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**COLLEGE-WIDE SENATE**

**GENERAL MEETING**

[Savoy Multipurpose Room](https://www.hostos.cuny.edu/About-Hostos/Our-Campus/Campus-Map)

120 East 149th Street (at Walton Ave)

Thursday, February 15, 2024

3:40 – 5:15 PM

**SENATE MEETING MINUTES**

**Present:**

* + **Allied Health**: ProfessorsAnnie Chitlall and Jarek Stelmark
  + **Behavioral and Social Sciences**: Professors Ernest Ialongo (Chair) and Nancy Genova
* **Business**: Professors Eddy Garcia and Anders Stachelek
* **CLT**: Mr. Marino Corniel
* **English**: Professors Christine Choi, Krystyna Michael, and Alexandra Milsom
  + **Education**: Professors Denise Cummings-Clay, Jacqueline DiSanto, and Michael Gosset, Elys Vasquez-Iscan
* **Gittleson**: Ms. Melanie Garcia
  + **Humanities**: Professors Catherine Lewis, Ana Ozuna, Victor Torres Velez, and Nicole Wallenbrock
* **Language and Cognition**: Professor Carl Grindley
* **Mathematics**: Professors Junghang Lee, Edme Soho, and Lauren Wolf
* **Natural Sciences**: Professors Debasish Roy and John Gillen
  + **Higher Education Officers** **(HEOs):** Ms. Cruz Esquilin, Ms. Jewel Jones, Mr. Michael Martinez, Ms. Marsha Milan-Bethal, Ms.Elizabeth Wilson**,** Ms. Sheryce Woolery-Balgobin
  + **University Faculty Senate (UFS)**: Professors Gail August, Eugena Griffin, and Julie Trachman
* **Professional Staff Congress**: Professor Craig Bernardini
  + **Senate At-Large Faculty Representatives**: Professors Stacey Cooper, Christine Hutchins, Diana Macri, Tram Nguyen, Clara Nieto-Wire, Hector Soto, and Simona Prives
  + **Adjunct Faculty Representatives**: Professors Ruben Worrell
  + **Student Government Association Representatives (SGA):** Dainma Martínez (President), Laura Cuevas, Jahneilia Curtin, Kathy Disla, Yassir Djossou, Melanie Ortiz Garcia, Yaxeny Hernandez-Ravelo**,** Kyle Lewis, Kobe Jacobs, Ansumana Jammeh, Dorian Johnson, Jasmin Sanchez, John Santana, and Orlando Soto

**Absent:**

* + **Behavioral and Social Sciences:** Prof. Felipe Pimentel
  + **Higher Education Officers:** Mr. Theudys Mejia
  + **Public Safety / Maintenance**: Officer Clara Albino
  + **Student Government Association:** Mr.Brian Carter

**Excused Absence:**

* + **Allied Health:** Professor Rodney Blair
  + **At Large:** ProfessorsAndrew Connolly and Marcelo Viana Neto
  + **BSS:** Professor Felipe Pimentel
  + **Higher Education Officers**: Ms. Karina Guardiola,Mr. Piotr Kocik, Ms. Ursula Sanders, Mr. Iber Poma, Ms. Daliz Perez-Cabezas, and Dr. Silvia Reyes
  + **Humanities:** Professor Thelma Ithier-Sterling
  + **Language and Cognition**: Professor Isabel Feliz
  + **Library**: Jorge Matos
  + **Adjunct:** Professor Juan Soto Franco

**Non-Voting Ex Officio Members:**

* President Daisy Cocco De Filippis, SVP Esther Rodriguez-Chardavoyne, Provost Shiang-Kwei Wang, VP Evelyn Fernandez-Ketcham, VP Colette Atkins, VP La Toro Yates, Dean Babette Audant, Mr. Carlos Rivera (HEO Organization Chair), and Parliamentarian Mr. Shmuel Gerber

**Non-Voting Ex Officio Absent**

* Mr. Eugene Sohn

**Vacant:**

* None

**Guests**:

* CIO Dilawar Grewal, Dean Andrea Fabrizio, Dean Ana I. Garcia Reyes, Dean Althea Sterling, Dean Johanna Gomez, Professor Julie Benscome, Professor Kris Burrell, Professor Madeline Ford, Ms. Diana Kreymer, Dr. Sofia Oviedo, Dr. Eric Radezky, Mr. Rafael A. Torres, Mr. Philip Oliveri, Mr. Darian Rivera, Mr. Gustavo Caraballo, Mr. Emmanuel Cornelio, Ms. Kayla Phillip, Ms. Marie Ortiz

**1.Call to Order**

Quorum established at 3:40 p.m.   
Senate called to order at 3:40 p.m.

**2.Approval of the Agenda**

Agenda was accepted as circulated.

**3.Approval of December 21, 2023, Senate Meeting Minutes**

Chair: Are there any additions or corrections to the December 21 Minutes as pre-circulated?   
   
Name of Director of Veteran Affairs was corrected: Ricardo Garcia.

The December 21, 2023 Minutes were accepted as pre-circulated.

**4**.**Chair’s Report**

Prof. Ernest Ialongo  
   
Dear Senators and Guests,

As you know the Senate Executive Committee on February 2 released a [response](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/rwafn0lilkmgwprojbtaf/3b.Hostos-SEC-Response-to-CUNY-Cost-Savings-Memo-2.2.24.pdf?rlkey=wwjoelmo61s1gbhu359cpdl9l&dl=0) to a CUNY cost savings memo entitled [Strategies for the Optimal Use of Academic Resources](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/gu911x3yswzn01thrk7or/3a.CUNY-EVC-Hensel-Memo-on-Cost-Savings-with-Academic-Interventions-1.25.24.pdf?rlkey=y3c9mvma8iajwnl3b4doe0ncs&dl=0), which was drafted by Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Wendy Hensel and is meant to counteract CUNY budget shortfalls.

We issued the response because the “recommendations” in the memo, in addition to recent cuts across the university, including here at Hostos, were, and are, troubling.

To begin with, the memo’s recommendations to close budget gaps are in clear violation of the basic governing documents of the university and our college. I will quote from the SEC response:

“Enacting the proposals without advance consultation with faculty, staff, and student leaders, as represented in the Hostos College-Wide Senate, the Senate Budget and Finance Committee, the HEO Organization, and the Student Government Association contravenes the spirit of shared governance that is integral to academia. Further, doing so violates the very documents that define this shared governance. For instance, the [CUNY Bylaws](https://policy.cuny.edu/bylaws/article-ix/) (Section 9.3.2) and the [Hostos Charter of Governance](https://www.hostos.cuny.edu/Hostos/media/College-Wide-Senate/A-Hostos-Charter-Of-Governance-Effective-July-7-2021-onwards_1.pdf) (Article VI, Section 2, G) place scheduling under the purview of Academic Chairs, and cannot simply be delegated to “key administrators”, as suggested in the memo, to serve the interest of budget efficiencies. Additionally, class sizes also fall under the purview of Academic Chairs, under the rationale that only department leaders can adequately respond to the needs of their disciplines to deliver high-quality education to their students. The optimal class size average suggested in the memo ignores this. Also, the [Hostos Charter of Governance](https://www.hostos.cuny.edu/Hostos/media/College-Wide-Senate/A-Hostos-Charter-Of-Governance-Effective-July-7-2021-onwards_1.pdf) (Article IV, Section 2) spells out the program elimination process, one which cannot be implemented solely on the recommendation of a CUNY Council on Academic Policy, as the memo suggests. Finally, the  [CUNY Manual of General Policy](https://policy.cuny.edu/policyimport/manual_of_general_policy/article_v/policy_5.01/text/index.html#Navigation_Location) (Article V, Policy 5.01) makes clear that the faculty are responsible for establishing their own criteria for self-assessment, as found in the [Hostos] [Guidelines for Faculty Evaluation, Reappointment and Tenure](https://www.hostos.cuny.edu/Hostos/media/Office-of-Academic-Affairs/Faculty-Evaluation-Handbook-4th-Edition-2019-Updated-with-April-November-2023-CWPB-Revisions-Final_1.pdf), which were established by faculty governing bodies, and which dictate the actions of the departmental and college-wide personnel & budget committees. Any use of “unproductive credits,” or classes with high DFWI rates, as a measurement of teaching excellence, would contravene this practice. More importantly, this would hinder the goal of identifying and marshalling the resources to fully support our students, both inside and outside of the classroom.”

Beyond the recommendations from EVC Hensel as being contrary to our governing laws, the resulting cuts across CUNY since December have been shocking.

We have all read of accounts at [York and Queens](https://www.thecity.nyc/2024/01/12/cuny-mass-layoffs-and-class-cuts/) about the summary termination of adjuncts and substitute full time lecturers just before the beginning of the semester.

These colleges, and others, finished the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2023/24 in budget deficit, and nine colleges were identified by CUNY as having significant structural deficits, or a chronic shortage of funds to meet current and expected expenses, and were directed by CUNY to find savings immediately—and thus the sudden and draconian cuts we know of.

Cuts were also made at Hostos recently, though we neither have a budget deficit at the end of this fiscal year’s first quarter, nor were identified as one of the nine colleges with pronounced structural deficits.

No one contests the budget shortfalls CUNY is facing, with declining enrollments from the pandemic, the end of financial stimulus from the federal government, and Mayor Adams’ continued threats to cut funding to CUNY as found in his preliminary budget.

However, it is the means by which these cuts are made, and their distribution, which is troubling.

By this, I mean, what, if any, consultation was held at these colleges, and at our own, before cuts were implemented?

It would seem very little consultation was had with faculty and other governing leaders when cuts were made which primarily targeted academic affairs.

And, to be clear, the varying deficits at each college are ultimately the result of the choices made at each college by their respective administrations. Yet, the faculty, staff, and students at those colleges are being asked to bear the brunt of EVC Hensel’s proposed cost saving measures.

However, let me confine my remaining comments to our college, and the SEC’s concern with recent cuts made at Hostos without any advance consultation from the departments affected, or the Senate Budget and Finance Committee.

In January, a number of academic chairs were informed that the faculty lines they had been promised were being cut in half. In my department, Behavioral and Social Sciences, a completed Psychology search, with candidates ready to be hired, was canceled.

We raised these issues in the SEC response to the Hensel memo and to the cuts at Hostos, yet the following week various members of the college administration reported at the all college meeting the following:

-that there had been no cuts at Hostos

-that staffing has remained relatively even over the last few years

-and that chairs had been informed of the lines they were getting

I think some clarification is in order.

First, eliminating lines that were promised to departments, including those that resulted in a successful search, as well as systematically failing to fill lines of retired or resigned faculty and staff at Hostos are cuts.

Second, staffing has not remained even these past years.

Many of our academic departments, and units and offices beyond the departments, constantly report chronic shortages and understaffing.

And, according to the first quarter financial analysis by the [University’s Budget Office](https://www.cuny.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/page-assets/about/trustees/meetings-of-the-board/Fin-AdminAgenda112023.pdf) [p. 478] for Fiscal Year 2023/24, our full time staffing in Fall 2021 was **583**; in Fall 2023 it fell to **534**.

Our full time faculty numbers have plummeted in the same time period from **189** in Fall 2022, to **175** in Fall 2023 [p. 479], and will continue to decline if retiree lines are not filled.

Finally, the fact that chairs were informed of the lines they were getting is not the same as being consulted before lines are eliminated.

The chairs are responsible for the financial and pedagogical well-being of their departments, yet academic departments are operating with shrinking resources and are not part of the conversation about what is adequate for their departments to fulfill their obligations to their students.

Decisions are being made by our administration, and the university, to primarily meet budget needs, and the faculty, and the student-serving staff, are expected to maintain the same classroom excellence and attendant student services—with students paying the cost in the end.

I also noted that the Senate Budget and Finance Committee was not consulted before the recent cuts were enacted at Hostos.

If the committee had been consulted, here are some of the questions we would have asked:

-Why are these cuts being made when Hostos was not identified as a college with pronounced structural deficits and required to produce immediate cost savings?

-How do we reconcile the cuts at Hostos with the consistently positive numbers regarding enrollment trends at Hostos and our increasing collection rate which bolsters our income?

-How do we reconcile this consistent attrition of staffing with the fact that Hostos ended the first quarter of this fiscal year with a surplus, and has remaining stimulus funding?

-What is the plan for our adjunct faculty? How will we provide them enough sections to qualify for health insurance and consistent income?

-And, what is the plan to meet future expenses at Hostos which does not hinder the quality education and support our students expect?

Let me reiterate the spirit and wording of the SEC response to the Hensel memo and to the recent cuts at Hostos:

We are collectively a part of the shared governance of the college, and university—all of us, the various administrations, faculty, staff, and students.

We all have our part to play, within our legislatively defined roles in our governing documents, and the Hostos Senate has always held to its role as defined by those documents.

In fact, the one voting item on the agenda today is the conferral of an honorary degree, which can only happen, as per the [Manual of General Policy](https://policy.cuny.edu/general-policy/article-v/) [Article 5, Policy 5.1001], with our endorsement.

Our SEC response to the Hensel memo and to the cuts at Hostos clearly states how we see the college’s path moving forward:

“The SEC, as the duly authorized representative of the Hostos College-Wide Senate, by this statement, reaffirms its commitment to shared governance, and more importantly, to the principles and values that make shared governance effective. To wit: collegial participatory decision-making that ensures and promotes the mission of the college, its students, and its community. We invite the college administration to join the faculty, staff, and students in meaningful dialogue on matters discussed in the CUNY [cost savings] memo and beyond as we navigate these upcoming months. In collaboration and cooperation we can maintain educational excellence for our deserving student population.”

Thank you for your time.

Any questions or comments?

SVP Rodriguez-Chardavoyne:

We here don’t follow the memo from EVC. The Provost and Chairs decide on the schedule. We have the Chairs decide what courses are going to be taught. The Chairs decide on what courses are enrolled. We have functioned at Hostos in a collaborative approach. Chairs make the decision on courses and enrollment at Hostos. I understand what the memo is trying to do. We use the stimulus dollars to cover the expenses. When that money is out, and there’s no money coming in from the State and City, we are in trouble. We cannot get ourselves out of it from enrollment. We at Hostos want to do what is best for our students. The administration at Hostos received a 2% increase after the PSC received its increase. Let’s do things together.

Professor Soto:

Next March we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the fight to save Hostos, when there were only 600 students enrolled. That campaign lasted a few months and the state provided the money to keep Hostos going. Dominicans, Puerto Rican Students, and the Black Student Union all fought and understood the value of keeping the College open and the service that we provide.

I am a proud member of the Senate and a believer in the democratic process, and if you read the Charter, it emphasizes the point of participatory democratic process. We don’t have to abide by this top down approach. We can say no. Senate is the most democratic body because we are inclusive. We are the body for Hostos and we are the continuing flow of our collective memory. We want to be part of the decision-making from the very beginning, not the tail end. To quote the AAUP Center for Academic Freedom, the idea is to “study and confront the recent ideological attacks on higher education.”

Professor Grindley:

Lurking in the background, the projected deficit for the city is 7.5 billion. We’re still a ways from the legal cap of city deficit of 131 billion. This might be a real thing we have to worry about.

Professor August:

I ask that the faculty be involved in all the decisions: We are the one who actually see the details. In terms of scheduling, can we work on rational advisement. Can we communicate with advisors to keep classes open? Additionally, if professors are on an underload, how does this save us money? We have 50% fewer ESL students than historically. Are we recruiting and bringing the immigrant population in?

Provost Shiang-Kwei Wang notes that the memo was shared as a FYI and she lauds our Chairs and their work to ensure full enrollment in classes, and added the advisement liaison model will further help to make the advisement and course sequence better.

VP Fernandez-Ketchum (Submitted)

In answer to Prof. August’s comments, **The CUNY English Language for Work Initiative at Hostos** will develop a Contextualized English as a Second Language (ESL) Customer Service for Retail Training Program and expand its existing contextualized ESL occupational training program for Home Health Aides (also supported with WIOA-funds)—in years 1-3. By Year 3, depending on the needs of the asylum seeker population, we will explore a foreign licensure equivalence program. CEWD staff will collaborate with New York City agencies that will refer eligible asylum seekers for training. Up to seventy-five (75) eligible to work asylum seekers will be served by this program.

Chairperson Ialongo: No one imagines that anyone is making policies to harm students. It’s a question of priorities and consultation. Heartened to hear that the Hensel memo was received with pause.

**5.President’s Comments**   
  
  President Daisy Cocco De Filippis, Ph.D.

As a former Chair and faculty, I believe in the common sense of Chairs working with the Provost to schedule and designate classes.

We manage ourselves here with respect. Our enrollment is up but the income is not what we hoped because we have more part-time than fulltime, and FTEs are determined by full-time enrollment.

I appreciate that Hostos has built a community, staff, students, and faculty, who fought for its existence. I trust that the Provost is working with the Chairs. The moment that there are funds available we will continue with hiring. I don’t tell SDEM what to do. I want to understand that the students are being served and people have the right credentials. The students write to me and they trust me.

(Submitted remarks to follow.)

* Thank you. Good to see you all. I hope all weathered the snow storm ad everyone is safe at home;
* Mil gracias for the robust attendance at last week’s All College meeting. Good information and facts were shared, and specific information about the work of OAA, budget and enrollments were presented by Division leaders. They were also included in last Friday’s Semanario. As circumstances change, and we receive new information, we will continue to inform, and if need me, revise plans.
* Tomorrow’s Semanario will have a link to the Bronx Net program on our Hostos Arts and Culture Center. A wonderful tribute to the work being done – Mil gracias Director Felix Arocho, Professor Angel Morales and Director Ivano Leoncavallo for this beautiful showcase of our work.
* Congratulations to our Women’s Basketball Champions. Brava! So very proud.
* I wish you all a wonderful, long week-end. Mil gracias.

**6.SGA President’s Comments**

SGA President Dainma Martínez (Submitted)

Good afternoon everyone. First I would like to say thank you to my SGA, we have an amazing full team this semester. I just want to say a few things (I feel like I always say that). First I would like to start with Yesterday's event which was a grand success. Many students passed by to pick up a Valentine's candy bag and win some prizes. Yesterday I would like to say that we showed off the admiration and love we have here at Hostos. Another great thing coming up soon is Hostos Leadership Academy Friday workshops. Tomorrow's workshop is Public Speaking: Power, Passion & Persuasion: Enhancing Communication Skills and becoming a More Powerful Speaker with Katina Kalin. Then on the 23rd is the CUNY Emerging Leaders Conference-Virtual Conference.The conference will be held virtually via Zoom on Friday, February 23, 2024, between 10:00 am-2:00 pm EST. The registration deadline is Tuesday, February 20, 2024. This weekend a few of us from SGA will be with the USS traveling to Albany for the 53rd Annual Legislative Conference advocating for metro cards for all CUNY students, I will also be under Malave Academy advocating for 4million in mental health and disabilities at the luncheon Saturday.

Black Studies will also be having a Capoeira session on Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2:00 PM-3:15 PM This collaborative performance and Capoeira workshop highlights the Afro-Brazilian martial and dance art form originated in the 1500s by enslaved Africans in Brazil to assist them fight for liberation during the colonial period, as well as African American Read-In with Professor Cynthia Jones. I will have a signup sheet in my office C-534 for those who wish to participate in sharing a poem or reading selection. I would like to add a few things SGA has also in the works.

One major thing we have in the works is recreating/installing a new prayer/meditation room. SGA will come together to create a write-up plan to discuss more on having an extra room for those who need to pray or meditate. There is only one office space for prayers which is on the 5th floor from the Muslim club, as well as a room on the 3rd floor in the counseling center. Another great thing SGA is creating is the Beautify CleanUp. Where SGA and other volunteers will clean up the area of the A building, as well as plant flowers and add new plant life to the exterior. Because here at Hostos we are about positivity, diversity and life.

Thank you!

Kobe Jacobs: Mid-April, reach out to Mr. Bryant or Ms. Diana Kreymer if professors would like to bring their classes.

**7.Curriculum Items**

None

**8.Non-Curricular Voting Items**

(See Appendix for text)

Honorary Degree for Carolyn McLaughlin: (Oral endorsement by President Cocco de Filippis)

Carolyn McLaughlin is a member of the Hostos Foundation. She has been a strong cornerstone of Bronx leaderships since the 1970s, and she is very supportive of Hostos and attends every commencement event. Before retirement, she was the Executive Officer of Bronx Works. Each honorary candidate has exemplified a pillar of Hostos’s Strategic Plan, and Ms. McLaughlin is being nominated for a Degree of Associate of Humane Letters.

Chairperson Ialongo:

Manual of General Policy states that only faculty can vote on items of this nature. Chairperson is putting forward a motion to open it up to all voters. Are there any faculty members who object to this motion?

No objections.

Ms. Kreymer: Clarification - the formatting of the document came from a template by Executive Vice Chancellor.

Chairperson: Are there any objections to the wording changes to the document to adhere to the Manual of General Policy?

No objections.

Chairperson Ialongo read the statement into the record.

Y = 48

N = 4

A = 4

V = 1

**Action passes.**

**9.Reports of the Senate Standing Committee**

Admissions Committee – Director Carlos Rivera (Submitted)

Prospective Student Plan Update (Fall 2024):   
The Admissions and Retention Senate Committee has dedicated significant efforts to revamping our prospective student plan for the fall 2024 enrollment cycle. Through thorough analysis and collaborative brainstorming, we refined our strategies to better attract and engage potential students. These updates align with the evolving landscape of higher education, ensuring our institution remains competitive and appealing to prospective students.

Counselor Conference "Bridging Dreams" at Hostos Community College:   
We are thrilled to announce the upcoming Counselor Conference titled "Bridging Dreams," scheduled on the Hostos Community College campus on Friday, February 16. This event promises to be an invaluable opportunity for high school and community-based organization counselors to network, share insights, and explore innovative strategies to support students in achieving their academic aspirations. A few members of our committee will be speaking at the conference.  We invite the college community to join us in fostering meaningful connections and empowering counselors to guide students toward success.

CUNY Reconnect Initiative Expansion:   
On the retention front, we are actively engaged in expanding the reach of the CUNY Reconnect initiative. While initially focusing on stop-outs, we are now broadening our target population to include Transfer students above 24. By identifying and addressing the unique needs of these groups, we aim to facilitate their successful reintegration into Hostos Community College, thereby enhancing our retention and graduation rates while promoting lifelong learning opportunities. Our commitment to admissions and retention remains unwavering as we continue to strive for the success of all our students.

**10.UFS Update**

Report submitted by Prof. Trachman

UFS Report to Hostos Senate on Feb. 15, 2024  
The next plenary is on February 20 and Vice Chancellor and University Provost Wendy Hensel is on the agenda to meet with us via Zoom.  CUNY Board of Trustees Chairman William Thompson is also scheduled to meet with us the night of the plenary.  
I will keep my remarks relatively brief and mention some of the recently published UFS blogs that may be of interest to many of you here.  
I)Blog dated Jan. 24, 2024: You may remember there was a UFS-organized Dec 2023 survey on the proposed draft policy requiring all synchronous and asynchronous classes to be delivered on Brightspace beginning in semester following its implementation in school/ college.  Feedback was collected and several UFS Senators (as an ad hoc committee) over the winter break put together a letter and sent it to University Provost Hensel sharing the concerns that arose in the survey.  The letter itself is shared in the blog. I am sharing with you some of the paragraph headings which reflect some of the concerns: 1)Academic Freedom 2)Prohibit use of technologies to augment the feature set of the LMS 3)Interfere with use of Google Classroom by Education faculty (Note: used to prepare students to become K-12 educators) 4)Blogging platforms and tools – interfacing with CUNY Pressbook, etc. 5)Interfacing with CUNY Academic Commons 6)Interfacng with Computer Science software/data science software 7)Interfacing with Math-oriented software 8)Inhibit OER development and possibly usage 9)Privacy concerns 10)Practical concerns 11)Comments on supporting rational  
II)”The Budget Cinch” dated Jan. 30. 2024 (written by UFS Chair, J. Verzani): (Note: this complements some of the comments made already but also brings up other concerns to consider in the future) 1)Low degree producing programs and low enrolled programs 2)Efficient class scheduling – class size, etc. 3)Leveraging class strengths 4)Addressing academic stability with respect to retention 5)Reducing unproductive credits 6)Shared services within the system: facilities, procurement, technology solutions…..  
III)Three somewhat related blogs posted in Dec. 2023 assessing the impact of changes in math class structure/ placement of students in entry level classes with/without academic support.  In some cases, they were also looking at the progress of students in more advanced classes.  
IV)Blog written by Prof. E. Tai (member of Student Affairs Committee [SAC]): promoting the idea of  CUNY student having access to free Metro cards (building on a SAC resolution). It was mentioned because SGA President Dainma Martinez said she and other University Student Sentate (USS) students would be traveling to Albany this coming weekend to ask for free Metro cards to be provided to CUNY students.

**11. New Business** 

*Prof. Bernardini – PSC CUNY Chapter Co-Chair*

Notes as a response to administration that if lines are not filled when people retire, then that is effectively a cut. Additionally, the conversion of courses into independent study as per the Hensel memo is being grieved by the Union. Is interested in discussing at the next Labor Management Meeting the notion that Hostos is Hostos, CUNY is CUNY. Suggests that All College Meetings not be held during a time that faculty teach, and that there be a microphone for dialogue as there used to be at State of the College meetings. Encourages union members to attend rallies, a protests, and upcoming Chapter meetings in order to show support for the contract negotiation process. Emphasizes that we are coming on a year without agreement.

Ms. Kreymer: Microphone is available at State of the College at the end of September or April.

SVP Rodriguez-Chardavoyne:

Hostos CC has always done what we do best for the college. We have always worked with the Provost and the Provost with the Chairs because we have always figured out what works best for us.

We need to be careful about what we say. What works for us is when we work together.

President De Filippis:

I have said repeatedly that at PSC meetings that I am not part of the CUNY negotiation team. I can off the record advocate for my college, and I don’t have to be told to do that.

Professor Ozuna, Black Studies Unit:

Black Studies Unit planned exciting events for Black History Month and it has been uplifting with more than 60 students participating.

We are all feeling the austerity. We’ll continue to give 110% and doing the real work and this is our legacy.

**12. Adjournment**

Prof. Ialongo motioned to adjourn.

Seconded.

No objections   
   
 The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

**Submitted by:**   
   
*Tram Nguyen, Recording Secretary, and Chair Ernest Ialongo*

**Appendix:**

**RESOLUTION TO**

**RECOMMEND THE AWARDING OF AN HONORARY DEGREE TO CAROLYN MCLAUGHLIN AT THE EUGENIO MARIA DE HOSTOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT**

[Amended Version, Passed at Hostos College-Wide Senate February 15, 2024]

WHEREAS, New York City and Eugenio María de Hostos Community College (“Hostos Community College” or “the College”) and the people of the Bronx are only as strong as the people who dedicate their lives to them; and

WHEREAS, Carolyn McLaughlin has been a vocal community activist and fixture in the Bronx since the late 1960s, serving as Chief Executive Officer of BronxWorks, a non-profit organization that helps individuals and families improve their economic and social well-being, for more than 34 years, from 1979 until her retirement in 2013; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McLaughlin oversaw the growth of BronxWorks, from its inception as The Citizen’s Advice Bureau, which was then a single small storefront in one neighborhood, to now consisting of 27 locations in seven Bronx community districts, providing services for more than 35,000 Bronx residents from preschoolers to senior citizens, including immigrants, unhoused individuals, families, and people with HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McLaughlin authored a book “South Bronx Battles: Stories of Resistance, Resilience, and Renewal,” which highlights the tumult of the 1970s and 80s in the South Bronx and uplifting the community-led efforts to preserve this community’s diverse culture and advocate for the social-services, affordable housing, quality healthcare, fulfilling opportunities, and healthy environment its residents deserve; and

WHEREAS, In her retirement Ms. McLaughlin has continued to serve the Bronx as a Board member of the Bronx River Alliance, the Nonprofit Coordinating Committee, and the Hostos Community College Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Serving as secretary on the Executive Committee and chairing the Fund Development Committee of the Hostos Community College Foundation Board, Ms. McLaughlin has shared her experience and considerable knowledge of the South Bronx Community to benefit the College and its students; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McLaughlin has given generously to support student success at Hostos through the Bridge Tuition Support Assistance (BTSA) fund, Circle of 100 Emergency Scholarship fund, and the Hostos Community College Foundation’s Annual Scholarship Benefits and Anniversary Galas; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McLaughlin further illustrates her commitment to the College through her frequent attendance of both on-campus and external events; and

WHEREAS, In granting this degree, Hostos Community College will recognize and honor Ms. McLaughlin for her lifetime of dedicated service to the people of the Bronx, and especially to Hostos Community College;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Hostos Community College Senate, acting on behalf of the faculty, hereby recommends to the College President and the University Chancellor that the College award Carolyn McLaughlin the degree of Associate of Humane Letters at the College’s annual commencement ceremonies on May 29, 2024 and May 30, 2024.

EXPLANATION: In awarding Carolyn McLaughlin this honorary degree, Hostos Community College recognizes her lifelong commitment to serving and advocating for the people of the South Bronx, especially the Hostos community, in accordance with the highest ideals and principles that we deserve from our leaders, and the values that Hostos Community College and CUNY wish to impart to their students.