

Report for Lehman Senate of USF on UFS Plenaries. Submitted by Lehman USF reps: Naomi Zack, David Manier, and Stephen Castellano.

To the Lehman College Senate: Below is a report for the Nov. 5, 2025 Lehman Senate meeting consisting of the annotated agenda for the October 28 UFS meeting, with minutes of that meeting forthcoming. Minutes for the Sept 16 Plenary follow. Please see the CUNY UFS website for further news and updates in the ‘archive.’

<https://www1.cuny.edu/sites/cunyufs/> Please see UFS Executive Committee statement on federal proposed Higher Education Compact 2025, below.

MEETING COMMENTS IN CAPS AND ITALICS

PROPOSED AGENDA APPROVED

The 450th Plenary Session
of The University Faculty Senate
of The City University of New York
Rooms 0818/0819
Tuesday, October 28, 2025
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda **APPROVED**
2. Approval of the Minutes of September 16, 2025 **APPROVED**
3. Remarks by Interim Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Alicia Alvero – 6:35 – 7:05 p.m. **EVP ALVERO SAID SHE WOULD REVISE HER STATEMENT RESTRICTING ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN A FORTHCOMING EMAIL.**
4. Reports on Standing Committee Charges – 7:05—7:30 p.m.
5. Resolution in opposition of the proposed “Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education” - 7:30 – 7:40 p.m. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY ACCLAMATION (SEE ATTACHED CADHE RESOLUTION)**
6. Resolution to Ask for UFS signatory on several public statements regarding the “Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education” - 7:40 – 7:45 p.m. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY ACCLAMATION (SEE ATTACHED UFS COMPACT RESOLUTION)**
7. Chair’s Report – John Verzani – 7:45 – 7:50 p.m.
8. New Business – 7:50 – 8:00 p.m.

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The 449th Plenary Session
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Rooms 0818/0819
Tuesday, September 16, 2025
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.**

**UFS Chair Verzani called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Plenary was held in
Room 818/819 at the Central Office, 205 East 42nd Street. 74 of the 137 voting
members were present.**

**Baruch: Present – Ellis, Grein, Harel, Karama and Lee. Absent – Martell and Wine.
Vacancies – 3. BMCC: Present – Glaser, Meltzer and Oram. Absent – Belknap,
Comeau-Kirschner, Keane, Kelley and Wiseman. Vacancies – 2. Bronx CC: Present –
Culkin, David, Fisher and Rothenberg. Absent – Kaighobadi. Brooklyn: Present –
Cohen, Evans, Levy and Okome. Absent – Arnow, Bassell, Belyayeva and Kingan.
CCNY: Present – Davis, Jeruzalmi, Li, Peele and Stemberg. Absent – Binz-Scharf,
Kornhauser and Mano. Vacancies – 1. CSI: Present – Gold, Gruber and Verzani. Absent**

– LaMassa, Vachadze and Yuan. Vacancies – 1. CUNY Law School: Absent – Loehr. Vacancies – 1. Graduate Center: Present – Burke and Shirazi. Absent – Gorman and Riobó. Vacancies – 1. Guttman CC: Present – Medina. Absent – Philipose. Hostos CC: Present – August and Trachman. Vacancies – 2. Hunter: Present – Chinn, Dahbour, Troudt and Young. Absent – Clarkson and Soyer. Vacancies – 6. John Jay: Present – Belcher, Carbonell, Grossi, Kimora, and Alternate Ilyes. Absent – Benton, Grant and Kaplowitz. Kingsborough CC: Present – Aranoff, Eaton, Navarro, Segal, Stubin and Alternate Powers. Absent – Devany and Krishnan. LaGuardia CC: Present – Keyes and Klein. Absent – Albrecht, Armstrong, Fess and Sokolski. Vacancies – 1. Lehman: Present – Bell, Castellano, Manier, Rice, Wang and Zack. Absent – Johnson and Vann. Medgar Evers: Present – Barker and Chevalier. Absent – James. NYCCT: Present – Bennett, Capruso, Coughlin, Rodriguez and Zylstra. Absent – Allahverdi and Grujicic-Alatrisme. Queens: Present – Genack, Newman, Pagano, Pai, Swedell and Weingarten. Absent – Kumar and Lowry. Vacancies – 3. Queensborough CC: Present – Akpinar, Carroll, Cornick, Puri, Srivastava and Tai. Vacancies – 1. York: Present – Chirico, Costley, Kaufman and Alternate Gerena. Absent – Lipkind and Sheidlower.

Governance Leaders present were: Barker (Medgar Evers), Bruns (LaGuardia), Burke (Graduate Center), Chinn (Hunter), Cornick (Queensborough), Dahbour (Hunter), Fisher (Bronx CC), Gold (CSI), Grein (Baruch), Ialongo (Hostos), Jeruzalmi (City) and Manier (Lehman). Guests present were Board of Trustees Chairman William Thompson, Anson Chung (Doctoral and Graduate Students' Council), Jonathan Hanon (John Jay), Linda Paradiso (SPS), Laura Andreescu (NYCCT), (Elke Nicolai (Hunter) and Yasmin Sokkar Harker (CUNY Law). Members observing via Zoom were Alexander-Street (Lehman), Kaplowitz (John Jay), Kornhauser (City), Mano (City), Martell (Baruch), Sokolski (LaGuardia) and Wiseman (BMCC). Guest Observing via Zoom is Sebastian Murolo (Queensborough CC). Executive Director Cotter, Administrative Assistant Pasela and Secretary Blanchard were also present.

1. Approval of the Agenda – Adopted as Proposed
2. Approval of the Minutes of May 6, 2025 – Adopted as Proposed
3. Remarks by Board of Trustees Chairman William Thompson – 6:35 – 7:05 p.m. – Chair Thompson provided a brief update on how the administration understands America's current political climate and reminded the body that his office will continue to engage faculty as solutions to some of the challenges facing the University as a result. He also affirmed the intrinsic value of the University for its students and the community. He then took questions.
4. Introduction of Faculty Representatives on CUNY Board of Trustee Committees – 7:05 – 7:20 p.m. – Chair Verzani invited the representatives to briefly explain the nature of their responsibilities for the upcoming academic year.

- 5. Approval of UFS Standing Committee Chairs and their Membership and Introduction of Advisory Committee Chairs – 7:25 – 7:40 p.m. – Chair Verzani explained how the committees came to be populated and opened the floor to any further requests to join. In light of the discussion, Executive Director Cotter will update and distribute the lists accordingly.**
- 6. Approval of Jonathan Cornick for University Students Elections Review Committee Representative – 7:40 – 7:45 – After Chair Verzani explained the nature and responsibilities of the position, he announced that Prof. Cornick has agreed to serve and he was approved by the body unanimously.**
- 7. Acknowledgement of Recently Elected UFS Senators and Alternates 7:45 – 7:50 p.m. – Chair Verzani took a moment to welcome the recently elected to the organization.**
- 8. Chair’s Report – John Verzani – 7:50 – 7:55 p.m. – Chair Verzani announced that were anyone interested in preparing a blog to reach out to Stasia directly. He announced a few recent submissions and outlined several of the recently cancelled or frozen grants by the federal government. He then referred the body to a report he’d prepared about UFS Plenary attendance and highlighted a few topics discussed by the Interim Executive Vice Chancellor and University Provost Alicia Alvero at the recent meeting of the Council of Faculty Governance Leaders (FGL). He updated the body on several recent hires and ongoing searches at the senior administrative level, and noted a few interim positions recently filled as well.**
- 9. New Business – 7:55 – 8:00 p.m. – Prof. Paradiso requested that the School of Professional Studies have representation in the UFS, and Chair Verzani directed her to the Charter Review Committee. Prof. Chinn updated the body on the formation and mission and activities of the CUNY Alliance to Defend Higher Education and invited senators to join if they were interested. Prof. Tai invited senators to join the UFS Committee on Higher Education and the Prisons.**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew J. Cotter

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Baruch: Present – Ellis, Grein, Harel, Karama and Lee. Absent – Martell and Wine. Vacancies – 3. **BMCC:** Present – Glaser, Meltzer and Oram. Absent – Belknap, Comeau-Kirschner, Keane, Kelley and Wiseman. Vacancies – 2. **Bronx CC:** Present – Culkin, David, Fisher and Rothenberg. Absent – Kaighobadi. **Brooklyn:** Present – Cohen, Evans, Levy and Okome. Absent – Arnow, Bassell, Belyayeva and Kingan. **CCNY:** Present – Davis, Jeruzalmi, Li, Peele and Stemberg. Absent – Binz-Scharf, Kornhauser and Mano. Vacancies – 1. **CSI:** Present – Gold, Gruber and Verzani. Absent – LaMassa, Vachadze and Yuan. Vacancies – 1. **CUNY Law School:** Absent – Loehr. Vacancies – 1. **Graduate Center:** Present – Burke and Shirazi. Absent – Gorman and Riobó. Vacancies – 1. **Guttman CC:** Present – Medina. Absent – Philipose. **Hostos CC:** Present – August and Trachman. Vacancies – 2. **Hunter:** Present – Chinn, Dahbour, Troudt and Young. Absent – Clarkson and Soyer. Vacancies – 6. **John Jay:** Present – Belcher, Carbonell, Grossi, Kimora, and Alternate Ilyes. Absent – Benton, Grant and Kaplowitz. **Kingsborough CC:** Present – Aranoff, Eaton, Navarro, Segal, Stubin and Alternate Powers. Absent – Devany and Krishnan. **LaGuardia CC:** Present – Keyes and Klein. Absent – Albrecht, Armstrong, Fess and Sokolski. Vacancies – 1. **Lehman:** Present – Bell, Castellano, Manier, Rice, Wang and Zack. Absent – Johnson and Vann. **Medgar Evers:** Present – Barker and Chevalier. Absent – James. **NYCCT:** Present – Bennett, Capruso, Coughlin, Rodriguez and Zylstra. Absent – Allahverdi and Grujicic-Alatriste. **Queens:** Present – Genack, Newman, Pagano, Pai, Swedell and Weingarten. Absent – Kumar and Lowry. Vacancies – 3. **Queensborough CC:** Present – Akpinar, Carroll, Cornick, Puri, Srivastava and Tai. Vacancies – 1. **York:** Present – Chirico, Costley, Kaufman and Alternate Gerena. Absent – Lipkind and Sheidlower.

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