



University Student Senate
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**MINUTES OF THE PLENARY MEETING OF THE
UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
HELD
SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024
AT THE GUTTMAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

I. ROLL CALL

Upon a roll call the attendance recorded was as follows:

2023-2024 Delegates & Alternates:

Delegates Present:

Barenboim, Eric (Graduate Delegate, CUNY Graduate Center); Hanon, Jonathan (Graduate Alternate, CUNY Graduate Center); Ramesar, Josiah (Graduate Alternate, CUNY School of Law); Fray, Falana (Graduate Delegate, CUNY School of Journalism); Park, Sojung (Delegate, CUNY School of Professional Studies); Vitkouskaya, Vera (Graduate Delegate, CUNY School of Professional Studies); Wearing, Antionette (Graduate Delegate, CUNY School of Public Health); Johnson, Jaime (Graduate Alternate, CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies); Trevalles, Anna (Delegate, CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies); Davila, Miguel (Graduate Delegate, CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies); Hernandez, Joseph (Delegate, Baruch College); Malachowski, Avrohom (Delegate, Baruch College); Aaron, Kayla (Second Alternate, Baruch College); Yafai, Malak (Delegate, Brooklyn College); Pegues, Malika (Graduate Delegate, Brooklyn College); Derrick J. Thomas (Second Alternate, City College of New York); Chase Whitmire Johnson (First Alternate, City College of New York); Williams, Tinnycua (Graduate Delegate, City College of New York); Cronin, Daniel (Delegate, Hunter College); Asemota, Mathilda (Second Alternate, Lehman College); Ramsundar, Sanjay (First Alternate, Lehman College); Weinberg, Alexa (Graduate Delegate, Lehman College); Louis-Byron, Shania (Delegate, Medgar Evers College); Elias Andrews, Junior (First Alternate, Medgar Evers College); Doumbouya, Salimatou (Delegate, New York City College of Technology); Hidalgo, Nicholas (Delegate, New York City College of Technology); Barron, William (Delegate, Queens College); Gregory, Petra (First Alternate, College of Staten Island); Ambati, Sweta (Delegate, York College); McLaren, Tatiana (Delegate, York College); Ramirez, Alexis (Delegate, Borough of Manhattan Community College); Singh, Harileen (Delegate, Borough of Manhattan Community College); Anasco, Angel (Delegate, Bronx Community College); Ruiz, Samantha (Delegate, Guttman Community College); Cisse, Issa (Delegate, Guttman Community College); Martínez, Dainma (Delegate, Hostos Community College); Soto, Orlando (Delegate, Hostos Community College); Nemet, Netanel (Delegate, Kingsborough Community College); Fletcher, John (Delegate, LaGuardia Community College); Willis, Davia (Delegate, Queensborough Community College); Wade, Benjamin (Delegate, Queensborough Community College); Zanayah Brown (Second Alternate, Queensborough Community College).

Delegates Absent:

Thenor, Ludy (Graduate Delegate, CUNY School of Law); DePaul, Ray (Graduate Alternate, CUNY School of Journalism); Ali, Zaire S. (Graduate Alternate, CUNY School of Public Health); Abdugarimova, Amina (First Alternate, Baruch College); Angus, Jordan (Second Alternate, Brooklyn College); Shyti, Flavia (Delegate, Brooklyn College); Jones, Jamie (Graduate Alternate, Brooklyn College); Ebbin, Carrie (First Alternate, Brooklyn College); Imran, Khizar (Delegate, City College of New York); Garcia, Jessica (Delegate, City College of New York); Arias, Miguel (Second Alternate, City College of New York); Djuraev, Daler (First Alternate, New York City College of Technology); Villa, Adrian (Second Alternate, New York City College of Technology); Brown, Kevin (Graduate Alternate, City College of New York); Mikhaylov, Avi (First Alternate, Hunter College); Pratssevich, Colin (Delegate, Hunter College); Sokolov, Juniper (Second Alternate, Hunter College); Pineda, Kelvin (Delegate, John Jay College of Criminal Justice); Qudusi, Aiisha (Delegate, John Jay College of Criminal Justice); Diallo,



Kadiatou (Delegate, Lehman College); Kareemuddin, Zainab (Delegate, Lehman College); Evbomwan, Abigail (Delegate, Medgar Evers College); Adelani, Grace (Second Alternate, Medgar Evers College); Qasim Raza, Muhammad (Delegate, Queens College); Rajkumar, Shawn (First Alternate, Queens College); Adams, Brandon (Second Alternate, Queens College); Aviles, Alyssa (Graduate Delegate, Queens College); Acevedo, Gabriel (Second Alternate, College of Staten Island); Palka, Julia (Delegate, College of Staten Island); Santos, Jaylee (Delegate, College of Staten Island); Iloansui, Nchebe-Jah (Graduate Delegate, College of Staten Island); Polack, Akkeem (First Alternate, York College); Ramdeen, Payoshni (Second Alternate, York College); ;Hamani, Djibrilla (First Alternate, Borough of Manhattan Community College); Serroukh, Zakaria (Second Alternate, Borough of Manhattan Community College); Fernandez, Krishta (Delegate, Bronx Community College); Aviles, Linmi (First Alternate, Bronx Community College); Alexis, Kaia (Second Alternate, Bronx Community College); ; Erazo, Jonathan (First Alternate, Guttman Community College); Garnillo, Andrew (Second Alternate, Guttman Community College); Hernandex-Ravelo, Yaxeny (First Alternate, Hostos Community College); Jacobs, Kobe (Second Alternate, Hostos Community College); Morris, Michael (Delegate, Kingsborough Community College), Brunson, Adalah (First Alternate, Kingsborough Community College); Bennett, Riquelme (Second Alternate, Kingsborough Community College); Rijal, Diya (Delegate, LaGuardia Community College); Lenes Arreola, Carolina (First Alternate, LaGuardia Community College); Miller, Renaediaz (First Alternate, Queensborough Community College); Wade, Benjamin (Delegate, Queensborough Community College).

University Student Senate Steering Committee:

Salimatou Doumbouya, Chairperson
Kayla Aaron, Vice Chair for Senior College Affairs
Tinnycua Williams, Vice Chair for Graduate Affairs
Falana Fray, Vice Chair for Disability Affairs
Antionette Wearing, Vice Chair for International Affairs
Sojung Park, Vice Chair for Evening and Part-Time Affairs

University Student Senate Staff:

Will Acevedo,
Fernando Araujo,
Kasson Colon-Mangin

USS Election Review Committee (USSERC):

Joseph Awadjie, Chairperson of USSERC
Hugo Fernandez, member
Flynn Ezra Beckman, member

With 30 voting members, the present quorum was established. The meeting was called to order at 12:30 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- I. ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
- III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES ([March 17th, 2024](#))
- IV. CHAIRPERSON REPORT
- V. VICE CHAIR REPORTS
- VI. OLD BUSINESS
RUNOFF ELECTION FOR VC FOR LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
- VII. NEW BUSINESS
RESOLUTION CUNYBUY ACCESS
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Doumbouya presented the agenda and it was approved without objections.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES MARCH 17TH, 2024

Minutes tabled for approval at next Plenary session.
Remarks from Guttman President
Remarks from CUNY Provost

IV. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

USS Operation Budget Summary

- Presented an overview of the USS operational budget 2024 expenses. Outlined the audit of 2023 expenses and included the expenses in the 2024 budget. Described the process of receiving accurate data based on projected enrollment and collections . Outlined the four budget lines of the USS and the surplus budget line. Reviewed historic and traditional accounting customs of the body. Acknowledge if the students are receiving services based on the fees being paid. Transparency and fiscal accountability was emphasized.

USS Scholarship

-Presented an update on the completed processing and disbursement of all scholarships rewards. Described timeline of upcoming scholarship process. Plans for a new USS scholarship were outlined, focusing on addressing previous administrative challenges. A meeting was held with Suaya, responsible for the scholarship portal, to streamline the application process. The application process and timeline was reviewed. The scholarship committee debated potential start and end dates for the new scholarship, emphasizing the need to set these dates well in advance to ensure proper preparation and implementation. A significant emphasis was placed on the need for more volunteers to help with the scholarship review process to avoid delays similar to those experienced in previous years.

Legislative Updates

- Outlined the upcoming Cuny on the Hill trip, a traditional USS and CUNY collaboration. 32 students traveling to Washington DC for a day trip to advocate for students. Includes a tour of Capitol Hill, lobbying for CUNY earmarked funds, a fellowship fair and a reception.

- Presented an update on the CUNY Free Unlimited Metrocards Proposal. A new initiative was proposed to provide free Metro cards to students, aiming to facilitate easier transportation across the city which could aid in increasing student engagement and attendance. Develop a detailed proposal for the Metro card initiative, including eligibility criteria and implementation strategies.

Updated USS Website

-Demonstrated updates to the USS website

View full report at appendix.

V. VICE CHAIRS REPORTS

Vice Chair of Graduate Student Affairs

- Update on Online Advisory Board
- Student Experience Survey

Vice Chair for Evening and Part-Time student affairs

- McGraw Hill Free Study App

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Run-off Election for Vice Chair of Legislative Affairs {23 Yes, 0 No, 11 Abstain}

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Chairperson moved to adopt Resolution Proposed Access to View CUNYBuy, VC Aaron seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. {34 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain}

The Chairperson moved to adopt Resolution No. 2024.1 to Request Additional Money From USS Surplus to Cover 2024 Operation Funds, VC Barron seconded. The motion fails. {21 Yes, 0 No, 13 Abstain}

VC Aaron moved to add Resolution No. 2024.2 to Request Additional Money From USS Surplus to Cover 2024 Operation Funds to the agenda, motion passed with amendments. {32 Yes, 0 Abstain, 2 No}

- Senator Malachowski moved to adopt the resolution, VC Barron seconded. Senator Davila moved to amend the motion. VC Aaron moved to table the amendment, tabling failed. {25 Yes, 9 No, 0 Abstain}
- Amendment to the motion failed. {22 Yes, 6 No, 6 Abstain} Senator Hernandez moved to amend the motion, amendment passed unanimously. {34 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain}
- Motion passed with amendment. {31 Yes, 1 No, 2 Abstain}

VC Williams moved to adopt Resolution No. 2024.3 2024 USS Scholarship Surplus Request CUNY Scholarships, Senator Gregory seconded. The motion passed. {33 Yes, 1 No, 0 Abstain}

See Resolutions Attached.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting, motion is seconded. Motion passes unanimously. The meeting is adjourned at 5:00 PM.