



## Plenary Minutes September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009

### Members Present:

Anthropology: Christine Pinnock  
Anthropology: Mariya Radeva Art  
History: Annie Dell'Aria  
Art History: Whitney Thompson  
Biochemistry: Richard Able  
Biology: Carlos Penalosa  
Biology: Samantha Sheppard  
Chemistry: Tony Perri

Philosophy: Kyle Ferguson  
Philosophy: Chris Sula  
Political Science: Jeffrey Broxmeyer  
Political Science: Patricia Stapleton Psych:  
Developmental: Vicky Barrios Psych:  
Environmental: Gregory Donovan Public  
Health: Amber Ahmad-Baker Sociology:  
Colin Ashley  
Sociology: Christina Nadler  
Theatre: Eero Laine  
Urban Education: Shana Henry  
Urban Education: Edwin Mayorga  
Biology: Karyn Collie (Colin Grubel)  
Criminal Justice: Tarra Jackson (Seo Kheeyom)  
Engineering: Biomedical: Zeynep Dereli Korkut (Xiang Gu)  
English: Jill Belli (Toni Farber)  
Linguistics: Jeremy Rafal (Satarupa Das)

### Plenary

### Steering Committee

### Constitution and Bylaws

### Media Board

### Health Issues

### Cultural Affairs

### Professional Development

Classics: Jared Simard  
Comparative Literature: Anick Boyd  
Computer Science: Mohamed Saad  
Computer Science: Suzanne Tamang  
Criminal Justice: Nicole Hanson  
English: Allyson Foster  
English: Lindsey Freer  
Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Lit: Zaida Godoy-Navarro  
Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian Lit: Astrid Roldan

**At-Large:** Carolina Barrera-Tobón, Kate Broad, Boris Daussá-Pastor, Edwin Demper, Stephanie Domenici, Anne Donlon, Ashley Foster, Ji Hyon (Kayla) Kim, Armin Lahiji, Kim Libman, Benjamin Miller, Linda Neiberg, Alison Powell, Shawn Rice, Jason Schneiderman, Jeremy Seideman.

### Absent:

Audiology: Rachel Marcus (Excused)  
Comparative Literature: Krystyna Michael (Unexcused)  
Earth and Environmental Science: Katie Gill (Excused)  
Engineering: Chemical: Mehrdad Kheiripour (Unexcused)  
French: Lauren Donaldson (Excused)

History: Jennifer Jordan (Unexcused)  
History: Anton Masterovoy (Unexcused)  
Psych: I.O: Paul Agnello (Unexcused)  
Psych: Learning Processes: Amanda Mentzer (Excused)  
Psych: Social Personality: Puleng Segalo (Unexcused)

**At-Large:** Sari Altschuler (Excused), Ian Foster (Excused), Maggie Galvan (Excused), William Mangold (Excused), Denise Torres (Excused), John DeCarlo (Unexcused).

Meeting called to order at 6:56pm. Shawn Rice (SR)—Chair.

#### **I. Approval of Agenda**

Travel and research, strike 4A. Chris Alen Sula (CS) motions to strike Student Affairs 6C; Suzanne Tamang (ST) seconds motion. CS motions to approve agenda as amended; Jared Simard (JS) seconds the motion. All approve.

#### **II. Approval of Old Minutes**

Gregory Donovan (GD) notes in 3f GC should be GD, CS motion to approve emendations Kimberly Libman (KL) seconds, all approve. Minutes approved.

#### **III. Ratification of New Members**

SR announces that Claudia Pisano (At-Large), Larry Ionatta (Social Welfare), Amber Ahmad-Baker (Public Health), Zeynep Dereli Korkut (Engineering: Biomedical), Paul Agnello (Psychology: Industrial / Organizational), Puleng Segalo (Psychology: Social Personality), Rachel Marcus (Audiology), Krystyna Michael (Comparative Literature), Ashley Foster (At-Large) are coming on with the approval of a Plenary vote.

ST motions to approve new members, and Allyson Foster (AF) seconds. All approve.

#### **IV. Old Business**

##### *a. GC Immigration Working Group Charter.*

ST speaks to this issue. ST moves to vote on charter for GC. Immigration Working Group. Voted for unanimously. Group officially chartered.

#### **V. New Business**

##### *a. Payroll and NYSHIP Update*

Alison Powell (AP) from Adjunct Project speaks about NYSHIP and payroll issues. AP informs plenary of the Townhall meeting with Pres. Kelly and says that the Adjunct Project will try to manifest a presence at the meeting and asks people to come and attend the meeting. She asks those who have not been paid and those who have had problems to submit cards detailing those problems that they have experienced in order to present the cards to the committee. She informs plenary that they can inform students of the issue as a part of the community. An email will go out for people to read to their classes, along with info on President Kelly's meeting. Index Cards handed out for students to record their complaints and problems to be dropped off at the Adjunct Project office. Cards will also be available at 5495.

##### Letter to Persico—Senior VP Finance

SR asks plenary to review letter. CS asks that plenary review the resolution and summarizes its content. AP addresses CS's statements about the comptroller and CS speaks about the three points: objection to late payment (should be to all instances), request from Finance response as to why this happened, assurance it will not happen again, and promise of 100 percent advances should it happen again. Lobby CUNY comptroller to regulate this on all CUNY campuses. GD expresses concern over to whom letter is addressed. SR speaks to this issue explaining relation to CUNYfirst as system wide explanation. SR notes why this is addressed to Persico. KL motions we also copy letter to Bill Kelly and Comptroller (CUNY and State). Jeremy Sideman seconds. All approve. Typo noted on the letter, bottom of third paragraph—not be held to this rule. AP points out that many people did not receive a 50% advance. SR asks how to revise. AP suggests that all get same percentage every time. In 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph from bottom there is a typo, title typo. Christine Pinnock (CP) suggests change to 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph “systemic and structural problems,” to assure focus on the system rather than employee neglect. SR asks if it should be changed to understaffing. SR emphasizes that this only deals with those on GC payroll rather than other campuses. Asks for info about other campuses. Stephanie Domenici (SD) suggests fairness of letter and suggests we vote on resolution rather than letter. Ashley Foster voices concern about HR, and SR responds that something will be added about this. CS suggests wording be changed to Senior Colleges. Voices concern over taxes removed when people paid in bulk. CS adds that lump sum payroll add additional burdens to students in taxes. In resolution, it is decided to add “further

resolved" Fall 2009. JS suggests change to "timely payment of employees." Boris Daussá-Pastor (BP) suggests problem with processing of paperwork, i.e. deductions. SR asks CS to speak to this. Agrees with this concern, voices support. CS suggests that staffing may have caused this. The Resolution cause is added staff to address this. Jason Schneiderman (JS) suggests not make assumptions as to how letter will be answered as to problems cause. Strike several hundred students. ST motions to approve with amendments. KL seconds the motion. Unanimous approval.

*b. DSC Website Changes*

CS addresses plenary. Addition of Twitter account. Room reservations are online now. People can join Facebook page. Grant submissions are online, legal appointments online. LF asks about Google calendar and if it will be updated as it was previously used. CS agrees to look into it. It is suggested that we make AP compliant card available online.

*c. Section 1.6*

CS explains about how advertising is regulated, first addresses how this structured. There is a major change last paragraph. Media board budget: explains disparity with revenue and allocation. Explains that this is mechanism to rectify this. CS refers to timetable in agenda and aspects of proposed changes. JS asks if they will be penalized. CS explains that this is not in an effort to do so. JS confirms that this is in reference to excess of budget. JS asks about discretionary funds. SR explains that historically doesn't run over. ST motions to recommend changes and approve bylaw. CS seconds. Approved. One opposed.

*d. Bylaw 4:Elections*

AP leaves meeting. We need to strike Psychology from subprograms leaving just programs. SR explains reasoning behind the change. JS asks if we still need this.

Section 4.2 — GD why take out Psych if they are the only one with subprograms. CS explains that this is to safeguard for the future. Lindsey Freer (LF) asks if we anticipate adding bylaws for programs that will be dealt with case to case. CS notes that only those paying student activity fees are eligible and summarizes definition of program. Crossing out every instance of "Department" and writing in "Program" is needed for consistency.

Section 4.4 — SD asks who it is up to, to limit membership and voices concern about this bylaw generally. SD motions to refer to committee, GD seconds. Approved unanimously.

Section 4.5— Process and how it works to recognize. ST moves to amend for "ten" business days. CS seconds. Unanimous approval.

CS notes motivation for this, to preclude those attending only last meeting for money or appointment of representation by EO's. SR speaks to abuse of student activity fees if programs are not fairly represented; SR asks if there is debate. JS moves to approve. BP seconds. All approve.

*e. Bylaw 16.2*

SR explains loss of seat in absence and trying to recover it when someone cannot attend executive committee, etc. SR asks for debate. CS motions to approve. GD seconds. Approved unanimously.

Noted that bylaw approvals are straw-polls rather than official votes. Bylaws are up for discussion tonight and will be put forward for approval at the next plenary on 10/23/09.

*f. Ratification of Health Issues Committee Members*

Ratification of health issues committee. JS voices concern over order of succession on previous bylaw. CS informs plenary that this was already addressed at steering.

KL speaks to plenary on HIC. KL asks for further members. Anthony Perri (AP) and Armin Lahiji volunteer. CS notes we can have only so many members and that if both serve, then we will be over the limit by one member. ST recuses herself from the committee. KL motions to approve changes to committee. LF seconds. All approved. CS moves to ratify members and KL as chair. JS seconds. All approved.

*g. College Association*

CS informs we need three members; JS nominates himself. GD asks how many meetings a year. SR informs: two. Boris asks for more info, and SR provides summary of association. Boris nominates Eero Laine (EL). EL accepts. SD nominates herself. CS motions to close nominations and approve by unanimous consent. GD seconds. All approved.

*h. Other Committee Positions*

Auxiliary Enterprise Board: CS addresses this. CS informs that this has not been attended for a while. CS asks for five nominations and suggests sending them to President's office to get information. SR opens call for nominations. CS recognizes mistake in section 16.10b. SD asks if this is in our bylaws and CS responds that they have been located. SR asks now for two. KL nominates GD. GD accepts. AF nominates Lindsey Freer. LF accepts. GD nominates KL. KL accepts. CS suggests we create list of those who are interested rather than election. ST nominates Jason Schneidermann; he accepts; he then speaks to proportion of body. GD suggests we take eleven names. ST moves to tentatively approve those nominated plus three co-chairs. GD motions to provisionally approve members to this board. CS seconds. Unanimous approval.

*i. Travel and Research Funds*

CS suggests demand portion of tuition increase to augment travel and research funds. Refers to schedule of funds in agenda. Refers to resolution on previous page emphasizing importance of conference attendance. Notes that the cap of \$300 and notes that funds are exhausted months before deadline and informs that we contribute to the majority of this fund. CS informs that increase will lead to more than \$3 million raise in revenue. CS suggests request that President Kelly agree to raise to \$500 a 10% increase each year thereafter.

Surplus funds would become contingency funds. AP adds that this fund is unknown to many students and asks for adequate communication of the funds. SR suggests this could be the responsibility of all DSC members to disseminate. SR agrees to send out reminder. GD says this may already be sent to APO's and makes note of how the DSC has attempted to do this before. CS motions to approve. LF seconds. Approved unanimously.

## **VI. Student Affairs Report**

E-Ballot system all should receive ballot in email for chartered orgs. Will arrive in GC email accounts and will indicate orgs. One will also be able to submit emails to orgs.

Organization that is up for charter: Language Documentation and Advocacy Group. Reads Mission. ST asks plenary to review constitutions and opens up for questions.

## **VII. Communications Report**

- SR reminds everyone of CLRN—Free Legal Advice.
- SR refers to list of Grad Council representatives. SR informs that the list originates with Alice Eisenberg. CS says to email representatives and that if they cannot attend, the DSC rep is eligible to go. GD states that E.O's sometime do this last minute when plenary voice concerns over elections of these positions.
- Bob Campbell has said that 20 new Mac's are now available. Concern over funding for these. LF states significance of Grad Council. CP notes that they confer degrees. LF tells plenary to make sure that we have representation. Webmaster bids being accepting to redo GC website. Soldavin is working with Bob Campbell and the Provost.
- The GC has a new Housing project in East Harlem, joining in venture with City College. New housing Project in LIC.
- University Benefits Coordinator October 7th. Hiring NYSHIP coordinator, no date yet. Board of Trustees was trying to create term limits for department chairs. CS asks if this applies to us, as we don't have departments. SR informs process of appointment. JS wonders also about wording according to governance. CS informs minutes should be posted next week. CS Motion to refer to steering. SR seconds. All approved.

**VIII. Business Report**

Referring to charts in agenda. Lockers have been allocated, people move in Monday. Program allocations are addressed, and CS will set up website for allocation allowances and check requests, etc. CS notifies on procedure for department check requests.

**IX. USS Report**

AF notes steering committee will be elected in fall, October 4th. Should be more to report next time. CS has requested budget report for last 3 years and has had no response.

**X. Committee Reports**

*Health Issues*

KL intends to do research through online survey to get feedback on NYSHIP experiences. Speaks to problem about receiving unexpected bills and informs on appeals process. Informs about Health Issues blog in order to collect experiences and create paper trail. KL is speaking with lawyer who is specialist in health care to help advocacy. KL talks about the upcoming Health Issues Reform meeting.

*Student Technology Fee*

GD informs that there is so far no meeting scheduled though it will be so soon. GD asks for suggestions so that the money can be dispersed properly.

*Cultural Affairs and Professional Development Grants*

CS informs monies raised to \$700.

*Constitution and Bylaws*

SR looking at the OpenCUNY bylaw.

**XI. Announcements**

Reminder of the President's Townhall meeting.

SR motions to adjourn. KF seconds. Meeting adjourned at 8:36pm.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Anick Boyd.*