

USF Oct. 22, 2024 Plenary meeting Lehman Representatives Report for Lehman College Senate, Nov, 13 2024 meeting, Prepared by Lehman Representatives Naomi Zack, David Manier, and Stephen Castellano.

The 444th Plenary Session of The University Faculty Senate of The City University of New York Rooms 0818/0819 Tuesday, October 22, 2024 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Agenda Lehman Representative notes in bold

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of the Minutes of September 17, 2024
3. Remarks by Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Wendy Hensel – 6:35 – 7:05 p.m. EVP Hensel is leaving CUNY to become President of the University of Hawaii in February 2025. **EVC Wendy Hensel is leaving CUNY to become President of the University of Hawaii. Chancellor Matos Rodriguez announce on November 5, 2024 that Alissa M. Alvero will serve as interim University provost effective Nov. 25, pending approval by the CUNY Board of Trustees.**
4. Discussion of the Lippman Report – 7:05 – 7:15
5. Update on UFS Standing Committee Charges – 7:15 – 7:30
6. Vote on Nominees for Student Elections Review Committee (SERC) – 7:30 – 7:35 p.m.
7. Chair's Report – John Verzani – 7:35 – 7:45
8. New Business – 7:45 – 8:00 p.m.

The CUNY USF met on Oct. 22, 2024. Minutes from this meeting will be available, here.

[Plenaries – CUNY University Faculty Senate](#)

Minutes from Sept 17 meeting UFS Chair Verzani called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

The Plenary was held in Room 818/819 at the Central Office, 205 East 42nd Street. 78 of the 140 voting members were present.

Baruch: Present – D'Souza, Ellis, Grein, Harel and Lee. Absent – Martell, Wine and Wymbs. Vacancies – 2. **BMCC:** Present – Belknap, Danison, Glaser, Keane, Littlefield, Oram, Wiseman and Alternate Meltzer. Absent – Comeau-Kirschner, Gonzalez-Urbina, Kelley, and Lomask. **Bronx CC:** Present – Culkun and Fisher. Absent – Kaighobadi and Rothenberg. Vacancies – 1. **Brooklyn:** Present – Cohen, Evans, Kingan and Alternate Kacinik. Absent – Arnow, Bassell, Belyayeva, Levy and Okome. **CCNY:** Present – Binz-Scharf, Kornhauser, Li, Peele and Stemberg. Absent – Jeruzalmi. Vacancies – 3. **CSI:** Present – Gold and Verzani. Absent – Gruber, LaMassa, Vachadze, Wong and Yuan. **CUNY Law School:** Present – Sokkar Harker. Absent – Capulong. **Graduate Center:** Present – Shirazi and Alternate

Peters. Absent – Brown, Burke, Gorman and Riobó. **Guttman CC:** Present – Medina. Absent – Philipose. **Hostos CC:** Present – August, Griffin, Trachman and Alternate Hasan. Absent – Worrell. **Hunter:** Present – Chinn, Clarkson, Dahbour, Troutd and Young. Absent – Chito-Childs, Dudek, Keating, Kenigsberg, Nicolai and Soyer. Vacancies – 1. **John Jay:** Present – Carbonell, Domashevskiy, Kimora, Thompson and Alternate Belcher. Absent – Benton, Grant, Kaplowitz and Narkunas. **Kingsborough CC:** Present – Acosta, Aranoff, Eaton, Navarro, Segal and Stubin. Absent – Devany. **LaGuardia CC:** Present – Albrecht, Fess, Keyes, Klein and Sokolski. Absent – Fernandez and Mann. **Lehman:** Present – Alexander-Street, Castellano, Manier, Wang and Zack. Absent – Bell, Johnson and Vann. **Medgar Evers:** Present – Barker, Chevalier and James. Absent – Huggins. **NYCCT:** Present – Coughlin. Absent – Bennett, Capruso, Gelman, Grujicic-Alatriste and Rodriguez. Vacancies – 2. **Queens:** Present – Naughton, Newman, Pagano, Swedell and Yearwood. Absent – Pai and Sullivan. Vacancies – 4. **Queensborough CC:** Present – Adair, Akpinar, Carroll, Cornick, Puri, and Tai. Absent – Srivastava. **York:** Present – Chirico, Costley and Sheidlower. Absent – Abbott and Lipkind.

Governance Leaders present were: Barker (Medgar Evers), Chinn (Hunter), Chirico (York), Dahbour (Hunter), Gold (CSI), Grein (Baruch), Ialongo (Hostos) and Peters (Graduate Center). Guests present were Chancellor Félix Matos Rodríguez, Jonathan Hanon (Doctoral and Graduate Students' Council), Kenya Harris (SPS) and Eric Barenboim (Doctoral and Graduate Students' Council). Senators observing via Zoom were Abbott (York), Arnow (Brooklyn), Bell (Lehman), Burke (Graduate Center), Cohen (Brooklyn), Gonzalez (BMCC), Gruber (CSI), Hainline (Brooklyn), Johnson (Lehman), Kaplowitz (John Jay), LaMassa (CSI), Lourdes Serrano de la Pena (BMCC), Okome (Brooklyn), Pai (Queens), Srivastava (Queensborough), Sullivan (Queens) and Traver (Queensborough). Guests Observing via Zoom were Itzhak Mano (City), Linda Paradiso (SPS), Mohammed Sarwar (York) and Mara Schvarzstein (Brooklyn). Executive Director Cotter, Administrative Assistant Pasela, and Secretary Blanchard were also present.

1. Approval of the Agenda – Adopted as Proposed
2. Approval of the Minutes of May 7, 2024 – Adopted as Proposed
3. Introduction of Faculty Representatives on CUNY Board of Trustee Committees – 6:35 – 6:45 p.m. – Chair Verzani introduced and then invited each of the Representatives to deliver a few remarks related to the mission of each committee and the roles they expect to play over the course of the next academic year. Chair Verzani urged the body to reach out the Representatives with any further questions or concerns.

4. Remarks by Chancellor Félix Matos Rodríguez – 6:45 – 7:25 p.m. – The Chancellor updated the body on the ongoing collective bargaining negotiations and is hopeful a settlement is arrived at some time in the fall. He then addressed the current enrollment landscape and some of the challenges the University continues to experience. He then explained the role CUNY Connect, which is a program designed to recruit students who have some college but have not completed their degrees, plays in CUNY’s overall enrollment strategies. He then discussed the current fiscal state of CUNY and its career success initiatives and its relationship to other programs designed for student success. He then took questions related to the status of underenrolled programs, the state of CUNY libraries, the status of the recently passed UFS resolution related to MetroCards for students, and the governance plan for the CUNY School of Medicine.
5. Approval of UFS Standing Committee Chairs and Introduction of Advisory Committee Chairs – 7:25 – 7:30 p.m. – Chair Verzani opened the floor to further nominations for Chair and reviewed the tentative membership lists for approval by the body. Senators also made formal requests to be added to committees.
6. Report of Proposed Changes to the University Bylaws and Manual of General Policy – Victoria Chevalier – 7:30 – 7:40 p.m. After a brief history surrounding the creation of the UFS Ad Hoc Committee, Vice Chair Chevalier briefly outlined its work over the last few months as it continues to engage the Provost’s Office on the initiative. She then updated the body as to the status of the committee’s response to the Provost’s proposed changes. She then took questions.
7. Acknowledgement of Recently Elected UFS Senators and Alternates 7:40 – 7:45 p.m. – Chair Verzani acknowledged the recently elected and encouraged them to join any one of the Standing or Advisory Committees.
8. Chair’s Report – John Verzani – 7:45 – 7:55 p.m. – Chair Verzani gave a brief update on CUNY’s enrollment numbers and announced he is preparing a blog on retention numbers as well. He noted the ongoing challenges associated with the structural deficit and how it is affecting the respective campuses, and briefly discussed a slate of recent financial settlements related to Title IX and Title VI cases and their implications for faculty responsibilities moving forward. He then discussed some more details of and outcomes regarding the Provost’s memorandum regarding class sizes, and some of the other initiatives proposed by the Provost’s office, especially those related to the evaluation of faculty reassigned time and program review by the administration.

9. New Business – 7:55 – 8:00 p.m. – Considerations of time precluded raising any New Business.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew J. Cotter