



Plenary Minutes November 19, 2021

Attendance

Present:

Abigail Findley, Adam Kocurek, Adashima Oyo, Alaa Sharif, Angela LaScala-Gruenewald, Ava Zwolinksi, Avinash Jairam, Ayo Andra Deas, Beicer Tapia, Chapman Lindgren, Christopher Campbell, Cristina Pardo Porto, Deborah Leter, Edward Charnley, Efthimia Johanides, Fedor Marchenko, Jason Nielsen, Jenna Marie Sparacio, John Young, Jonathan Hanon, Katherine Anderson, Kyle Fraser, Labanya Unni, Maura McCreight, Michael Greer, Natacha Pawa, Oriana Mejias Martinez (Quorate Proxy: Alaa Sharif), Parisa Montazaran, Paul Oder, Prathmesh Desmukh, Robert Wrigley, Roderick Hurley, Sameer Sabhrwal-Siddiqi, Sharanya Dutta, Silas Grossberndt, Silvia Rivera Alfaro, Yassin Chandran, Zhuo Yin

Absent:

Amit Kumar, Austin MacDonald, Alexandria James, Barbara Storch, Brittany Munro, Carmin Quijano-Seda, Casey Berner, Chuxin Liu, Pamela Stemberg, Ryan Brunette, Sami Sauma, Shibanee Sivanayagam, Tenn Joe Lim, Thierry Michel Nda, Tyler Crown, Trey Dellucci

Meeting called to order at 5:15 PM.

I. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve: Jonathan Hanon (Computer Science)
Seconded: Zhuo Yin (Physics)
Vote: Motion approved unanimously

II. Approval of Minutes of the past DGSC May 2021 Meetings

Motion to approve: Silvia Rivera Alfaro (LAILAC)
Seconded: Zhuo Yin (Physics)
Vote: Motion approved unanimously

III. Executive Committee Reports

A. Co-Chair for Student Affairs (Sharanya Dutta)

■ **Chartered Orgs:**

- I'm in the process of updating chartered org leaders into my database DSCWorks (there were some issues with Works re: Chartered Org Chairs and it looks like those may have been resolved for the moment). For your part, if you haven't done so already, help sign

chartered org rosters! You can find the list of chartered orgs here: [Doctoral and Graduate Students' Council – Chartered Organizations](#)

- **SPARC:** PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR SPARC TRAININGS ASAP if you haven't done so already. You will get registration holds and if you are a program rep, you will not be allowed to access money.
- **Room Reservations:**
 - We have rooms available to reserve both for personal use (teaching, a class etc.) but also for chartered org meetings and events.
 - <https://cunydisc.org/services/rooms/> - this has all the info.
 - About room keys for chartered orgs, realistically that will only be available in the spring because those have to be cleaned out etc. but feel free to request the other rooms/hold the meeting in the DGSC lounges!
- **Website:** We're also FINALLY making some progress with the new website which will integrate the current Wordpress + DSCWorks. We literally have to go over it page by page, menu item by menu item, so it's time consuming but it is happening, which we're excited about!
- **Sprintax TDS:** AND, some good news. We are going to have a Sprintax TDS workshop for international students. Not the filing system, but the TDS version. The OSA has asked me for inputs and questions on what students might like covered in that workshop, so I've already sent out a Google Form soliciting input from the international student body on the WhatsApp chat and listserv. Could you please send it to your departments/constituents? Here's the link to the form: <https://forms.gle/fLDxWpc3aGg3yGPL7>
- **Hiring committees:** Both the Adjunct Project and OpenCUNY need one new leader apiece. I will be sending out emails soliciting volunteers for the hiring committees. We have a defined structure but we do need a rep on each hiring committee and a member of the student body not affiliated with the DGSC, so please volunteer/send me your suggestions! Email me on ccsa@cunydisc.org

Discussion:

Jonathan Hanon (JH) (Computer Science): I want to also emphasize for the hiring committee, we need a member of the DGSC who is NOT on steering to be on that. Is there a deadline to apply for a new chartered org?

SD (English): December 20th is our deadline.

Michael Greer (MG) (Philosophy): What was the relationship between ESPARC and SPARC? Do I need to do both?

SD: One is for us as teachers, one is for us as students, and we have to do both.

MG: I find it triggering that I have to do the sexual assault training again and again when I am a survivor.

SD: I believe that accommodations can be made for people who are survivors, I would suggest emailing him!

MG: I wonder if we can find a way to streamline this? I'll check with Eric, and then I'll email you.

JH: ESPARC has to do with the Human Resources, as it's for employees, and any accommodations would have to be made through HR and not the OSA.

B. Co-Chair for Communications (Deborah Leter)

Activities/Recent Meetings:

11/17: Co-chairs meeting with Office of Student Affairs

- Random covid testing: The GC is starting random covid testing of students, faculty and staff who are fully vaccinated. A random group will be selected each week, and will have a week to get tested at the GC or another CUNY facility (cannot be outside of CUNY). Students currently outside of NYC won't be affected by this, since they're not coming into the building. If you're selected, you'll receive an email from no-reply@cleared4.org
- Vaccine documents: Everyone who will be taking in-person classes in the spring should upload their vaccine documents to CUNYFirst now if they haven't already.
- Incomplete policy: Unfortunately, it doesn't seem like this policy will change.

10/22: Executive Committee meeting with Provost Everett

- We brought up a number of issues with the Provost. He seems particularly concerned about the level of bureaucracy at the GC, as well as the two-tiered funding system.
- President Garrell made a request to CUNY's Chancellor for \$20 million for the GC, including to get rid of the two-tiered funding system, which the Chancellor agreed with. This request is now going to state legislature.

10/22: Graduate Council meeting

- 70% of our courses at the GC will be in person (or in person with hyflex) next semester
- Update from recent BoT meeting: The Chancellor is proposing a \$450 million boost to CUNY's budget, supported by state and city (which would include the \$20 million boost to graduate education mentioned above from our meeting with the Provost)

Updates:

- Cleared4: Process has been simplified, now you just need to scan your QR code to enter the building (don't need to show ID or provide other information).

Announcements:

- Program Representatives: Please make sure to send plenary minutes to the students in your departments when they're ready, and to provide regular updates to students about major updates at the DGSC, including information about DGSC grants & events & services, and key updates from the administration. It would be ideal if you can email your constituents in the weeks following each plenary meeting.
- How is everything going in your roles? Do you have any questions/comments? Feel free to email me!

Discussion:

Silvia Rivera Alfaro (SRA) (LAILAC): If someone would have problems with being tested, for example if they have PTSD, is anything like that in this conversation?

JH: So the randomized testing isn't exactly randomized. Once we are selected, we then have to schedule it ourselves within a week with the GC testing center, so you don't need to worry about anything happening suddenly or unexpectedly.

Ed Charnley (EC) (History): Do we have percentages for students and faculty who are vaccinated?

JH: From the reactivation committee, we have about 20-30 student exemptions for religious or medical reasons, so we actually have a 98% vaccination rate at the GC.

C. Co-Chair for Business (Adam Kocurek)

Updates:

- Program representatives should have received an email from me with an excel sheet detailing your individual double program allocation totals. If you have not seen this email, please check your spam folder for the subject heading "Program Allocations" and if you still cannot find it, please email me ASAP so I can forward you the email. If you have any questions about how to use your program allocations, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.
 - Remember, Fall 2021 allocations roll over to the Spring semester, so if you want to strategically have a larger sum of money for the Spring semester, that is an option! But if you do not use your allocation by the end of the Spring semester, it does ***not*** roll over to the Fall 2022 semester.
 - Remember, if you are purchasing food or alcohol or other goods for a DGSC-funded event, you can and should use your sales tax write-off form attached to the email I sent out.
 - If you do not know how to use your program allocation, I would strongly encourage you to reach out to your program's student body and crowdsource some ideas from them! As representatives, I encourage you to find the way to best serve the constituents you represent. I am happy to help at any stage.
- Graduate Education Task Force Update
 - We had our November meeting today. Currently, we are fostering knowledge of our current CUNY landscape. Each of the working groups (Consortial model, Degree portfolio, Graduate students, Great ideas, and Regional & national context) is surveying a particular material/conceptual part of CUNY graduate programs, and we are sharing information now. I am on the "Great Ideas" working group.
 - I am on the "Great ideas" division - over the course of the next few months, we will be trying to determine what strategies, practices, and structures programs are using that they like, and which could be useful for other programs. We will be reaching out to the EOs, program officers, and student leaders in order to get a better sense of "what works" at the GC, and what needs to be changed, removed, or improved.
 - The DGSC will hopefully have an active role in collecting this information. Due in part to our help, we were able to get 38% student response rate on the recent survey regarding student experiences to come out of the Provost's office.
- College association will likely be meeting within the next month - I will present a report on the DGSC budget, our activities, etc. for this internal audit.
- OpenCUNY report

Discussion:

Jonathan Hanon (JH) (Computer Science): I have Open CUNY questions. First, do we have an appointed member of DGSC on OpenCUNY board? My other question is what's the hiring process for the coordinator stepping down?

AK: Yes we have an open coordinator role in both OpenCUNY and Adjunct Project. Sharanya will lead that hiring process up.

SD: Yes, that's exactly it and we will start a hiring process. Also just to confirm in the chat, the DGSC OpenCUNY board member is Zhuo Yin.

AK: I just want to be clear about program rep spending. There are almost no limitations, money should go towards benefiting student life, not faculty. There are some ethical constraints (like paying faculty) that can be found in expense matrix form which I'll send around again. But really you can do a lot with program allocation money--food, software, art, books, any and all of that and more is at your disposal.

D. USS Delegate (Edward Charnley)

Updates:

- **USS continues to be unable to perform any real business**, since they were unable to elect a chairperson.

At the end of the last 4/5 hour long meeting, there were too few delegates remaining to establish a sufficient quorum to break the balloting deadlock between the two leading candidates (delegates had been quietly slipping out of the meeting as they became bored or needed to leave to other commitments).

- In a meeting with Aharon Grama, a candidate for chair, he painted a fairly grim picture of the USS processes and tendencies. Vast amounts of power is tied up in the chairperson's seat - including a disturbing amount of power to hire and fire USS office staff, and direct committee appointments, as well as having a worrying amount of influence over, or even refusing to establish the Ethics and Rules Committee.

Some of what he told me sounds virtually like patronage politics, which is very disturbing and could reflect very badly on the USS if it became a point of public controversy.

- **Until USS elections are complete, there is no clear sense of what can be achieved there.** The candidates, while routinely nicking one another's clothes, in a political sense, may not have the same priorities in terms of what they think should be dealt with urgently. Because the chair can, to a great extent, set the program of action for the USS, without an established chair anything suggested remains up in the air until a sitting chair weighs in.

- Worryingly the newly elected Steering Committee met "unofficially" at the end of October. This fairly irregular proceeding is combined with a worrying lack of communication from the leading body of the USS - there was supposed to be a meeting Sunday Nov 7th, for example, but it was postponed with no announcement.

- This perhaps lends credence to Mr. Grama's assertion that, owing to apathy principally caused by a lack of communication and willingness to involve plenary members in decision making, or open issues up to debate, the USS has systematically lost delegates since the last meeting to the point wherein it is close to the point of being unable to maintain a quorum. I am not clear on this however and am trying to get further information.

- **The Board of Trustees meeting was largely positive for the GC.**

Chancellor Rodriguez spoke about the Graduate Education Task Force

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=onACJ7VvU70&ab_channel=TheCityUniversityofNewYork 16:15)

This will be a two year process to reimagine and, cosmos willing, enhance and improve graduate programs and graduate's living conditions and standards.

President Garrell and Executive Vice Chancellor Dan Lemons are co-chairing this task force.

Much of the budget proposal is an attempt to recoup losses suffered during COVID.

Enrolment rates, while still lower than normal, appear to be the result of COVID.

However this does not ring true with many of the budgetary requests made in the BoT Budget Proposal Meeting.

- BoT Budget Proposal Meeting.

Many faculty complained of disgusting and decrepit buildings which are turning prospective students off CUNY, and rendering especially science students unable to acquire grants.

Grants are often predicated on the ability of the institution the applicant attends to support research. Several complaints from science faculty graphically illustrate how little the administration really cares about the specifics of their research and its requirements.

They are not asking for magnificent, sweeping, state of the art facilities - they would just like for there not to be mould, peeling paint, broken glass, collapsing walls, and a total inability to regulate temperature, which badly impairs their ability to maintain scientific testing conditions.

Discussion:

JH: I completely concur with Ed, the interim chair, Cory Provost, is egregiously abusing his power. He appointed people to the CUNY Board of Trustees without informing anyone on either the USS Plenary or USS Steering. As a member of USS Steering, I hear things when the USS Plenary hears them. He's just appointing people based on personal connections and without regard for USS. Two previous chairpersons (Juvanie Piquant and Timothy Hunter) and a chairperson candidate (Salimatou Doumbouya), the person who nominated said candidate (Louis DiMeglio), as well as the State Senate Chief of Staff (Vaughn Mayers) were appointed, implying a bias to a candidate and appointments in his own political interests. I want to reform the USS constitution, too, and was told by the USS Staff to stop paying attention to the minutia like minutes and operating, and "start paying attention" to what benefits the student body (which I already do). It's corrupt from the inside-out, and we need to make sure that it's functioning. The vast majority of the delegates don't seem to want to lift a finger to put up a fight, but we're trying to mobilize more people to change things.

E. UFS Liaison (Parisa Montazaran Osmanovic)

Updates:

- **UFS Plenary 10/26/21**
 - 117 Participants
 - Chancellor Daniel Lemons: "Students don't know what's best for them" "I think for lower level students in person is essential"
 - Phil Pecorino (Queensborough Community College): What metrics/instruments were used to justify the 70/30 split? (None)
 - Emily Tai (Queensborough Community College grad education task force) was concerned about visual and performing arts online. (They're looking into what they can do)
 - Mojubaolu Okome (Brooklyn College) - concerned that decisions are being made without understanding or respecting students needs. We know we are having enrollment issues, if strategies could be implemented to address these concerns on individual college basis, maybe we could affect this. (CC are most vulnerable financially and otherwise and directly impacted by pandemic; we have to figure out where the students are "what is driving long term decline in community colleges?")

- Melissa Castillo Planas (Lehman) - agrees with administration bc online is not working for her discipline and concerned that students are not prepared to graduate. (We have to try to improve the quality of what we're doing, making online and hybrid better and there are cases where that may not work)
 - Peter Kolozi (Bronx Community College) - who has authority over choosing modality from a governance standpoint? (Deans, professors, multiple places have a say in how modalities are chosen. Working out what is the best mix for our students is how we get to the best place).
 - Vita Rabinowitz (Hunter): CUNY's motto is "start here, go anywhere" - the pipeline exists for a reason: for students to be able to move onward and upward. "Transfer Opportunity Program Faculty Survey" to get our views - transfer is vital to upward mobility. Email: facultysurveyonstudenttransfer@cuny.edu
 - Ned Benton: The Faculty Gap: SUNY has less student enrollment percentage and higher faculty higher rate vs. cuny having 3 times as much enrollment than faculty hires. This report was taken beyond CUNY Central to state legislators and helped in the bid for 1075 new faculty lines. See findings on slide deck.
 - After excoriating CUNY Central for how they handled the pandemic, they made a resolution to amend the manual of the general policy so we have a rule for the university to consult with the faculty in the event of a crises
- **City Council Committee on Higher Education - Adjunct Faculty Employment at CUNY: 11/12/21**
 - Served as panelist on committee with Jonathan and Professor Okome from UFS. Gave testimony re:
 - precarity and job/benefits insecurity as doctoral students and adjuncts
 - lack of support to hire current adjuncts/grad students in the hundreds of open lines budgeted to fill so we have to compete nationally for jobs we are performing now with minimal security, pay and benefits
 - Chair Barron said she would see if they can make a stipulation regarding the new positions being filled by CUNY adjuncts/grad students

Discussion:

JH (Computer Science): With regards to the City Council Committee Meeting on Higher Education, I want to praise Parisa, and while Chair Inez Barron said she was interested in helping adjuncts and was going to reach out to the PSC, I let her know that the PSC leadership is composed of mostly tenured faculty who don't really represent the needs of adjunct faculty.

IV. Steering Officer Reports

A. Officer for Funding (Angela LaScala-Gruenewald)

Updates

- Last month, we did not receive any requests for funding
- Worked on some promotions to spread the word about DGSC grant opportunities (social media, etc.)
- This month, received three applications (so far, any final grant applications for November are due tonight at 11:59 PM)
 - #1: LAILAC conference titled "Feeling the utopia: new pasts and new futures for Latin America"
 - #2: Theatre program to create hybrid program/production entitled "The Ivory Tower and the Open Worlds"
 - #3: LAILAC commemorative video

- Grant Committee meeting on December 6 to evaluate grants
- Thinking through ways of promoting other funding opportunities at the GC; other approaches to spending DGSC money to support students financially

Announcements

- Tonight at midnight is the deadline to apply for any Fall Semester activities
- Next grant application deadline for Spring Semester is Friday, January 21, 2022
- Still looking for one more member to join grants committee - let me know if you are interested (email funding@cunydgsc.org)

B. Officer for Governance & Membership (Katie Anderson)

Updates:

- The Constitution and Bylaws Committee met on October 27th after a list of suggested edits was submitted by a member of the committee
 - we reviewed two sections of the Bylaws:
 - Section 1.9 Exclusive reading of seats
 - currently worded to prevent steering population of standing committees
 - currently interpreted to PRIORITIZE non-steering population of standing committees
 - Section 3 Standing Committees, Boards, and Task Forces
 - currently worded to prioritize at-large and program rep population of committees over non-representative GC students (DGSO)
- Any GC student is allowed to submit suggestions, and I invite DGSC members specifically to look over the portions of each document that are relevant to your positions. Please ask questions about passages that catch your attention!
- Alaa Sharif has submitted a petition to become the Linguistics Program Representative

Discussion:

JH (Computer Science): With regards to C&B, even though it's not legal and binding, the bylaws should really reflect how we wish to interpret them, while we still leave ourselves the wording to do what we need to do if we cannot comply.

KA (Biology): I want to talk about what Rod brought up at the last meeting - it may be worth stepping back and thinking if it would make sense to change our bylaws to fit our current actions or if it makes sense change our actions to better fit the bylaws, and that's a conversation we should really have, particularly at the next election cycle. If we want more DGSO in these committees, then we really need them to step up to serve in these positions so that the steering officers don't need to take these positions.

JH: I think we need to take into account that we do not want the bylaws to have any sort of restrictions on who can serve in what position. Just as we do not want to restrict any individual from serving in any particular Steering position, we also do not want to have any restrictions on any Steering officers serving on any committees if they should choose to do so out of necessity, rather than desire.

AK (History): The reason to have non-Steering members on these committees is that since they do not meet very often, even once a semester, there may be some members who want to get more involved in the DGSC, in hopes that they can learn more about the DGSC, and possibly become a Steering member in the future.

EC (History): Katie, when you said that the actions of the steering committee are defined by the voting decisions of the plenary, it made me think about the mess that USS is in now, and I want to emphasize that Plenary has a lot of power, and that we serve with authority at your discretion.

KA: I want to really reiterate this point - the only reason why steering committee members populate so many of these positions, out of line with the bylaws, is because we step up to these positions when DGSO members do not step in to the role, and plenary consents to this break from the bylaws through the vote. But we really want more DGSO members to step into these roles.

C. Officer for Health & Wellness (Silvia Rivera Alfaro)

Updates:

- The Committee of Health and Wellness is focusing on wellness activities, disabilities and mental health, and the Wellness Center. We are coordinating with different offices and people to make this conversation wider. Our upcoming meeting will be next Monday 22th at 2:30 p.m. If you have any subject you think we could include in our agenda, please let me know.
- In the area of wellness activities:
 - I want to remember everyone that we are currently offering yoga and there are 7 upcoming classes.
 - We are looking forward to having a meditation session in December before the finals.
 - Additionally, the committee decided to create a call for proposals for Health and Wellness activities open to all GC students. Our objective is that students propose activities according to their knowledge and interests that could improve the wellness of the general community. We will be sending the call for proposals with the entire information soon. With the selected proposals we will create our calendar for Spring.
- I want to remember those who knew and to inform those who did not, that there is [a live document with health providers](#) recommended by other students. The Committee of Health and Wellness will continue to work on it.
- Finally, there is an important subject I would like to bring here. There used to be a nurse practitioner at the GC and we would love to work on having this service again. I wrote an email to Matthew Schoengood and he is willing to meet and talk about this subject. Nevertheless, I have little information on how this service worked before Covid, therefore I would like to know if someone would like to volunteer to collaborate with me on the subject.

Discussion:

Paul Oder (Criminal Justice): Are the meditation and fitness classes at the GC? And can I get the live document to send to my program?

SRA: They are all online, and sure thing!

D. Officer for Outreach (Christopher Campbell)

Updates:

2nd Year International Student Payment Snafu

Remuneration dilemma in the Physics Department

- Students were receiving their scholarship due from last year, but were not being remunerated for the TA or RA work they're doing this year.
- If you or someone you know is encountering a similar problem, please be in touch with me. Physics students have received a response from the Dean of Sciences regarding the issue that provided some useful perspective/information that I can pass along to you.

Writing-focused Events ***Questionnaire***

DGSC + GC Writing Center Hosted, First Online Event in December

- The Writing Center has created a (very quick!) Google Form related to these events. **Please fill this out! Link in chat & via email.**
- We plan to "theme" these writing events based around areas of PhD concentration (e.g. sciences & humanities) and also for international/non-native English speakers & writers.
- Writing consultants will be in attendance.
- First (online) event in December, tentatively three in-person events next semester.

Discussion:

Zhuo Yin (Physics): Do you know who made the decision about the international students who didn't get paid last year? CUNY Central or the GC? Also, teaching workloads for STEM students is very inconsistent, and I think it's a major issue.

Silas Grossberndt (Physics): Yes - I have heard from a student on a Slack thread who spoke to Joshua Brumberg that the only money should be coming from the Research Foundation and this is complicated because if you are a RF, you need a non-teaching appointment at a college for insurance. There's a lack of proper communication.

ZY: So Joshua Brumberg said that money can get to STEM students from the RF grant?

SG (Physics): The idea is that you can't have two GAB at once, so they need to adjunct. Brumberg says that will be getting paid, but it's not clear if it will be properly retroactive. This is all from the affected students discussing with Dean of Sciences, and we are awaiting further updates on this issue.

CC: Is this happening only to students in the Physics department?

ZY: I think it's happening to all the hard science programs, the ones that get their money from the Research Foundation, their PI, and not from the GC.

EC: I don't fully understand what the issue is? Could you explain a bit more?

SG: International students outside of the country could not legally be paid last year - the money was budgeted in their stipend, but they could not receive it that year, and it was the understanding that they would get it this year, as well as this year's stipend, but then they were being told that they weren't going to get this year's stipend, and that CUNY can't pay last year's funding, and while things seem squared away going forward, it's a bit of a mess right now. Part of the reason why it's so bad in Physics is because there was a failure of communication this year with officers. The students should be receiving RA or adjunct appointments and were placed on additional Grad Assistant B positions instead. Dean Grumberg said that they should have adjunct or research hours under 12 hrs/wk and that there is an acknowledgement from the mentor that must be sent to acknowledge the dual appointment.

E. Officer for Student Life & Services (Carmin Quijano Seda)

Updates:

- We celebrated the Back to the 90's Board's Game Night on Oct 19, 2021.
- A total of 12 students came to the games. The majority of students were PhD students from the Biology Program. One from Biochem, one from Physics, two from Urban Ed, and one from LAlLaC. We stayed in room 5414.
- The OSLS offered Subway wraps, cookies, and water to participants.
- Participants received a \$15 GrubHub gift card.
- The total cost of this event was \$312.78.
- The Native American Jewelry Workshop will be postponed for the Spring 2022 because of speaker availability.

Announcements:

- The **DGSC's Winter Talent Show** will be celebrated on **December 7 at 6:00 p.m.** in room 5414.
- Here is the link to register: <https://forms.gle/dReybAZUGqzaKALj8>
- So far, only one student has registered for the talent show. If there are not a lot of students interested, this event could include both a talent show and a board games night.
- Any suggestions or comments are welcomed.

F. Officer for Technology & Library (Adashima Oyo)

Technology

- FALL 2021 IT/DGSC Leadership Meeting
 - Oct 22, 2021 Meeting included the following discussions:
 - Updates from IT: STF Updates, Computer Replacement, Library Print Stations Status, Adobe Licenses (<https://www.gc.cuny.edu/About-the-GC/Administrative-Services/Information-Technology>) and Hyflex Technology. Updates from DGSC: Current concerns, Top Priority Items, and Consideration for Future Projects

Library

- Met with Chief Librarian to discuss library updates:
 - Library's extended hours are updated:
 - 9am to 9pm Monday-Friday and 12-5pm Saturday-Sunday.
 - Hours are still not back to pre-COVID hours!
 - Chief Librarian reports there is a huge uptick of people eating in the library; "not okay."
- Participating on the Search Committee for Head Reference Librarian
 - 12 individuals invited to interview, including Interim Head of Reference, Elvis Bakaitis
 - Interviews started on Oct 29th. SC wants to invite 4 people to Second Round Interview
 - 5 Questions for First Round Interviews:
 - What interests you about this position? - Mason
 - Tell us about your experience working with diverse student populations. - Jill
 - What is your experience working with graduate-level researchers? - Adashima
 - Tell us how you understand the role Open Educational Resources plays in graduate education? - Adriana

- This position will coordinate our reference services operation. Tell us about a library service or project you have coordinated. – Steve

- Upcoming Events and Programs

- Using Scrivener for Scholarly Writing
Thursday November 18, 1pm-2pm
<https://gc-cuny.libcal.com/event/8482736>
- Using the Foundation Directory Online
Friday December 3rd, 11am
<https://gc-cuny.libcal.com/event/8523777>

V. New Business

- A. Approval of New Program Representatives (Voting)
 - 1. Alaa Sharif - Linguistics

Motion to approve: Jonathan Hanon (Computer Science)

Second: Zhuo Yin (Physics)

Vote: Motion passes unanimously

VI. Announcements

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:08pm.