A blue and white logo

Description automatically generated

**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, May 16, 2024

3:38 – 5:55 PM

**SENATE MEETING MINUTES**

**Present:**

* **Allied Health**: Professors Rodney Blair, Annie Chitlall, and Jarek Stelmark
* **Behavioral and Social Sciences**: Professors Ernest Ialongo (Chair), Nancy Genova, and Felipe Pimentel
* **Business**: Professors Anders Stachelek and Eddy Garcia
  + **CLT:** Mr. Marino Corniel
* **English**: Professors Christine Choi, Krystyna Michael, and Alexandra Milsom
  + **Education**: Professors Jacqueline DiSanto, Michael Gosset, and ProfessorElys Vasquez-Iscan
* **Gittleson**: Ms. Melanie Garcia
* **Humanities**: Professors Thelma Ithier-Sterling, Catherine Lewis, Ana Ozuna, Simone Prives, and Victor Torres Velez
* **Language and Cognition**: Professor Isabel Feliz
* **Library**: Professor Jorge Matos
* **Mathematics**: Professors Junghang Lee, Edme Soho, and Lauren Wolf
* **Natural Sciences**: Professors John Gillen and Debasish Roy
  + **Higher Education Officers** **(HEOs):** Mr. Travaras Geter, Ms. Jewel Jones, Mr. Michael Martinez, Ms. Daliz Perez-Cabezas, Mr. Iber Poma, Dr. Silvia Reyes, Ms. Ursula Sanders, and Ms.Elizabeth Wilson
* **University Faculty Senate (UFS)**: Professors Gail August and Julie Trachman
* **Professional Staff Congress**: Professor Craig Bernardini
* **Senate At-Large Faculty Representatives**: Professors Stacey Cooper, Christine Hutchins, Teresa Gray, Diana Macri, Tram Nguyen, Clara Nieto-Wire, Hector Soto, and Marcelo Viana Neto
* **Adjunct Faculty Representatives**: Professors Ruben Worrell and Juan Soto Franco
* **Student Government Association Representatives (SGA):** Dainma Martínez (President), Cynthia Bongo

**Absent:**

* + **Allied Health:** ProfessorAnnie Chitlall
  + **Education:** ProfessorDenise Cummings-Clay
  + **Higher Education Officers:** Ms. Esquilin Cruz, Mr. Theudys Mejia, Ms. Karina Guardiola
  + **Public Safety / Maintenance**: Officer Clara Albino
  + **Student Government Association:** Jahneilia Curtin, Yaxeny Hernandez-Ravelo, Dorian Johnson, Melanie Ortiz Garcia, Jasmin Sanchez,Kyle Lewis, Kobe Jacobs John Santana, and Orlando Soto

**Excused Absence:**

* + **English:** Professor Alexandra Milsom
  + **Humanities:** Professor Nicole Wallenbrock
  + **Library:** Professor Jorge Matos
  + **Higher Education Officers:** Dr. Marsha Milan-Bethal,
  + **At Large:** ProfessorsAndrew Connolly and Clara Nieto-Wire
  + **University Senate:** Professor Eugena Griffin
* **Student Government Association:** Ansumana Jammeh,

**Non-Voting Ex Officio Members:**

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

**Non-Voting Ex Officio Absent**

* Mr. Eugene Sohn
* Mr. Carlos Rivera

**Guests**:

* Dean Andrea Fabrizio, Dean Ana I. Garcia Reyes, Dean Johanna Gomez, Dean Althea Sterling, Professor Humberto Ballesteros, Professor Joan Beckerman, Professor Aaron Botwick, Professor Joseph Caravalho, Professor Soheli Chowdury, Professor Francisco Fernandez, Professor Allison Franzese, Professor Madeline Ford, Professor Carl Grindley, Professor Anna Ivanova, Professor Inmaculada Lara Bonilla, Professor Karin Lundberg, Professor Gregory Marks, Professor Thomas Mencher, Professor Yoel Rodriguez, Professor Olga Steinberg, Professor Segrid Renne, Ms. Anan Arvelo, Ms. Ashante Diggs, Ms. Marina Esquilin, Mr. Ricardo Garcia, Mr. Carlos Guevara, Mr. Bill Hall, Ms. Kelsey Hillebrand, Ms. Diana Kreymer, Mr. Philip Oliveri, Dr. Sofia Oviedo, Dr. Eric Radezky, Mr. Herry Rosa, Mr. Darian Rivera, Ms. Gloria Rodriguez, Ms. Dulce Toppenberg, Mr. Rafael A. Torres, Joey Snavely, Neptali Chunguta, Jember Asfaw Woldemariam, Chasaty Harris, Marilin Rodriguez

**1.Call to Order**

Quorum established at 3:38 p.m.   
Senate called to order at 3:38 p.m.

**2.Approval of the Agenda**

Accepted.

**3.Approval of March 21, 2024 Senate Meeting Minutes**

Iber Poma’s name misspelled.

Marina Cruz’s name misspelled.

Minutes accepted as corrected.

**4**.**Chair’s Report**   
   
**Chairperson Ernest Ialongo** (Submitted remarks)

Welcome.

Thank you for your adaptability with WhatsApp and being here as we navigate this cyberattack and email/internet shutdown.

It is a testament to our college and Senate that we get the job done, regardless of the challenges.

We are all working to help our students to the finish line, and learning to manage via personal emails and cell numbers.

Once this initial crisis passes, and once our systems are back online, I would hope the college provides an explanation as to how this hack happened, and what vulnerability needs to be addressed going forward.

We will have brief presentations on the IT situation, and Budget, during the President’s comments.

Thanks to CWCC, Prof. Hutchins, and a recent 3 hour session which brought you all these curricular items today.

Finally, in response to a Senator’s request, and my own, I’m going to ask for a moment of silence to recognize two members of the Hostos community who passed recently. Going forward, any Senator may request a moment of silence, in advance, for the passing of a Hostos faculty, staff, student, administrator, or supporter of Hostos.

In the past weeks we lost Ms. Elba Cabrera, a longtime supporter of the college, and of the arts, and to whom we gave an honorary degree.

We also lost an adjunct professor of Sociology, Prof. Sage Sevilla, who taught in my department for 6 years. Please join me in a moment of silence.

Thank you and now we turn to President’s remarks

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

The President noted the college had many celebrations and all have seen the students through to completion. Regarding the cyber-attack, immediately her concern was that there was support for students and faculty and continuing enrollment. Classes continued on, and the President thanked Chairs and Coordinators and everyone. At the All College on Wednesday, May 15, 2024 it included the SVP giving a brief summary of the situation. At the end of the meeting, the President remained in the room to hear how everyone was supporting students. She noted that most of the community had been wonderful in supporting students and that the SGA had felt the support. She wished everyone a peaceful and joyful end of year. Commencement, she added, is important because this may be students’ first because their high school graduation was during Covid. She announced that the SVP will bring a brief update on the budget, and thanked Prof. Ialongo for allowing the conversation.

**Senior Vice President Esther Rodriguez Chardavoyne**

The SVP noted the following:

The budget was shared at All College and at Chairs, Coordinators, and Directors’ meeting. State held the college harmless so the 100% floor is in place. No retractions were required. We were $94.4 million short in the Mayor’s first proposal, which is alarming because there is no more stimulus money. City Council’s budget proposed a restoration of $40 million to the community colleges. The budget might be a little late and will come out late June, likely. The Chancellor has testified to the City of the need to fund CUNY and the community colleges.

Last Thursday, May 8, the system was infiltrated and Dr. Grewal shut the entire system down. This is currently in the hands of the University and the University assigns tasks and we follow their lead. One of the priorities that the President issued was that students could take tests and that faculty could access Blackboard.

Unfortunately, the hotspots during the Pandemic were kept by the students and so only a limited number of borrowed hotspots were provided to a very limited number of people. Laptops were given out and we’re trying to be as responsive as possible.

**Chief Information Officer, Dr. Dilawar Grewal**

Dr. Grewal reported the following:

This started in the early hours of Thursday at 6 am. Rafael Nunez was doing updates and saw suspicious activity. Everything was shut down but some desktops had already been infiltrated. We have to go through many layers to uncover and clean the malware, and it has to be verified externally. Some key issues involve forensics: How did they get in? Where did they go? The recovery requires University support. We’ve had to rebuild some systems. One of our priorities was to bring up systems for students to take labs and provide hotspots for College business.

Questions:

Prof. Lara Bonilla thanked Dr. Grewal and asked what is the best channel to obtain updates for the community.

Answer: Updates are not possible because if what we know is made known, the hackers will return because they are not out of the system.

Prof. Ana Ozuna thanked Dr. Grewal and asked how do we know which students have received alerts through CUNY First in order to further reach out. Are our zip drives safe to use at home? How can students contact IT.

Answer: Anyone who was registered on the CUNY Alerts would receive an alert or they can register on CUNY First. Students can call IT at 718-518-6646.

Prof. Debasish Roy asks if it is safe to access my hotspot via my phone.

Answer: Yes.

**6.SGA President’s Comments**

**President Dainma Martínez** (Submitted remarks)

Good afternoon, everyone, again I am Dainma Martinez SGA President.

Yesterday we had our All College Wide Meeting…so a lot of what I said yesterday will be repeated today because honestly, I just stretched everything out!

As we wind down this semester, I just wanted to take a moment to celebrate how connected the students, Professors and faculty are this semester from all of the events and special moments we've all had together.

Our students have truly shined, showing immense dedication to their studies and actively advocating for causes close to their hearts. The energy and enthusiasm on campus and outside collaborating with the campus have been remarkable.

And let's not forget to appreciate the beautiful sun that shines above us. Some days may be rainy (again like today but you all know the flowers have to grow).

But the next day usually shines bright. As we approach the end of the semester, let's carry this momentum forward and finish strong. Congratulations to all who are graduating, to all who continue and to all who are here everyday. We appreciate you.

I know our systems may be down, but still and always Hostos spirit is always up!

As a small note, as of tomorrow May 17th, the Student Government Presidents and those of the University Student Senate will have a meeting with our CUNY Chancellor to discuss many things that are happening in and around campuses.

**7. Elections**

Chairperson Ialongo: Asked for a plurality vote. No objections.

Action 1: Hostos Association

Charlie Drago = 42

Inmaculada Lara Bonilla = 34

Teresa Gray = 38

Victor Torres Velez = 33

Simone Prives = 32

Elected: Professors Drago, Lara Bonilla, Gray, Torres Velez, and Prives

Action 2: Hostos Auxiliary Corporation

Hostos Association

Charlie Drago = 27

Inmaculada Lara Bonilla = 32

Teresa Gray = 27

Run-off vote between Charlie Drago and Teresa Gray.

Action 19: Auxiliary Corporation Run-off Vote

Charlie Drago = 21

Teresa Gray = 26

Elected: Professors Lara Bonilla and Gray

Action 3: Faculty Student Disciplinary Committee

Aaron Botwick = 41

Segrid Renne = 38

Elected: Professors Botwick and Renne

**8.Curriculum Items**

1. Curricular Items (16 voting items)
   1. OT 101, OT 209, COOP 102, A.A.S. degree in Office Technology – Presented by Prof. Stachelek
      1. OT 101 – Revision
      2. OT 209 – Revision
      3. COOP 102 – Revision
      4. A.A.S. degree in Office Technology – Program change

Action 4

Yes = 44

No = 1

Abstain = 0

Invalid = 1

Item passed.

* 1. ENG 252 – Presented by Prof. Grindley
     1. ENG 252 – New Course

Action 5

Yes = 41

No = 4

Abstain = 0

Invalid = 2

Item passed.

* 1. DM 103 – Prof. Joseph Caravalho
     1. DM 103 – Revision

Action 6

Yes = 46

No = 0

Abstain = 0

Invalid = 1

Item passed.

* 1. Liberal Arts Option in Latina/o, Latin American, and Caribbean Studies – Prof Lara Bonilla
     1. Latina/o, Latin American, and Caribbean Studies – Option Change

Action 7

Yes = 46

No = 0

Abstain = 0

Invalid = 0

Item passed.

* 1. Liberal Arts Option in Black Studies – Prof. Ana Ozuna
     1. Black Studies – Option Change

Action 8

Yes = 47

No = 0

Abstain = 0

Invalid = 0

Item passed.

* 1. SPA 101 – Prof. Ballesteros
     1. SPA 101 – Pathways Submission

Action 9

Yes = 45

No = 1

Abstain = 0

No = 0

Item passed.

* 1. HUM 151 – Prof. Yannacañedo
     1. HUM 151 – Pathways Submission

Action 10

Yes = 48

No = 1

Abstain = 0

Invalid = 1

Item passed.

* 1. VPA 172 – Pathways Submission
     1. VPA 172, – Prof. Yannacañedo

Action 11

Yes = 48

No = 1

Abstain = 0

Invalid = 0

Item passed.

Motion to extend time to 5:30. Motion passed.

* 1. ESL 25, ESL 26, ESL 27, ESL 35, ESL 36, ESL 37, ESL 91, ESL 92 – Prof. Lundberg
     1. ESL 25 – Revision
     2. ESL 26 – Revision
     3. ESL 27 – Revision
     4. ESL 35 – Revision
     5. ESL 36 – Revision
     6. ESL 37 – Revision
     7. ESL 91 – Revision
     8. ESL 92 – Revision

Action 12

Yes = 48

No = 2

Abstain = 2

Invalid = 0

Item passed.

* 1. LIN 100, 102, 103, 105 – Prof.Lundberg
     1. LIN 100 – Revision
     2. LIN 102 – Revision
     3. LIN 103 – Revision
     4. LIN 105 – Revision

Action 13

Yes = 48

No = 0

Abstain = 0

Invalid = 0

Item passed.

* 1. A.S. in Liberal Arts and Sciences – Prof. Steinberg
     1. Program change

Action 14

Yes = 48

No = 0

Abstain = 0

Invalid = 1

Item passed.

* 1. A.S. in Earth System Science & Environmental Engineering Science (EES) – Prof. Rodríguez
     1. EES – Proposed program course list
     2. EES – Proposed program degree plan

Action 15

Yes = 46

No = 0

Abstain = 0

Invalid = 2

Item passed.

* 1. A.S. in Civil Engineering – Prof. Lee
     1. Program change

Action 16

Yes = 48

No = 0

Abstain = 0

Invalid = 1

Item passed.

* 1. HLT 100 – Prof. DiSanto
     1. HLT 100 – New Course

Action 17

Yes = 46

No = 1

Abstain = 0

Invalid = 1

Item passed.

* 1. EDU 117, EDU 150, EDU 227 – Prof. DiSanto
     1. EDU 117 – Revision
     2. EDU 150 – Revision
     3. EDU 227 – Revision

Action 18

Yes = 49

No = 0

Abstain = 0

Invalid = 0

Item passed.

* 1. A.S. in Science Education – Prof. DiSanto
     1. Science Education – Proposed program course list
     2. Science Education – Proposed program degree plan

Action 21

Yes = 35

No = 0

Abstain = 0

Invalid = 0

Item did not pass.

1. Informational Items – Not voted on
   1. A.S. in Computer Science – Prof. Lee
      1. A.S. in Computer Science – NYSED Program Change
   2. A.S. in Science Education – Prof. DiSanto
      1. A.S. in Science Education – Notice of Intent, Proposed Program
      2. A.S. in Science Education – Notice of Intent, Articulation with Lehman College
   3. GERO 299 – Prof. DiSanto
      1. Prior Learning Experience: The Challenge Exam for GERO 299, 3 credits

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

None

**10.UFS Update**

Report submitted by Prof. Trachman

**UFS Plenary May 7, 2024**

I)Update on Bylaws Revision (Ad Hoc Committee member, Prof. L. Keating): focus on changes in roles of Provosts and Deans at the campus-level.  A number of issues arose here because of variations in the use of the terms across the CUNY campuses.  The University-wide Provost would like to have descriptions in the Bylaws; however, there are a lot of inconsistences and each campus has different needs.

II)Freedom of Expression Resolution (Prof. D. Medina, Academic Freedom Committee): i)The letter from the UFS was sent to the Chancellor but there has not been a response yet.  ii)Resolution passed.

III)Resolution on Financial Support for Student Use of MTA Mass Transits (presented by Prof. E. Stubin, Student Affairs Committee): this resolution supports free Metro /OMNY passes for CUNY students.  Resolution passed.

IV)Report from UFS chair, Prof. J. Verzani: i)He mentioned a number of student surveys including a recently done student satisfaction survey. ii)There was a brief mention of the continuing work and further development of the university-wide policy on artificial intelligence (AI).  A draft was shared.  iii)The UFS is looking for more feedback about camera use online, comments regarding online proctoring, proposed mandate for use of Brightspace Gradebook – the Gradebook use may be mandatory only for fully online classes (i.e. not including hybrid or in in person classes).  iv)Possibly the W deadline date may be pushed back to the 10th week of the semester (as it was pre-pandemic).  There may also be changes to the use of the WU grade.

**11.New Business**

Motion to extend to 5:40

Prof. Bernardini’s Resolution to Censure Hostos Administration

* Whereas, Hostos is not the first CUNY College targeted in a Cyber attack; and
* Whereas, faculty, staff and students have not received to date satisfactory answers regarding whether their data might have been compromised, and
* Whereas,  faculty, staff and students have not received clear and satisfactory guidance about how to proceed with INC grades, final exams, and final grades; and
* Whereas, staff have been expected to adhere to 70-30 in-person/remote work schedule despite being unable to perform their work on campus; and
* Whereas, there has been generally a paucity of information available to faculty, staff, and students; Therefore be it
* Resolved that the College Senate censures the Administration for their mismanagement of the crisis brought about by the cyber attack on the college.

Provost: It was difficult to configure a way to communicate news to faculty and staff because it would require that people know to sign up for that platform, like Blackboard. Print directions were posted around the campus and we prioritized 250 computers to be available to faculty, staff, and students. Every department should have a poster to share with a QR code. A flier was issued this morning about exams. On Mother’s Day we were all working to ensure that all who needed labs had access to computers.

Prof. Stachelek: There is a computer lab for students to use.

Chairperson Ialongo: What was lacking was coordination. Much of the expectation was on us to devise ways to deal with it and it came out haphazardly.

Motion to extend to extend to 5:55.

Dean Gomez: During the Pandemic we came together to devise ways to handle the issue. We’re dealing with a crisis. Everyone has to come together to handle the situation

Prof. Lundberg. When there is leadership hierarchy, things work better. We needed one text to all of us to understand what is going on. Chairs are in an awkward position of having COAs call faculty and ask for personal emails, of communicating in patchwork ways.

Chief of Staff Kreymer: CCD is intended to distribute information to make sure everyone has the information. We are in it with you, sincerely.

Action 20

Yes = 27

No = 3

Abstain = 3

Invalid = 1

Item failed [39 votes required to pass an item].

Motion to extend time to 5:45

VP Atkins

Raised $375,000 at the Gala and at least $300,000 will go to scholarship.

Prof. Hector Soto (Submitted Remarks)

The AAUP statement “In Defense of the Right of Free Speech and Peaceful Protest on University Campuses” (April, 2024) is a call for reflection regarding what are the traditional values and principles that have sustained the esteemed status of our institutions of higher learning through the present.

It is not a call for choosing a side regarding the Hamas-Israeli conflict, but a reminder that it is in times of crisis that we must be most committed to being guided and faithful to our values and principles. Academic institutions responding, even to provocative or extreme expressions of non-violent protests, with force, violence or political repression merely de-moralizes those institutions. The AAUP believes colleges and universities can do better during these difficult times. I think we can too.

I submit the statement for your consideration during the summer with an eye to the Senate having a plenary discussion on it during its Sept meeting and then deciding whether any appropriate action is necessary.

Praised Chairperson Ialongo for his leadership and thanked the Senate

Senate adjourned at 5:56

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