Call to Order

The Meeting was called to Order by Senate President Anne E. Fernald at 4:33 p.m. in the 12th Floor Lounge, Lowenstein Building, Lincoln Center Campus.

1. Senate President’s Report on the motion and progress of negotiations

The Senate President Anne E. Fernald provided a report on the progress of negotiations with the administration. She stressed the time-sensitive nature of the progress of negotiations and discussed the possibility of a vote of no-confidence in the University President.

The Senate President turned over the meeting to Senator Clark to recount the progress on negotiations with the administration thus far. Senator Clark began by thanking the Faculty Salary & Benefits Committee for the work done to date. Senator Clark summarized the salient points of the most recent report from the administration regarding the start date, the safety net, and salary raises. None of the issues in the administration’s proposal were amenable to the Salary & Benefits Committee. The Salary & Benefits committee rejected the proposal and recommended that the Senate reject it as well.

Discussion ensued around the maximums for in-network and out-of-network estimated costs and plan start dates under the administration’s plan. There was additional discussion around the ability to opt-in and opt-out of the plan as presented by the administration. Discussion continued around the difference between Cigna and UHC and what the defining characteristic were of each of those providers.

Senate President Anne E. Fernald called the vote on the Faculty Salary & Benefits Committee’s motion:

To accept the recommendation of the Faculty Salary & Benefits Committee to reject the Administration’s most recent salary and benefits proposal.

The motion was approved (14/0/0).

2. Pending Vote of No-Confidence in the President

Discussion ensued about the recommendation to issue a vote of no-confidence in the President of the University.

Senator Schwalbenberg moved, seconded by Senator Jones:

To rescind the Faculty Senate’s motion of April 7 that called for a vote of no confidence in the University President.

Discussion focused on the relative merits and detriments to delivering the no confidence vote given faculty concerns, timing, and the repercussions of the vote on current negotiations. There was also vigorous debate about the propriety of making the no confidence vote for the Board of Trustees as opposed to President McShane.
Senator Hornbeck offered an amendment to the motion, accepted by Senators Schwalbenberg and Jones and seconded by Senator Heyman, to amend the Senate's motion of April 7, 2017, by replacing the word "President" with the phrase "Board of Trustees."

The vote was conducted via secret ballot. The motion failed (4/10/0).

The meeting was adjourned by Senate President Anne E. Fernald at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Aimee Meredith Cox, Secretary