MINUTES OF THE PLENARY MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

HELD

SEPTEMBER 25, 2011

AT JOHN JAY COLLEGE HAAREN HALL BUILDING, RM 630T
899 TENTH AVENUE—BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 12:45 P.M.

There were present:

**USS Steering Members:**
- Cory Provost, Chairperson
- Steven A. Rodriguez, Vice Chair for Legislative Affairs
- Kevin McKessey, Vice Chair for Senior Colleges
- Clement James, Vice Chair for Fiscal Affairs
- Vladimir Charles, Vice Chair for Evening and Part-time
- Liliete Lopez, Vice Chair for Disabled Students
- Washieka Torres, Vice Chair for Technology Fees
- Dmitriy Bykovskiy, Vice Chair for Graduate Affairs

**2011-2012 Delegates & Alternates:**
- Antonio Alfonso (Baruch College First Delegate)
- Jermaine Morris (Borough of Manhattan Community College First Delegate)
- Marlyne Jimenez (Borough of Manhattan Community College Second Delegate)
- Jamell Henderson (Borough of Manhattan Community College First Alternate)
- Nedge Victome (Borough of Manhattan Community College Second Alternate)
- Tricia Warren (Bronx Community College First Delegate)
- Eric Sutton (Bronx Community College Second Delegate)
- Charles Harding (Bronx Community College Second Alternate)
- Megan Henry (Brooklyn College First Delegate)
- Jonathan Hagler (Brooklyn College First Alternate)
- Kafui Kouakou (Brooklyn College Graduate Delegate)
- Odellia Lucius (Brooklyn College Graduate Alternate)
- Hannah-Sophie Wahle (City College First Delegate)
- Muhammad Waqar Arshad (City College Second Delegate)
- Kieshorne Dennie (City College Second Delegate)
- Irene Castro (City College Graduate Delegate)
- Kimberly Cervantes (Hostos Community College First Delegate)
- Sandra May Flowers (Hostos Community College Second Delegate)
Maya Shkolnik (Hunter College First Delegate)  
Victoria Melendez (Hunter College Second Delegate)  
Vidul Rana (John Jay College Second Delegate)  
Davinder Singh (John Jay First Alternate)  
Michelle Tsang (John Jay College Second Alternate)  
Jeffrey Aikens (John Jay College Graduate Delegate)  
Whitney Brown (John Jay College Graduate Alternate)  
Dennis Hardy (Kingsborough Community College First Delegate)  
Atiba Yarde (Kingsborough Community College Second Delegate)  
Cid Dominique (Kingsborough Community College First Alternate)  
Jennifer Fernandez (Kingsborough Community College Second Alternate)  
Moklasur Rahman (LaGuardia Community College First Delegate)  
Mohammed Samra (LaGuardia Community College Second Delegate)  
Brandon Clarke (LaGuardia Community College First Alternate)  
Endesha Kareem (LaGuardia Community College Second Delegate)  
Annmarie Schrout-Thy (Medgar Evers College First Delegate)  
Samantha Campbell (Medgar Evers College Second Delegate)  
Beatrix Boisette (Medgar Evers College First Alternate)  
Zeeshan Saroya (New York City College of Technology First Delegate)  
Alma Cabral-Reynoso (New York City College of Technology Second Delegate)  
Sixto Arias (Queens College First Delegate)  
Liliete Lopez (Queens College Second Delegate)  
James Robinson (Queens College First Alternate)  
Peter Trojic (Queens College Second Delegate)  
Jenny Lam (Queens College Graduate Delegate)  
Oluwadamisin Atanda (Queensborough Community College First Delegate)  
Grahn Coolidge (Queensborough Community College Second Delegate)  
Sandra Battle (College of Staten Island First Delegate)  
Elizabeth Che (College of Staten Island Second Delegate)  
Jesse Rodriguez (College of Staten Island Second Alternate)  
Dmitriy Bykovskiy (College of Staten Island Graduate Delegate)  
Steven McCartney (York College First Delegate)  
Zahir Azad (York College Second Delegate)  
Fatema Gazi (York College First Alternate)  
Wayne James (York College Second Alternate)  
Christina Nadler (CUNY Graduate Center Delegate)  
Onya Brinson (CUNY Law Alternate)  

Office of Student Affairs:
Dr. Christopher Rosa, Dean of Student Affairs  
Charmaine Worthy, University Coordinator of Student Activities  
Lorrie Christian, Special Projects Administrator Office Manager  

University Student Senate:
Okenfe Lebarty, Executive Director  
Fernando Araujo, Budget Director  
Cruz Garcia, Executive Secretary  
Kareem Morales, Project Coordinator
I. Roll Call
With 38 voting members present, a quorum is established and the agenda is initiated.

II. Approval of the Agenda
I. Roll Call
II. Approval of the Agenda
III. Approval of the Minutes
IV. Report of the Chairperson
V. New Business (USS Officers Nominations)
VI. Announcements
VII. Adjournment

Chairman Provost presents the agenda for the nominations meeting. He explains that the agenda is limited to the proceeding of the nominations. There is no objection to the approval of the agenda. The agenda is approved unanimously.

III. Approval of the Minutes
The minutes of the May 1st, 2011 plenary session are presented to the delegation for approval.

Senator Robinson moves to approve the minutes with the appropriate grammatical corrections; Senator McCarthy seconds the motion.

Senator Hagler objects to the motion on the grounds that it violates section 5.1 of the USS Constitution, which states that plenary meetings are to be held “on the Sunday prior to the fourth Monday of the month”. Chairman Provost replies by citing the last clause of that same section, whereby the constitution provides alternate rules changing a meeting date. Chairman Provost asks Senator Hagler take a closer look at the Constitution. Chairman Provost suggested that Senator Hagler should seek council from CUNY legal on this matter, and they can further discuss it thereafter.

The motion carried (31 Yes, 1 No, 6 Abstentions).

IV. Report Chairperson
Chairman Provost welcomes the delegates and thanks them for their time and service. He recognizes and thanks the members of steering present: VC Steven Rodriguez, VC Dmitriy Bykovskiy, VC Liliete Lopez, VC Vladimir Charles, VC Washieka Torres, VC Clement James, and VC Kevin McKessey.

Chairman Provost then yields the floor to the chairman of the Student Election Review Committee (SERC), Dean for Student Affairs, Dr. Christopher Rosa.
V. New Business (USS Officers Nominations)

Dean Rosa begins with some introductory remarks on the regulations and procedures of the nominations process. Nominators will have up to two minutes to make remarks about the delegate they wish to nominate. The Nominees will then have five minutes to make an acceptance speech.

Before nominations for USS officers are held, an election for the two student members of SERC must take place. These two students cannot be any of the nominated officers of USS and they must be in good academic standing. Also, one of them has to be the President of Student Government Association and not a delegate of USS. Dean Rosa opens up the floor for nominations for the two student SERC positions:

Senator Mohammed Samra nominates Donavan Bortingon, President of Student Government at LaGuardia Community College.

Senator Annmarrie Schrouter-Gayle nominates Natina Smith-McKessey from Medgar Evers College.

Both Mr. Bortingon and Ms. Smith-McKessey run unopposed. They both are elected unanimously by the body:

Vote for Mr. Bortingon: 38 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions
Vote for Mrs. Smith-McKessey: 38 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions

USS Officers Nominations

Nominations for Chair of USS
Sen. Bykovskiy Nominates Kafui Kouakou
Sen. Hagler Nominates Jonathan Hagler
Sen. Schrouter-Gayle Nominates Jermaine Morris

All three candidates delivered a speech after their nominations.

Nominations for Vice Chair for Legislative Affairs
Sen. Sutton Nominates Eric Sutton
Sen. Alfonso Nominates Antonio Alfonso
Sen. Azad Nominates Steven McCartney

Nominations for Vice Chair for Fiscal Affairs
Sen. Saroya Nominates Dmitriy Bykovskiy
Sen. Morris Nominates Marlyne Jimenez

Nominations for Vice Chair for Graduate Affairs
Sen. Waqar Arshad Nominates Jeffrey Aikens
Sen. Wahle Nominates Irene Castro

Nominations for Vice Chair for Senior College Affairs
Sen. Suton Nominates Muhammad Waqar Arshad
Nominations for Vice Chair Community College Affairs
Sen. Waqar Arshad Nominates Oluwadamisin Atanda
Sen. Morris Nominates Sandra May Flowers

Nominations for Vice Chair for Evening and Part-time Affairs
Sen. Waqar Arshad Nominates Zeeshan Saroya

Nominations for Vice Chair for Student with Disabled Affairs
Sen. Kouakou Nominates Liliet Lopez

Nominations for Vice Chair for International Student Affairs
Sen. Samra Nominates Charles Harding
Sen. Boisette Nominates Annmarie Schrouter-Gayle

Nominations for Vice Chair for Technology Fee Affairs
Sen. Campbell Nominates Odellia Lucius (accepted and later rescinded)
Sen. Kouakou Nominates Mohammed Samra
Sen. Yarde Nominates Cid Dominique

After all the nominations, vice-chair nominees were allowed to deliver a speech (five minutes time limit).

Shortly thereafter, all nominees where assembled by position, starting from chairperson and ending in Vice Chair for Technology Fee, and every school was given the opportunity to pose a question to the candidates.

After the questions portion of the nominations process concluded, Dean Rosa yielded the floor back to Chairperson Provost. The Chairman thanked the delegates for their participation.

VI. Announcements
Dean Rosa and Chairman Provost reminded delegates that they will be receiving notification about the elections meeting through e-mail and certified mail.

Dean Rosa also reminds the nominees that instructions on their campaign statements will be soon forwarded via e-mail.

VII. Adjournment
Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the University Student Senate Plenary session was adjourned at 5:35 P.M.