

Minutes of the FDA Meeting: September 18, 2013

Joint Meeting with the PSC-CUNY

Meeting was called to order by FDA Acting President Doyle and Hunter Chapter Chair Tami Gold.

Discussion Points:

- 1) The protest against Petraeus in front of the MacCauley Honors Campus on 67th Street led to six student arrests and allegations of police violence and mishandling. They are being represented by the National Lawyers Guild. The PSC-CUNY and FDA drafted a resolution denouncing police actions and asking for all charges to be dropped. The central concern was protecting the students' right to protest. Revisions were made and the document was voted upon.
- 2) Two full-time seats are open on the FDA Executive Committee. Obligations include attending monthly meeting and assisting in event planning. Nominations are accepted until October 11. Voting ballots will be distributed from October 15 to 25th.
- 3) Siochan from FDA is spearheading the Fall semester event with MFA students from the Department of Art.
- 4) On November 20, FDA is hosting a meeting with President Raab.
- 5) Resignation of Hunter Admin: Tami Gold spoke about the recent resignation of key administrative members at Hunter as a reflection of its climate, for some described as one of "intimidation and fear."
- 6) Update on Chancellor position: Committee will be selected with interviewees narrowed to one candidate who is brought forward to the Board of Trustees. Faculty visibility is critical at September 30 meeting.

Guest Speaker Michael Fabricant, Treasurer, PSC-CUNY

- 1) September 30 is a very important gathering at the Board of Trustees meeting on 25th Street between Lexington and Third Ave
- 2) Contract negotiations: Meetings are being held with the bargaining committee, centered on non-economic issues including long distance learning, job security for part time faculty, and the negotiation of promotional salaries, keeping in mind demands from management.
- 3) Pathways: The Vote of No Confidence from faculty is likely to be dismissed by Schmidt, chair of the Board of Trustees, appointed by Gov. Pataki. The issue is about governance and dilution of curriculum. The Board is confident they will win litigation The Attorney General's office has asked for a rescheduling due to urgent gun control matter but meetings are being scheduled.
- 4) PSC-CUNY is organizing faculty Town Hall meetings, with hopes to collaborate more with students.
- 5) Endorsement of mayoral candidate Bill de Blasio opens possibilities. De Blasio's announcement of a \$175 million investment in CUNY. Also, the importance of informing the public about the state of CUNY, adjunct conditions, etc.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Sonu
FDA Executive Committee Member