

Resolution against Student Activity Fee Policy Revision

Passed on October 20, 2017

Plenary

WHEREAS, the Doctoral Students' Council (DSC) comprises representatives from doctoral and master's programs at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY); and

Executive Committee

Steering Committee

WHEREAS, the DSC advocates for over 3,500 students at the Graduate Center in their roles as students, teachers, workers, family members, New Yorkers, activists, and academics; and

Constitution and Bylaws

Grants

WHEREAS, the DSC shares CUNY's historic mission of providing access to higher education to low-income communities and communities of color in New York City and across the nation; and

Health & Wellness

Outreach

Student Services

WHEREAS, the CUNY Central Administration has recommended that the CUNY Board of Trustees adopt a resolution granting authority exclusively to the CUNY Central Office of Student Affairs (COSA) and the CUNY Central Office of the General Counsel (OGC) to conduct a comprehensive review of Student Activity Fee (SAF) infrastructure throughout CUNY for the purpose of ensuring legal compliance with the CUNY Bylaws, other CUNY governing documents, city, state, and federal laws; and

USS Advisory Committee

Advocate Advisory Board

OpenCUNY Board

WHEREAS, the proposed language within the resolution does not articulate the process of how all stakeholders will be consulted throughout the process of review and redesign of SAF policy infrastructure and allocation process; and

Governance Task Force

WHEREAS, the student representation on the CUNY Board of Trustees Committee on Student Affairs and Special Programming (SASP) proposed amendments to the resolution to include language which would establish a CUNY Student Activity Fee Task Force and ensure students and other university stakeholders had appropriate representation on the task force; and

WHEREAS, on October 2, 2017 the Board of Trustees Committee on SASP adopted calendar item 1B. "Student Activity Fee Policy (Revision to Article XVI of BOT Bylaws)", which charged COSA and OGC with conducting a review and developing policy recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the University Students Senate (USS) passed a resolution articulating an acceptable composition of members, including students, faculty and administrators, to a Student Activity Fee Task Force during the October 8 USS Plenary; therefore be it



RESOLVED, that the DSC hereby expressly supports the USS and the resolution it put forth and calls on the CUNY Board of Trustees to adopt a resolution, which will establish a CUNY Student Activity Fee Task Force consisting of 12 members, the University Student Senate Chairperson, as a co-chair of the task force, 5 students appointed by the USS Chairperson, 1 faculty representatives appointed by the University Faculty Senate Chairperson, 1 campus student life director, appointed by the council of student life directors, 1 representative appointed by the General Council's Office, 1 representative appointed by the Central Office of Student Affairs, 1 representative appointed by the Office of Budget and Finance, and 1 representative from a CUNY College Association appointed by the Chancellor that will work with COSA and OGC to achieve all mandates set by the Board; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the DSC will continue to press for more transparency of changes to CUNY policy, sudden or otherwise, that impact students.