The Board of Trustees of The City University of New York (CUNY) met on January 14, 2019 at The Central Office (Headquarters), New York, New York, pursuant to a Notice sent by the Office of the Secretary of the Board on January 10, 2019.

Trustees Present: Chairperson William C. Thompson, Jr., Vice Chairperson Barry F. Schwartz, Michael Arvanites, Henry T. Berger, Una S. T-Clarke, Fernando Ferrer, Kevin D. Kim, Mayra Linares-Garcia, Brian D. Obergfell, Jill O'Donnell-Tormey, Charles A. Shorter, Ken Sunshine, Sandra Wilkin, Haris Khan, ex officio, and Martin Burke, ex officio (non-voting)

Trustees Absent: Lorraine A. Cortés-Vázquez and Robert F. Mujica, Jr.

CONVENING OF PUBLIC MEETING
Chairperson William C. Thompson, Jr. called the Public meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and announced that the Public Meeting is being transmitted live on cable Channel 75 and webcast live at www.cuny.edu/livestream. He also announced that the Public Meeting will be available as a podcast within 24 hours and can be accessed through the CUNY website.

Chairperson Thompson, Jr. moved to go into Executive Session at 6:05 p.m. The motion was seconded by Trustee Fernando Ferrer.

CONVENING OF EXECUTIVE SESSION:
Chairperson Thompson, Jr. called for an Executive Session pursuant to Section 105, Article 7, of the Public Officers Law, to discuss matters pertaining to collective negotiations, current investigations and proposed, pending or current litigation. The Board met in Executive Session from 6:06 p.m. to 6:25 p.m.

Moved by Chairperson Thompson, Jr. and seconded by Vice Chairperson Barry Schwartz, the public session was reconvened at 6:26 p.m.
Moved by Chairperson Thompson, Jr. and seconded by Trustee Michael Arvanites, the following resolution was presented and opened for discussion:

1. **The City University of New York – Five Year Capital Budget Request, FY 2019-20 through FY 2023-24:**

WHEREAS, The City University of New York (“University”) is required every year to submit a five-year capital plan to the State Division of the Budget and the City Office of Management and Budget; and

WHEREAS, The State of New York provides 100% of the capital funding for projects at Senior Colleges and 50% of the capital funding for projects at Community Colleges; and

WHEREAS, The City of New York provides the matching 50% capital funding for projects at Community Colleges and capital funding for special projects at Senior Colleges; and

WHEREAS, These capital projects are funded through bonds sold by the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York with debt service payments appropriated by the State of New York and the City of New York, and through bonds sold by the City of New York; capital projects are also supported by State minor repair funding from the General Fund; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the University’s Board of Trustees approve a five-year Capital Budget Request for Fiscal Years FY 2019-20 through FY 2023-24 of $6.2 billion for projects authorized by The City University Construction Fund to address critical maintenance, infrastructure, and programmatic initiatives in support of the University’s mission; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the University’s five-year request breaks down to $4.7 billion for the Senior Colleges and $1.5 billion for the Community Colleges; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the University’s request for City Fiscal Year 2020 local elected official funding is $93 million; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the University’s Master Plan be and is hereby amended as necessary to provide for the capital proposal.

**EXPLANATION:** As in previous plans, the FY 2019-20 through FY 2023-24 request focuses on completion of existing projects and critical health, safety, code compliance and rehabilitation projects, while recognizing the need for expansion and modernization of facilities as called for in campus master plans.

In formulating specific projects under this plan, an effort will be made, where possible, to leverage available University real estate resources through public-private development.
The projects included in the plan originate at the campuses and are prioritized using the following Board of Trustees criteria:

1. Capital infrastructure and equipment projects to ensure health, safety, security, facilities preservation, and compliance with codes, including ADA and asbestos-related regulations;

2. Individual campus projects that were started with partial earlier funding and need completion of funding;

3. Projects to upgrade existing science facilities and provide new science instruction and research facilities;

4. CUNY-wide technology projects, including infrastructure upgrades, systems engineering, and new equipment;

5. CUNY-wide projects to meet energy conservation and performance objectives including Executive Order 88 and Local Law 87;

6. New construction of space needed for academic programs, with projects ranked in order of overall campus space deficiency. Highest priority is assigned to classroom and instructional laboratory facilities and to the replacement of temporary or leased space with permanent space;

7. CUNY-wide and individual campus projects for purposes other than those listed above.


Chairperson Thompson, Jr. asked for a vote. Cal. No. 1 was unanimously approved.

Moved by Chairperson Thompson, Jr. and seconded by Trustee Fernando Ferrer, the following resolution was presented and opened for discussion:

2. The City University of New York – Approval of Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget Request:

WHEREAS, The University seeks to continue its strong commitment to provide the people of New York City and State with affordable access to educational services of the highest quality; and

WHEREAS, The University continues its Public Service mission by expanding workforce training and research in the body of disciplines required to foster and sustain communities; and

WHEREAS, The University is dedicated to protecting its resources and developing a more efficient administration in order to deliver better services and channeling resources towards the expansion and strategic development of the academic programs and services that are needed to fulfill its mission, now therefore be it
RESOLVED, That subject to the availability of resources, the University seeks additional funds for FY2019-2020 of $137.7 million from the State and $108.2 million from the City to cover mandatory cost increases and strategic investments; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the University self-fund $20.0 million of the strategic investment plan through its Administrative Efficiencies Action Plan; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the predictable tuition policy be continued, with an annual increase of $200 at the senior colleges.

EXPLANATION: With the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Request, the University enhances its capacity to carry out its mission of access and opportunity for New Yorkers and its commitment to meet the economic and educational needs of New York State and New York City. The University’s initiatives include efforts that speed student progress toward degree attainment, improve access and retention, and provide experiential learning opportunities that prepare students for the workforce, all strategic priorities that align with the priorities of the State and City. State and City financing of fixed mandatory needs, such as contractually required incremental salary increases, fringe benefit and building rental cost increases, will allow existing funding to remain in programmatic areas so that the University can continue to provide high quality services in support of its statutory mission and its commitment to all New Yorkers.


Statement of University Student Senate Chair and Trustee Haris Khan:

Thank you Interim Chancellor Rabinowitz and Vice Chancellor Sapienza for meeting with myself and other student leaders about our concerns regarding the FY2020 Budget Request. We were very pleased to see the inclusion of much-needed student services like mental health and wellness services, the expansion of ASAP and ACE, as well as proposals to deal with things like food insecurity, in the FY2020 request. However, the issue of the Tuition Hike remains unresolved. It was included once again in the FY2020 request, despite having heard poignant and moving testimonies from student leaders at last week’s budget hearing. These student leaders pointed out that the University's message regarding support services is inconsistent when its leaders support a Tuition Hike – how is it that CUNY proudly supports programs like ASAP and ACE, provides Metrocards, and has programs to combat food insecurity and homelessness for low-income students, they said, but yet still chooses to burden these same students with a Tuition Hike of $200, which is more than “modest” for CUNY families?

Predictability of a Tuition Hike doesn’t change its unaffordability. The cost of living in New York continues to go up, the job market continues to dry up, and we’re graduating so many students each year without the promise of a stable career or opportunity in return for investments in their education at CUNY. These same students are the ones who are already struggling to make ends meet as it is – they may have sick family members to take care of, be living paycheck to paycheck, or even be living in shelters or on the streets. By supporting a Tuition Hike today, we hurt tomorrow’s graduates, and not only them, but any promising students who are looking to CUNY as an opportunity to make better for themselves and their families in this life. Part-time students for example, whether single parents, full
time workers, heads of households, and more will be drastically affected by this increase, and so will international and and out-of-state students who pay double what a New York resident does for tuition. Our students who are DREAMers will feel the impact of this immensely, too. Furthermore, an increase in Tuition will widen the TAP Gap even further, and for some students, that extra cost of $200 is the difference between going to school and paying for rent. Then, you have all of the students who were not able to qualify for Governor Cuomo’s faulty Excelsior Scholarship, who were sold by the promise of a free public higher education only to find that promise broken - no matter where they fall on the income bracket, they will feel the strain of the Hike, too.

The Tuition Hike is contradictory, and only increases the reliance on tuition instead of public funding to run this University, which goes against its founding principles as the “free academy.” If all of us truly believes that CUNY is a path for students, no matter their background, to achieving their dreams, I ask that the Board say “No” to this Tuition Hike or to amend the request by including an additional $31 million from the City and State to cover needed costs instead, putting a Tuition Freeze into effect. We owe it to the students to be their champions, not the ones who cut their dreams short.”

Trustee Henry Berger expressed concern about the balance of revenue sources between the State and City.

A discussion about the Budget Request followed, including the Predictable Tuition Policy.

Chairperson Thompson, Jr. concluded by stating the University will continue to work with both the City Council and the Mayor to seek additional support and revenue.

*Chairperson Thompson, Jr. asked for a vote. Cal. No. 2 was approved. Trustee Henry Berger and University Student Senate Chair and Trustee Haris Khan voted NO. Trustee Una Clarke abstained.*

Moved by Chairperson Thompson, Jr. and seconded by Trustee Brian Obergfell, the reconvened public session was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.