



Plenary Minutes December 10, 2021

Attendance

Present:

Abigail Findley, Adam Kocurek, Adashima Oyo, Alaa Sharif, Alexandria James, Angela LaScala-Gruenewald, Austin MacDonald, Ava Zwolinski, Avinash Jairam, Barbara Storch, Beicer Tapia, Brittany Munro, Britton Williams, Carmin Quijano-Seda, Casey Berner, Chapman Lindgren, Christopher Campbell, Cristina Pardo Porto, Deborah Leter, Fedor Marchenko, Jason Nielsen (PROXY: Shokolatte Tachikawa), Jenna Marie Sparacio, John Young (PROXY:), Jonathan Hanon, Katherine Anderson, Kenisha White, Kyle Fraser, Maura McCreight, Natacha Pawa, Oriana Mejias Martinez, Parisa Montazaran, Paul Oder, Robert Wrigley, Roderick Hurley, Sami Sauma, Sharanya Dutta, Shibanee Sivanayagam, Silvia Rivera Alfaro, Tenn Joe Lim, Thierry Michel Nda, Trey Dellucci, Tyler Crown, Yassin Chandran, Zhuo Yin, Jonathan Odden, Sara Ortiz, ITza Garcia, Jayson Castillo

Absent:

Amit Kumar, Ayo Andra Deas, Camila Santander, Edward Charnley, Efthimia Johanides, Labanya Unni, Sameer Sabharwal-Siddiqi, Silas Grossberndt, Pamela Stemberg, Prathmesh Desmukh, Michael Greer, Elaine Montilla, Emily Drabinski

Meeting called to order at 4:56 PM

I. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve agenda: Zhuo Yin (Physics)

Seconded: Christopher Campbell (Comp. Lit)

Vote: passes unanimously

II. Approval of Minutes of the November 19, 2021 meeting

Motion to approve: ZY (Physics)

Seconded: Silvia Rivera Alfaro (LAILAC)

Vote: passes unanimously

III. Executive Committee Reports

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

Updates:

- **SPARC Training:** We still have a fairly low percentage of reps and chartered org leaders who have completed SPARC training. This semester, and going forward, the rules are far stricter. It is a mandate, not a recommendation. You cannot hold student government positions/access your funds if you're not SPARC compliant. You may also face funding/registration issues, so please complete your SPARC as soon as possible? If you have any questions, please email Eric Brown at ebrown2@gc.cuny.edu.

- **Chartered Org Reports and Rosters:** A reminder to all chartered orgs to please submit your Spring 2021 reports by **December 20**, along with 20 signatures on your roster for Fall 2021. All this is to be done on DSCWorks—details are available on this page: <https://cunydisc.org/chartered-organizations/maintain/>. Again, if you are not in active status when this semester closes out, you will not have access to your funds/you will not be reimbursed. If you have any questions, please email me at ccsa@cunydisc.org.
 - Please try to sign a couple of other rosters, because you know how hard it is to get signatures!
 - To check how many signatures you have you can go to DSCWorks--left menu--Reports--Chartered Orgs--Rosters and then filter for your organization and semester.
 - Katie Anderson is starting a new Chartered Org - CUNYSciCom! We will vote on this as a separate agenda item (the materials were sent to you in advance).
 - Some people have reached out wanting to take over leadership for orgs which were about to be de-chartered which is very heartening to see.
- **Sprintax TDS:** Thank you, all of you who contributed to the Google form link I sent out soliciting questions/doubts for the Sprintax TDS workshop. To remind you, this is the TAX STATUS DETERMINATION workshop, not the tax filing workshop they usually have in the spring. Sprintax TDS not Sprintax NR. I have sent all your questions + some very detailed questions from my end to the Office of International Students. They're going to forward these to the Sprintax TDS people, who will hopefully address them in the workshop. You should get an email from OIS asking for questions in advance soon, I urge you to ask many questions! Also, international students, please please try to attend the workshop. Our FICA tax refunds/being in status etc is contingent on understanding this, so this is crucial.
- There will be a Sprintax TDS workshop on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 11:00 AM EST. The Sprintax TDS Session will focus on what information nonresidents should know before they complete the online Sprintax TDS questionnaire which is distributed by CUNY each semester. The session will discuss each section of the software and provide information on how the questions asked can be answered. In addition to this, we will provide an overview of the tax documents that must be completed each year by students. Finally, we will finish the session with a Q&A segment. Please register for the Sprintax TDS/Calculus Walkthrough - CUNY Non-Residents Webinar on Dec 15, 2021 11:00 AM EST at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3113840439051489547>.
 - After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

B. Co-Chair for Communications (Deborah Leter)

Activites/Recent Meetings:

11/30: Graduate Council Executive Meeting

- Graduate Council (the Graduate Center's governing body composed of faculty, students, and staff) is looking for student nominations for their new Budget Committee (sent out an email to DGSC listserv about it). Please email me if you don't have that email or would like more information.
 - Looking for 4 students
 - "The Graduate Center Budget Committee is a consultative body that both makes prospective recommendations regarding the GC's spending plans, and reviews GC spending after the fact. The Budget Committee aims to relay the priorities of different constituencies, including faculty, staff, and students, offer collaborative advisement on the budget process and the management of resources in keeping with the Graduate Center's mission to support advanced education for a diverse student body, innovative research, and the public good."

12/8: Co-chairs meeting with Office of Student Affairs

- Seeking your input: Do you want administrative service to return to in-person work completely? Are you happy with them continuing partially or completely online?
- Update on random covid testing: A couple students tested positive, the GC has been doing contact tracing with classmates. No one has been hospitalized. There have now been two rounds of random testing and there will be a break until after the holidays. Problem: Not everyone who was randomly selected did the test. If you receive an email to get tested next semester, please do so.
- How to ensure students wear their masks? We've received some emails from students concerned about peers not wearing their masks at the GC, including at the library. According to the OSA, there are no disciplinary mechanisms in place for now. Students should let staff or faculty know about the issue. You can also reserve a DGSC room on the 5th floor if you'd like a place to work alone!
- Health insurance: people should reach out to Bill McGowan before the end of Dec if they want to change their coverage or cancel their coverage: healthinsuranceinfo@gc.cuny.edu
- Student eligibility to serve on the DGSC: The OSA will check all student eligibility again in the Spring semester to serve on the DGSC.
 - The academic eligibility guidelines pertinent to Graduate Center students require that students running for or holding the specified positions be matriculated at The Graduate Center; have a grade point average of 3.0; and, if a Level I or master's student, be registered for a minimum of 3 credits and "have completed and earned passing grades in at least 50 percent of the credits for which [he or she] registered the prior semester, but in no event less than 3 credits"; or, if a Level II or Level III student, be making satisfactory academic progress.
 - Incompletes: Note that the reference to incompletes falls under "have completed and earned passing grades in at least 50 percent of the credits for which [he or she] registered the prior semester, but in no event less than 3 credits".
 - For example, a student registered for two classes, with one class being 3 credits and the other 4 credits. If the student then takes an incomplete in the class that is 4 credits, they would not "have completed and earned passing grades in at least 50 percent of the credits for which [he or she] registered the prior semester, but in no event less than 3 credits". On the contrary, if the student took the incomplete in the class that is 3 credits, they would "have completed and earned passing grades in at least 50 percent of the credits for which [he or she] registered the prior semester, but in no event less than 3 credits".
 - Full guidelines here:
https://www.gc.cuny.edu/CUNY_GC/media/CUNY-Graduate-Center/PDF/Policies/StudentLeadershipEligibility-Guidelines.pdf
 - Questions regarding the eligibility guidelines may be addressed to Elise Perram, Director of Student Affairs: eperram@gc.cuny.edu

Announcements:

I won't be continuing on as CCC next academic year, so we are looking for a new CCC. If anyone here is interested, or if you know someone who might be a good fit, let me know!

C. Co-Chair for Business (Adam Kocurek)

Updates:

- Today, Sharanya Dutta, Parisa Montazaran Osmanovic, Jonathan Hanon, and I met with the President and Provost. We discussed the importance of eliminating the two-tier funding system and of better financially compensating our doctoral

and masters students. They agreed, and said that within the next month or two, we should have some indication from Albany how much of the requested \$20 million we can expect to get; that raise in funds will go explicitly towards these objectives. We also discussed the FICA issue for international students, as well as the need to get more students health insurance coverage. Sometime in the Spring semester, we will hear from the President's office about ways in which we can support the Chancellor in CUNY's lobbying of Albany for increased funding. The President and Provost are also tentatively looking to schedule academic conferences and events for the Spring semester, variants permitting; using the GC as a venue for booking is an important source of revenue which, historically, has been helpful in managing our structural deficit, and they really want to return to in-person activities. They also expressed interest in us holding plenary meetings in-person/hybrid in the Spring, with us potentially being in the A-floor large auditorium, as an option. They are also exploring ways in which we can financially support students currently in their 3-5 years, whose research was delayed due to covid, as they advance in their programs.

- If you are a program representative or chartered organization leader and you are holding events for the end of the semester, please get your reimbursement requests with receipts into DSCWorks ASAP, as the Business Office will be taking time off for the holidays; to ensure timely reimbursement, you'll want to get your requests in before the 18th. If that is not possible, don't worry - you will be reimbursed, it just may not be until early January.
- The DGSC had its meeting with the College Association on Tuesday, December 7th. Jonathan Hanon, Silvia Rivera Alfaro, Sameer Sabharwal-Siddiqi, and I were appointed to leadership positions, and our budget was approved by the Association.
 - The OSA expressed interest in organizing in-person events and activities (e.g. in-person yoga/pilates classes, etc.); if you have ideas for in-person events, please let us know!
- Budget:
 - In the Spring semester, enrollment numbers always go down. Once I get the updated enrollment numbers from the Registrar, I will adjust the budget accordingly and we will send it to reps via email. I will present the new budget at the February plenary meeting, and we will vote on it at the following plenary.
 - OpenCUNY server costs have changed slightly, as the server now bills differently for bandwidth. This year, server costs have ranged from \$200.43 (Mar. 2021) to \$215.24 (Sep. 2021). They are requesting a total of \$2600 for yearly server costs. Currently, the OpenCUNY Server & Domain Registration budget line is \$2500, so when I revise the budget for the Spring semester, I will make that adjustment. But they have recovered their website from the cyber attackers and are back up and running.
 - Remember, if you do not use your Fall 2021 allocations, they WILL carry over to the Spring semester. If you are unsure of how to go about using your allocation, I urge you to reach out to me/set up an office hours meeting with me. NOTE: If you are not SPARC compliant, you cannot serve as a rep and thus cannot access your allocations.
 - If you are holding conferences in the Spring and want to use allocation (program, chartered org, or grant) money to pay honorarium fees, please reach out to me ASAP so I can coordinate with your recipients what forms the Business Office will need to process their payments. Our Business Office rep will be back in the office on 12/13.
- One of our lawyers, Erin Lloyd, has announced that she is no longer taking clients and is moving away from NY. I've been in contact with another practicing attorney (Ruth Chung) recommended to me by Erin, and we are having conversations about her taking over Erin's position. For now, Austin Brown will be the only lawyer to whom we can refer students.
 - The Law Office of Ruth Chung, Esq., practices in Matrimonial and Family Law, providing services to all five boroughs in New York City. She handles cases involving custody, visitation, divorce, uncontested divorce, child support, orders of protection, pre/post nuptial agreements, and more. Since Austin largely specializes in issues around housing and other legal areas, I think Ruthie would be a nice complement.
 - I know that we talked about potentially getting an attorney who specializes in international law/tax law, but this is such a specialized subfield of law, Erin couldn't recommend to me anyone who met these requirements, and I am eager to get another attorney in our fold as quickly as possible. While I definitely would like to add an international law/tax law attorney, that is a longer-term project.

D. USS Delegate (Edward Charnley)

Updates:

- The USS continues to find itself unable to elect its steering committee, with one seat remaining deadlocked, and the chairperson position still vacant. Repeated balloting has not managed to fix the problem.
 - USS rules mean that we would require a full quorum to be able pass anything without a supermajority. Numerous campuses have not appointed their USS delegates, and thus a majority of around 70% is required in order to win any election or pass any motion.
 - (In case it isn't obvious, this makes it for all intents and purposes impossible.
- In light of the fact that the USS is, institutionally speaking, incapable of achieving anything, I was thinking it might be nice to start a side project.
 - The [New York Times](#) recently ran a story on the introduction of INT 1867, a bill to allow "non-citizens" to vote in NYC municipal elections. Surprisingly, USS actually managed to push out a resolution in support of this bill, which passed in City Council yesterday with a vote of 33-14 with 2 abstentions.
 - This would be a huge deal for CUNY internationals who are normally politically motivated but barred from active participation in city elections.
 - Perhaps the DGSC could produce some kind of statement of support, or advocacy program?
- USS Steering met this past Sunday and voted to support the PSC's March for the New Deal for CUNY, with the caveat raised by Jonathan Hanon that they will be writing a letter in support of doctoral students being eligible for these "conversion lines" to full Lecturer positions.
- USS is recruiting for its committees. If anyone would like to volunteer for a committee, please speak to Jonathan (jhanon1@gradcenter.cuny.edu) for more information. The form for signup can be found at: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdwcRXr0W3G9c24CJ2zFUGTdZ6Q0rb0tAMZLkYqnjWHDYIICw/viewform>

E. UFS Liaison (Parisa Montazaran Osmanovic)

Updates:

- 12/2: Childcare Services meeting 12/2
 - expressed interest in data re: historical attendance rates and ratios of students:faculty:staff, gathering data on student need and how to better serve and prioritize grad students
 - meeting with Matt Schoengood in the New Year to discuss how to move forward in better coverage for grad students
- 12/3: 1:1 with Provost Everett and plan to meet again after holidays re: issues that can be addressed in the short term, ie reallocation of departmental funds to support existing students with funding that was previously assigned to fully funded students that receive outside fellowships, DEI wrt faculty hiring and admissions processes, etc.
- 12/7: UFS plenary
 - Matt Sapienza wanted to discuss budget: 20% increase in city support, 16% increase in state
 - 416 m - 1075 new faculty lines, tuition/fee freeze, 1.2B request for 2023 and 5 year plan of 5.7b
 - For the first time, funding is targeting grad students to increase stipends/fellowships (per Provost Everett)
 - Looking for funding for student well being, support for housing, transit, childcare, mental health services
 - Ned Benton: It is an insult to the faculty and governance that decisions are made without metrics or in consultation with faculty and they are responsible for the drain in faculty.
 - Okome: 1k+ faculty requested to be funded in the budget, to what extent does that figure meet the needs of the institutions they will serve? F/u: 500 of those will be lecturer positions, how many will be distinguished lecturers? (No answer)

- Covid - keeping in touch with public health communities and will keep us posted. Faculty are recommended but not required to vax.
- Announcement in Winter/early Spring about new vice chancellor and provost.
- Dan Lemons will provide videos on updates, CUNY central will not share information on enrollments, 70/30 template on modalities push back: policy implications of centralization of modalities being decided without input. Most controversial thing this term is CUNY Central telling us how and when we're going to teach.
- Ned Benton: resolution to cooperate with SUNY to approve each others lobbying proposals to the state. University budget has been approved by board of trustees, budget advisory committees have faculty input, so this is more about CUNY UFS joining forces with SUNY to go to senate and assemblies and ask for full funding.
- When I raised hand to ask a question, I was told I could not speak unless I requested floor privileges ahead of time and that they would "make an exception"
 - I asked if a portion of the new lines would be designated for grad students/adjuncts and the answer was that it would be "500 drawn from 3000 converted lines" and reiteration that in the future if I wanted to ask any questions at a plenary, I would have to "request floor privileges ahead of time."
 - meeting next week with Marty Burke and Matt Cotter to discuss what UFS Liaison is and is not "allowed" to do.
- Liaising with Professor Okome (Brooklyn College) re: conditions for adjuncts
- Liaising with Professor Li (CCNY) re: motion to introduce additional titles and salaries for lecturers
- 12/9: Reactivation Committee:
 - 70/30 in person is in place, faculty are not required to vaccinate and masking is "required" but not enforced so effectively nothing changed.

Announcement:

- Goal to introduce a motion for student liaison to get a vote in the UFS. I emailed Matt Cotter to put it on his radar and got no response.

Discussion:

JH (Comp Sci): Regarding the Reactivation Committee, at yesterday's meeting, we weren't even allowed to speak. We were relegated to the chat and half of our questions were ignored. They took full control over what students could say. Regarding being silenced at UFS, as someone who's been silenced before, I understand how it's used as a method to control what was said, just as we were silenced at the Reactivation Committee. This keeps voices they don't want to be heard.

IV. Steering Officer Reports

A. Officer for Funding (Angela LaScala-Gruenewald)

Updates:

- Rescheduled Grants Committee meeting due to personal conflict -- committee now meeting on 12/13 (this Monday)
- Three new grant applications will be reviewed on Monday for funding. Applicants are invited to the committee meeting to listen into discussion and answer any questions related to the content of their application.
- You can apply for grants again starting in January (December we take off)
- Here are the deadlines for the Spring 2022 semester:
 - January 21, 2022
 - February 18, 2022
 - March 18, 2022

- Social media pushes will publicize these dates and I'll be in touch with reps in early January to remind everyone about the deadline.
- Considering adding an April 2022 opportunity to apply for grants as well (need to discuss protocol with Grants Committee)
- Reminder: You can apply for a maximum of \$700 to cover (almost any) events open to all GC students.

Discussion:

Sara Ortiz (IMS): Can these grants and/or funding be put towards subscriptions, such as Noom (weight management) or Calm (meditative app), which may be prohibitive due to the price, but can we negotiate a greatly reduced institutional discount for these applications which assist with our mental health?

ALG (Sociology): The grant application puts the onus on the applicant, where we need to meet in order to approve the grant, and there's a whole process. We had a meeting a few weeks ago regarding spending money on school supplies, and I love your idea, but I don't know the details. Adam?

AK (History): Speaking to the possibility, I agree with Angela that the onus is on the students, but getting a grant is something you can put on your CV, and the only restrictions are that it has to go towards benefitting student life. I don't see why this wouldn't fall under these parameters, but it would need to show how it is being made open and available to the greater student body. You could say that you're canvassing the student body for the need for mental health resources, hold a Zoom workshop, and then, having interest from different departments, apply for a reimbursement for the resources. We can discuss with administration, and the committee currently only consists of Angela, Jonathan, and me, but I have no opposition to this idea.

B. Officer for Governance & Membership (Katie Anderson)

Updates:

- New representatives:
 - Britton Williams - At-Large Rep (Social Welfare)
 - Camila Santander - At-Large Rep (MALS)
 - Kenisha White - At-Large Rep (International Migration Studies)
- Programs without representation
 - Biography and Memoirs
 - Chemistry
 - Data Science
 - Data Analysis and Visualization
 - International Migration Studies
 - Middle Eastern Studies
 - Nursing
 - Quantitative Methods in Social Science
 - Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences
 - Urban Education
 - Women and Gender Studies
- Programs with space for an additional rep
 - MALS (Liberal Studies)
 - Music
 - Political Science

- I will begin reaching out to programs with incomplete/no representation prior to the start of the spring semester.
- DGSC election season is closer than we all think!! If you know someone who may be interested in joining the DSGC, invite them to a spring meeting.
- Constitution and Bylaws Committee
 - We meet 1-2 times each semester, as needed.
 - We oversee the interpretation of and amendments/edits to the documents outlining the duties of the DGSC.
 - I send out grubhub gift cards to every committee member each meeting!!!!!!!

Discussion:

JH (Comp Sci): No pressure on the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, but we do need to finalise our amendments by March 18th Plenary.

TC (Poli Sci): I'm a rep from Poli Sci, how would I go about bringing on another rep from my department? Would they be an interim person? Would they have to wait until there's an election?

KA (Biology): Yes, so at this point in the semester it's pretty simple to pull people in. You simply have to submit a petition to open a seat, collect depending on the size of your program but no more than 20 signatures, and then I check the list and make sure everyone is a registered student. Then we vote on the new rep in plenary. So if you know anyone, invite them to the meeting or we can start an email chain and I can talk to them.

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

Updates:

- The Health and Wellness Committee reached out to Clare Wilson regarding scheduling an open forum on Student Disability Services, to be able to discuss the subject of accessibility in a wider space, since many people have questions about accommodations, including for mental health conditions, but do not know their rights.
- We are in the process of reaching out to the Wellness Center regarding gaps in services and staff being overwhelmed from taking on multiple roles due to short-staffing.
- I have started a process to find out options for having a nurse practitioner at The Graduate Center. Nevertheless, due to the complexity of the subject I am working with the co-chairs to know more about how this service was provided in the past and what the role of the DGSC would be in this service, which includes talking to the former members of the DGSC. I hope we can have more updates on this subject for the next plenary.
- I am working on activities for the Spring semester, including scheduling meditation sessions and yoga, as well as possibly pilates.
- The Health and Wellness Committee is creating a "call for proposals" to discuss the possibility of student-led activities; we are taking into consideration the limitations of payment from the DGSC.
- A chartered organization we are proposing, "GC Students for Disability, Health, and Wellness", is up for vote later this meeting. It is an organization for students to have the chance to organize and advocate for these subjects in addition to what we do from the DGSC regarding wellness initiatives. We believe it is important to have more tools to advocate for these basic needs that we all need covered in order to be able to work for our goals (not only academic). The organization will also appoint members to CCSD (CUNY Coalition for Students with Disabilities). The organization is a collective proposal from the Committee of Health and Wellness, and we are including Jonathan Hanon as the co-chair due to his experience with this subject at the USS and the CCSD.

Discussion:

JH (Comp Sci): Please reach out if you would like to serve as a second co-chair, anyone who wants to be a part of leadership should be a part of leadership.

SRA (LAILAC): Yes, I invite everyone to join the Committee, as well, and they affect our personal lives, and it's good to have more people to get involved.

JH: I also want to give an update from the USS Mental Health Committee, it is now the "Disability and Mental Health Committee". We now have a committee representing disabled students on USS. I would like to invite more DGSC to join our DGSC Committee too; we run a tight ship but we could really use extra DGSC members involved.

D. Officer for Outreach (Christopher Campbell)

Updates:

- The first Writing Center + DGSC event will take place on Tuesday, January 18th (in the late afternoon, evening)
 - The event will take place on GatherTown, an online virtual environment where you can create/use your own avatar to interact with other attendees.
 - This will be more of a social gathering, with writing consultants in attendance to break off with you privately to discuss (any) of your writing.
 - Only 6 Program Representatives filled out the Google Form created by the Writing Center.
(https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScX94lCXkBBPAGTZgAWebPrY1xey8T6_jivXblOWVPyE6H_iA/viewform) Please fill this out!
- Carmin and I are planning an online competitive gaming event.
 - GC students will be able to play together/against one another.
 - Any suggestions for games?
- Physics Department 2nd Year International Students are still waiting for remuneration for their work as RAs and TAs this year.
 - The last update I received is that their rehiring is in process with HR. No further updates.
- Quick note: The Outreach Committee will be putting together a list of lower rate or pro-bono tax help resources.
 - Does anyone have suggestions for this list?

Discussion:

AK (History): Regarding an accountant or a lawyer who specialises in tax issues, this is something we've been looking into, but tax and international law are specific subfield, and it's difficult to find an attorney who are willing to work for reduced rates. Our currently retained attorneys have insurance to cover it, but it gets more complicated when dealing with finances. When I spoke to Ruth Chung, even though she specialises in Matrimonial and Family Law, I told her we are looking for someone to focus on international and financial law, and she sent me a list of people. We spoke about this in the meeting with the President and the Provost about getting the GC to foot the bill, because it's a lot of money. As background, the DGSC provides free legal consultations for our students, Austin Brown handles things such as housing disputes and landlord-tenant, and we had Erin Lloyd who focused on family and matrimonial law, who referred me to Ruth Chung who is willing to work with our rates, we pay our lawyers \$75 per consultation with a student, and we've been looking for more lawyers to keep on our docket, but international and tax law are very specialised, and financial law may need an accountant. We've been pushing admin to find an accountant, particularly for international students navigating the American tax system, to put them on DGSC or GC Payroll.

SO (IMS): I'm in an \$85k lawsuit with my slumlord, and have been working with Mobilization for Justice. I know the NYC BAR offers free legal services. CUNY Law engages their students in pro-bono work to help out the CUNY community. There is help out there.

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

Updates:

- The **DGSC's Winter Talent Show** was held last Tuesday, **December 7, at 6:00 p.m.** at the GC Building.
- We had 10 participants in total from a variety of programs: Urban Ed, Psychology, History, French, Biology, Physics, LAlLaC, etc.
- Students shared their talents: singing, doing crochet, reading poetry, showing paintings, telling interesting stories, etc.
- We had a great time, and offered wine and pizzas for participants, for a total cost of \$99.32.
- I'll also send a GrubHub gift card for \$15 dollars, for a total of \$150, to all of those who came.
- At the talent show, we also talked about future activities for the Spring 2022: some of the possible activities mentioned were a **Crochet Workshop** and a **Sip and Paint Event**. So be on the lookout for that.

F. Officer for Technology & Library (Adashima Oyo)

- **Tech:** No significant updates
- **Library:**
 - Interviews completed for Head Reference Librarian position
 - 9am to 9pm Monday-Friday and 12-5pm Saturday-Sunday.
 - Hours are still not back to pre-COVID hours!

Discussion:

JH (Comp Sci): Some updates from CUNY central: As the USS Vice Chair of Technology, I attended the CUNY Virtual IT conference and made some contacts with CIOs (Elaine is ours). They are trying to push CUNY Academic Commons and Manifold as more common things being used. Other campuses use other things. If it's not CUNYfirst we need to communicate with people. We are not sure why some campuses aren't using Navigate yet. We should probably talk to our IT staff and reach out to other campuses to see if we want to upgrade to Navigate instead of just using CUNY First. It would be best to have a system where we don't need to jump around. Navigate pulls from CUNYfirst and it would be a better system.

PMO (Sociology): When we go to the library, we're supposed to have access to the digital resources, but when we try to log in, it says "your institution does not have access". Are we supposed to go through the library about this? We've been on Zoom for two years and some people can't go through the stacks for these resources. Is this part of their purview?

AO (Social Welfare): As I understand it, they're trying to expand our access to other resources, but the library is operating under reduced limited funds, so if you're having this issue, a lot of other students likely are, as well.

V. New Business

A. New Chartered Organization: CUNYSciCom (Voting)

Motion to approve this Charter Organization: Rob Hurley (Psychology)

Second: Adam Kocurek (History)

Vote: Motion passes unanimously

B. New Chartered Organization: GC Students for Disability, Health, and Wellness (Voting)

Motion to approve this Charter Organization: Jonathan Hanon (Comp Sci)

Second: Adam Kocurek (History)

Vote: Motion passes unanimously

C. Seeking volunteers for Adjunct Project and OpenCUNY hiring committees

DL (Anthropology): We are looking for volunteers for these two committees. Adam, can you give an overview?

AK (History): This is something we discussed during SC, you can read our minutes posted online. Ultimately we need for each hiring committee, one SC member, one rep at large or program rep and one DGSO member. Ed and Christopher volunteered to be a steering representative; Jonathan as a DGSC member. Brittany offered to be the other program representative. If Sara (Ortiz) is willing to serve that would be fabulous.

SO (IMS): Yes absolutely.

AK: Otherwise, looks like Jonathan and Britt satisfy DGSC program rep needs, Christopher and Ed as SC members. That's that. If others are interested, please let me know. Happy to talk more about these orgs if you are curious what they do. The last thing we need is a DGSO member to sit on OpenCUNY hiring committee. Any referrals not on DGSC? Please put them in contact with me.

OpenCUNY Hiring Committee:

Steering: Edward Charnley

DGSC: Jonathan Hanon

DGSO: Vacant

Adjunct Project:

Steering: Christopher Campell

DGSC: Britt Munro

DGSO: Sara Ortiz

D. Spring semester activities

AK (History): We are not fully going back in person but we are back in the Spring more than this past Fall. We are thinking through services to offer. Are there other things, services, workshops that fall in line with this that you would like to relay to us? The DGSC also has lockers if that is of interest. I see in the chat there was a question about commencement. We don't have info, but I think the provost will preempt that concern. I assume it'll be scheduled virtually with the hope it moves in person.

VI. Announcements

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:58PM.