The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 1:20 P.M.

There were present:

**2011-2012 Delegates & Alternates:**
- Antonio Alfonso (Baruch College First Delegate)
- Jermaine Morris (Borough of Manhattan Community College First Delegate)
- Tricia Warren (Bronx Community College First Delegate)
- Eric Sutton (Bronx Community College Second Delegate)
- Kafui Kouakou (Brooklyn College Graduate Delegate)
- Hannah-Sophie Wahle (City College First Delegate)
- Irene Castro (City College Graduate Delegate)
- Kimberly Cervantes (Hostos Community College First Delegate)
- Sandra May Flowers (Hostos Community College Second Delegate)
- Rachel Fine (Hunter College Graduate Delegate)
- Whitney Brown (John Jay Community College Graduate Alternate)
- Jeffrey Aikens (John Jay College Graduate Delegate)
- Dennis Hardy (Kingsborough Community College First Delegate)
- Mohammed Samra (LaGuardia Community College Second Delegate)
- Brandon Clarke (LaGuardia Community College First Alternate)
- Olu Onemola (Lehman College First Delegate)
- Ibrahima Soware (Lehman College Second Delegate)
- Annmarie Schoruter-Gayle (Medgar Evers College First Delegate)
- Samantha Campbell (Medgar Evers College Second Delegate)
- Beatrix Boisette (Medgar Evers College First Alternate)
- Renee Fleming (Medgar Evers College Second Alternate)
- Zeeshan Saroya (New York City College of Technology First Delegate)
- Sixto Arias (Queens College First Delegate)
- Liliete Lopez (Queens College Second Delegate)
- James Robinson (Queens College First Alternate)
- Jenny Lam (Queens College Graduate Delegate)
I. Roll Call
With 25 voting members present, a quorum is established and the agenda is initiated. The meeting is called to order at 1:20 PM.

II. Approval of the Agenda
   I. Roll Call
   II. Approval of the Agenda
   III. Approval of the Minutes
   IV. Report of the Chairperson
   V. Report of the Vice Chairs
   VI. Resolution Against the Infiltration of CUNY Muslim Organizations
   VII. Resolution Against any Future Hikes
   VIII. USS Budget Approval
   IX. Audit and Ethics Committees Election
   X. Runoff Elections
   XI. Announcement
   XII. Adjournment

   The above agenda is the product of an amendment by Sen. Robinson. In the initial agenda presented to the plenary, items VI and VII occupied slots after the Runoff Elections which is now item IX.

   Sen. Robinson motions for the approval of the agenda as amended; Sen. Lopez seconds the motion. The motion carries unanimously (25 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions).
III. Approval of the Minutes
This item was tabled until the end of the meeting because copies were being made.

IV. Report Chairperson
Chairman Kouakou gives an account of what transpired at the recent Board of Trustee Budget Hearing meeting. He highlights the fact that he spoke out against the proposed tuition increases. There were a number of students that were arrested or detained as they expressed their frustrations outside of Baruch College. He has spoken to the Chancellor and to other members of CUNY’s senior administration about dropping any charges that CUNY has levied against CUNY student protestors.

Chairman Kouakou inquires about interest in serving in the USS Scholarship Committee or any other USS committee.

V. Report of the Vice Chairs
Vice Chair Alfonso introduces the idea of drafting a CUNY Bill of Rights. He believes that the CUNY faculty would support such an idea but the language would have to be meticulously crafted. He goes on to suggest that the best way to broach such an initiative is for USS to create a research entity which could be responsible for matching the demands of the students with statistical data. NYPIRG could serve as natural partner for such a project. VC Alfonso vows to reach out to them and to elected officials as well, in hopes of brainstorming and building coalitions.

Sen. Nadler offers her assistance for such an initiative; Sen. Clarke is also interested. He is particularly interested in working on a budget proposal that will counter the proposed University budget.

VI. Resolution Against the Infiltration of CUNY Muslim Organizations
Sen. Alfonso motions to approve the resolution as drafted; Sen. Harris seconds the motion.

Discussion: Sen. Robinson wishes to amend resolution to include a provision that will have the resolution sent to local elected officials, the POTUS, and congress to show the force of USS.

Sen. Nadler suggests that this should be a basic requirement of all resolutions.

Sen. Clarke notes that all the reports on the issue may not be true. Also, CUNY may have violated the Federal Right to Privacy Act by allowing the NYPD access to student information.

Sen. Alfonso suggests that the language of the resolution should be amended to include the violation of Federal Right to Privacy Act, which would leave CUNY vulnerable to losing federal funding.

Sen. Alfonso agrees with Sen. Clarke and amends his initial motion to include the clause presented by Sen. Clarke: Whereas, CUNY may have violated the Federal Right to Privacy Act by allowing the NYPD access to student information.

The motion carries unanimously (24 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions).
Sen. Robinson motions to send the approved resolution to legislative officials; Sen. Souare seconds the motion.

The motion carries unanimously (25 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions).

VII. Resolution Against any Future Hikes
Resolution was tabled.

VIII. USS Budget Approval
VC Bykovskiy motions to approve the Budget Proposal as proposed; Sen. Brown seconds the motion.

Discussion: Sen. Robinson motions to amend to create a new budget line item titled 7407 for the LBGT Task Force. The line is to include no funds but should be there for purposes of recognition, a way of mitigating the pervasive invisibility that the LGBT community is subjected to.

VC Bykovskiy cites the fact the USS should create lines for specific groups because the budget will be fragmented.

Sen. Nadler notes that the Disability Student Activities line item is implied to be for CCSD and that the Task force should adopt a similar approach.

Sen. Robinson amends his motion to a line item for LGBT Activities. The motion is seconded by Sen. Nadler.

The motion fails (8 Yes, 4 No, 12 Abstentions).

The body now returns to the original motion on the budget:

The motion fails (18 Yes, 0 No, 5 Abstentions).

Chairman Kouakou expresses the urgency of the matter at hand. In an effort to reach some consensus, the Chairman request amendments from those who abstain.

Sen. Morris highlights the fact that there are some lines within the budget that lack specification. The plenary is giving the USS steering committee power to allocate these funds as they wish, which he believes will undermine the power of the body. Sen. Morris would be more comfortable if the large line items in the budget such as the “social and cultural” were itemized with further detail.

Sen. Alfonso speaks to the flexibility of having lines that are not itemized. It allows us to prepare for initiatives that we have yet to conceive.

After further discussion about the legalities of approving the budget in part or with limitations, the budget is brought back up for a vote.

Sen. Brown motions to approve the budget; Sen. Schrouter-Gayle seconds.
The motion fails (21 Yes, 0 No, 3 Abstentions).
IX. Runoff Elections
   The body lost quorum and could not initiate this item or previously tabled items.

X. Announcements
   No announcements were made.

XI. Adjournment
   Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the University Student Senate Plenary
   session was adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

Kafui Kouakou                        Fernando Araujo
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