

REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

The 425th Plenary Session of The University Faculty Senate of The City University of New York was held via Zoom on September 28th 2021.

FYI

On September 2, 2021, Governor Kathy Hochul signed into Law Chapter 417 of the Laws of 2021 which, in part, authorizes most public bodies “to meet and take such action authorized by law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorize such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed.”

This law extends until January 15th 2022.

FALL 2021 REOPENING

Students have been given an October 7th deadline for verification and approval of vaccine information. To date, at least 90k students are fully vaccinated. An additional 30k students are expected to bring the total to at least 120k students. 80% of students have already uploaded their document. 25k students have yet to upload any documents.

It is uncertain what will happen if in-person students fail to meet the deadline. There is an air of uncertainty as to what will happen after the October 7th deadline. Will they face academic withdrawal and be dropped from classes? Will financial aid be affected? Will they be allowed to re-enroll if vaccines are acquired? The answers to these questions are unsure. IEVC Lemons will address these questions including the introduction of the WA grade at the next plenary in November.

CUNY has moved away from the **EVERBRIDGE** Health Screening Symptom Checker Application and to the **Cleared4** health verification platform to verify faculty vaccination, student vaccination and covid testing at a cost of \$30 million.

GENERAL ENROLLMENT DATA

This year overall enrollment is down 7.6%. Undergraduate enrollment is down 8.6%. Graduate enrollment is slightly down. First time freshman is down 11%. It is not clear if they are not enrolled in college or have been enticed by other colleges. New undergraduate transfers are down 6.6%. New graduate student enrollment is down 5.7%.

COLLEGE OF STATEN ISLAND SHARED GOVERNANCE UNDER ATTACK

The president of the College of Staten Island [CSI] unilaterally propose governance plan changes to the board making the claim that CUNY College President can and are not bound by faculty governance plans. The CSI contingent has brought the matter to the attention of the University

Faculty Senate [UFS], receiving unanimous support. They also solicit the support of ALL CUNY governance body since the outcome of their dilemma has implications for ALL CUNY governance bodies.