

**PROPOSED AGENDA**  
The 442<sup>nd</sup> Plenary Session  
of The University Faculty Senate  
of The City University of New York  
Rooms 0818/0819  
Tuesday, May 7, 2024  
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of the Minutes of April 2, 2024
3. Nominations and Elections for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members-At-Large of the Executive Committee – Matthew J. Cotter – 6:35 – 7:10 p.m.
4. Update From the Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws Revision – Laura Keating – 7:10 – 7:25 p.m.
5. Chair’s Report – John Verzani – 7:25 – 7:35 p.m.
6. Resolution on Freedom of Expression – Douglas Medina
7. Resolution on Financial Support for Student Use of MTA Mass Transit – Enid Stubin
8. Announcement of Provisional Election Results – Matthew J. Cotter 7:35 – 7:40 p.m.
9. New Business – 7:40 – 8:00 p.m.

Social starts at 6:00 p.m. in Rooms 0818/0819

Committee meetings:

Academic Affairs – 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., 42nd Street, Room 1179  
Academic Freedom – 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., 42nd Street, Room 0963  
Community Colleges – 4:00 - 5:00 p.m., 42nd Street, Room 1179  
Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access – 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., 42nd Street, Room 1002  
Library and Information Technology – 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., 42nd Street, Room 1002  
Status of the Faculty – 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., 42nd Street, Room 1102  
Student Affairs – 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., 42nd Street, Room 962

## PROPOSED MINUTES

The 441<sup>st</sup> Plenary Session  
of The University Faculty Senate  
of The City University of New York  
Rooms 0818/0819  
Tuesday, April 2, 2024  
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

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 42<sup>nd</sup> Street. 76 of the 139 voting members were present.

**Baruch:** Present – Dsouza, Ellis, Harel, Lee, Martell and Wine. Absent – Frank and Wymbs. Vacancies – 1. **BMCC:** Present – Belknap, Danison, Glaser, McCarthy, Oram, Rose and Wiseman. Absent – Comeau-Kirschner, Gonzalez-Urbina, Lomask and Matarese. **Bronx CC:** Present – Culkun, Fisher, Kaighobadi and Rothenberg. Absent – Ayikoye. Vacancies – 1. **Brooklyn:** Present – Cohen, Evans, Levy and Alternate Klein. Absent – Arnow, Bassell, Belyayeva, Hainline and Okome. Vacancies – 1. **CCNY:** Present – Binz-Scharf, Jeruzalmi, Kornhauser and Li. Absent – Peele and Stemberg. Vacancies – 3. **CSI:** Present – Gold, Gruber and Verzani. Absent – Feola, Vachadze, Wong and Yuan. **CUNY Law School:** Present – Sokkar Harker. Absent – Capulong. **Graduate Center:** Present – Burke, Gorman and Shirazi. Absent – Riobó and Tournaki. **Guttman CC:** Present – Medina. Absent – Tesser. **Hostos CC:** Present – August, Griffin, Trachman and Worrell. **Hunter:** Present – Chinn, Dahbour, Keating, Kenigsberg and Young. Absent – Chito-Childs, Dudek, Kuhn-Osius, Lazreg, Nicolai and Soyer. **John Jay:** Present – Carbonell, Grant, Kimora, Narkunas and Thompson. Absent – Benton and Kaplowitz. Vacancies – 1. **Kingsborough CC:** Present – Eaton, Navarro, Stubin and Alternate Segal. Absent – Acosta, Aranoff, Corby and Mattia. **LaGuardia CC:** Present – Albrecht, Fernandez, Klein and Sokolski. Absent – Feldman, Fess and Mann. **Lehman:** Present – Campeanu, Castellano and Zack. Absent – Alexander-Street, Castillo-Planas, Johnson and Vann. **Medgar Evers:** Present – Barker, Chevalier, Huggins and Toure. **NYCCT:** Present – Coughlin, Grujicic-Alatriste and Rodriguez. Absent – Bennett and Gelman. Vacancies – 3. **Queens:** Present – Naughton, Pai, Swedell and Yearwood. Absent – Lowry, McElwaine and Newman. Vacancies – 4. **Queensborough CC:** Present – Akpinar, Cornick, Puri, Srivastava and Tai. Absent – Adair, Anderst and Kuszai. **York:** Present – Chirico and Costley. Absent – Abbott and Barnes.

Governance Leaders present were: Barker (Medgar Evers), Bruns (LaGuardia), Burke (Graduate Center), Chinn (Hunter), Chirico (York), Gold (CSI), Grein (Baruch), Ialongo (Hostos) and Jeruzalmi (City). Guests participated via Zoom were: Faculty Council of Community Colleges President – Christy Woods, SUNY Faculty Senate President Keith Landa and Professional Staff Conference President James Davis. Guests present were Jonathan Hanon (Doctoral and Graduate Students' Council) and Karen Sullivan (Queens). Senators observing via Zoom were Ayikoye (Bronx), Bassell (Brooklyn), Cohen (Brooklyn), Hainline (Brooklyn), Okome (Brooklyn), Peele (City), Feola (CSI), Tournaki (Graduate Center), Vachadze (CSI), Muñoz (Hostos), Dahbour (Hunter), Benton (John Jay), Kaplowitz (John Jay), Mattia (Kingsborough), Feldman (LaGuardia), Castillo-Planas (Lehman), Johnson (Lehman), Newman (Queens) Anderst (Queensborough) and Abbott (York). Guests Observing via Zoom were Renata Budny

(NYCCT), Sandi Cooper (CSI), Amy Jeu (Hunter), Concettina Pagano (Queens), Linda Paradiso (SPS) and Philip Pecorino (Queensborough). 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 February 20, 2024 – Adopted as Proposed
3. Report from Faculty Council of Community Colleges President – Christy Woods – 6:35 – 6:45 p.m. – President Woods apprised the body of those issues affecting SUNY’s community colleges and the ways they might intersect with those at CUNY, especially about the budget, presidential searches, enrollment challenges, retrenchment, transfer, and prior learning assessment. She then took questions.
4. Report from SUNY Faculty Senate President Keith Landa – 6:45 – 6:55 p.m. – President Landa amplified President Woods’ remarks on transfer within SUNY, emphasizing his role on the Transfer Steering Committee in the process. He then outlined SUNY’s recent academic optimization efforts and their relationship to the ongoing budget deficits, outlining the role the SUNY UFS has played in the process. He then briefly outlined how the state budget might favorably impact the University’s operations as well. He then took questions.
5. Remarks by Professional Staff Conference President James Davis/Secretary Penny Lewis – 6:55 – 7:05 p.m. – President Davis briefly noted his concerns over the proposed changes by the Administration to the CUNY Bylaws, thanking governance for their recent efforts responding to them thus far. He then provided an update on the status of the collective bargaining agreement, connecting some of its features to the proposed Bylaws changes. He then took questions.
6. Nominations for Members-At-Large of the Executive Committee and for UFS Chair and Vice-Chair – Matthew J. Cotter – 7:05 – 7:15 p.m. – After outlining the protocols for elections, Executive Director Cotter opened the floor to nominations. Current Chair John Verzani was nominated for Chair. Victoria Chevalier was nominated for Vice Chair. The following members were nominated for the Executive Committee At-Large: Kathleen Barker (MEC; via email), Ned Benton (JJ; via email), Donna Chirico (York), Kerin Coughlin (NYCCT), Hugo Fernandez (LaGCC), Douglas A. Medina (GCC), Mojúbàolú Olúfúnké Okome (Brooklyn College; via email), Enid Stubin (KBCC), Jason Young (HC; via email), and Cynthia Wiseman (BMCC).
7. Discussion of Letter to the Chancellor on the Freedom of Expression – Douglas Medina – 7:15 – 7:25 p.m. – Prof. Medina briefly outlined the rationale behind drafting the letter, and the body reviewed its contents and consented to its being forwarded to the Chancellor’s Office, which Chair Verzani noted he would do.

8. Discussion of Academic Affairs Committee Resolution – Kenneth Gold – 7:25 – 7:35 p.m. – Prof. Gold outlined his committee’s rationale and intentions with the resolution, and after the body reviewed its contents the motion was not adopted.
9. Report From the Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws Revision – Laura Keating – 7:35 – 7:45 p.m. – This item was postponed until the May Plenary.
10. Chair’s Report – John Verzani – 7:45 – 7:55 p.m. – Chair Verzani updated the body on the creation of the Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws Revision and its recent and upcoming engagements with the architects of the proposed changes to the CUNY Bylaws and Manual of General Policy. He noted that the entire body will have an opportunity to offer feedback, which he will outline and solicit in a follow-up email. He then announced that the UFS will now have up to four representatives on the CAP Committee, and outlined some of the issues the committee has been engaging and outlined a few matters they will discuss in the fall. He then updated the body on the ongoing changes to CUNY’s Learning Management System and the formative role members of the UFS have played in the process and the changes to LMS policy it effectuated. He also noted some of the discussions at a recent borough hearing of the Board of Trustees, especially those related to the Bylaws changes and students’ freedom of expression. He closed with an acknowledgement of a recent grant to LaGuardia Community College from the Steve and Alexandra Cohen Foundation and an invitation for the body to participate in an upcoming conversation on AI at CUNY.
11. New Business – 7:55 – 8:00 p.m. – restrictions of time precluded raising any new business.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew J. Cotter