The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Fernando Ferrer at 4:40 p.m.

The following people were present:

**Committee Members:**
- Hon. Fernando Ferrer, Chair
- Hon. Henry T. Berger
- Hon. Ken Sunshine

**Faculty Member:**
- Prof. John Verzani, faculty representative

**Student Member:**
- Ms. Razieh Arabi, student representative

**COP Liaison:**
- President José Luis Cruz

**Ex-officio:**
- Hon. William C. Thompson, Jr.
- Hon. Barry F. Schwartz

**Trustee Observer:**
- Hon. Haris Khan

**Observers:**
- Prof. Ned Benton
- Mr. John Mondal

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**Committee on Fiscal Affairs Meeting January 14, 2019**

The agenda items were considered and acted upon in the following order:

**I. ACTION ITEMS:**

**A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 19, 2018.** Moved by Trustee Ken Sunshine and seconded by Prof. John Verzani, the minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

**B. POLICY CALENDAR**

1. **Craig Newmark School of Journalism – Program Supplement Fee.** Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer (SVC&CFO) Matthew Sapienza requested the Committee’s approval of the program supplement fee. The fee has been charged to students since the School opened in 2006, and it has never increased. While the Board approved the opening of the School and the launch of its academic programs, it appears that a specific resolution about this fee was not formally submitted to the Board for its approval.

Dean Sarah Bartlett provided further background about the fee, noting that the supplemental income is needed to support the heavy investment that the School makes in technology.
A discussion about the fee followed, including guidance that explains the structural process, revenues and expenditures specific to food/catering, travel, and building maintenance, and the accounting for and reporting on the program supplement fee separately.

Committee Chair Ferrer noted that he requested SVC&CFO Sapienza to begin putting together guidelines for the University for transparency and uniformity purposes.

Moved by Committee Chair Ferrer and seconded by Trustee Sunshine, and following discussion, the item was approved for submission to the Board. Ms. Razieh Arabi abstained.

2. The City College of New York – School of Medicine Contract for Course Delivery with St. Barnabas Hospital Health System. Committee Chair Ferrer requested the Committee’s approval to authorize a contract with St. Barnabas Hospital Health System, for the purposes of providing clinical course instruction for the students enrolled at the CUNY School of Medicine.

CUNY School of Medicine Deputy Dean Erica Friedman provided additional information about the proposal.

Moved by Trustee Henry Berger and seconded by Trustee Sunshine, and following discussion, the item was unanimously approved for submission to the Board.

3. The City University of New York – Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget Request. Committee Chair Ferrer requested the Committee’s approval Fiscal Year 2020 Operating Budget Request. Subject to the availability of resources, the University seeks additional funds for FY2020 of $137.7 million from the State and $108.2 million from the City to cover mandatory cost increases and strategic investments and that the University self-fund $20.0 million of the strategic investment plan through its Administrative Efficiencies Action Plan, and the Predictable Tuition Policy be continued, with an annual increase of $200 at the senior colleges.

SVC&CFO Sapienza presented the City University of New York Operating Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2020.

A discussion about the budget request followed, including mandatory needs specific to building rentals, energy, contractual salary increments, and fringe benefits proposed for senior and community colleges, strategic investments relating to ASAP and ACE expansion, Tap gap parity, higher education price index relating to state funding, supporting the needs of students, and the University's financing plan.

Trustee Berger expressed concern about the source of funds.

Prof. Verzani inquired about the differences between the FY2019 Budget Request and the FY2020 Budget Request in response to the recent leadership change in Albany legislature.

University Student Senate Chair and Trustee Haris Khan reiterated Prof. Verzani question by further inquiring about why the University is still relying on city support rather than state support.
Committee Chair Ferrer reassured the Committee that this is not the budget, it is a budget request.

Chairperson William Thompson, Jr. then echoed Committee Chair Ferrer’s comments, noting that this is the beginning of the budget process and a number of other things will wind up going into budget, both in the state and city level.

USS Chair and Trustee Khan concluded by requesting the University to ask for $31 million from the state and city, a multifaceted solution to the tuition freeze.

Moved by Prof. Verzani and seconded by Trustee Sunshine, and following discussion, the item was approved for submission to the Board. Trustee Berger and Ms. Arabi voted NO.

II. INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. Fiscal Matters Information Report

SVC&CFO Sapienza reported on the CFA Financial Matters Information items for January 2019, noting that the report will provide a list of items—grants, non-monetary gifts, and blanket tuition waivers—that used to go through the Chancellor’s University Report, which will now be provided to the Committee as an information item.

B. MWBE Update

Director of MWBE Outreach William Choi provided an update on Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) initiatives at the University.

C. Fiscal Year 2019 Mid-Year Financial Report

SVC&CFO Sapienza gave an overview of the FY2019 Mid-Year Financial Report for the CUNY, noting that revenues are growing more than expenditures.

Committee Chair Ferrer recommended management intervention for Medgar Evers College, College of Staten Island, and York College to develop action plans to get them back into balance as the University is projecting that they will end the year in deficit.

Prof. Verzani concluded by pointing out that the FY2019-2020 Budget Request to the city for senior college support is related to the financial positions of the comprehensive colleges—CSI and Medgar Evers College are two of the three senior campuses with projected deficits and NYCCT with a very small projected surplus—as the history of these funds from the city was to provide for the community college population within the comprehensive campuses.

Committee Chair Ferrer moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Chairperson William C. Thompson, Jr. and the meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m.