

PSC/CUNY Delegate Assembly
 Draft Minutes: May 29, 2014

Present:

BATSON	EC	KRITT	CSI	SHEN	LGCC
BOWEN	EC	LAVENDER	CSI	YOUENS	LGCC, A
BUCHSBAUM	EC	TOURNAKI	CSI	CROCCO	MCC
CERMELE	EC	PETERS	CSI, A	FREAS	MCC
COHEN	EC	TYNER	GCC	GRONOWICZ	MCC
DELUTRO	EC	HANDIS	GS	MELTZER	MCC
DESOLA	EC	AGATHOCLEOUS	H	MOORMAN	MCC
DIRAIMO	EC	ANGOTTI	H	NAVARATNE	MCC
FABRICANT	EC	BURGHARDT	H	OFFENHOLLEY	MCC
FRIEDHEIM	EC	LEWIS	H	LEVY	MCC, A
FRIEDMAN	EC	MIRER	H	AWOLABI	ME
HATCHETT	EC	BERNARDINI	HCC	CRAWFORD	ME
LONDON	EC	COLON	HCC	RICHARDSON	ME
MORAN	EC	BINK	HEO	ALBANY	NYCT
NEWFIELD	EC	BRENNAN	HEO	DOUGLAS	NYCT
PANAYOTAKIS	EC	CHITTY	HEO	LANSIQUOT	NYCT
PEARLMAN	EC	CRUZ-EUSEBIO	HEO	MACDONALD	NYCT
PERSINGER	EC	DONEY	HEO	MASON	NYCT
SPEAR	EC	GALLAGHER	HEO	VEY	NYCT
VASQUEZ	EC	LEVINE	HEO	ENGLISH	Q
VAZQUEZ	EC	MUCHITA	HEO	LEITES	Q
WASHINGTON	EC	NELSON	HEO	MUKHERJEE	Q
WEISBLATT	EC	RODRIGUEZ	HEO	SANUDO	Q
ESTEY	B	WINTER	HEO	ZEVIN	Q
GRASSMAN	B	CLARKE	JJ	BARBANEL	QCC
HASHMI	B	GEIGER	JJ	SINCLAIR	QCC
IRONS	B	MAJUMDAR	JJ	ZINGER	QCC
ROBERTS	B	MAMELI	JJ	CUTRONE	QCC, A
MANLOW	B, A	NARKUNAS	JJ	STARK	QCC, A
PETERSEN	BAR	PITTMAN	JJ	HYLAND	RET
DICK	BCC	DAVIES	JJ, A	KOTELCHUCK	RET
KOLOZI	BCC	ARANOFF	KCC	LEBERSTEIN	RET
TREGLIA	BCC	CALLY	KCC	MCCALL	RET
WHARTON	BEOC	DILL	KCC	PERLSTEIN	RET
BARNETT	C	ROONEY	KCC	BALMUTH	RET, A
CARTER	C	YARMISH	KCC	VILLAFANE	RET, A
FEIGENBERG	C	PHILIPP	L	FRANK	Y
FORSYTHE	C	CHOUDHARY	L, A	SHEIDLOWER	Y
CARAGIULO	CCO	COOGAN	LGCC		
GRAHAM	CLT	DURAND	LGCC		
SHERMAN	CLT	EGGER-SIDER	LGCC		

Guests:

Jennifer Chancellor (BMCC/GC); Johnny Futch (ME); Michael Grayson (B); John Kissack (Ret);
 John Lawrence (CSI); Howard Singer (Bar); Andrea Tienan (Bar)

Staff:

Ahmad, S.	Black, A.	Gabriel, B.	Magalhaes, A.	Reilly, A.
Alladin, F.	Brill, D.	Graf, B.	Munoz, A	Young, P.
Bell, D.	Cheng, I.	Herst, J.	Pfordresher, K.	Zwiebach, P.
Bergen, D.	Clark, F.	Lasher, R.	Rasiotis, S.	

I. Approvals

A. Motion to accept the agenda was approved. (Motion: A. Pearlman; Second: S. Sheidlower)

B. Minutes

April 2014 DA minutes will be distributed electronically and voted on at the next DA.

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

Introduction of New Delegates - President Bowen welcomed newly elected delegates asked the new delegates to introduce themselves.

Collective Bargaining Update - Bowen summarized two recent contract settlements, UFT and TWU and discussed their implications for PSC bargaining. Ballots will be counted on June 3 and 4 for the UFT contract. TWU has already ratified their contract with the NYC Transit Authority. PSC bargaining team is meeting extensively and prepared to work expeditiously with CUNY to achieve the best possible contract for the PSC and reject the austerity terms.

Adjunct Health Insurance – The union is in intensive negotiations to secure ongoing health insurance for eligible adjuncts without a gap in coverage. CUNY management is supportive of this goal.

CUNY's new Chancellor, James B. Milliken, will assume his position Monday, June 2. Bowen said she had met informally with him.

Motion to accept the Resolution Against the Institutionalization of ROTC at CUNY was approved. (Motion: B. Bowen; second: R. Cermele)

RESOLVED:

- **That the PSC opposes the institutionalization of the ROTC at CUNY because the institutionalization of ROTC is not in the best interest of our students or the University community.**
- **That the PSC calls on the CUNY administration to close the existing ROTC programs at CUNY and prohibit the establishment of future programs, as such programs require military control of faculty appointments and curriculum and**

are in violation of University Bylaws, faculty governance and academic freedom.

III. Reports and Action Items

A. AFT Resolutions

Motions to submit the following resolutions to the AFT Convention 2014 were approved (Motion: B. Bowen on behalf of the Executive Committee):

AFT Policy in Cases of Conflicting Local Endorsements

- **RESOLVED, that in order to honor both AFT's defining commitment to local autonomy and the importance of solidarity among locals, AFT shall establish the following policy for instances in which AFT locals endorse different candidates in the same regional, county or citywide election. A corresponding policy is in place at NYSUT.**

Support the Full Restitution of Pensions for Detroit Municipal Employees

- **RESOLVED, that American Federation of Teachers (AFT) recognize the achievement of the Committee of Retirees in negotiating a restoration of a substantial part of retirees' pensions for Detroit municipal employees in the tentative agreement, even as that agreement comes under attack from far-right corporate interests, but that AFT continue to support full restitution of pensions for Detroit municipal employees; and**
- **RESOLVED, AFT pursue Congressional legislation to amend Chapter 9 bankruptcy laws to prevent Chapter 9 from being used to undermine protections afforded to retirees' accrued pension benefits as stated in state constitutions.**

On Ending U.S. Militarized Foreign Policy

- **RESOLVED, that AFT concur with the AFL-CIO National Executive Committee, which declared in August 2011: "The militarization of our foreign policy has proven to be a costly mistake. It is time to invest at home," and that the AFT call for funds freed by reductions in military and national security spending to be reallocated to many urgent human needs; and**
- **RESOLVED, that AFT call for U.S. foreign policy regarding international conflicts to be guided by strategies that prioritize the needs of working people everywhere and the use of negotiation and diplomatic means over military deployment, whether in Syria, Ukraine, Iran, Pakistan, or other "hot-spots" as they may emerge; and**
- **RESOLVED, that AFT engage members in the long-term political process required to create the conditions for a demilitarized U.S. foreign policy and**

the redirection of federal funds to urgent human needs and bring these proposals to the AFT Executive Council for appropriate action; and

- **RESOLVED, that AFT officers shall report no less than once a year what steps the union leadership has taken to implement this resolution.**

EDTPA and Resect for the Professionalism of Teacher Educators

- **RESOLVED, that AFT reaffirms the professionalism of teacher educators and the importance of maintaining academic freedom of faculty and faculty governance over the curriculum of teacher education schools and programs, and**
- **RESOLVED, that AFT rejects the notion that edTPA - tied to a high-stakes testing regime and outsourcing evaluations to Pearson - is an appropriate assessment of teaching education programs and teacher performance; and**
- **RESOLVED, given the lack of research to support edTPA's being able to predict which student candidate will be a "good" or "poor" teacher, and given that there is no consensus on a single approach to teacher education and assessment protocols, the AFT calls on the teacher education profession to develop a "best practice" approach to teacher education, articulated to the numerous circumstances under which teaching occurs; and**
- **RESOLVED, approaches and assessments to teacher education should take into account professional standards, resource standards, and performance standards.**

Addressing the Legacy of Slavery in the Founding of American Colleges

- **RESOLVED, that AFT urge colleges and unlversities with which it has relationships to find appropriate ways of memorializing and addressing American higher education's historic involvement in slavery and structural racism; and**
- **RESOLVED, that AFT build on its important current work on diversity in higher education, and reaffirm its commitment to end structural and institutional racism in U.S. colleges and universities, by, for example:**
 - >opposing legislation against affirmative action in college admissions and faculty/staff hiring;**
 - >opposing cuts to programs in ethnic studies;**
 - >supporting research on race and racism in higher education;**
 - >supporting opportunities for faculty research and curriculum development that will wrestle with the academy's history of involvement in slavery and structural racism; and**
 - >facilitating members' access to relevant scholarship through its publications and its resources, such as its Tools for Teacher on the webpage; and**

- **RESOLVED, that AFT work to expose and end policies and practices, intended or not – such as the use of a single high-stakes test to determine admission to four-year colleges - that facilitate or advance the re-segregation of American higher education on the basis of race, ethnicity and class; and**
- **RESOLVED, that AFT use its publications to inform members of the ways that the interests of benefactors can still distort or undermine the academic goals of institutions today.**

Support for the “MayDay \$5K” National Movement for Job Stability and Parity for Part-time Faculty

- **RESOLVED that AFT promote the Mayday \$5K National Mobilization for Equity as an allied campaign for academic labor fairness, recognizing the value of a national coalition campaign; and**
- **RESOLVED, that AFT support local affiliates that seek to achieve or exceed the Mobilization’s goals, especially salaries of at least \$5,000 per three-credit course, and that AFT call national attention to the Mobilization’s demands:**
 - 1. Increase the starting salary of a three-credit course to a minimum of \$5,000 for all instructors in higher education.**
 - 2. Ensure academic freedom by providing progressively longer contracts for all contingent instructors who have proven themselves during an initial probationary period.**
 - 3. Provide health insurance for all instructors, either through their college's health insurance system or through the Affordable Care Act.**
 - 4. Support the quality of education of our students by providing their instructors with necessary office space, individual development support, telephones, email accounts and mail boxes.**
 - 5. Guarantee fair and equitable access to unemployment benefits when colleges instructors are not working.**
 - 6. Guarantee eligibility for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program to all college instructors who have taught for ten years, during which they were repaying their student loans.**

- **Stop Coca-Cola’s Abuse of Children and Violation of Human Rights**

- **RESOLVED, that AFT refrain from serving or selling Coca-Cola products at its offices or at any venue for its events, meetings, conferences and conventions; and**
- **RESOLVED, that AFT recommend to all its affiliates that they not serve or sell Coca-Cola products at their offices or at venues for their events; and**
- **RESOLVED, that AFT recommend to all its affiliates to campaign to remove Coca-Cola products from their schools, colleges, hospitals and other places in which they work.**

B. Legislative Report – S. London

The City budget affects community colleges. De Blasio has allocated \$19 million for a series of programs, including ASAP and STEM next year, increasing to \$51 million allocated to CUNY in the third year. PSC engaged in process with City Council asking if City Council will show support for our initiatives.

The Legislation Committee has been active in interviewing and making recommendations for state and Congressional candidates.

The Working Families Party will be deciding on 5/31/14 whether to endorse Governor Cuomo for re-election. NYSUT endorsement conference is in August

IV. Administrative Action Items

A. Treasurer’s Report – M. Fabricant

Monthly Financial Report – February

Summary of Financial Report for the month:

Income: \$1,483,000 Expenses: \$1,287,000 Surplus: \$196,000

Summary for the year-to-date (7 months)

Income: \$10,142,000 Expenses: \$10,249,000 Deficit: (\$107,000)

A \$205,000 deficit was budgeted for seven months. Over seven months, the union spent \$160,000 less in expenses than budgeted and received \$62,000 less income than anticipated. This resulted in an unfavorable bottom line of \$98,000.

Motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report for March 2014 was approved. (Motion: I. DeLutro; second: E. Leites)

B. Executive Director

Bell welcomed newly elected Delegates. Chapter elections were held at 13 colleges, all uncontested except one position at one college. Baruch does not yet have representation, but the Elections Committee will schedule an out-of-cycle election for Baruch. The names of delegates will be on the website.

Motion to receive the election report was approved. (Motion: M. Philip; second: S. Ford)

C. DeSola presented the DA Fall 2014 Meeting Calendar.

Motion to accept the DA Calendar was approved. (Motion: A. Pearlman; second: A. Sherman)

V. Motion to adjourn was approved. (Motion: A. Pearlman)