

**Queensborough Community College  
Academic Senate**

To: Devin Feldman, Secretary, Steering Committee  
From: Robert R. Sweetnam, UFS Representative, QCC  
Date: May 17, 2007

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**The 329th Plenary Session of the University Faculty Senate  
City University of New York  
Tuesday, May 15, 2007, 6:30pm**

- I. Approval of the agenda and minutes was endorsed.**
- II. UFS Chair’s Written Report was handed out.**
- III. Members-at-Large of the Executive Committee were elected.**  
Elected members: Phil Pecarino, Alfred Levine, Anne Friedman, Stefan Baumrin, and Sandi Cooper.
- IV. Vice Chancellor Jay Hershenson, gave a report on CUNY programs/initiatives and the City’s Budget for higher education.**  
CUNY Programs/Initiatives
  - Success of “Look Who’s Teaching at CUNY” and a commercial shown on the YES network and at Yankee Stadium during home games
  - “Study with the Best” DVD’s
  - “Citizenship NOW”
  - “Women’s Leadership Initiative”
  - “Voter Awareness Month”
 City Budget
  - City Council put back into the budget cuts made by the mayor’s office
  - State Commission on Public Education will focus on higher education and have an impact on the executive budget
 Question and answer session followed
- V. New Business**  
Resolution Concerning the PSC/CUNY Research Award Program was adopted.

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University Faculty Senate

Proposed: May 15, 2007

Adopted: approved w/ 1 abstention

**Resolution Concerning the PSC/CUNY Research Award Program**

Based on the work of the UCRA Task Force (2005-2006), the UFS Research Committee and the UFS Executive Committee believe that the PSC/CUNY Research Award Program is overdue for a new approach and a substantial increase in funding. The following provisions are intended to

greatly improve the program for both faculty and the University itself, enhancing the reputation of the University and increasing the number of quality proposals capable of attracting outside private and public funding at a time when emphasis is being placed upon hiring new faculty and supporting CUNY as a research institution.

Therefore, Be It Resolved,

1. That CUNY be requested to double the funding for the PSC/CUNY Award Program, from \$6 million to \$12 million. This increase should be made out of existing university funds. The program has been in stasis for nearly a decade, to the detriment of our new faculty.
2. That a small number (10-20) of special awards valued at least \$15,000 be provided for research proposals that are deemed outstanding by peer review discipline committees, as well as a special awards committee to oversee final decisions;
3. That CUNY-wide grant-writing training workshops be made generally available at times convenient to the teaching faculty; that these workshops cover the format, research review and goals suitable to the **development and improvement of grant applications**;
4. That all research applicants should be encouraged to include in their research budgets funds for assistants who will contribute to the work of the faculty researcher and who will also improve their writing and research skills;
5. That the PSC/CUNY research award program be extended to all faculty, including adjuncts with at least three years of CUNY service and/or who teach at least two CUNY courses;
6. That grant applications should be held to higher standards of performance and review, including a requirement that within three years of the completion of the research project, proof of a published or unpublished study, experiment or report be provided prior to the submission of a new award application;
7. That greater publicity, within and outside the university, be given to the research award program, to the awardees, to subsequent published studies resulting from the research awards, and to selected outstanding completed and published research projects, in the form of media briefings, communications to the university community, and special presentations and recognition ceremonies.

Proponent: Executive Committee

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- VI. Dr. Rosemary Feals, gave a summary report of the MLA Task Force on Evaluating Scholarship for Tenure and Promotion.**  
The complete report is available at [http://www.mla.org/tenure\\_promotion](http://www.mla.org/tenure_promotion)
  - VII. UFS Chair's Oral Report on disclosure policy of Indirect Cost Recovery**
  - VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.**