. For immediate assistance with current issues, please also contact:

Sam Rasiotis, RF Field Units Coordinator

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Faye Moore, [fmoore@pscmail.org](mailto:fmoore@pscmail.org), Director of Contract Administration

Brian Graf, [bgraf@pscmail.org](mailto:bgraf@pscmail.org), Health and Safety Coordinator/Interim Organizing Director

In solidarity,

Antonica James, Chapter Chair

Research Foundation Field Unit

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Read the current contract here: <https://www.psc-cuny.org/rf-field-unit-contracts>.

