

## Plenary Minutes February 15, 2019

### Attendance

*Present:* Kathryn Alessi, Andrew Alger, Nora Bartosik (Proxy Xiangyu Zhou), Yuliya Barycheuskaya, Jelena Begonja (Proxy Tristen Goodwin), Kyla Bender-Baird, Ekaterina Bezborodko, Shoumik Bhattacharya (Proxy Tenn Joe Linn), Elizabeth Che, Elena Chavez Goycochea, Merrit Corrigan, Kristofer Eckelhoff (Proxy William Novello), Shawn Fagan, Huber Jaramillo Gil, Damaly Gonzalez, Katia Henrys, Kelsey Hom (Proxy Irena Hoxie), Mounira Keghida, Sean Kennedy (Proxy Rafael Mutis), Raj Korpan, Mary Jean McNamara, Lisa Millsaps, David Monda, Marlene Nava Ramos, Dominique Nisperos, Teresa Ober, Bernadette Ojukwu, Kieran O'Reilly, Alison Parks, Kajal Patel, Ana Perry, Lily Quiroa, Saira Rafiee, Jules Salomone, Janina Leonie Selzer, Sami Saumi (Proxy Jeannette Huaman), Liza Shapiro (Proxy Fikreab Admasu), Gwen Shaw, Hamad Sindhi, Anna Stenkamp (Proxy Stephanie Sorage), Iris Strangmann, Armando Tapia, Charlotte Thurston, Mara Valderrama, Steven Vallone, Yilin Wang, Alicen Weida, Tellisia Williams, Anais Wong

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

*Absent:* Kutay Agardici, Sara Akant, Felix Grezes, Roderick Hurley, Fadi Kaftey, Divya Matta, Jason Nielsen, Yasmine Ouchikh, Cecilia Salvi, Sherry Sayavongsa, Dellamol Sebastian, Zhuo Yin

RK called the meeting to order at 4:52 PM.

RK announced the new incentive system.

### I. Approval of Agenda

Alison Parks (Political Science) moved to approve the agenda with emendations. The first was to correct the name of the Office for Funding and replace that with Elizabeth Che. The second was to strike Old Business item A: "DSC Statement Opposing CUNY Endorsement of the Amazon HQ2 Expansion." The third was add New Business item B: "Presentation of Changes to DSC Bylaws."

Dominique Nisperos (Sociology): Seconds.

AP (Political Science): Commented that while still in support of the statement on the floor last meeting. The current statement is now no longer relevant. We must still be attention to the decisions made by Amazon, and the new CUNY Chancellor.

All voted in favor. The motion passes unanimously.

## **II. Approval of Minutes of November 16, 2018**

Dominique Nisperos (Sociology): Moves to approve the minutes.

Liza Shapiro (Comparative Literature): Seconds

Discussion:

Jason Nielsen (English): Makes a friendly emendation to add "Nora Bartosik" to those who were present at the November 2018 plenary.

DN (Sociology): Accepts the friendly emendation.

TO (Educational Psychology): Calls the motion to a vote. The motion passes unanimously.

Note on order: Votes for the passage of the agenda were recorded after the votes of the minutes approval.

## **III. Executive Committee Reports**

### **1. Co-Chair for Student Affairs (Alison Parks)**

*Chartered Org Updates:*

- One Chartered Organization is active as of Tuesday, 12 February. Rosters for Spring 2019 are open again so please go sign some to show your support for student-led groups!

*SPARC Training*

- Many of you have still not completed the SPARC training. It is imperative that you do so - the university is required by state law to ensure that all student leaders have taken this online training. When you have completed the training you **MUST** email the certificate of completion to Eric Brown in the Office of Student Affairs. His email address has been in the messages sent to representatives by Teresa.

*Room 5495*

- It has now been requested that security begin unlocking the DSC Lounge (Room 5495) along with all the other publicly accessible spaces in the building. Please help to spread the word to your constituents that this new lounge spaces is now open to them (although it may not be reserved for events). We'll be publicizing it next week more widely.

*ELECTIONS!!!!!!!!!!!!*

- The nominations ballot for the 2019/2020 DSC Elections are open, have been open, and will remain open until March 1. If you wish to remain on the body **PLEASE** nominate yourselves! If you're interested in seeing new faces on the body, nominate others and encourage others to self-nominate! There will be a number of vacancies on steering next year so if that's something you think you may be interested, that's extra incentive to make sure that you're nominated. Finally, nominations in the spring elections open program representatives seats. If nobody from your program is nominated this month, you're program will not have a seat on the body and will have to petition in the fall to create one. Save yourselves the trouble - nominate now!

*Questions:*

Yulia Barycheuskaya (History): What is the time during which people can use the room 5495 lounge?

AP: If the building is open, the room should be open.

DN (Sociology): Will the conversion to the lounge affect how mail is stored there?

AP (Political Science): Yes, chartered org leaders will get

## **2. Co-Chair for Communications (Teresa Ober)**

### *Recent Past Meetings*

- College Association (December 18)
- Graduate Center Website Re-design team (December 20): Discussed requests for proposals for website vendor.

### *Upcoming Meetings*

- Meeting with the Office of Student Affairs (March 1)
- Meeting with Interim Provost of the GC (March 12)
- Meeting with Interim President of the GC (March 18)

### *Social Media Correspondent Position*

- The DSC is hiring a social media correspondent. The time commitment is approximately 3 hours per week, with earnings of up to \$2500 per academic year. If you are interested in this position, please email [ccc@cunydsc.org](mailto:ccc@cunydsc.org) or see the recent email distributed to students. Applications due February 22.

### *Dissertation Showcase Reviewers*

- The Office of Communications and Marketing at the GC is seeking nominations for 2 student representatives to serve on selection committee for Dissertation Showcase this year. The time commitment would likely involve at most two 1-2 hour meetings with faculty and staff this spring semester. If you or a fellow student are interested, please email [ccc@cunydsc.org](mailto:ccc@cunydsc.org).

### *DSC INTERNATIONAL Listserv*

- A new listserv specifically to address the needs and interests of international students has been created under the leadership of the Officer for Outreach. If you would like to join the listserv, you can either find it in the GC listserv webpage, or just email me at [ccc@cunydsc.org](mailto:ccc@cunydsc.org) and I will add you directly.

### *Announcements:*

- DSC-L listserv: To share announcements about upcoming events, or just post a classified ad for an apartment or roommate, the DSC-L listserv is a great start. We currently have nearly 700 subscribers. If you would like to be added to the listserv, please email [ccc@cunydsc.org](mailto:ccc@cunydsc.org). All subscribers can also actively post.
- For those of you who have not heard, the new Chancellor of CUNY has been announced. Former Queens College President, Félix V. Matos Rodríguez, will be assuming the role.

- If you are a representative, and you have not been receiving meeting material about a week in advance of the meetings, please email me at [ccc@cunydsc.org](mailto:ccc@cunydsc.org).
- If you are interested in serving on a CUNY or Graduate Center-wide committee, please let me know. Particularly for Graduate Council Committees, we are starting to solicit nominations. Email [ccc@cunydsc.org](mailto:ccc@cunydsc.org) for more information.
- Finally, there will be a spring party on March 15, after the next plenary. Be sure to stick around and feel free to invite fellow friends and colleagues, as well.

*Questions:*

YB (History):

Ana Perry (Art History): I was on the Dissertation Selections Committee next year. It was very eye-opening to read dissertations in other areas.

Ekaterina Bezborodko (Earth and Environmental Sciences): Question about serving on the Dissertation Showcase Committee.

AP (Art History): You are not responsible for communicating with the students directly. Though if something is not phrased well in their application, you can try to advocate for them.

### **3. Co-Chair for Business (Raj Korpan)**

*Participatory Budget*

- We got 4 proposals- accessible door for library, replacement and restocking of pantries, installation of wireless antenna on roof, and event to support artwork related to trans and gender-non-conforming communities. We will convene the committee and decide whether we need to hold a vote or whether we will just fund all four projects.

*DSC Website*

- DSC website transitioning off of GC server this month, purchasing process finally complete

*Program Allocation:*

- If you are one of two, or more, reps and still haven't yet submitted authorization memo for funds, please e-mail [ccb@cunydsc.org](mailto:ccb@cunydsc.org), same for chartered org. leaders
- All reps should have received a tracking sheet for program allocation funds

*Legal Consultations*

- Legal consultations are available and intended for GC students only. Spread the word! email [ccb@cunydsc.org](mailto:ccb@cunydsc.org)

*Movie Passes*

- Have Angelika, Regal and AMC discounted movie tickets available. Check [cunydsc.org](http://cunydsc.org) for office hours to buy tickets.

*Emergency Funds*

- Petrie Emergency Fund still available for students. Applications are on the financial aid website.

*Reminders for Reimbursement Requests*

- Items that are purchased must be delivered directly to the Graduate Center, Honoraria must be paid directly to speakers

*Questions:*

Kathryn Alessi (MALS): For the program allocation reimbursements, I should now enter the EMPLID?

RK (Computer Science): You can continue using BannerID for the rest of the year.

KA (MALS): What are we going to do about submitting our receipts to you?

RK (Computer Science): We can try to get a mailbox. For now, just put under my office door.

Mary Jean MacNamara (Classics): What is happening with the Petrie Funds?

RK (Computer Science): We are contributing about 12K from our DSC budget. The The Petrie Fund has offered some money as well to last for 2 years. The OSA is anticipating that this fund will be renewed next year. On the non-medical side, there is about 10K left. There are weekly meetings to review submissions.

Shun Feng (Criminal Justice): Question about posting program allocation?

RK: These will be posted soon.

Bernadette Ojukwu (Speech-Language Hearing Sciences): The procedures for the chartered organizations need to submit requests for reimbursements is that same as that for program representatives?

RK: Yes, it is only chartered organization leaders who are authorized to spend money on behalf of the org. Similarly, for program representatives there must be one person authorized to request the check requests.

AW: To clarify, other people could be spending the money, but only the program representative / chartered organization leader.

#### **4. USS Delegate (Roderick Hurley)**

*Rod Hurley was absent. RK read report.*

*USS Plenary - 11/18 - Guttman Community College*

- Over the break the State Maintenance of Effort Bill that would have provided CUNY with much needed capital funding was vetoed again by Gov. Cuomo despite USS lobbying efforts.
- On January 23, 2019 NY State Senate passed [Bill 1250](#) - The Jose Peralta NY State DREAM Act. USS, along with several other organizations has been calling for this legislation for over 10 years. The DREAM act basically amends education laws to remove state funding restrictions and make higher education more accessible to children of immigrants. It has been named after State Senator Jose Peralta, a former USS Vice Chair for Legislative Affairs, who died suddenly last December.
- At the start of the year USS fully implemented the CUNYfirst system for all transactions. This has caused several problems in USS's ability to access and utilize student funds. In addition, the USS debit card has been cancelled and all purchases must be made from CUNY authorized vendors.

- Four vacancies opened in the USS Steering Committee due to resignation, graduation and academic ineligibility.
  - Legislative Affairs, Student Technology Fee, Evening and Part-Time Students, Community Colleges
- Plenary meeting was held on Sunday, January 27, 2019, at Guttman Community College. Elections were held for the vacant positions and the following persons were elected:
  - VC Legislative Affairs: Frantzy Luzincourt, CCNY
  - VC Community Colleges: Nicole Sanchez, LGCC
  - VC Student Technology Fee: Rejwoan Muttabar, NY City Tech
- The position of VC for Evening and Part-Time Students remain unfilled and an election for this position will be held at the next meeting of the Plenary.
- USS delegates (not me) and other CUNY students are currently attending The Association of Black and Puerto Rican Legislators annual conference in Albany. USS attends this event every year, at a total cost of about \$30,000 and contributes over \$10,000 to their fundraising Scholarship Gala.
  - Over the past 2 months there have been several [news stories](#) and [accusations](#) of financial mismanagement by the Association of Black and Puerto Rican Legislators. Specifically, the incoming State Attorney General is "looking into" [reports](#) that the Association has not paid out a single scholarship in the past 2 years, despite raising thousands of dollars, and while spending lavishly on conference parties.
- After unsuccessful attempts to get written confirmation from the Association that they were in fact paying out scholarships, myself and 2 other USS steering committee members voted to support a motion for USS to boycott the Scholarship Gala. The motion did not carry.
- USS meeting documents can be viewed [here](#).

#### *USS Plenary - 12/09 - Guttman Community College*

- Representatives from CUNY Athletics addressed the Plenary. They briefed USS about the work that CUNYAC does around the University and ways that students benefit. CUNYAC is moving toward supporting more inclusive and adaptive sports, including a CUNY wheelchair basketball team. The reps mentioned the [Students First Rewards](#) Program which awards students who attend the most CUNYAC events with full tuition scholarships.
- Budget for FY2019 approved. One major change is the appointment of a part-time Communication Director at a cost of \$10,000.
- CUNY Black Male Initiative (BMI) requested to be recognized as a USS chartered CUNY-wide organization. This request was denied as USS currently has no provisions or guidelines for chartering.
- USS meeting documents can be viewed [here](#).

### *Board of Trustees Meeting*

- BOT Special Meeting on 1/14 - CUNY's Budget Request was released late - day before executive budget released - essentially making it meaningless. TAP gap, mental health funding addressed for the first time. Approved - 2 No's and 1 abstention
- BOT Special Meeting on 2/13 - Voted to appoint Felix Matos Rodriguez as next CUNY Chancellor, effective May 1st.
- All BOT meeting documents and video archives can be found [here](#).

### *Events/Meetings*

- 11/30 - Represented DSC at CUNY Council of Student Government Presidents. I provided a brief outline of the issues we address: ongoing battles, current issues and priorities, achievements. Some issues highlighted at other campuses: Title IX, safety/facilities, student services
- 1/18 - Met with Interim Chancellor Vita Rabinowitz, Angie Datta Kamath - University Dean for Continuing Education and Workforce Development, and Amy McIntosh - Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Strategy, to discuss CUNY's involvement with Amazon's proposed Queens HQ.
  - At that time CUNY admin were very optimistic about benefits to CUNY
  - Of course, on Wednesday 2/13 Amazon announced that it is canceling plans to set up HQ2 in NYC, and the website that was set up to allow the public to access information and documents related to the move has gone offline.
- 2/11 - Went to Albany to lobby the State Assembly for an additional \$15M in funding support for students with disabilities at CUNY and SUNY. There has not been an increase in funding for this population of students since the '90's, while the number of students with disabilities at CUNY has increased by about 30% to over 10,000 in the same period.

### *Announcements*

- Monday, February 25 - **BOT Committee Meetings**
  - Proposal to approve academic excellence fees for all Masters programs across the university at once.
- Proposed changes to Title IX: Off-campus incidents no longer covered; persons filing complaints must sit in a meeting with the alleged perpetrators. Deadline to submit comments to US Department of Education is tonight, 2/15.  
<https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=ED-2018-OCR-0064-11187&fbclid=IwAR0PomdKQCKD2tRKPSsQlXbx4kYX-ISLzVnHm7yFXyKm5pKw8VW1eecCxaA>
- Please send me an email if you would like to help organize against any of these.
- Thursday, March 14 - **CUNY: Culturally United** - John Jay College; This event will celebrate the cultural diversity of the CUNY student body, with participation from student clubs and orgs from across the university.
  - Chartered orgs at the GC interested in showcasing the work or projects can sign up [here](#).
- Thursday, May 2, 6pm, **CUNY's Got Talent** - Proshanky Auditorium at the Graduate Center.

- CUNY wide talent contest with over \$5,000 in prize money.
- Interested in auditioning? Send an email to [events@usscuny.org](mailto:events@usscuny.org)

*Questions:*

Any questions, please email [uss@cunydisc.org](mailto:uss@cunydisc.org).

### **5. UFS Liaison (Anaïs Wong)**

- On Tuesday November 27, I talked to the UFS Executive Committee, to argue in favor of making the liaison to t
- *The UFS Academic Freedom subcommittee* submitted a report addressing a concern raised by a member at the December UFS plenary: the question was how an Appeals Committee determines that a student complaint against a faculty member would be a matter of Academic Freedom (and thus dismissed). The committee found that there are several steps in the appeals process where the question of Academic Freedom is addressed, and concluded that the 2 faculty members elected yearly to each Appeals Committee should be “knowledgeable about academic freedom.” The relevant CUNY policy is [Policy 5.20](#).
- *The Faculty Advisory Council to the Research Foundation* reported that the Research Foundation (RF) published [survey results](#) about their customer service and participants’ understanding of their roles with respect to the grant process.
- *The next UFS plenary* will take place **next Tuesday February 19**. UFS is still in the process of revising its Charter. Proposed changes make all units “instructional staff” eligible to run for representation at UFS, which includes graduate teaching fellows.
- I will meet with UFS chair and Structure chair next Tuesday Feb 19 to discuss the process to get representation for GC students at UFS.
- *Title IX survey* is getting finalized and distribution will start in March.

*Questions:*

Iris Strangman (Speech-Language Hearing Sciences): I was wondering about the results of the survey from the Research Foundation. I would like to see these.

Anais Wong (Political Science): The results of this survey will be circulated. I can send to you.

## **IV. Steering Officer Reports**

### **1. Officer for Funding (Elizabeth Che)**

- The Grants Committee met on February 5, 2019 to review the grants submitted for the January 15 deadline.
- We approved up to \$6,133.38 at the February 5 meeting. The total approved until today is \$16,362.38. The amount remaining in our grants budget is \$3,637.62.
- Grant proposals approved for funding include:
  - Sponsorship of the Nature, Ecology & Society Colloquium - \$700
  - An Interdisciplinary Symposium on Le Roman de Fauvel: Performance, Pre-Concert Talks, Post-Concert Discussion, and Reception - \$700
  - Black Lives, Conference - \$700
  - 9th Annual History Graduate Student Conference - \$700



- Erasures: Excision and Indelibility in the Art of the America - \$700
  - Shift: Blood and Earth and Soil - \$700
  - CUNY-wide "\$7K or Strike" Conference and Organizing Day - \$533.38
  - Change and Transformation Conference - \$700
  - Screening Performance, Performing Screens: New Projections in Theatre and Media - \$700
- The next and last grant proposal deadline for this academic year is March 15, 2019 at 11:59pm (EST).
  - The Grants Committee will review proposals on March 26, 2019 at 2pm in room 5489.

*Questions:*

None.

## **2. Officer for Governance & Membership (Alison Parks)**

*Membership:*

- New member! Petition received from Lisa Millsaps to open seat in Urban Education (voting item).
- New member! Yilin Wang from Educational Psychology as an At-large Representative.
- Second seat in Sociology is closed. One person was nominated but declined.
- Special election for Nursing Program rep -- ballot for nominations sent out.
- And thank you to everyone that could proxy tonight!

*Governance:*

- Constitution & Bylaws meeting on Friday, February 15th. I will report on any proposed changes (if any) at the next Plenary meeting.

*Questions:*

AP (Political Science) offered to take questions, but also to email Jason at [membership@cunydisc.org](mailto:membership@cunydisc.org). Special elections are happening for programs that don't have representation.

Francesca Silva (Comparative Literature): If you look at the spreadsheet with DSC funds, it will show which programs have representatives.

## **3. Officer for Health & Wellness (Ana Perry)**

*Finals Relief Stations:*

- Massages went well in December. 42 over 2 days.
- Please circulate the submission form for recommending doctor's. Another company no longer takes our insurance.

*Questions:*

Rafale Mutis (Earth and Environmental Sciences): Do you know if master's students get health insurance.

AP (Art History): No, you have to be employed to get health insurance. Only if you are on payroll.

AP (Political Science): Another direct response to that, and what OSA mentioned when they were here earlier. MK (History): Was hoping you could send the links that will make it easier for us to send out.

David Monda (Political Science): Do the NYSHIP plans include dependents?

AP (Art History): Yes, but it costs more.

YB. (History): You can also include your partner, assuming you have lived for at least 6 months, and you have proof that you have lived together for 6 months, then you can add your partner to that insurance.

BO (SLHS): The news that AP just stated about people who have tuition remission and being eligible for NYSHIP, can that be shared?

AP (Political Science): This is something that is to be rolled out, most likely Fall 2019, but has not been formally announced at this time.

DM (Political Science): Question about NYSHIP?

AP (Art History): For that, please contact Scott Voorhees.

DN (Sociology): Questions about the roll of this health insurance for tuition students.

AP (Pol Science): Other than the roll out in fall 2019, there were no specifics.

RM (Earth and Environmental Sciences): And this is only for GC fellowships?

AP (Political Science): Right now, it is only for GC students, or those who have a contract title, but for science students, they have a grant distributed through RFCUNY, and may not be eligible. based on the number of bench sciences student who enroll, they may continue this program of affordable health insurance.

YB (History): There are several free health services available. There is a center where they offer free STD tests. I can add these to the list.

#### **4. Officer for Outreach (Shoumik Bhattacharya)**

*Shoumik Bhattacharya was absent. RK read the report.*

A new listserv has been set up for international students. This is mainly to serve as a forum where international students can reach out with questions/concerns to a self-selected group that would hopefully have useful experiences. You can sign up for this listserv by clicking on this link and entering your information: [https://gc.listserv.cuny.edu/Scripts/wa-gc.exe?SUBED1=DSC\\_INTERNATIONAL&A=1](https://gc.listserv.cuny.edu/Scripts/wa-gc.exe?SUBED1=DSC_INTERNATIONAL&A=1)

This link has already been shared on the DSC listserv, but PLEASE share on departmental and other listservs you subscribe to. It will be sent out once more on the DSC listserv, please do look out for it and share it.

The first Outreach Committee event will be at 6pm on Tuesday the 5th of March in Rm. 5414. The event is open to everyone, but I am hoping international students who were mistreated by the institution in many ways last semester, will check in if everything seems to be going well. I will be sharing the poster on DSC and the new International Student listserv, please share with other modes you have access to when you see it.

I have checked with the bursar office, as Feb 14ish is when internationals should get their stipend checks, and they say that they see be no systemic issues this semester.

*Questions:*

None.

### **5. Officer for Student Life & Services (Elena Chávez)**

- The Student Life and Services Committee has been active this past semester. There were two self-defense workshops, there was a volunteer program in Hudson Park, there were several board game nights, and there was a civil resistance.
- This spring semester, we are focusing on two things. The first is mental health. In collaboration with NY Thrives, they will be facilitating one training here, The meeting will tentatively take place on April 4 and April 11. It is 4 hours each day. PhD students will be trained to identify signs of mental health distress, pain, an a toolkit to respond effectively. The workshop is 4 hours each day. Please spread the word once the sign-up form is released.
- We are also working in coordinating with the UFS in trying to gather some information on Title IX and how it is working at the GC. We are wondering if there are some volunteers for people who might want to join the efforts for this project. It would be great if anyone is interested in joining the tabling sessions. For the healing sessions, we are trying to do collective work.
- The Board Game Nights will start on March 14th.

*Questions:*

MJM (Classics): When will the training be announced?

Elena Chávez (LAILAC): I will send this out by Monday. Definitely next week.

Hamad Sindhi (Sociology): I highly recommend this training. This is really good. I've actually found it useful while teaching.

EC (LAILAC): Thank you. That is helpful.

JS (Philosophy): Are we mandatory Title IX reporters when we teach in some capacity at CUNY schools?

EC (LAILAC):

TO (Educational Psychology): I believe that you are not required to report this to a supervisor. However, you should consider referring the student to health services.

MH (History): Much of this information is in the SPARC Training.

Charlotte Thurston (English): Something to keep in mind is that while you may not be a mandated reporter, if you share certain information with a supervisor, they may be required to report it.

### **6. Officer for Technology & Library (Marlene Nava Ramos)**

- The GC Library is accepting applications for the Open Pedagogy Fellowship for the Spring 2019 semester, each carrying a \$2500 stipend. The Fellowship experience will enhance
- Student Technology Fee Proposal due today to Elaine Montilla ([EMontilla@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:EMontilla@gc.cuny.edu)). We received two great proposals for peer-review: 1) Citrix, or a similar, remote system for windows users; 2) Equipment for the Elebash Recital Hall (concert, event recording, live

streaming): <https://opencuny.org/gctech/2018/12/07/call-for-proposals-student-technology-fee-budget/>

- Many thanks to student who worked over the winter break to write about the Object Library and the student advocacy work we accomplished. We postponed sharing updates until the next issue of the *Advocate*, and potentially a special issue.
- Thanks to union-student advocacy, IT Services hosted in-person office hours for the first two weeks of the semester in the study room located in the second floor of the Library. DSC will continue to advocate for continued in-person support:  
<https://opencuny.org/gctech/2018/12/07/it-services-helpdesk/>
- I am exploring possible partnerships with either special centers, institutes, and/or offices at the Graduate Center who would be willing to collaborate and organize writing-workspace fellowships for GC students. One of the possible outcomes might be an inventory of available spaces and their designated office. This exploratory project comes out of our conversations with administrators on library space and the student priority for functional workspaces, a priority identified by our 2017 and 2018 surveys on the library.

*Questions:*

BO (Speech-Language Hearing Sciences): These should have been submitted last week?

MNR (Earth and Environmental Sciences): The deadline to send to OLT was last week. The deadline today is to send to Elaine Montilla.

MJM (Classics): I spoke with the Chief Librarian about the physical space. One thing that has been bothering me is the windows in the library.

## V. New Business

### 1. Ratification of New Members (Voting)

AP (Political Science) presented. We have two new members. Lisa Millsaps created a seat through petition. A new at-large representative was appointed. To be new members, they have to be ratified by the body. AP moved to ratify LM as a program representative to to Urban Education and YW to an at-large representative.

AW (Political Science): Seconds

There was no discussion. The motion passes unanimously.

### 2. Presentation of Changes to the By-Laws

AP (Political Science) presented. The Constitution and Bylaws Committee of the DSC met today. The Bylaw changes are presented at one meeting, and are then voted on during the following meeting (in March).

Proposed Change 1: Bylaw 1.2 Digital Signatures

*A digital signature is valid only if sent via the signatory's Graduate Center email account or if it is accompanied by the signatory's Banner ID CUNYFirst (EMPLID) and, in the case of matriculated students, the student's program.*

Proposed Change 2: Bylaw 3.2.c Meetings

*The Grants Committee shall meet during first weeks of October, November, December, February, March, and April.*

**Proposed Change 3: Bylaw 3.2.d Regular Applications**

*Applications for grants shall be reviewed on a regular basis with a submission deadline of the third Friday of September, October, November, January, February, and March before each scheduled meeting and a possibility for revision in the interim as requested by the Officer for Funding.*

**Proposed Change 4: Bylaw 6.1.b Grants**

*The DSC shall set aside no less than 5% of its annual operating income for grant awards.*

*Questions:*

MV (Theatre): If it is not already like that, why is it that there wasn't a meeting in March, but a deadline in March?

Elizabeth Che (Educational Psychology): The previous meeting was in January. There was no deadline in February and no meeting in March. We are adding a new a deadline in February, and we are adding that, as well as a meeting in March.

RK (Computer Science): The March deadline is the last in the year. You must apply by the March deadline to be reviewed in April.

Andrew Alger (History): If these proposed changes are approved, will they go into effect immediate.

Kyla Bender-Baird (Sociology): The deadlines have already been set at the beginning of the year, for the entire year. It will affect the 2019-2020 grants deadlines, not 2018-2019.

**VI. Announcements**

- 1. DSC Nominations: Submit Nominees before March 1**
- 2. Participatory Budget Initiative Ballot: Submit Votes on Projects**
- 3. Dissertation Showcase Review Committee: Seeking Student Nominees**
- 4. Social Media Correspondent Position: Due February 22**
- 5. Listserv for GC International Students**
- 6. DSC Spring Party: March 15**
- 7. Nature Ecology and Society Conference Society: March 1**

**VII. Adjournment**

Seeing no objections, RK (Computer Science) adjourned the meeting by unanimous consent at 6:29 PM.