## Dear Colleagues:

Here is a copy of the PSC report that I delivered at yesterday's General Faculty meeting.

Please vote in the election for Lehman College PSC officers. You should have received a ballot in the mail. You must have been a member of the PSC in good standing for at least four months to be eligible to vote.

If you think you should have received a ballot but did not, call the PSC at 212-354-1252.

Retirement party for Manfred Philipp May 2, 2016 from 4-6, lobby of the Performing Arts Center.

The PSC and others were successful in blocking the Governor's attempt to shift from New York State to New York City \$485 million of the cost of CUNY. We were also successful in blocking any tuition increase for this year. But the \$240 million for back pay was not included in the final state budget. There is some thought that the back pay money might be made available after a contract is negotiated. Meanwhile, the PSC is trying to settle non-financial issues such as job security for adjuncts.

The PSC needs to keep up the pressure. We have succeeded in getting good press, such as the editorial in this past Monday's *New York Times* on the differences between CUNY and SUNY and their historic missions. More articles will be appearing soon on the state's disinvestment in CUNY.

The Strike Authorization Vote is our primary way to keep up the pressure. The vote will occur shorty after spring break. The Strike Authorization Vote is crucial in giving us leverage in our negotiations with the University and to garner media attention. The Strike Authorization Vote will be conducted by the American Arbitration Association and people will be able to vote by mail, the internet, and by phone. People will receive PIN numbers. Make sure that the PSC has your current email and snail mail addresses. If you are receiving emails from the PSC and you received an election ballot, then the PSC has your contact information. If not, call the PSC at 212-354-1252.

We need to be aware of recent developments in California, where the faculty union in the California State University system authorized a strike and then received a 10% salary increase over 3 years, and in New Jersey, where the New Jersey Transit workers, who were just a few hours away from a strike, finally received a decent contract offer.

I have called a special meeting of the PSC Executive Board and anyone else who would like to help brainstorm ideas for getting more people to pledge to vote Yes on the Strike Authorization Vote, and then to get out the vote once the poling begins. This meeting will be Monday, April 18 at 3:30 in CA 201.

You can still pledge to Vote Yes on the Strike Authorization through this link: <a href="http://psc-cuny.org/our-contracts/form/l-am-voting-yes-strike-authorization">http://psc-cuny.org/our-contracts/form/l-am-voting-yes-strike-authorization</a>.

Please contact me at  $\underline{duane.tananbaum@lehman.cuny.edu}$  or  $\underline{duane.tananbaum@gmail.com}$  if you would like to discuss any of these issues.

Duane Tananbaum Acting Chair, Lehman College PSC