

Plenary Minutes October 20, 2017

Attendance

Plenary

Executive Committee

Steering Committee

Constitution and Bylaws

Grants

Health & Wellness

Outreach

Student Services

USS Advisory Committee

Advocate Advisory Board

OpenCUNY Board

Governance Task Force

Present: Andrew Alger, Nora Bartosik, Kyla Bender-Baird, Rachel Bogan, Aishwarya Bhattacharjee (Proxy Sam Chew Chin), Alexis Brewer, Carlos Camacho, Stephanie DeBiase, Isabel Dominguez Seoane, Kristofer Eckelhoff (Proxy Xieyi Zhang), Sean Enos-Roberston, Shun Feng, Nicholas Glastonbury, Rianna Greene, Ian Haberman, Sean Kennedy, Kyueun Kim, Grace Kim-Labmert (Proxy Bernadette Ojukwu), Raj Korpan, Erika Lanham, Khanh Le, Jaime Lindsay, Jessica Murray, Jason Nielsen, Teresa Ober, Kieran O'Reilly, Claudia Pace, Alison Parks, Leah Persaud, Taha Poonawala, Ana Perry, Roxana Piotrowska, Saira Rafiee, Jeremy Randall, Marlene Ramos, Cecilia Salvi (Proxy Sheehan Moore), Gwen Shaw, Francesca Silva, Richard Smith, Iris Strangmann, Jeffrey Suttles, Jennifer Tang (Proxy William Novello), Armando Tapia, Nga Than, Charlotte Thurston, Deepti Wadhera (Proxy Yasmine Ouchikh), Jennifer Ware, Alicen Weida, Tellisia Williams, Anais Wong

Absent: Shoumik Bhattacharya, Pierpaolo Cordone, Carlos Cuestas, Marva Frederick, Rebecca Fullan, Zahra Hejazi, Soohyun (Ashley) Lee, Dominique Nisperos, Patty Sanchez, Liza Shapiro, Hamad Sindhi

I. Approval of Agenda

The meeting began at 5:45.

NG motions to approve the agenda. AA seconds.

II. Approval of Minutes of September 15, 2017

AW motions to approve the minutes. RK seconds.

III. Executive Committee Reports

A. Co-Chair for Student Affairs (Charlotte Thurston)

1. *Chartered orgs/PSAs:* Currently, there are 7 active chartered organizations: AELLA, Space Time Research Collective, Taiwanese Students Association, Korean Students Association, Women of Color Network, Dominican Studies Group, Collection of Critical Transport Scholars. 15 with reports.
 - a) This month's chartered org roster MVP: Raj Korpan
Sent second email of the semester to chartered org leaders to remind them of active status, room reservation, etc.
 - b) If you are a chartered org leader: you don't have to wait till the end of the semester to become active!

- c) If you have a chance and want to support some chartered orgs by signing rosters, please do! Even now, now, very now, during this meeting, you can sign some. All but the ones I just mentioned are *not* yet active.
- 2. Opencuny.org /events
 - a) If any of your constituents are chartered org leaders who have questions: send them my way, if you see them during office hours.
 - b) Chartered org website: Met with Kristen Hackett of OpenCUNY today, 10/20, to see how to encourage chartered orgs to use the site and learn more about using it myself. From that I found:
 - (a) Three new proposed chartered orgs will be presenting themselves later this meeting; Three are in process of being dechartered, but if you really, truly feel like these groups still have student interest and YOU can be the one to discover and ignite that interest again--contact me to take on leadership reins in the next few weeks. Once they're dechartered--can't be chartered for 3 more semesters.
 - (i) Crypto Math
 - (ii) American Studies Area Group
 - (iii) Nature, Ecology, Society (still waiting on leader to get back to me; if he doesn't in a few weeks another GC student would be able to take on this org)
 - c) *PSA INFO SESSION ON 12/20, 5:30-7pm, Rm 5414*: The DSC tries to encourage students to form Program Student Associations within their programs, which are student governments for the program. They can increase student communication, engagement and power within programs. This is important because there are programs that have internal practices that run counter to GC bylaws or sometimes don't act in the best interest of students. If you hear about any students who are organizing within their own program and want some guidance, please point them to the PSA section on our website and send them to me.
 - (1) Additionally, planning to have a PSA Info session in November (11/20). Want to learn how to better organize the students in your program? Please come and encourage constituents to attend.
 - d) *Room reservations: ROOM 5396 OPEN TO RESERVE! Huzzah for student spaces!* Still in the process of getting a desk out, and of bringing in some resources/decorations--but it's open and ready to go, right there with other DSC-reservable rooms on website. It has the same basic set up as Room 5495, the office where you can get coffee, and includes couches, chairs, tables--even some games. Can fit probably up to 30 people.
 - (1) Thinking a bit about decoration without taking over the space: extra posters, perhaps a corkboard or markerboard. Ideas welcome. Encourage constituents to use all four rooms: also 5409, 5414 (social/working lounge), 5489 (conference room). We won't reserve before a 6-8 window except for certain exceptions, but try to reserve at least 2 weeks in advance to ensure you can get the room and that we have time to reserve it for you.
Room reservations clarification:

- e) *Also on the non-DSC Room Res front:* Reminder to please contact me if you have any questions about whether to use DSC or non-DSC rooms.
If you're a student group like a chartered org or PSA → contact me!
If you're getting a room for program event → contact APO
(1) Either way: refer to me anyone who asks about non-DSC rooms so that we can keep track of whether or not students get charged for rooms.
Also, try to reserve room at least a few weeks in advance
- f) Exec Committee mentioned to Provost Joy Connolly about wanting to get rid of any fee for 2nd day use of room, as well as considering opening up non-DSC rooms for wknds for student events. She mentioned that they are doing a survey now of room use overall--who is using it and when, who is paying to use it.
If there are any ?s you or constituents have about Room Reservations, please ask me now or via email.

3. Student Affairs

- a) Fitness classes open, but underenrolled! Please sign up in Student Affairs office
Partners, friends, family can sign up at community rate; if they are CUNY people they can sign up at faculty rate.
Student Affairs doing a job search for Student Activities Coordinator, and they need a student for the job search committee. If you are interested in this position, let me know.

4. Upcoming meetings

- a) Past meeting: proxied for Tellisia at Executive Committee of Grad Council, which approves agenda items for Grad Council. Agenda items included changes to SLH, Psychology, French bulletin/program, granting of degrees/certificates to Sept 2017 graduates

5. Governance Task Force will be meeting late October/early November. Email govtaskforce@cunyds.org or me about governance issues

6. FYI: Graduate Council documents, such as minutes, can be found at gc.cuny.edu/graduatecouncil. Program representatives are de facto alternates if the elected Grad Council representatives cannot attend. Email me if you do not know who your program's Grad Council representative is, or if there isn't one for your program. Programs must hold elections for these representatives.

7. Student members need to serve on GC committees such as faculty member, admissions and awards, etc. in order to ensure that student voices are heard. I am on the Strategic Planning Implementation Committee, which is meeting October 23rd. If you have thoughts about the implementation of the strategic plan, which can be found online: let me know

8. Student Affairs Committee of Grad Council: 12/4: Speaking of Grad Council committees: I am trying to keep track of what students are on these committees, so we can organize around student issues when going to these meetings. If you are one of those people, or if your constituents are, please contact me.

B. Co-Chair for Communications (Teresa Ober)

Meeting with Information Technology: The Co-Chairs and student representatives from the Student Activity Fee Committee met with the Office of Information Technology on September 29. During the meeting, we discussed the discontinuation of Citrix. Jessica

Murray, a member of the STF presented the results of a survey that she had conducted regarding the top-used software programs on the now-discontinued Citrix. After inquiring about the possibility of having Citrix reinstated, we learned that there have been recent legal and financial changes in CUNY Central that make the maintenance of software very difficult. In addition, many of the software required a separate license for both the desktop and remote computing environments. As such, IT was paying for not only Citrix license, but also the license for some of the software on it as well. The IT staff stated that any requests for technology to be added to the CUNY Virtual Desktop should be submitted as an IT request sent to itservices@gc.cuny.edu. We requested that most of the top-used programs be added to the CUNY Virtual Desktop and will follow-up on this request.

We have created a survey to collect complaints about the CUNY Virtual Desktop environment. Please see our website for a link. If you have any complaints about it, either due to lack of software or technical issues, please consider filling it out. We will be sending that information to IT.

Since the meeting, we have heard that STATA and ArcGIS received approval to be added to the CUNY Virtual Desktop. No timeframe was provided. We have also requested that software be added to the laptops available in the library. Last we heard, STATA and HLM were being tested. If you need to use this software on a remote basis, at some point soon, you should be able to take out a laptop computer from the library and keep for up to 2 weeks. We recognize that this is a patch to the issue and not a solution, however, and will continue to press for the addition of more software available through the CUNY Virtual Desktop.

After the meeting, we also received notification about the change to CUNYFirst and how it will impact the log-in usernames for incoming students. We have relayed our concerns regarding the presumed lengthiness of the log-in credentials.

Meeting with the GC President: During the meeting with President Robinson on October 4, we discussed some of the following issues:

- 1) Providing hardship funds to students in dire financial situations
- 2) Advocacy for increased funding from the state
- 3) Status of faculty diversity
- 4) Plans for building all-gender restrooms on the first floor
- 5) Increased support for master's students
- 6) Stance on freedom of expression
- 7) Course minimum enrollment requirements

Meeting with the Office of International Students: Co-chairs met with staff from the Office of International Students on October 6. During the meeting, we received clarification on opportunities for international students to receive student employment on a student visa. We also received clarification on some of the issues related to part-time status for international students. If you are anyone you know is an international student who is considering dropping to part-time status, please be sure to encourage them to consult with the Office of International Students because making the decision final as this could impact visa status.

Meeting with the GC Provost: The Executive Committee met with Provost Connolly on October 17. During the meeting, we discussed the following issues:

1. Library space redesign
2. 24-Hour access.
3. Hardship Funds for Unfunded Graduate Students
4. Health Services for Students
5. Program Governance Documents
6. Information about Events and Funding Opportunities
7. Diversity Initiatives
8. Room Reservations
9. Graduation Speaker

After the initial meeting, the Provost requested a follow-up meeting to discuss an issue of great concern to use. At this time, there is a proposal underway to increase tuition for master's students by \$100 per course credit. This fee would be labeled as an "Excellency Fee." For a 30-credit master's program, for example, this would amount to an additional \$3000 over and above the existing tuition fees. We are demanding transparency over the allocation of this fee as we believe this is creating an undue burden on students, the majority of whom are funded and have a part-time status as a student likely due to needing to work as a source of income. We believe that this sets a bad precedent and is not in the spirit of CUNY in providing opportunity for all.

Meeting with the Office of Student Affairs: The Co-chairs met with the Office of Student Affairs on October 18. During the meeting, we discussed the following issues

1. Online Title IX Training
2. Conference Support Grants
3. Health Services and Nurse Practitioner
4. Search Committee for Student Activity Coordinator

Other news: We are exploring the possibility of establishing our own DSC hardship fund for students in dire circumstances. We are in the process of exploring the legal constraints in giving out funds on such a basis. If anyone has suggestions for eligibility criteria, please let us know. You can also email me or dsc@cunydisc.org.

Questions:

William Novello (Political Science, Proxy for Jen Tang) - Participatory budgeting?

TO (Educational Psychology): There's approx. \$6,000 budgeted in the DSC budget allotted to participatory budgeting

Iris Stragmann (Speech-Language Hearing Sciences): Title IX Training?

TO: The OSA asked us to remind students to take this mandatory Title IX training.

Rachel, Sociology. Is this for students admitted 2017? Or enrolled?

Alexis, Biology: Some of us have to do this on our campuses. Do we have to do it again?

CT (English): You may be able to use your confirmation from the other training s

Saira Raifee (Political Science): From now on can other reps know about meetings in advance so we can bring issues to you?

TO: Please bring the issues to us on a rolling basis because we remain in contact with administrators, etc. on a rolling basis too

SR follow-up: There's no harm for other reps and for us to know about these meetings, it allows us to communicate to our constituents.

CT: I think there's an upcoming slide with a list of upcoming meetings

C. Co-Chair for Business (Liza Shapiro)

- 1.If you are one of two program representatives and still haven't set an advisory memo about who can authorize DSC funds to be accessed, please e-mail ccb@cunydsc.org. Won't be able to process check receipts until memo is in. If you are the leader of a chartered organization with more than one leader, please send an authorization memo as well.
- 2.Reps have received a tracking sheet where you can view your Fall program allocations and track your spending.
- 3.Reminder: Submit original, paper, receipts unless they are electronic by taping them flat (on all sides) to an 8 ½ x11 sheet of paper and write the node number on the request (that's the number that appears in the confirmation email once you place a check request through works. Can drop off receipts in mailbox in 5495, or slip them under 5499 door.
- 4.Legal consultations are available, please tell students to contact ccb@cunydsc.org if interested. The consultations are available only to GC students because they are paid for by student activity fees at the GC.
- 5.Report from Executive Committee of Grad Council: Changes to the Sociology governance document will not be voted on by Grad Council until December because the changes were not presented by the Soc. EO to the Soc. EC prior to the deadline of circulating materials.
- 6.Angelika tickets will be reordered and restocked. Remind students to come by and pick up movie tickets for AMC and Regal

D. USS Delegate (Tellisia Williams)

- 1.The first USS Plenary was held on September 17th at Guttman Community College from 12:00 - 7:00 pm.
 - a) This was the nominations plenary. Prospective candidates were nominated and gave speeches.
 - b) During the Q&A session I asked pertinent questions pertaining to the needs of graduate students
 - (1) tuition increases
 - (2) leadership, representing the needs of all CUNY students
 - (3) responding to the Freedom of Expression Policy
 - (4) the plight of adjunct instructors
 - c) I also spoke about DSC activities during Announcements
 - (1) shared our DACA resolution and encourage other campuses to write statements as well
 - (2) shared the Adjunct Project's Zine - Towards A Just Contract
 - (3) networked with new student leaders from CUNY campuses
- 2.Diversity and Inclusion initiatives at the GC

- a) EC met with President Chase Robinson on October 3rd, I was unable to attend but I did have an update regarding diversity and inclusion initiatives at the GC
- b) This summer I worked with Dr. Martin Ruck on the IRB for this study
- c) Developing protocol in regards to methods (focus groups and interviews), consent forms, and navigating IDEATE.
- d) Met with members of the GC IRB to get clarification about the process.
- e) This fall Dr. Ruck met with President Chase to give an update, and recently hired a project coordinator Jen Tang.

(1) Met with Dr. Ruck and Jen Tang from 2:00 - 4:00 pm on October 13th to plan next steps. I am a co PI on this project.

3.USS Scholarship Dinner

- a) The awards dinner was held on October 10th at BMCC 6:00 - 8:00 pm
- b) Night of dining and celebration. Honoring USS Scholarship recipients

4.The second USS Plenary was held on October 8th at Baruch College from 12:00 - 6:00 pm.

- a) This was the elections plenary. New chair and vice chairs were elected.

5.Chairperson's Report

- a) Learned about a meeting with General Council Martinez who shared information about a new resolution revamping the student activity fee

(1) The Board of Trustees planning to increase tuition for Senior Colleges by \$200 and \$100 for Community Colleges (if the state can't cover tuition cost)

(2) Adopted three resolutions during this plenary

- (a) Resolution: USS Scholars Program
 - (i) Making the scholarship packet more accessible to students by making it a digital online version that will streamline the application process
 - (ii) This will also ensure scholarship recipients get the funds by making the money earmarked
- (b) Resolution: 2017-2018 USS Plenary Meeting Calendar
 - (i) Takes into account school holidays
- (c) 1718-03: Student Activity Fee Policy Revision
 - (i) There is a new resolution that will revamp the student activity fee and the University Student Senate is concerned about the impact these changes will have on student governments. The USS recommends a task force to review this policy together with all members and stakeholders, including students. The Board of Trustees is opposed to this action because they believe students should not chair the task force. The General Counsel is opposed to student run referendums. The USS demands proportional representation for students on the task force: five student representatives (comprised of four students and the USS Chairperson). The USS wants to ensure consultation and to hold General Counsel accountable by calling on the Board of Trustees to have a review of this proposed resolution.

- (ii) There is a lot at stake here. CUNY Administrators are concerned about how funds are spent. Student Activity fees are non-Tax Levy and some campuses have a surplus that is not being used. Every time the Student Activity Fee is changed more rights are taken away from students. There is a pattern and students need to be at the table and consulted when these decisions are made because student rights need to be protected at all levels.
 - (iii) The USS adopted the Resolution 1718-03: Student Activity Fee Policy Revision and I would like for the Doctoral Students' Council to do the same tonight. A draft of the resolution was sent as an attachment to DSC reps on October 17th.
6. The Board of Trustees Joint Borough Hearing and Budget Hearing was held on Monday, October
- a) 16th at Baruch College from 4:30 – 7:00 pm
 - b) Over 70 speakers signed up to testify
 - c) I gave a testimony speaking out against changes to the student activity fee which will greatly impact how our student government operates. Calling on the board to establish a SAF Task force with appropriate student representation.
 - d) Other speakers spoke out against tuition hikes, and the plight of adjuncts in the CUNY system.
7. Upcoming Events
- a) CUNY Board Of Trustees Meeting, October 23rd at 4:30 pm at Baruch College
 - b) Next USS Plenary, November 19th at 12:00 pm at Guttman Community College

Questions:

WN (Political Science, Proxy for Jen Tang): Can you elaborate on the student activity fees discussion?

TW: The BOT is auditing the use of student activity fee, so the USS is saying students have to be at the table for that conversation

A. UFS Liaison (Nicholas Glastonbury)

1. The first UFS plenary of the 2017-2018 academic year was held on September 26 at CUNY Central, 6:30-9:30pm. The vast majority of the meeting was devoted to a discussion of CUNY's strategic framework for the CUNY master plan, introduced by Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Vita Rabinowitz, along with Assistant Vice Chancellor for Strategic Partnerships Rachel Stephenson, and Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Strategy Amy McIntosh. Vita Rabinowitz spelled out the 'five pillars' of the strategic framework as follows:
 - a) College readiness
 - b) Access & completion
 - c) Career success
 - d) Knowledge creation
 - e) A new economic model for CUNY

The first three focus on student success, and one part of the second pillar was what she called a “15/30 campaign,” suggesting that faculty should be urging undergraduates to take 5 courses/semester so they can finish in a timely manner. There was of course a lot of resistance to this notion during the Q&A, saying that such a campaign is inappropriate for the vast number of students who attend part-time, who have family obligations, who have to work to pay their tuition, etc.

2. Rabinowitz also discussed expanding full-time faculty hires with an eye toward faculty diversification. She announced a new consortium between CUNY and Harvard for CUNY faculty to do some kind of ‘leadership training’ at Harvard, but this is only available to full-time faculty. Rabinowitz also said that the university needs to diversify its faculty hires, while faculty present criticized this plan on the grounds that the university is not doing enough to keep or promote its best women faculty, faculty of color, and other minority faculty.
3. Dean of Recruitment and Diversity Arlene Torres also spoke about faculty diversity, and she suggested that the faculty is currently approximately 35% minority across full- and part-time faculty at all the campuses. Faculty also called on her to do more to incentivize minority faculty to come to CUNY, saying that search committees do not receive enough support from the university to earnestly persuade the best academics to come to CUNY.
4. The new UFS website was also introduced.
5. No sign of the statement on expressive conduct/freedom of speech on the agenda or even in informal conversation with other people present.
6. The next UFS plenary is on Oct. 24.

II. Steering Officer Reports

A. Officer for Funding (Raj Korpan)

1. We had our first grants committee meeting on October 2nd. At that meeting, we reviewed 7 grant applications (requesting \$3600). 4 were approved for \$1950, 3 were asked to revise and resubmit. 1 start-up grant approved for \$200.
2. Today is the next deadline and the meeting is Tuesday, November 7th at 5:30 PM. As of now, no new grant requests submitted. The upcoming deadlines are November 17, 2017, January 19, 2018, and March 16, 2018.
3. The grants website was updated based on feedback from the grants committee and a sample budget document was also added.
4. We sent out a survey to students about DSC grants and creating a new database for funding opportunities. Please fill it out:
https://baruch.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4Ueeoe7rjxFCWBT
5. We are interested in setting up a Hardship Fund for students, if anyone is interested in working with us or has ideas and has experience with this type of fund please reach out to me or email dsc@cunydisc.org
 - a) Re: the survey: haven’t had much participation so please send it to your constituents
 - b) Proxy for Music: As of when were no grants submitted?

Questions:

RK: This morning

Iris, SLT: Is it true that we can't spend the money in the funding to pay honoraria to CUNY faculty

RK: We can provide compensation for adjuncts/graduate students who are teaching

AA, History: What was the start-up grant for?

RK: Don't remember!

B. Officer for Governance & Membership (Alison Parks)

Membership: We currently have 65 Live Seats and 61 Active Reps (18 At-Large Reps, 43 Program Reps) and are diligently working to replace the reps the programs that have lost a rep.

Several programs are currently under- or unrepresented:

Anthropology

Classics

Economics

MALS

If you are a representative for one of these programs or you know someone from one of these programs, please tell them to contact me at membership@cunydisc.org.

Governance: The Constitution and Bylaws committee met on October 4. We discussed the criteria for being on EDLAB, our advisory body comprised of former DSC leaders. We also set out some things we hope to work on this year including potential changes and timely updates of the constitutional language regarding PSAs, co-chair responsibilities, and the revise and resubmit process for grants.

C. Officer for Health & Wellness (Andrew Alger)

1. Health Services poll went out about a month ago. Currently the poll is still open, we've been asked to close it soon, but please take the poll if you haven't. 105 people have responded so far.

2. Focused on 2 issues: 1) status of nurse practitioner and 2) status of mental health opportunities.

a) ~50% people seem to want a nurse practitioner at the wellness center

b) A majority of people said they would use an on-campus provider, half of whom do not have insurance

c) ~70% are NYSHIP-covered

d) Mass dissatisfaction with Beacon Health Options, which facilitates mental health options

3. Next week the Health & Wellness committee is co-hosting an overdose prevention training seminar, training students how to administer NARCAN which can prevent death from overdose. Thursday at 6pm

Questions:

JN (English): Did the survey go out to MALS students?

AA (History): I don't think it went specifically to MALS students but it went to the DSC listserv and to APOs.

CT (English): Forming PSA listservs is an option, it allows students to have more control over email

RK (Comp Science): What is your plan now to push the administration and wellness center in terms of what the students are asking for?

AA: We are using this information to gauge individual responses for students. But we don't have any immediate plans for action, I want more responses before then. Would love to field suggestions

Claudia, Philosophy: The provost suggested that the excellency fee would go toward the wellness center, what do you think about that?

AA: The hope is that some of that revenue would go toward restoring that salary.

CT: The idea of that referendum had been to shift the weight of paying for wellness from students, and it is frustrating that now it is being placed back on the shoulders of students.

D. Officer for Outreach (Shoumik Bhattacharya)

Shoumik is in the process of scheduling next outreach committee mtg. If you want information about the dates of those meetings contact outreach@cunydisc.org.

E. Officer for Student Life & Services (Anais Wong)

The Committee for SLS officially met on October 13th to discuss a general vision for the committee and plan events. We want to address the current political climate, and try to improve ways to involve and reach out to all students in a more systematic way (and give reps tools to do so). In preparation for the upcoming community meeting with Pres. Robinson on November 2, we decided on organizing a town hall prior to that meeting, on October 27th (more about this during announcements). Main projects that the CSLS is trying to organize include non-violent direct action training workshops, self-defense workshops (for which we allocated some of our budget and are looking for additional sponsorship), as well as meditation workshops. We are awaiting responses from partner organizations for these workshops. Our first organized event will be a Halloween board game night next Thursday, October 26th (we'll start circulating a flyer through email and paper). Andy and I are also planning to meet with RA to discuss food labeling and the availability of particular diets such as halal or kosher diets. Any comments or suggestions for any of these matters are welcome! Please send these to services@cunydisc.org

Questions:

IS (Speech-Language Hearing Sciences): do people need to RSVP for the event?

AW (Political Science) Nope! But bring your own board games if you want.

F. Officer for Technology & Library (Marlene Nava Ramos)

Three quick updates:

1. *Virtual Desktop*: Since our last meeting, Jessica Murray who is a program rep and part of the Student Tech Fee Committee proactively put together a survey and the DSC helped to circulate it. We attempted to superficially document the number of students were affected by the termination of Citrix. Through a lot of emails and in-person conversations which ultimately culminated into a and Meeting with CUNY's IT department, we were able to identify 10 programs which are most highly used and should be available through our computer laptops and in the long term future through Virtual Desktop.
2. *TPS Resolution*: I worked with Sean Kennedy who is part of the Adjunct Project to draft a follow up resolution to our last resolution related to DACA. Our goal is to submit a final

resolution next month or by the end of the semester which addresses the criminalization of immigrants and immigration by the Trump Administration.

3. *First Floor Library*: I'm eager to work with everyone who is interested in being part of conversations to devise an inclusionary planning.
 - a) Begin to put together an ad-hoc Library (informal, non-voting) committee for infrastructural changes.
 - b) Started gathering examples of library plans -- Cornell University's Mann Library and Columbia University's Teachers College Library, as well as floor plans from College Rank survey (collegerank.net)
 - c) Start working with Keith Wilson, the Director of the Center of Humanities, about student input.

Questions:

Taha Poonawala (Middle-Eastern Studies): Is there any progress with web printing? It still has some problems, ie you can only print one-sided. Also a lot of people don't know about it. The people working at the library didn't know how to do it.

MNR (EES): Some of the things are not easily fixed but I will bring it up.

RK (Comp Science): Can you give copies of the step-by-step guide to the librarians/library staff?

MNR: Yes.

III. New Business

A. Constitution and Bylaws Changes (Voting Item)

AP: The constitutional amendments and bylaws changes being presented today will be voted on at the next plenary meeting.

The first change regards the language about at-large representatives.

AP motions to table this item of business until the November plenary because we need a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority.

Carlos Camacho seconds.

The motion passes unanimously and the amendment has been tabled until November.

Proposed bylaw changes concern the makeup of the outreach committee. Those will be voted on at the next plenary.

B. DSC 2017-2018 Budget (Voting Item)

This budget was presented at the last plenary; however, registration was much much higher than expected, so several budget lines have been increased by greater than ten percent. The surplus has been allocated to a number of budget lines. We are also planning to bulk up the "Oversight and Special Expenditures" budget line.

AP (Political Science) motions to approve budget.

William Novello (Political Science, Proxy for Jen Tang) seconds.

Motion passes unanimously

C. Resolution on the Student Activity Fee Policy Revision (Voting Item)

TW (Psychology)): the language of this resolution is very similar to the USS but the DSC is calling for the Student Activity Fee Task Force to be constituted of at least 50% students (ie. 6 students on the 12-person committee)

RK (Computer Science) motions to approve. Charlotte Thurston seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

D. Resolution in Support of Continuing Federal Temporary Protected Status for Haitian Nationals in CUNY Campuses and Their Family Members (Voting Item)

Marlene Nava Ramos (EES) & Sean Kennedy (English) present on the resolution. This is an extension of our previous resolution in support of DACA students, but is oriented specifically towards how the transformations to DACA/TPS affect Haitian nationals.

SK: There was discussion at the last plenary as to whether we should include this in the last resolution, so this separate resolution is what came of it.

MNR: Along with Florida, NY is also a place where a lot of Haitian nationals reside. The idea is also to do a series of immigration-related resolutions: ie. the travel ban, the hurricane relief efforts in Puerto Rico. And we are seeking people who want to be involved in drafting these and other resolutions.

RK (Computer Science): The resolution seems more broadly about refugee policies while the title is about TPS. Should the title reflect that?

MNR: The goal is not merely to extend TPS but also to think about longer-term solutions, paths to citizenship.

SK: It seems that Haitian nationals are a weird grey area, where they're not legally refugees but are de facto refugees. If we make the title more broad we might be leaving out groups like Haitian nationals.

RK: Like the idea of a broader resolution on refugee policy.

Nicholas Glastonbury (Anthropology) motions to approve the agenda with modifications that have been made. TW seconds. Motion passes unanimously.

E. Chartered Org Presentations:

CT (English): We have three representatives from proposed chartered orgs to present their materials to be approved as official DSC-chartered organizations. They present tonight and we vote to approve them next month.

1. CUNY STEM Outreach (Vee Singh):

We're not necessarily planning on hosting conferences or bringing in speakers, but doing STEM outreach in underprivileged neighborhoods. Many of the CUNY colleges are in these neighborhoods and so the goal is to make young people and kids scientifically conscious. We plan to do this with demonstration sessions, i.e. bringing kids to City College and show them physics, chemistry, biology demonstrations - hands-on learning experience. We also want to do tutoring and workshops with kids.

We collaborated with MRS and City College Physics Club to do some workshops.

Questions:

MNR: What's the age range?

VS: Ideally middle school. Also I plan on applying for outside funding.

Alexis Brewer (Biology): We have someone in biology doing something similar whom you should get in touch with!

IS (SLHS): Why just STEM?

We're open to other fields as well - as long as it's hands-on and inspiring that's what we're going for. But STEM is something that they particularly lack in schools, so we want to focus on that in particular.

RK (Computer Science): Do you have any agreements with other organizations?

Yep! And we also want to expand beyond Harlem.

RK: By becoming a chartered org you would get legitimacy but also funding. What will you do with that money?

VS: Demonstration supplies, food, snacks.

Richard Smith (Psychology): This is v good idea. How do you plan to measure outcomes.

VS: We can help students prepare for their Regents. We can see how their scores are improved, as well as grades.

Gwen Shaw (Art History): Have you contacted CUNY Women's STEM?

VS: I haven't but it didn't look from their charter that they were doing this.

Gwen: You can have a mutually beneficial relationship with them. Are you planning on partnering with other orgs at other colleges, as well as Futures Initiative, TLC?

VS: I hope so!

JN (English): Different scales of events.

We're all about collaboration and community and getting involved.

Katherine, MALS proxy: What's your email?

VS: veenarinesingh@gmail.com

2.CUNY MRS (Materials Research Society) (Francesco Lavini)

MRS already active elsewhere in the CUNY system

There are not many STEM organizations currently chartered by the DSC. We would get support from the MRS national chapter.

RK (Computer Science): Are you planning to collaborate with the ASRC?

FL: Yes, I work there - it's a brand new lab, we have a lot of means in the lab.

GS (Art History): Excited about this and would love to collaborate with tech, text, textile group.

FL: Contact us at mrscuny@gmail.com

3.Puerto Rican Studies Group

RK (Computer Science): What is the structure of the organization?

Horizontal organization, collaboration, etc.

IV. Announcements

A. Participatory Budgeting Funding Opportunity and Application Timeline

Steering met in May with the participatory budgeting campaigners from Queens College. This is a draft of the PB process. The PB budget is \$6000 with max amount of \$3000 and min \$1500. We are asking for proposals to be submitted. A committee will be formed today that will review the applications and give feedback to the proposals. After that a town hall will happen and then it will be opened for voting to the whole student body.

TO (Educational Psychology) inquiries about interest in forming an Ad-hoc committee on Participatory Budgeting.

WN (Political Science, Proxy for Jen Tang) volunteers for the committee as a member of DSO

TO: Motion is withdrawn because quorum is not met

SK (English): What do you expect the time commitment to be?

TO: It depends on how many applications we receive and that will determine how much time it will be. The timeline also indicates when the application period and voting period is. The Ad-hoc committee meets to review the submissions which is one time commitment.

B. Meetings Planned with Administrators

1. Next meeting with Office of Student Affairs is 11/15

2. Next Grad Council meeting 10/25

C. Upcoming Community Meetings

AW (Political Science): President Robinson is holding a community meeting on 11/2

SLS committee is planning a town hall on 10/27 at 4:30 pm to plan a united message before this meeting with President Robinson and gather participants for the President's meeting

We would like the reps to advertise this town hall to students in their programs and gather information from students on concerns in their communities

CT (English): Those are good strategies!

AW: We want to make this a general strategy going forward

D. Hardship fund

1. Reach out to funding@cunydisc.org or the DSC more generally if you want to help out with it.

IS (SLHS): Can program allocations be used for the hardship fund?

TO: It might not be legal or allowable, we have to check with CCB to make sure.

E. Additional announcements

CT: AELLA is putting on a great event next week, everyone attend!

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM by unanimous consent