

The Doctoral and Graduate Students' Council The Graduate School and University Center The City University of New York 365 Fifth Avenue, Room 5495 New York, NY 10016-4309 T: 212 817 7888 E: dsc@cunydsc.org

W: http://cunydsc.org

**DSC Plenary** *Minutes* March 20, 2020 4:30 PM

#### 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: Kathryn Alessi, Samantha Barthelemy (Proxy: Gonçalo Pessa Costa), Carly Batist, Giacomo Bianchino, Isatou Bittaye-Jobe, Shannon Brick, Yuliya Cheban, Elizabeth Che, Ming Chen, Hyein Cho, Kristofer Eckelhoff, Prathmesh Deshmukh, Andre Eliatamby, Sonja Gandert, Michael Greer, Jane Guskin, Roderick Hurley, Bertrand Ithurburn, Adam Kocurek, Raj Korpan, Andrew Kotick, Ariel Leutheusser (proxy: Marianne Madoré), Tenn Joe Lim, Mary Jean McNamara, Jason Nielsen, Kwame Ocran, Bernadette Ojukwu, Kieran O'Reilly, Alison Parks, Carmin Quijano, Sami Sauma, Sherry Sayavongsa, Gwen Shaw, Queenie Sukhadia, Joseph Torres-González, Joseph van der Naald, Zhuo Yin, Anthony Wheeler, Anais Wong (Proxy: David Dansu)..

Absent: Angie Alvarado, Yuliya Barycheuskaya, Kiera Bono, Shoumik Bhattacharya (resigned), Kiera Bono, Elena Chavez, Braden Campbell, Julia Danitz, Sarah Frantz, Raven Gomez, Carolina Heredia, Rachael Joakim, Simon Kostelanetz, Fuxian Li, Casina Malinchak, Zachary Mitnik, David Monda, Lauren Moton, Valicia Philbert, Andres Rayas, Elsa Saade, Andriele Silva, Yilin Wang.

Elizabeth Che (Educational Psychology) calls the meeting to order at 4:32pm

### **Approval of Agenda**

Zhuo Yin (Physics) moves to approve the agenda

Giacomo Bianchino (Comp. Lit) seconds the motion.

Vote: Motion passes unanimously

#### Approval of the Minutes of the February 21, 2020 Plenary Meeting II.

ZY (Physics) moves to approve the minutes.

Adam Kocurek (History) seconds the motion.

Vote: Motion passes unanimously

#### III. **Executive Committee Reports**

# A. Co-Chair for Student Affairs (Elizabeth Che)

- Nominations period closed on March 2nd. There was a 1.5% turnout compared to 2.4% last year.
- 16 Programs do not have nominations and will need to petition for an open seat in the upcoming year. Programs can start preparing the petition now.
  - Audiology
  - Biography and Memoir (M.A. Program)
  - Chemistry 0
  - Classics 0
  - Data Analysis and Visualization (M.S. Program)
  - Data Science (M.S. Program)
  - **Economics**
  - French 0
  - Middle Eastern Studies (M.A. Program)



- Music (DMA Program)
- Music (PhD Program)
- Nursing
- o Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences (M.S. Program)
- o Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences
- o Theatre
- o Women's and Gender Studies (M.A. Program)
- 23 Programs have at least 1 nomination. A ballot will be created for the program if the nominee does not opt out.
  - o Nominees were contacted by the Co-Chair for Communication Roderick Hurley.
  - Anyone within the program who wants to run for representation and have a program ballot can write themselves in (and have others in their program write them in).
- Elections period will begin April 1 and end May 1, 2020 through eBallot.

Kwame Ocran (MALS): I am astounded with how quickly we were able to get on to a web platform. However, I feel there should be some pause to the DSC operations. I have found it difficult to move online with other responsibilities. I think a stopgap should be put into place for coronavirus.

EC (Educational Psychology): The 1.5% turnout was before we started distance learning because of coronavirus. That number is within the norm. Last year the turnout was 2.4%. We as representatives of the DSC need to reach out to students in our programs more to encourage participation in elections.

Alison Parks (Political Science): I wanted to remind everyone that even if your program does not have a seat on the ballot, you should still be encouraging students to vote for the at-large positions and other positions. Your constituents should still vote, even if you don't have a seat open currently.

Isatou Bittaye-Jobe (Women and Gender Studies): Can you clarify more about the petition? Can any students petition, or does it have to be through the EO?

AK (History): Any student can file a petition in order to get a seat reopened. The forms are on the DSC website to petition for a program rep seat. You need to get 20 signatures from students in your program or 10% of the total number of students. Your APO or EO will have the number of students for your program. Once you have those signatures and there is a representative chosen, that info can be submitted to the CCSA or the OGM. Then we would verify the signatures and bring a valid petition to the plenary for voting.

Michael Greer (Philosophy): My worry is that we have many people nominated but we have such an unclear vision of what the future will look like. We have no idea what kind of need there will be for a DSC in the future, so I'm unsure about voting.

EC (Educational Psychology): I think it is important to have structure and maintain the structure. By having the elections, we will at least have leadership in place to carry on the next steps.

Gonçalo Pessa Costa (Economics): We in economics probably did mess up things with the nominations. But we are being voted on today by petitioning.

EC (Educational Psychology): You will be the Economics rep for the rest of this semester. But for the Fall, you will need to submit a new petition so we can then ratify new Economics reps for the 2020-21 year.

AK (History): If you are interested or concerned about that process please email me. Once we get the new petition for the Fall you will be set for the whole of next year. With the virus and everything it is understandable.

GPC (Economics): So just to confirm, we will need to submit another petition for next year?

EC (Educational Psychology): Yes

Mounira Keghida (History): I want to congratulate the Steering Committee for putting together this meeting in the current environment. I think that with these things going on we need a strong DSC and we need the structure.

RK (Computer Science): We need to maintain the DSC so we can continue to advocate for students to GC administration and be able to access our student budget.



# **B.** Co-Chair for Communications (Roderick Hurley)

# **Updates**

- Please continue to send us your concerns regarding covid-19 crisis. We will share any information we have and do our best to point you toward available resources.
- DSC Co-Chairs met earlier today to discuss plans for the rest of the semester, including how we can support students and reallocate unused monies. Two possibilities we are considering are:
  - o Emergency Student Grants
  - o Donations to Petrie Emergency Medical Fund
- I represented the DSC at the CUNY Emerging Leaders Conference on 2/28 at Brooklyn College. Sessions included: Effective Time Management, Mentorship, Networking
- DSC website Grants page and Social Media page updated.
  - o Also updated social media Google form, sent out messages to students and chartered org leaders about social media correspondence and services offered.
- Attended GC Communications and Marketing Open House on 3/3 and participated in breakout sessions about:
  - o Event Planning and Promotion at the GC
  - Website Redesign Update
  - o Social Media Management
  - Kentico (website content management)
- We now have access to the GC website for adding events to the GC and CUNY calendar. Attended a Kentico training session.

### **Upcoming**

- All DSC Steering Committee and Plenary Meetings will be held via teleconference
- Elections ballot open April 1 to May 1
- April 8 16 Spring Break
- April 24 DSC Plenary Meeting

### Discussion:

GB (Comp. Lit): How are the emergency grants going to work? What is the process to apply for it?

RH (Psychology): We just came up with this. We need to still work out the details. CCB will say more during the budget presentation.

### C. Co-Chair for Business (Raj Korpan)

- We got 3 proposals for Participatory Budgeting
  - o LAILAC and Comparative Literature Lounge Renewal
  - o Proposed recreational activity at the GC and the ASRC/CDI campus of the GC, CUNY
  - o Parents of the GC
- Revised budget based on new enrollment and current situation
  - I am finding out if unused funds can be donated to non-profit organizations, most likely not
  - Any unused funds will carry-over into next year's budget we will vote on the 2020-2021 budget at the May plenary
- DSC Office hours suspended
- Check request policy changed:
  - o Please submit scanned versions of receipts and hold on to the hard copy.
  - Submit hard copies next time you are at the GC or you can mail them to me at the DSC office.
  - o Checks are no longer available for pick up.



- All checks will be mailed, please make sure the mailing address you put in requests are correct.
- o Please be aware that there will be significant delays in getting out checks.
- Legal consultations are available and intended for GC students only. Spread the word! email ccb@cunydsc.org
- Movie ticket sales on hold
- Petrie Emergency Fund still available for students. Applications are on the financial aid website.

Kristofer Eckelhoff (Music): I was going to email to my constituents about the emergency fund. Can we use some of our program allocation for the emergency fund?

RK (Computer Science): I will talk about this more when we get to the budget but yes, I reallocated funds from programs.

Kathryn Alessi (MALS): What about non-medical emergencies?

RK (Computer Science): The emergency grant would cover those as well. The Petrie Grant is also still available.

KA (MALS): Will program allocations rollover to next semester?

RH (Psychology): No, but we can put more money towards program allocations next year

Andre Eliatamby (Linguistics): Was any money put towards the Petrie Grant fund?

RH (Psychology): Yes, we did that.

# D. USS Delegate (Jane Guskin)

- Free CUNY has released 5 demands for healing the CUNY community in this pandemic--please sign and share widely! <a href="https://tinyurl.com/CUNY5demands">https://tinyurl.com/CUNY5demands</a>
- Rank and File Action (the new group coming out of 7K or Strike) produced a document for anyone teaching at CUNY with tips for giving up on normal and going easy on students and yourself: <a href="http://tiny.cc/giveupnormal">http://tiny.cc/giveupnormal</a>. Please read and share.
- USS cancelled its plenary meeting scheduled for March 22.

#### No Discussion

### E. UFS Liaison (Mary Jean McNamara)

- Main issues from faculty senate in response to covid-19 crisis:
  - Pass/fail options (CUNY-wide or up to the discretion of individual college administrations)
  - o Definitions of "essential" employees
  - o Library access at all campuses
- Connect to Board of Trustees meeting, online, 3/30
  - Tuition increase of \$200 and proposed wellness fee of \$120.00 academic year raised concerns about the level of care offered to students; emailed Martin Burke regarding an upcoming meeting with the new General Counsel of CUNY, Derek Davis. That meeting was postponed, and no further details have been available
  - Henderson Rules/Student Code of Conduct: Upcoming meetings of the BoT, 3/23, was cancelled due to COVID-19, for the BoT meeting on 3/30, students and all other members of CUNY can write to hearings@cuny.edu by 11:30 p.m. on Monday, 3/23
  - Students should submit questions related to the continuance of the Graduate Center, which is rumored to be on the market, in addition to issues related to contingency and housing plans for current and future students.
- Faculty support for students
  - Faculty are in discussions with the Chancellery about a CUNY-wide policy of pass/fail
    options for the upcoming semester. Overall, the tenor of the discussion on the Faculty
    Senate listserv has been highly critical of Chancellor Matos-Rodríguez. Below is an



- email that supports the Committee on Academic Freedom to ensure that Blackboard is not required for Faculty to teach for the remainder of the semester.
- o Having read the measures enumerated below, I would like to echo your concerns stated in your e-mail to the AVC/University Provost.
- That the Central Leadership has failed to provide a clear, singular, unifying policy towards this contagion, let alone Academic Freedom for Faculty, suggests grim tidings.
- We very much should defend Academic Freedom, the right to assemble, and the ability to voice concerns, research whatever we deem worthy, and a wide gamut of other things my fingers will run out of energy for typing.
- Likewise, the Chancellor and AVC cannot and should not allow individual campuses to adjudicate responses towards Academic Freedom, any more than allowing individual campuses to respond to plagues and epidemics; that only leads to chaos.
- o In point of fact, if they continue in this fashion, it may beg the question whether we as a University require a Chancellor at all?

### • DSC Resolution to UFS

- One Faculty member on the Faculty Senate listsery, (Professor Ruth Wangerin, Lehman) earlier this week proposed a virtual vote of no confidence. Below is an excerpt of her contribution to the listsery:
- o I have been asked, on behalf of people I represent, to propose to the UFS that we take a vote of no confidence in the Chancellor's team for the way they are mismanaging the public health emergency. There is a legal definition of "essential personnel" -- they are designated in the emergency plan of any organization and include key administrators, public safety, and facilities. They know who they are and hopefully have been trained in the emergency plan. One would hope that the emergency plan also would include emergency transportation for these key people. Is there any emergency plan under heaven that includes librarians, tutors, and admissions office staff as "essential personnel"? If CUNY wasn't ready for the coronavirus public health emergency restrictions, it is understandable. But they can't pretend that they can continue with business as usual by just redefining "essential." They are violating both the spirit and the letter of the social distancing directives of the Department of Health and are putting the population of New York and the country more at risk. "
- O Proposal: Can we consider a resolution in which we oppose or even take a vote of no confidence in Chancellor Rodríguez-Matos?

#### Discussion:

JG (Sociology): CUNY has extended the deadline for students to choose the "pass/no credit" option for courses to the last day of class, May 14

MJM (Classics): Yes, that's right but the UFS is calling for it not being left up to each student but to have a blanket policy Marianne Madore (Sociology): I think some classes cannot be taken for a pass or fail grade like: College-wide requirements, including Pathways courses taken to fulfill Pathways general education requirements; courses in the student's major, courses outside the major department that are required to complete the major; and honors courses. MJM (Classics): Yes, the policy is unclear at this point.

JG (Sociology): Why would we want to take agency away from the students on that? Agreed on not holding students to the same standard, 100%!

MJM (Classics): Yes, but the UFS wants to reduce stress on students and think this is the way to do it.

MG (Philosophy): If there is an inconsistent policy (leaving it up to students), some students may feel that they are taking the easy way out by taking pass/fail.

MJM (Classic): Agreed

AE (Linguistics): How are pass/fail classes weighted for GPA?

MJM (Classics): Typically, a Pass/Fail grade does not add or deduct from the student's overall cumulative average



### **IV.** Steering Officer Reports

# A. Officer for Funding (Sonja Gandert)

- The Grants Committee met on Wednesday, March 4. We received six proposals totaling \$3200; the average request was \$457.14. We approved all six, however one of the proposals was only approved for \$600. There is \$3,100 left in the budget.
- Today is the deadline for the final grants cycle of the semester. To date we have not received any new proposals, and many of our previous recipients have had their events canceled due to coronavirus. In such cases, we have elected to honor grants into the fall if events are rescheduled. Several grantees have already approached me with these concerns.
- If we do receive any proposals, we will consider them in committee with an eye to feasibility. Otherwise, remaining funds will be repurposed.

### **B.** Officer for Governance & Membership (Adam Kocurek)

- We have a number of representatives to vote on today. It is important that we get their positions ratified so that they can act as liaisons for their departments, see what exactly the DSC does, and see if they want to continue in this role next academic year. It is unfortunate that many of the benefits that come with being a representative have been dashed by the pandemic, but thank you all for sticking around for this meeting so that we can maintain quorum.
- We still have two open At-Large representative seats, so if you know of anyone who might be a good candidate for the position, please either encourage them to email me, or provide me their contact information so that I can reach out to them.

#### Discussion:

RH (Psychology): The request for at-large reps is for the rest of this semester, is that right?

AK (History): Yes, it gives people an opportunity to see if they enjoy the role.

RH (Psychology): I'm wondering if it's worth it to put in the effort to get people into these roles for just a few weeks. AK (History): It's not a lot more work for me. I think it is a good way to see if people are interested in being reps for next year.

### C. Officer for Health & Wellness (Ming Chen)

- The NYSHIP Seminar for Spring 2020
  - o 2:00 3:30 PM on March 9 (Monday); Room 5414
  - o Five people showed up (including me)
  - o The NYSHIP navigation workshop in collaboration with the Officer for Outreach needs to be canceled
- The Wellness Festival for Spring 2020
  - The Health Education Coordinator, Michelle, has informed me that the Wellness Festival originally scheduled on April 23 has been postponed to the fall semester
  - The massage event has been canceled too, and I have already contacted the therapist about this
  - o All the following workshops organized by the Wellness Center have been canceled
- Puppy Therapy
  - o The Puppy Therapy Event scheduled on May 14 (7 8 PM) has been canceled
- The Wellness Referral Service
  - The Steering Committee has reached out to the Director of the Wellness Center, Dr. Robert Hartcher, to schedule a meeting with them to discuss their referral service
  - o Given the COVID-19 situation, the meeting time has not been decided
- Online Mindfulness Resource: The 10-Minute Mind



- The 10 Minute Mind is a daily online mindfulness meditation program. Each day, you'll be emailed a new mindfulness meditation track. The meditation tutor will talk you through a ten-minute meditation practice.
- Here is the link to sign up for free access as a CUNY Student: https://bit.ly/the10minutemind
- o For more information: <a href="https://the10minutemind.com/">https://the10minutemind.com/</a>

Simon Kostelanetz (French): Thank you to everyone for organizing this meeting. Who should I contact about concerns for issues with the GC housing and our concerns?

EC (Educational Psychology): Please reach out to the Co-Chairs.

RH (Psychology): Thanks, Simon. We started a dialogue with the resident assistants there. I will check in with them again and I can pass on your concerns. I will also make sure the Office of Student Affairs is aware of the concerns.

AE (Linguistics): Thank you for the resources you provided Ming. Are there any resources from CUNY as well? Or from the GC? Any wellness resources especially if the wellness center is shut down? Other than the DSC.

MC (Educational Psychology): Unfortunately, I have only been getting emails about cancelations. I have not gotten any messages about updated resources from the administration.

RK (Computer Science): We brought up this issue to the administration but have not gotten a response on mental health support yet.

# D. Officer for Outreach (Sharanya Dutta)

- Went to the international student tax workshop, the international student office said they would send out the PowerPoint presentation that was shown to all the students. Waiting for the PPT. In the meantime, if any of you have an "IRC125" deduction on your W2s, the way to enter that into Sprintax is under the "NYC125" option in Sprintax.
- Program representatives, please look for my email asking for names and details of transfer credit issues in your departments, and send them to me.
- The email we received from the International Student Office about potential international travel was quite threatening. As I understand it, the part about registering any international travel on CUNY-GO is the most important bit in that email. [To protect the CUNY community, we ask that all employees and students who are traveling abroad for reasons other than study abroad (vacation, business trips, sabbaticals, etc.) register their itineraries with CUNY-GO.] However, with all the travel bans, it might be difficult to return if a student were to leave the country now. Hopefully this will resolve itself by the summer break—no concrete sense of that yet, unfortunately.
- Emailed Scott Voorhees to ask about NYSHIP coronavirus testing and treatment coverage (the EC has followed up on this count), nothing so far.
- 1042-S' may now be available (check with Bursar; I happen to have got mine as a scan, and an email saying they are mailing them out now).
- Sent an email to Bursar asking when we can expect our summer fellowships, waiting on a response.

#### Discussion:

GB (Comp. Lit): How long will it be until the 1042-S is mailed out?

SD (English): I will reach out and keep asking for this.

# E. Officer for Student Life & Services (Giacomo Bianchino)

- Everything cancelled.
  - o Showing of "All we've got" movie postponed
  - o Survivors' healing circle postponed
  - o board games night not happennig
  - Jewelry-Making workshop is still *potentially* happening April 17 in 5414. If not we are trying to reschedule for the fall



- Resources on teaching during COVID Isolation: <a href="http://tiny.cc/giveupnormal">http://tiny.cc/giveupnormal</a>
- PSC Update:
- PSC is demanding the closure of all CUNY colleges/libraries etc
- PSC is also protesting CUNY's decision to continue mandating "Essential Staff" to come in to work. The union is asking CUNY to transition to "Distance Technology"

AE (Linguistics): Has anyone provided any resources for online social things? For example, all stream a movie together GB (Comp. Lit): I hadn't thought about that, but it is a great idea. I think we should absolutely do something like that. We could even do a video workshop. If anyone has any suggestions to maintain social connections, please email me. RH (Psychology): There is a suggestion for a Netflix watch party.

Carmin Quijano (LAILAC): Do you know what are the plans for the renovations and new management of the cafeteria? Students in LAILAC are concerned about the renovations and use of plastics.

EC (Educational Psychology): Just to clarify, we got an update from the OSA informing us that the downstairs cafe will serve Starbucks coffee, but it is not being run by Starbucks.

GB (Comp. Lit): Yes, I've relayed these concerns but please reach out to me and we will continue to push them Jane Guskin (Sociology): Will it be under the same CUNY-wide contract as the rest of food services? EC (Educational Psychology): Yes

ZY (Physics): Other groups have proposed having people having lunch together and talk about their research virtually. Some websites offer the ability to play board games online. Kieran suggested it, can you please share that? Research on the other campuses requires long hours and Principal Investigators may force students to go do research on the campus. Who makes the decision on who is essential? There is some concern that Principal Investigators will do this because they want to force the students to conduct experiments.

GB (Comp. Lit): There are a lot of issues with designating students as essential staff. If you have any documentation about that or if you can put that into email, we can work with the PSC and others to push this issue. Can you send me an email with the details on these issues for science students.

RK (Computer Science): Has CUNY responded to the PSC demands? Can we do anything to pressure colleges? GB (Comp. Lit): CUNY has not responded to the PSC's demand on this issue. The demands have not been formally met. But we are trying to organize petitions and reach out to each individual campus.

# F. Officer for Technology & Library (Michael Greer)

- STF Meeting (March 9th) Proxy Sai Ying Ng (Philosophy)
  - o Total amount to spend: \$710,000.00
  - o Total amount committed: \$390,230.40 (contracted)
  - O Total amount proposed: \$456,129.48 (20xlicences for Zoom online @Computer Science, Support for student printing @Criminal Justice, subscription adobe "all apps", @English, USB-C Monitors @History, Desktop Computing @IT, Electronic Database Subscription @Library, Fixed Eye Tracker + Training @Speech and Hearing, Artificial Mastoid @Speech and Hearing, Assistive Technology Upgrades @Student Disability Services)
  - o Passed? Elaine (IT Director) needs to get back to me.
- Notes on the four floor proposals I put forward (which I presented last plenary)
  - color printing printers are purchased on a contract basis with the printer company, and so they're going to try to get this through some other sort of funding but it's not going to be ready for now. IT recommends students use the color printer in the dsc office.
  - o replacing expired laptops are already on the agenda under IT
  - "space issues, hiring issues, etc. so they do want to put that into place, but it's going to take a lot more of a fight because apparently IT desk support is provided in the first two weeks of the semester but doesn't get utilized much (the library 100% loves



this idea though) - currently we have a chat assistance system that's going to get more funding soon"

- "we already have licenses for SPSS, and there's remote access for that"
- Distance learning tech issues
  - Marlene Ramos corresponded with me and made the brilliant suggestion that now (the Covid-19 era of distance learning) is the perfect opportunity to push for more laptops and more software online (on Virtual Desktop, I guess).
  - o I'm not sure how much of our software is on Virtual Desktop, but I will reach out to Elaine.
  - Faculty members in Earth and Environmental Sciences have been working to get ArchGIS on Virtual Desktop.
  - o If other people have specific software they'd like me to push for Virtual Desktop, let me know.
- CUNY2020, Object Library, Library, Study Spaces Initiative
  - o I'm waiting on things to settle a little bit before I start trying to figure out what student needs are. As always, reach out to me if you have questions or concerns to do with library or tech.

#### Discussion:

ZY (Physics): I was in the meeting and felt it was not transparent with the discussion of the proposals. I have concerns about the overall transparency of the IT and library budgets. A lot of the money was already allocated to IT and the library. The library asked for more money this year because they did not get funds they were expecting from the ASRC, but it. It was not clear to me what the funding structure is at the GC since the faculty also use the technology here. MG (Philosophy): I agree, it is not very transparent what the full budget is.

ZY (Physics): One of the requests from Computer Science was for meeting software but an alternative was already available. You will be able to log in with GC email and use the software. For some of the software, only the faculty can use it remotely and not the students. Students have to go to campus to use it. But if you are a faculty member at another campus you can get around this issue. We had security concerns about certain software, CUNY has certain checks they do for new software.

MG (Philosophy): There were some good reasons why some things got funded and others did not have good reasons. I will share these with the student body when I get it.

ZY (Physics): They did not take minutes during that meeting on purpose so there is no documentation of the reasons why things were denied.

RK (Computer Science): We have been pushing IT on these issues for a long time. It is frustrating when the student proposals for the student tech fee are denied.

Kieran O'Reilly (Mathematics): Has there been any discussion of what students should do with library books that need to be returned?

MG (Philosophy): They are allowing students to renew the book in the short term but have not come up with a long-term solution.

KOR (Mathematics): That makes it more unclear, should students try to return things sooner or later?

MG (Philosophy): Since the Head Librarian has left, it has been difficult to get a clear answer. But I will follow up with the librarians there to get more answers.

MJM (Classics): Is there an interim GC Head Librarian (Jill Cirasella)?

MG (Philosophy): I will follow up, but I was not aware of that.

### V. New Business

# A. Ratification of New Members (Voting)

- 1. At-large Representatives:
  - Marianne Madoré (Sociology)
  - Mounira Keghida (History)



- Pamela Stemberg (Digital Humanities)
- 2. Program Representatives:
  - Katherine Anderson (Biology)
  - David Dansu (Biochemistry)
  - Keith A Dames (Biography and Memoir)
  - Gonçalo Costa (Economics)
  - Ege Aksu (Economics)
  - Efthimia Johanides (MALS)
  - Jos Fesinstine (Women's Studies)

AK (History) moves to approve ratification of the new members

GB (Comp Lit) seconds the motion

Vote: Motion passes unanimously

# B. Revised 2019-2020 DSC Budget

• Co-Chair for Business presents revised budget with unused monies reallocated.

AE (Linguistics): Are you going to provide a breakdown of how individual program allocations are shifting?

RK (Computer Science): Most people won't actually see a cut in their allocation. If you're planning on spending money, you'll be able to spend it.

AE (Linguistics): My worry is that I need to communicate any changes to my constituency because we reimburse retroactively for conferences, etc.

RK (Computer Science): I think you're right that there are some programs that might want to still spend their program allocation. I'll give everyone until next Plenary to contact me. If people *don't get in touch*, I will assume that they aren't going to use their program allocation. If everyone plans to use their allocation, I won't reduce this budget line.

AK (History): I know that we have the Petrie fund, but I heard something about a different fund in your presentation. Can you elaborate?

RK (Computer Science): This would be a different fund, administered by the DSC instead of by Financial Aid - cutting out the middleman. \$200 is the number we settled on, with very little restriction on what it can be used on.

JG (Sociology): Can we make sure we don't make workers come into the GC just to receive deliveries of furniture for DSC? Maybe better to roll it over and spend it when we know what the situation is with the physical space.

RK (Computer Science): I agree this is an issue. I'll send out an email with all this information for you all to look at and share with your constituents.

MJM (Classics): What is the age cut-off for children at the childcare center?

RK (Computer Science): Ages 2-5.

### VI. Announcements

- ZY: There is a concern from the GC dormitory. Usually the students have to renew their lease 3-4 months in advance. But with the coronavirus it is unclear whether students will graduate and what is going to happen in the Fall.
  - RH (Psychology): We raised this before but with the new circumstances we will bring it up again.
- Raffle was conducted for plenary attendance incentives.

### VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:06pm.