

Testimony of Lori Rothstein
Before the New York City Council Committee on Higher Education
Oversight Hearing - The Research Foundation of CUNY
April 9, 2021

My name is Lori Rothstein. I am an employee of the Research Foundation, and have worked at the Graduate Center for more than 20 years. I am the elected delegate for the Research Foundation Field Units of the Professional Staff Congress, the union that represents CUNY faculty and staff.

Altogether, Research Foundation projects employ more than 13,000 people each year across CUNY's 26 campuses. Research Foundation employees work on a wide variety of projects and grants. Their work improves the lives of the most underprivileged New Yorkers through projects including adult literacy, workforce development, job placement, and small business development. They engage in and support cutting-edge research in economics, the humanities, international affairs, and the sciences.

CUNY Research Foundation employees on the campuses experience the same stresses created by the chronic underfunding of CUNY as a whole, and suffer from the same structural inequalities inflicted on the publicly funded employees of the university.

Recent records for the three organized campuses (the Graduate Center, New York City College of Technology, and LaGuardia Community College) show that more than 60 percent of Research Foundation employees are classified as Part-Time B, meaning that they work 19 or fewer hours per week. Around four percent are Part-Time A, working between 19 and 35 hours per week. The rest (around 36%) are full-time, working 35 hours per week.

Just under a quarter (23.45%) of all Research Foundation employees in PSC covered units are paid \$18/hour or less. This is one cent more per hour than the subsistence wage identified by the MIT Living Wage scale for the New York Metropolitan area. Median hourly pay for the Part-Time As is around \$21/hour. Overall, 40.51% of the unit is paid between \$18.00 to \$32.91/hour; the upper number in that range is the subsistence wage for a single parent with one child, based on the MIT Living Wage scale. The median annual salary for the full-timers is around \$52,000.

To understand the financial position of the Research Foundation labor pool, it is necessary to examine what "living" and "subsistence" mean in this context. These terms do not indicate anything near what most of us assume to be a reasonable level of financial security and comfort. I urge everyone to review the MIT technical standards at <https://livingwage.mit.edu/resources/Living-Wage-Users-Guide-Technical-Documentation-2021-02-03.pdf> and to consider for themselves the position that those receiving the so-called living wage -- and especially those receiving less -- are actually in.

Out of these meager wages, full-time and part-time A employees must also pay a 19% health insurance premium for coverage. Part-time B employees have no access to employer-based health insurance.

Vacation accrual, holidays and weather days are another area in which part timers are undercompensated. No part-time employees receive paid holidays or weather days. Non-instructional part-time employees earn vacation on a pro-rated system based on longevity, but

instructional part-time employees earn no vacation time. Meanwhile, full-time employees receive 17 paid holidays.

The lack of paid holidays and weather days for part-timers is especially burdensome for working parents because lost hours must be made up within the same two-week pay period. We hear from our members that the money earned on make-up days (and sometimes more) often goes right back out to pay additional child care costs. These policies exacerbate the inequality in wages between full-timers and part-timers, hurting the most the people who can least afford the loss of income.

There are by definition no “unskilled” workers at Research Foundation projects. The majority of positions require a bachelor’s degree or above, computer skills, and relevant work experience, yet a significant percentage of employees are paid as if they lack one or both. Part-timers and new hires often do not have pay parity with their peers performing the same work (even when accounting for the lack of benefits for part-timers). There is also no system for retaining employees when their grants run out and thus keeping their expertise at CUNY.

Meanwhile, at the Research Foundation Central Office, the contract (covering full-timers only) shows a minimum salary range of \$46,000 to \$82,000 (Grade 3 and above, depending on rank). The top administrators make well in excess of \$250,000.

These statistics and policies tell us all we need to know: Research Foundation employees on the campuses are largely part-timers who are undercompensated and treated as disposable labor, while at the same time the university trumpets its world-class research initiatives. It is time for this system of exploitation to change.

Lori Rothstein
CUNY Graduate Center
lrothstein@gc.cuny.edu
lrothsteinpsc@gmail.com

April 9, 2021

Dear Members of the City Council,

Please accept this document and appendix in lieu of in-person testimony.

My name is Aldo Lauria Santiago. I am a professor of history who specializes in US Latinos, and the Caribbean and Latin America at Rutgers University. I am also resident of Harlem. I have a long history of engagement with the Center for Puerto Rican Studies since the late 1970s.

I am presenting this statement because of my interest as a scholar in Puerto Rican Studies and as part of the Puerto Rican community in protecting and defending the Center for Puerto Rican Studies. The Center (Centro) is located within the administrative structure of Hunter College, CUNY.

Centro is immensely important to the more than 700,000 Puerto Ricans in New York City (nearly 10% of the city's population) plus others who study or intersect with the histories of Puerto Rican migration and communities in New York and the US. Centro library and archive vast collections are visited by hundreds yearly. Centro demographic, economic and political reports are used by thousands of students and even government administrators managing post-maria migration. Centro Journal is the flagship academic journal for scholars of Puerto Rican studies and Centro runs many other sorts of online publications.

Centro is a Critical organization for those involved in research, education and support services for Puerto Ricans in New York and the US. These communities go back to the very early 1900s. Centro has stood in solidarity with the US territory of Puerto Rico and its people, as shown during the crisis after Hurricanes devastated the island in 2017 but is not an institution principally about Puerto Rico.

Upon the news that Centro director Edwin Melendez was quitting it became clear after multiple conversations with various principals that this move was under duress and after years of struggling with limitations imposed by Hunter College administrators. In response, I convened an informal group of about 20 scholars with a history of work and leadership in Puerto Rican Studies and we drafted a public petition to Chancellor Matos and President Raab. The petition was signed by nearly 2000 scholars, students and supporters. When submitted to the recipients with the signatures, Chancellor Matos responded, President Raab did not. I have attached a copy of this petition, signatures and submission letters.

In the petition we have emphasized various goals and demands.

We want to protect the academic and ethical Integrity of Centro as an institution that provides leadership and resources to the CUNY scholars who do work in Puerto Rican and Latino Studies.

We requested the proper assignment of an interim director and a proper search for a permanent director.

Since then, in my opinion, the naming of an interim director from outside Centro for two years and with no participation, consultation or inclusion of circles traditionally involved in Centro constitutes a major problem. This has raised alarm bells for me and many others.

The petition also called for revisiting and clarifying Centro's relationship with Hunter College as one of CUNY's oldest and most important research, educational and policy centers. Currently, the Director serves at the discretion of the president of Hunter College.

Centro has also faced challenging budgetary issues that have kept it from fulfilling its mission of being the flagship institution of the Puerto Rican community. We called for the reversal of cuts, the hiring of multiple unfilled positions and the continuation of personnel lines for researchers.

I also believe that Centro is an institution that belongs primarily to and for the Puerto Rican Communities of New York City, migrant, second and third generation Puerto Ricans whose roots go back to the 1920s. Leadership for the Centro should continue to be in the hands of scholars committed to this diaspora, with a record of service and scholarship about Communities in New York and the rest of the US.

The critical piece here is that a national-level, properly organized search for a permanent director with suitable credentials be initiated immediately with the participation of broad communities of interest. And that the two-year interim directorship either be shortened or limits placed to insure that the interim director act in an interim capacity and not like a permanent director (mission changes, cancellation of programs, replacing of staff, acceptance of budget limitations and priorities imposed by Hunter College, etc.)

Please let me know if you have any questions about this note.

Yours,

Dr. Aldo A. Lauria Santiago

Professor

Appendices

March 25, 2021

Jennifer Raab
President
Hunter College
695 Park Ave.
New York, NY 10065

Dear President Raab,

I would like to present you with a petition developed in the last month by a group of 20 scholars in Puerto Rican Studies and signed by nearly 2000 scholars and Puerto Rican community members from throughout New York, the US and Puerto Rico. The petition is in support of the Center for Puerto Rican Studies, its needs and its leadership transition.

We feel compelled to present this petition to you now as a way of communicating the importance of helping Centro transition to qualified leadership through a transparent and appropriate national search for a permanent director—"a senior scholar with a track history of scholarship in Puerto Rican Studies and institutional leadership."

The petition speaks for itself, but we would like to point out that it calls for a search for a permanent director, the preservation of core mission and goals, and the return of significant resources.

We also would like to express our availability to assist in this process in our different capacities. We look forward to your response to this and other efforts in support of Centro.

Sincerely,

Aldo Lauria Santiago, for the Petition Committee

Professor, Departments of History and Latino & Caribbean Studies
Rutgers University, New Brunswick
alauria@lcs.rutgers.edu
646-713-7007

A petition to Save the Integrity, Mission and Resources of the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at CUNY

A public petition from Puerto Rican and Latino Studies scholars, members of the Puerto Rican community, and their supporters

The Center for Puerto Rican Studies (“Centro”) is unquestionably the leading research and policy institution in Puerto Rican Studies in the US and Puerto Rico, and a leading research center in US Ethnic and Colonial Studies. Since its inception in 1973, Puerto Rican, Latino, Latin American and American Studies scholars have depended on its archives, research, education, publications, policy, and outreach missions, as well as its community-building efforts at CUNY and among the Puerto Rican communities in New York City and beyond. Not only is Centro the institutional anchor of Puerto Rican Studies, it is also one of the earliest and most prominent ethnic studies intellectual and exemplary inclusive spaces in the US with a social justice mission and outlook, centered on anti-racist, anti-xenophobic and anti-colonial struggles.

Centro is currently the key interdisciplinary voice for Puerto Ricans in the area of public policy. Lawmakers and administrators in Puerto Rico and in states like New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Florida, and in the Federal government, as well as key leaders in various agencies and nonprofits rely on Centro reports, research and resources to formulate legislation, public policy and support agendas, especially in the aftermath of Maria and the continued multiple crises faced by Puerto Rico in the last fifteen years.

A product of Puerto Rican civil rights struggles, and particularly reflective of the challenges and triumphs of New York City’s Puerto Rican communities, Centro belongs to all Puerto Rican New Yorkers, and all who treasure historical archives and the preservation of history in the making. The extraordinary oral history projects sponsored by and archived in Centro have served as data for generations of scholars doing research on themes related to Puerto Ricans, New York City, migration, education, health, arts and culture, and many other fields in the humanities and social sciences. Its work highlighting the status of Puerto Rican communities in the US and the problems faced by Puerto Rico have been another important contribution by Centro.

In 1984, Dr. Donna Shalala, then President of Hunter College invited Centro to move to Hunter from John Jay College. Since then, the added value and visibility that Centro has brought to Hunter College has increased manifold. Indeed, knowledge of Hunter College and CUNY for thousands of scholars, students and community people, nationally and internationally, comes from their contact with Centro — its archives, publications, web site, events and community outreach programs.

Yet, Centro has faced serious challenges and obstacles for years, preceding the economic crisis we are all facing during the coronavirus pandemic. Having become aware of the precarious situation that Centro is undergoing as reflected in continuous budget cuts (beginning with Governor Pataki’s 1995 “retrenchment” cuts) and still unfilled positions, we urge Hunter College President Jennifer Raab, CUNY Chancellor Dr. Félix Matos Rodríguez, and CUNY’s Board of Trustees to respond to these demands:

- *That a national search be conducted, starting in the Spring 2021 semester, for a senior scholar with a track history of scholarship in Puerto Rican Studies and institutional leadership. The search should be transparent, and the search committee should include representatives from Centro, Hunter College, other CUNY institutions and from the Puerto Rican community. The

College should also hire a recognized talent recruiter to identify and encourage qualified candidates to apply.

- *That any financial burden Centro must bear, considering the fiscal constraints the State, City, CUNY and Hunter face, be apportioned equitably and proportionately. We, however, strenuously oppose that Hunter College ameliorates its budget woes at the gratuitous expense of Centro.
- *The Library/Archives is one of Centro's, Hunter's and CUNY's crown jewels. Yet, the position of Director of the Library and Archives has been vacant for over 3 years. During that period two national searches have been conducted, and qualified candidates selected. Each year, at the end of the search process, the College has failed to fill the position, leaving the position vacant. An immediate search process that culminates in an actual hiring must take place.
- *A senior librarian retired two years ago, and the position has gone unfilled. Further aggravating the problems faced by the Library/Archives, the senior archivist will retire this academic year. Those two lines must also be filled immediately. Many other positions have been lost in the library, archive and media production work of Centro.
- *Centro's initiative to create a nurturing pipeline of junior scholars in the humanities and social sciences is being shut-off. One research associate position has been vacant for 2.5 years and the position has not been allowed to be filled. Two additional research associate positions have become vacant this year and they have also not been allowed to be filled. All three positions must be filled as soon as possible. As it is, even this number represents a historic decline in the resources that Centro has had for research positions.
- *At the inauguration of the Library and Archives new facilities at the Silberman School of Social Work building in East Harlem President Raab publicly announced that from then on, the cost of archiving Centro's collection at safe offsite storage facilities would be borne by the College. Three years ago, that promise was reneged on and the cost of almost \$100,000 per year was passed to Centro. We ask that President Raab honor her promise or CUNY's central office to find other sources of funding for this important resource.
- *Restore all adjunct, part time and college assistance lines. For example, the cutting of the adjunct lines directly threatens the survival of CENTRO Journal and Centro Press as the release time for the editor comes from that budget.

Centro is a singularly valuable academic resource to Hunter College and the City University of New York. Protecting and enhancing its institutional integrity must be a leading university goal. Centro's archives and library, its researchers, its dissemination vehicles (e.g., Centro Journal and Centro Press) as well as its popular engagement programs (e.g., Data Center and the outreach unit) must be preserved and sustained. We call on the university and the college to act on it.

Name	Title/Position	City	Comments
Jesse Hoffnung-Garskof	Professor of History and American Culture, University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, MI	A premier national institution for Latino/a History--a treasure trove for resources for scholars, students, and the community.
Antonio Lauria-Perricelli	Retired Professor, Gallatin School, NYU	New York	
Vicki Ruiz	Distinguished Professor Emerita, UC Irvine	Altadena, CA	Thanks for the initiative. Centro is a pivotal institution, and without it, the field of Puerto Rican Studies will be in jeopardy. Outstanding petition!
César J. Ayala	Professor, Sociology Department-UCLA	Los Angeles, California	
Ana Ramos-Zayas	Frederick Clifford Ford Professor	New York	May academia loses all its colonial ties and practices
Milagros Denis-Rosario	Associate Professor	New York	
Robert B Espier Ayala	APREE, Mmbr / Yolanda Sanchez Memorial Fund, Co-Chair	New York	Invaluable resource for Puerto Rico / Puerto Rican - Latino studies, don't let it languish.
Teresita Levy	Chair and Associate Professor, Department of Latin American Studies, CUNY	Bronx, NY	
Vincent Prohaska	Professor, Psychology, Lehman College CUNY	CORTLANDT MANOR	I would reverse the order of the first two requests. Protect the financial integrity of the Centro first, and then talk about a search committee. CUNY will not viable candidates if the Centro is defunded. Without oversight we will never know if the cuts are apportioned equitably and proportionally. More effective to demand an explanation of the budget rationale employed and magnitude of cuts as a percentage of operating budget. El Centro has been vital to my research. Both in-person research and email/remote research assistance. The Biden-Harris administration must enable NYS and CUNY to restore, preserve, and enhance El Centro's staff, programming, and collections.
Sierra Lebron	Student	New York	
Victoria Stone-Cadena	Associate Director, Center for Latin American, Caribbean, and Latinx Studies	Jersey City	Save the Centro!
Antonio Gaztambide-Géigel	Professor (ret.), Universidad de Puerto Rico	Río Piedras	
Maya Harakawa	PhD Candidate, Art History, the Graduate Center, CUNY	New York	Save the Centro!
Pedro Caban	Professor, Latin American, Caribbean and U.S. Latino Studies	Albany, NY	
Anne Macpherson	Professor and Chair of History, SUNY Brockport	Rochester	Save the Centro!
Juan Manuel Carrión	Professor, the University of Puerto Rico	San Juan, Puerto Rico	
Jose E Cruz	Professor of Political Science, UAlbany-SUNY	Albany	

Norma A. Valenzuela	Assistant Professor of Spanish	Las Vegas
María del Carmen Baerga	Catedrática	San Juan, PR
Marilyn Aguirre-Molina	Professor Emerita, CUNY Grad School of Public Health & H	Wellfleet, MA
Micah Wayne Wright	Lecturer, Boise State University	Boise
Carlos Molina	Professor Emeritus, Hostos Community College	Wellfleet, MA

Fund the Center for Puerto Rican Studies!

El Centro has for 48 years been a source of interdisciplinary research, public policy initiatives, community advocacy and a training ground for young scholars of the Puerto Rican diáspora. It will be defended by its local, national and international support of networks.

Dr. María Josefa Canino Arroyo	Professor Emerita, Public Administration, Rutgers University	San Juan, Puerto Rico
Llana Barber	Associate Professor, American Studies, SUNY College at Old	Queens, NY
Anne Eller	Associate Prof. of History	NYC
Eileen J. Flindley	Professor of Latin American and Caribbean History; Chair of	Washington DC

Dr. Clara E Rodriguez	Professor	New York
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It is important to preserve and support this most important cultural and historical El Centro's contributions in the area of demographics, cultural, and the Latino perspectives on current political events not commonly reported by the media is vital in governing the United States. El Centro also serves as a resource to form partnerships with a diversified Latino population throughout the US. Its' research by scholars has been used by local, state and federal government agencies, departments and public news journalists. In this new and positive environment the Latino voice must be heard if the USA is to be a country that represents all its citizens voices. The Centro is invaluable not just to Puerto Ricans but to all interested in the Caribbean, New York, Latino diasporas. It must be given resources it needs to carry out its unique and vital mission.

Dr. Pereta Rodriguez	Retired from CCNY Student Affairs Division	Bronx, NYC
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Carolina Gonzalez	Communications SEIU 32BJ and independent scholar	Brooklyn
Nora De La Rosa		Dallas
Andrés Matías-Ortiz	Associate Dean, School of Liberal Arts, Mercy College	Brooklyn NY
Ada Vilageliu-Diaz	Assistant Professor	Washington DC

William Velez Mar+B2356a del Carmen Baerga Daniel Acosta Elkan	Professor Emeritus Catedrática Lecturer, San Francisco State University	Shorewood San Juan, PR San Francisco, CA	The Center for Puerto Rican Studies is a vital institution for all scholars working in the discipline. It must be preserved and sustained at all possible cost.
Charles R. Venator-Santiago Sonia Lee Melissa F Weiner Alessandra Rosa Melissa Ponce-Rodas, PhD Carlos Espinal Aura S. Jirau Faye Caronan Fernando Acosta-Rodríguez Nicté Fuller Medina Maritza Stanchich Harry Franqui-Rivera	Associate Professor, University of Connecticut Associate Professor, Department of American Studies & La Associate Professor of Sociology Postdoctoral scholar Asst. Prof of Psychology Graduate Student PhD Candidate, University of Pittsburgh Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies, University of Colorado Librarian for Latin American, Latino and Iberian Studies Fellow in data curation Professor of English Associate Professor of History	Hartford, CT Bloomington, IN Worcester Tampa Berrien Springs, MI New York, New York Pittsburgh, PA Denver, CO Princeton University, Princeton Toronto San Juan Bloomfield NJ	This letter provides clear examples that document what CENTRO contributes to various communities and why its focus and a guideline for what we should look for in a new director.
Vivekanand Rajcoomar	Study Abroad Coordinator/DSO	New York	All demands must be met there is no debate here !
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Ana Celia Zentella Humberto Garcia-Muniz	Professor Emerita, University of California/San Diego Researcher, UPR Río Piedras	Del Mar, CA San Juan	The Centro is CENTRAL to all Latino communities, not only the NYPR community.
Luz E. Cuadrado - Pitterson	Retired Planner	San Juan, Puerto Rico	El legado del Centro debe ser defendido por todos los boricuas dentro y fuera de nuestro archipelago

IRMA M. OLMEDO	Associate Professor Emerita	CHICAGO
Marlene Camacho-Rivera	Assistant Professor, SUNY Downstate	Brooklyn
Emmy Pérez	Professor, Creative Writing & Associate Director, Center fo Edinburg, TX	
Angel Quintero-Rivera	Research project Director and Full Professor, Social Science	San Juan

It was always an outstanding resource for scholars in the area of Puerto Rican studies and should be continued. There is no equivalent anywhere else.

I worked as a research assistant at the Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños from 1978-1984. I owe the Centro a huge debt in terms of the backing I received for the completion of my doctoral thesis on community participation in bilingual education programs in East Harlem. The Centro developed in me a deep understanding of the situation of the Puerto Rican community in New York City, as well as preparing me for my later research and teaching career on the Island. Even though I am now retired after 32 years of University teaching, I will forever be grateful to the Centro for all it gave me.

Alicia Pousada	Retired professor	TRUJILLO ALTO, PR
Johana Londoño	Associate Professor	Albany
Regina Mills	Assistant Professor of Latinx and US Multiethnic Literature	College Station

Centro is the premier Puerto Rican and Latina/o Studies center in the US. It's a shame the way it's unsupported by CUNY.

Marisol Ramos	UCSB Latin American and Iberian Studies Librarian	Ventura, CA
Ismael García Colón	Professor	New York
John Maddox	Associate Professor of Spanish, University of Alabama at Bi	Birmingham

Centro has been a place for networking and getting to know other scholars as well as conducting archival work for a book.

Ivis Garcia	Assistant Professor	Salt Lake City
Arcelia Gutierrez	Assistant Professor, University of Kentucky	Lexington, KY
Luis J. Beltrán-Álvarez	Ph.D. Student of Political Science- UCONN	Willimantic, CT

Natasha Bonilla Eckholm		San Diego	As the daughter of founding Centro Director Dr. Frank Bonilla, I urge Dr. Raab, the leadership of Hunter College and CUNY to renew their support for this institution. My father devoted 20 years to establishing the Centro as a premier research institute in service to and with the Puerto Rican community, a model for academic and community collaboration for Latino and other ethnic studies programs and institutions around the country. Since his retirement the Centro has gone on to serve its mission in myriad ways. It continues to deserve the recognition and support of CUNY, especially in these times of critical challenge and change in
Maria Santiago Valentin	Doctoral Candidate (EdD).	Somerset, New Jersey	
Victor Quintana	Retired	New York	The Center for Puerto Rican Studies is a valuable educational and research institute whose staffing and funding should be increased not decreased in a period of leadership transition. El Centro is a critical cornerstone for the Puerto Rican people's development on so many levels. I formed a part of the Committee that fought to build El Centro back in the 70s.
Digna Sánchez	Retired	San Juan Puerto Rico	I endorse the petition fully.
Anthony De Jesus	Associate Professor of Social Work	Hartford, CT	
Omar Ruiz Vega	Teacher	Berlin	
Atabei Rivera	Graduate student	San Juan	
Rita Prats-Rodriguez	Educator, community activist	New York	
Sandra Trujillo	Retired	Brooklyn, NY 11215	
Prof. Dr. Francisco Moscoso	Full Professor, retired, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedra	San Juan, Puerto Rico	
Albert Laguna	Associate Professor, Ethnicity, Race & Migration and Amer	New Haven	
Daniel Martinez HoSang	Associate Professor of Ethnicity, Race & Migration, Yale Un	New Haven	
Eda Pepi	Assistant Professor, Yale University	New Haven	
Jose O Sola	Associate Professor	Cleveland	
Luis E. Zayas, PhD	Associate Professor	Fort Lauderdale	
Felipe Pimentel	Assistant Professor of Sociology, Hostos-CUNY	New York	
			Save the Centro!
			We need to defend Centro's historical mission!

Edwin Báez Carrasquillo
Hugo Ceron-Anaya

Profesor de arte retirado/Artesano de Recreaciones Históricas, Caguas, PR
Associate Professor, Lehigh University Bethlehem, PA

La aportación educativa, cultural y social del Centro a la investigación del tema puertorriqueño en la diáspora ha sido monumental, aun en tiempos de crisis. Que este esfuerzo no quede en un vacío por falta de visión y un apoyo económico tan necesario.

In the 1992-1993 school year, all of my research for my senior thesis at Yale was conducted at the Centro. I read through hours and hours of microfiche of materials housed at the Centro about the Puerto Rican women's struggle and fight for workers rights and suffrage. My research paper would not have been possible without the Centro.

Arlene Burgos

Law Firm Partner

Irvington, NY

Gina Perez

Professor, Comparative American Studies, Oberlin College Oberlin

Micaela di Leonardo

Professor, Anthropology

Evanston IL

Gabriel Aquino

Professor

Westfield

Stephen Pitti

Professor, Yale University

New Haven, CT

Elizabeth L Wollman

Professor of Music

Brooklyn

Asela R. Laguna

Professor Emerita, Rutgers University

Johns Island, SC

Mary Pattillo

Harold Washington Professor of Sociology and African American Studies, Chicago, IL

Rosa L Rivera-McCutchen

Associate Professor

Bronx

Lauren Wolf

Assistant Professor

Bronx

Clara Roman-Odio

Professor of Spanish

Gambier

Nedra Rodrigo

Translator/ Graduate student

Toronto

Dr. Cecelia McCall

Assoc prof Baruch Coll CUNY - retired

NY

I support these statements

Raise its status to Dept. level.

Carmen I. Mercado	Emerita, Hunter College School of Education	New York City
James Seale-Collazo	Catedrático Asociado, UPR Río Piedras	San Juan
Maria Contel	Professor and Director Brooklyn College Cancer Center	Brooklyn

I was introduced to CUNY as a diasporan, who has lived in New York City most of her life, I had no knowledge of our history and of the literary contributions of Puerto Ricans in the diaspora even with advanced degrees from CUNY and Fordham University. The knowledge I gained about our history and the work of an inter-disciplinary group of scholars have shaped my work. And my sense of self as a teacher, educator who prepares teachers to teach in the school district with the greatest concentration of Puerto Ricans in the city--El Barrio. The library and archives became a welcoming place for my undergraduate students, the great majority white, middle class students who learned about the literary contributions of writers represented in the archives. Through collaborations with Centro scholars under the leadership of Pedro Pedraza, I formed part of the CUNY-Caribbean exchange program that sponsored an exchange between Puerto Rican scholars in NYC, Arizona and at the University of Puerto Rico. collaborative projects. We came together to understand theoretically and practically projects that prepared teachers to understand local Latinx communities and to teach in ways that responded to those needs. It is impossible for me to fully capture the life changing influence that Centro scholars and It's impossible to quantify--yet--the damage that can be done by this neglect. But there's still time to repair, and to prevent further damage. Act now.

This center is the leading research and policy institution in Puerto Rican Studies in the US and Puerto Rico, and a leading research center in US Ethnic and Colonial Studies. CUNY needs to take the necessary steps to preserve this Center and resources.

Pedro Caban	Professor, Latin American, Caribbean and Latina/Latino Studies	Albany, New York
Jose Laguarda Ramirez	Adjunct Assistant Professor	New York
Tim Cusack	Adjunct Lecturer/Hunter College	Weehawken, NJ
Chie Sakakibara	Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, Oberlin College	Oberlin

It is outrageous that the future of this vital resource is endangered.

CENTRO, its center, journal, press, and archival library are essential and unique resources for all scholars working in US Latinx Studies, across the social science and humanities disciplines. Equally important, CENTRO is an intellectual home for Puerto Rican and other US Latinx communities in terms of the stewardship of and access to US Latinx cultural and historical memory. CENTRO is unique in its position as an academic center and community resource. CUNY must reinvest and fund CENTRO so that it can actually THRIVE as an institution. CUNY must begin this process by acting on its many declarations about the importance of CENTRO to the public education and library systems in New York City. There is no duplicate of CENTRO, no other organization in the United States that has these historical archives that document US Latinx life in NYC. If diversity and inclusion truly matter to the governing bodies of CUNY and the NYC Department of Education, then CENTRO should be the focus of retention, training, and research efforts with new funding and hires. If the administrators are not willing to make CENTRO a budgetary priority, then there is a vast community of academic and nonprofit organizations as well as scholars and community members across the nation who are committed to ensuring the continued viability

Elena Machado Sáez	Professor of English, Bucknell University	Lewisburg, PA
Deborah A. Thomas	R. Jean Brownlee Professor of Anthropology	Philadelphia
Marino A Corniel	Photographer	Bronx, NY

The Center is vital to the research, archival and promotion of our history and cultural identity

For many years my students have relied on the Centro for research. It is an essential resource that must continue to be adequately funded.

Iris Lopez, PhD	Professor and Director of Latin American/Latinx Studies, CUNY Brooklyn
Zaire Z. Dinzey-Flores	Associate Professor, Rutgers University Brooklyn
David Forbes, PhD	Emeritus Urban Education Doctoral Program, CUNY Graduate Center Brooklyn

Antobio Nadal	Emeritus, Department of Puerto Rican and Latino(a) Studies, CUNY Brooklyn, New York	La lucha continua.
Ulla D. Berg	Associate Professor of Anthropology and Latinx Studies, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey	
Sherina Feliciano-Santos	Associate Professor, University of South Carolina Columbia	

This is a VALUABLE resource that is used constantly by our students, faculty and community

Jana Krentz	Curator, Latin American & Iberian Collections, Latinx Studies, Yale University, New Haven, CT
Aníbal González Pérez	Professor of Modern Latin American Literature, Yale University, New Haven
Christofer Rodelo	PhD Candidate, American Studies, Harvard University, Boston

Melissa Gasparotto	Associate Director, Research Services and Institutional Partnerships, CUNY New York
Claudia G. Pineda	Assistant Professor, CSU Fullerton, Irvine
Cruz Bonlarron Martínez	Independent Scholar, Bogotá
Silvia Alvarez Curbelo	Professor, Universidad de Puerto Rico, San Juan
Robert Martinez	Professor Emeritus, Quinnipiac University
Jorge Lefevre Tavárez	Professor, UPR Arecibo/UPR Río Piedras, Dorado

Giselle M. Aviles	Reference Librarian, Washington, DC
Raphael Dalleo	Professor of English, Bucknell University
Lourdes Torres	Professor, DePaul University, Chicago
Frances R. Aparicio	Professor Emerita, Northwestern University, Evanston IL
Jonathan Saucedo	Interim Latin American Studies Librarian, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

Roberto C. Delgadillo	Student Services Librarian, University of California, Davis	Sacramento
kerlinda Deglans		San Juan
Tatiana M. F. Cruz	Assistant Professor of History, Lesley University	Cambridge, MA
Neil Hernandez	Assistant Professor, Baruch College	New York
Roberto Marquez	William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor Emeritus of Latin American Studies, University of Massachusetts, South Hadley, Ma. 01001	Please add me to the list of signees &
David Woken	Latin American and Caribbean Studies Librarian, University of Chicago	
James Davis	Professor of English & American Studies, Brooklyn College	Brooklyn

María Elena Cepeda	Professor, Latina/o Studies	Williamstown, MA	As a Hunter alumna I'm deeply distressed at the thought of losing Puerto Rican Studies at
Eileen Moran	Research Assoc.	Bayside	
Anthony Lioi	Professor of English, The Juilliard School	Montclair, NJ	
Lilia Fernandez	Henry Rutgers Term Chair, Rutgers University	New Brunswick	
Carlos L. Yordan	Associate Professor of Political Science and International R	Madison, NJ	
Catalina M. de Onís	Asst. Professor at CU Denver	Denver	
Xavier Totti	Lehman College, CUNY	New York	
Carmen Haydee Rivera	Professor	San Juan	The Centro was invaluable to me as a scholar while working on my Doctoral Dissertation. They also facilitated completion of my degree with a Centro Fellowship for which I am truly
Elaine Soto	Psychologist	Albuquerque	
Gary Y. Okihiro	Professor Emeritus, Columbia University	New York	
Alice Colon-Warren	Retired Researcher. University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras	San Juan	
Gloria M. Colom Braña	Doctoral Candidate	Bloomington	
Mérida M. Rúa	Professor, Latinx Studies, Northwestern University	Chicago	
Laura Barraclough	Professor of American Studies, Yale University	New Haven, CT	
Edgardo Melendez	Professor, retired	New York	It is important not only for Hunter students and faculty but for CUNY and for the larger community.
José Navarro	Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies	Cal Poly San Luis Obispo	
Francisco A. Scarano	Professor emeritus, University of Wisconsin-Madison	Madison	
Rosa Clemente1	PH.D Candidate, UMASS-AMHERST, W.E.B. Dubois Dept of	Albany	
Maricelis Noguera Colón	PhD Candidate, Department of History, University of Puerto Rico	San Juan, PR	
Carlos Garcia-Quijano	Associate Professor of Anthropology and Marine Affairs, URI	Kingston, RI	
Jennifer Osorio	Head, International and Area Studies, UCLA Library	Los Angeles	
Santiago Ivan Guerra	Director and Associate Professor, Hulbert Center for South	Colorado Springs, CO	
Angel Roman	Baruch College MBA	New York	
Djaz Frederick Zulida	Job Information Resource Librarian, Brooklyn Public Library	Brooklyn	
Veronica Manlow	Associate Professor Business Management, Koppelman School of Business	New York	
Jameka Lewis	Senior Librarian	Denver, CO	
Rebecca Seligman	Associate Professor	Evanston	
Saulo Colón Zavala	Associate Professor	Hartford	
Marie Cruz Soto	Clinical Associate Professor	New York	
Bran Eveland Cron	Grad Asst, Rare Book & Manuscript Library, U of Illinois	Urbana	
Alma Concepcion	Independent Scholar	Princeton	
Marcelo Rodriguez	Foreign, Comparative and International Law Librarian	Tucson, AZ	

Paloma Celis Carbajal	Curator for Latin American, Iberian, and U.S. Latino Collect New York	
Paloma Celis Carbajal	Curator for Latin American, Iberian, and U.S. Latino Collect New York	
Ellen Jaramillo	librarian, Yale University	New Haven
Edith Cuevas	Paraprofessional/Independent Researcher	Middlesex
Zareena Grewal	Assoc Prof Yale University	New Haven
Joaquin M. Jimenez Ferrer	Full Professor of Philosophy, University of Puerto Rico- Hur Humacao, Puerto Rico	
Bianca Gonzalez-Lesser	Assistant Professor of Sociology	Hamden, CT
Gayle Williams	Latin American & Caribbean Information Services Librarian	Miami
Holly Ackerman, Ph.D.	Head, International & Area Studies Department, Duke Univ	Durham, NC
Peter T. Johnson	Bibl. for LA, Spain and Port., Princeton [retired]	Princeton, NJ
Luis A Gonzalez	Librarian for Latin American Studies, Indiana University	Bloomington
D Ryan Lynch	Head of Special Collections, Benson Latin American Collect	Austin
Karl Offen	Professor of Environmental Studies, Oberlin College	Oberlin, OH
Phillip Carter	Professor of linguistics	Miami
Tyler Franklin		Oklahoma City
Robert Launay	Professor of Anthropology	Evanston, IL
Peter Kolozi	Professor, Political Science--BCC	New York
Jonathan Rosa	Associate Professor of Education and Comparative Race an	Stanford
Roberta (Rosie) Hurtado	Assistant Professor of Latina/o Literature and Culture	Syracuse
Margaret MacDonald Power	Professor	Chicago
Betsaida M Reyes	Associate Librarian, University of Kansas	LAWRENCE
Susan DiRaimo	Registered Nurse/Nurse Practitioner	Bronx
Jessica Winegar	Professor, Northwestern University	Evanston
Henry Mensch	Independent scholar	Syracuse NY
Joaquin M. Jimenez Ferrer	Full Professor of Philosophy, University of Puerto Rico- Hur Humacao, Puerto Rico	
Cindy Hohl	Director of Branch Operations	Kansas City

I worked with Centro on the Ventana al Pasado project, co-directed by the New York State Archives. Centro supports unparalleled scholarship through its researchers, library, and archives. It is a resource richly deserving of having the faculty and staff to properly do its important work.

I, like so many, value and depend on the Centro Archives for my research and publications.

Centro is an essential institution

I'm shocked that such an important resource has suffered such neglect in a city where the topic is *so* germane! This is embarrassing to me as a New Yorker.

Juan Miguel Arias	Visiting Assistant Professor, Colorado College	Colorado Springs	Centers like this one at CUNY are vital to the continued research and community of so many scholars, especially young students and scholars for whom these centers are their main avenue for support and material. Save the Centro! Must serve to save this most Important heritage institution NOW and for future generations As a former Instructor in the Puerto Rican Studies Department [1972-1975], the Centro was significant in supporting my scholarship. It is the crown jewel in the Puerto Rican Studies
Darlene Hull	Libros de Barlovento	Tucson, AZ	
Rodriguez Calero	Visual Artist and Puerto Rican	New York	
Sonia Nieto	Professor Emerita, University of Massachusetts	Amherst	
Rosa Elena Carrasquillo	Professor of History	Worcester	
Nadia Guessous	Assistant Professor of Feminist and Gender Studies, Colora	Colorado Springs	In an era of renewed commitment to social justice, it is appalling that CENTRO be defunded.CUNY has always been a leader in the collection, engagement, and dissemination of the rich legacy of the Puerto Rican Community of greater NYC. The work CENTRO performs is vital not only to students, teachers, and scholars in the metropolitan area: CENTRO is also a historical, intellectual, and cultural repository that benefits educators globally. Defunding CENTRO signals the abandonment of intellectual rigor in favor of neoliberal policies that continue to devastate the very historical and cultural spine of NYC.
Amy Chazkel	Associate Professor of History, Columbia University	New York	
Sandhya Shukla	Associate Professor of American Studies, University of Virg	Charlottesville, Virginia	
Ylce Irizarry, Ph.D.	Associate Professor of Latinx Literatures, University of Soul	Tampa	
Yesenia Lopez	Director, NJ Hispanic Research & Info Center at The Newar	Newark, NJ	
Paula Covington	Latin American Librarian and Senior Lecturer in Latin Amer	Nashville	This is a vital resource for libraries and researchers in the US, the Caribbean and Latin America
Rachel Breitman		New York	
Andreea Marinescu	Associate Professor of Spanish, Colorado College	Colorado Springs	Fund and support the Centro's vital mission to study and preserve Puerto Rican heritage.
Kimberlly Irizarry	Development Specialist	Ridgefield	

Richard T. Rodriguez	Associate Professor	University of California, Riverside	
Julie Torres	Assistant Professor, University of Colorado	Colorado Springs	
Mercy Romero	Associate Prof, Sonoma State University	Rohnert Park	
Liladhar P.	Librarian for the Caribbean and Latin American Studies	California	Please save the library
Tricia Jauquet	Technical Services Librarian	Hammond, IN	
Elaine Shenk	Professor of Spanish/Linguistics, Saint Joseph's University	Philadelphia	
Peter Altekruieger	Library Director; Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut	Berlin, Alemania	
Nerissa Balce	Associate professor, Asian American Studies, SUNY Stony Brook	Stony Brook	
Roy Perez	Assistant Professor of Ethnic Studies, UC San Diego	San Diego	
Sara Awartani	Postdoctoral Fellow, Harvard University	Cambridge	
Antonio Sotomayor	Associate Professor and Librarian of Latin American and Caribbean Studies	Urbana	
MONICA SANCHEZ	Assistant Professor of Playwriting and Performance	Colorado Springs	
Jocelyn Wills	Associate Professor, History; Director, American Studies, Brooklyn College	Brooklyn	
Alberto H. Hernández	Musicólogo	New York	

It is a mistake to divert support from the Centro, and it is difficult to witness the gradual but impactful decline in funding key staffing positions and in the overall sustainment of the Centro. The Centro holds a unique position for generations of students, scholars and policymakers. It is an institutional pillar for Puerto Rican history and current affairs, all of which are weaved into the fabric of U.S. history, economic interests, and politics. It has been very critical to have this intellectual and practical space that mobilizes ideas and practical changes in a community in great need of support and visibility. The consequences of U.S. colonization endure and replay itself with every crisis that strikes down Puerto Ricans, in spite of their admirable resiliency. It is no small matter if CUNY and Hunter's leadership ignore and fail to see the centrality of the Centro and fail to recognize how the Centro casts a critical light on the past, which is weaved so deeply into the present and future of Puerto Rican studies. This lack of commitment is unacceptable because the implications are detrimental and difficult to rectify.

Rose Diaz		New York City	
Barbara Gãñbel	Director, Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut	Berlin	
Claire Oberon Garcia	Dean of Faculty and Acting Provost Colorado College	Colorado Springs, CO	
Michael González Cruz	Catedrático	Mayaguez	lâœŕ, CUNY
Gladys M. Jiménez-Muã±oz	Associate Professor, Binghamton University	Binghamton, NY	I strongly support this statement
Naomi Wood	Associate Professor of Spanish and Portuguese	Colorado Springs	
Kathleen Lopez	Associate Professor, Latino and Caribbean Studies/History,	New Brunswick	
Liliana Conlisk Gallegos	Associate Professor Comm Studies	San Bernardino	
Miguel E. Alvelo Rivera	University of Illinois at Chicago	Chicago	
Annika Hartmann	Academic Librarian/Latin American Historian	Berlin	
Norma Báez Carrasquillo	Profesora retirada UPR	Caguas	
Félix M. Rosario Ortiz	PhD Candidate	Ithaca	
Antonio Y. Vázquez-Arroyo	Associate Professor, Rutgers University-Newark	New York	
Enrique González-Conty	Assistant Professor of Spanish/Ithaca College	Ithaca	

Edgar Rivera Colon Jana Braziel	USC Keck School of Medicine Western College Endowed Professor, Miami University	Los Angeles Cincinnati	Please save CENTRO. It is important to have places like Centro's Mission and Resources including studies as there are very few places like this. As a Latina, I would have benefitted greatly from a place like this even just seeing it exist growing up. I might have known about more resources and would have made better more informed decisions in my career or research.
Stephanie Lopez-Baird Carmen Vivian Rivera Alyson Williams Alicia Diaz Lee Bebout Gibran Cruz Martínez Andres Torres Roberto Martinez Engelbert Santana	Information Services, Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library Associate Professor of Dance, The University of Richmond Professor Assistant Professor, Universidad Complutense de Madrid Professor Brooklyn College - Teaching Fellows Dean Advisment - Instructor	Richmond Hill Croton-on-Hudson Washington, DC Richmond Tempe, AZ Madrid Croton, NY Brooklyn Fair Lawn	
TeyAnjulee Leon Laura Ruth Johnson Cynthia Robin	Senior Completion Coach Associate Professor, College of Education, Northern Illinois University Professor	Tacoma Chicago, IL Northwestern University	As a Puerto Rican who's never been able to visit my homeland and who's relatives are out of reach, this department has been instrumental to me connecting to and feeling a part of my people.
Angel Israel Rivera-Ortiz Rojo Robles Mejias Ariam Torres Antonio Hernández-Matos	Retired from Departamento de Ciencia Política, UPR at Rio Piedras Assistant Professor, Department of Black and Latino Studies PhD Candidate, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign PhD Candidate, History Department, UPR-RP	San Juan New York San Juan Harrington	We need a vigorous Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños en Nueva York. Its previous and present research and publications do merit its maintenance and growth!
John Alba Cutler	Associate Professor of English and Latina/o Studies at Northwestern University	Evanston, IL	CENTRO has been an invaluable resource for my own scholarship, and serves a crucial function in the field of Latinx studies. I urge the state to provide it full support. The mission of the Centro is too valuable in many ways to put it in jeopardy
William Rosa	Professor	Fort Myers	

Sarah Aponte	Associate Professor, Librarian	New York
Deb Raftus	Librarian for Latin American & Caribbean Studies and Span	Seattle
Pedro Noel Doreste	PhD Candidate, University of Chicago	Chicago
Pedro Pedraza	retired founding staff of Centro	Saint Petersburg
Lizette Colon	Counselor/PSC Delegate	New York
Maria A Vázquez Garces	Former student Brooklyn College, CUNY	San Juan, Puerto Rico
Ana Juarbe	Hunter College, MPH	New York
Jose Javier Colon-Morera	Full Professor	Rio Piedras
Manuel Frau-Ramos	Publisher/Editor of El Sol Latino	Amherst
Victor M. Rodriguez	Emeritus Professor, California State University, Long Beach	Long Beach
Alejandro Schneider	Profesor Titular Catedrático Historia América Latina UBA/U	Buenos Aires
Jessy J Perez	Archivist CUNY Dominican Studies Institute	New York
Eric Macias	Graduate Student	Albany
Elizabeth S. Manley	Associate Professor of History, Xavier University of Louisiar	New Orleans, LA
Samantha Saavedra		Bronx
Anyeline Mejia-McDonald	SUNY ALBANY PhD Candidate	New York
Alejandra Bronfman	Latin American, Caribbean, Latina/o Studies	Albany
Anna Sampaio	Professor and Chair, Ethnic Studies Department, Santa Clara	Santa Clara
Ilka Kressner	Associate Professor, Spanish, UAlbany	Albany
Jesus Alonso-Regalado	Associate Librarian UAlbany-SUNY	Albany
Ramsey Scott	Adjunct Assistant Professor	Brooklyn College
Astrid Cubano Iguina	Professor	San Juan
Jose Javier Colon-Morera	Full Professor	Rio Piedras
Licia Fiol-Matta	Professor	New York
Veronica Perez	Associate professor	Albany
Andrew Vázquez	Student	Albany
Stella Yelich	Undergrad student	Albany

Thank you for doing this. Centro is so dear to my heart. I have learned so much from Centro and its amazing staff.

community can't let Jennifer Raab turn Centro's budget into her rainy day fund!

The Puerto Rican students' generation of the late '60s and early '70s worked tirelessly and with much sacrifice to institutionalize the departments of Puerto Rican Studies and the birth of the Research Center. Josephine Nieves and Maria Canino were some of the early professional pioneers comprometidas with these historical births. NO LO DEJES CAER!!!!!!

Please support this organization that help enrich the research on Puerto Rican Studies.

Save Centro

Rose Muzio	Associate Professor of Politics, SUNY Old Westbury	Old Westbury
Lynn M. Shirey	Librarian for Latin America, Spain & Portugal (retired)	Cambridge
Chantalle F. Verna	Associate Professor of History and International Relations, Miami, FL	
Nerisha De Nil Padilla Cruz	Graduate Student	Albany
Stephanie Fetta	Associate Professor	Amherst
Heather Russell	Professor	Miami
Susanne Jonas	Continuing Lecturer, Latin American & Latino Studies, Univ	Oakland, CA
Ricardo Pérez	Professor of Anthropology	Eastern Connecticut State University
Alfredo Lopez	Boarde Member - May First Movement Technology	Brooklyn
Parissa Clark	Assistant Professor of Political Science, Riverside City Colle	Riverside, CA
Molly Hamm-Rodríguez	PhD Candidate, University of Colorado Boulder	Colorado
Patricia Pinho	Associate Professor, University of California, Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz, CA
israel colon		PHILADELPHIA

The Center and its resources need to be supported now more than ever given the recent disasters that have struck Puerto Rico, forcing many to leave the island to find refuge in the US with family and friends. Estudios Puertorriqueños are part of the shared history of Latinx communities in the US and an integral part of US history and society.

Aimee Marianna Villarreal	Associate Professor of Mexican American Studies	San Antonio
Devyn Spence Benson	Associate Professor of Africana & Latin American Studies	Davidson, NC
Irene Lopez	Associate Professor of Psychology	Gambier
Fernando Leiva	Professor Latin American and Latino Studies, University of	Santa Cruz, California
Melanie M. Domenech Rodríguez	Professor of Psychology	Logan
Isabel A Tirado	Professor emerita of History	BERKELEY
Jayeeta Sharma	Associate Professor, University of Toronto	Toronto, Canada
Nestor E. Rodriguez	Caribbean Studies Program, U of Toronto	Toronto
Keisha McIntyre-McCullough	Clinical Asst Professor/English Ed. Prog. Leader/Graduate P	Miami

I was involved with the oral history project at the Centro in the 1980s and 90s and have kept touch ever since. It is a terrific institution!

Andor Skotnes	Professor Emeritus, Russell Sage College	Delmar, NY
Andrew Vázquez	Student	Albany

Christy McDaniel	Research and Instruction Librarian, Latinx Studies Subject L	Tacoma
Elizabeth Aranda	Professor and Associate Dean, University of South Florida	Tampa
Efraín Barradas	Professor Emeritus University of Florida	Gainesville, Florida
Maria E. Perez y Gonzalez	Associate Professor, Brooklyn College, CUNY	Brooklyn, NY

Dept. of Puerto Rican & Latino Studies

Danielle Pilar Clealand	Associate Professor, University of Texas at Austin	Austin	
Karen Roybal	Assistant Professor of SW Studies, Colorado College	Colorado Springs	
Kevin C. Young, PhD	PT Lec., Latino & Caribbean Studies, History, and Comp. Lit	Rutgers University New Brunswick	
AJ Christian	Associate Professor of Communication, Northwestern Univ	Chicago	
Richard Phillips	U of Florida (retired)	Gainesville, Fl.	
Clara Castro-Ponce, Ph.D.	Lecturer in Spanish, University of New Hampshire	Durham	
Paloma Barraza		Greeley	
Maril� Carrasquillo	Directora ejecutiva Liga de Arte de San Juan	San Juan	
Dawn Wharram	PhD student	Albany	
Eric P. Perramond	Professor, Southwest Studies	Colorado Springs	
Jesse Mumm	Professional Lecturer, Latin American and Latino Studies, U	Chicago	
Arlene Davila	Professor NYU	NYC	
Yolanda Cordero-Nieves	Catedr�tica	San Juan	
Zoilo Torres	Retired	Brooklyn	
Rebecca Lloyd	Librarian for History, Spanish, & Latin American Studies, Te	Philadelphia	
David Roediger	Professor of American Studies, University of Kansas	Lawrence, Kansas	
Ben Chappell	Associate Professor of American Studies	Lawrence, Kansas	
Manny Grajales	PhD Candidate, History, Texas A&M University	College Station, TX	
Alex Trillo	Associate Professor of Sociology	Jersey City	Thank you.
Virginia Rodriguez	Retired CSW	Bx New York	
Mary Romero	Professor Emerita	Tempe	We cannot lose this national treasure.
Sara Benitez	Retired Professor, University of Puerto Rico-Humacao	San Juan	
Gilberto Rosas	Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana Champ	Champaign	
PAT ZAVELLA	Professor Emerita, Latin American & Latinos Studies	Santa Cruz	
Lorena Garcia	Associate Prof. Sociology and Latino Studies	Chicago	
Steven Salaita		Virginia	
James Cuebas	Photographer/Printmaker	New York City	
Theresa Mudrock	History Librarian	Seattle	
Carlos Rivera-Santana	Assistant Professor of Hispanic Studies, College of William	Williamsburg	
Omayra Cintron Hause	Graduate Student	Stoystown	

The Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter ("Centro" has been, and remains, the most important academic research center and resource in the United States for scholars and students working on issues related to the Puerto Rican diaspora in the US and on Puerto Rico and the Caribbean more broadly. It must be maintained and given the resources it needs to thrive now and into the future.

Raquel Pinderhughes	Professor of Urban Studies and Planning	San Francisco	
Vivian N. Halloran	Professor	Bloomington, IN	
Héctor Rubén Sánchez	Assistant Professor and Library Director	San Juan	
Barbara Alvarez	Head of International Studies, University of Michigan	Libra Ann Arbor	
Maria Teresa Vera-Rojas	Postdoctoral scholar, University of Lleida	Lleida, Spain	
Susana Peñal	Director & Associate Professor	Bowling Green, OH	
Catherine S. Ramirez	Professor	University of California, Santa Cruz	
Luis Raúl Cámara Fuertes	Professor of Political Science, University of Puerto Rico	Río San Juan	
Rebio Diaz Cardona	Associate Prof. LaGuardia Community College	CUNY Brooklyn NY	
Gabriel Jimenez	JD candidate	San Juan	
Cristian Roa	Associate Professor	Chicago	
Camilla Stevens	Professor, Rutgers University	New Brunswick	
Stephen Ippolito	PhD Student	Brooklyn, NY	Save the program
Bruni Pizarro	Executive Director, Junta for Progressive Action	New Haven	
Edna Acosta-Belen	Distinguished Professor Emerita, University at Albany, SUNY	Albany, NY	
Emma Dederick	Librarian, Indiana University Latin American Music Center	Bloomington	
Samantha Gonzalez	LACS Alumna of SUNY Albany	Albany, NY	
Leidy Pichardo	College Discovery Academic Support Manager	Bronx	
Monique A Guishard PhD	Associate Professor of Psychology	Bronx, NY	
Michael Scott	Associate Editor, Hispanic American Periodicals Index	Pittsburgh (work at home for HAPI)	
Pedro A. Regalado	Junior Fellow, Harvard University	Cambridge	
Ana D Rodriguez	Digitization Coordinator / University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Champaign	
Catherine Fennell	Associate Professor, Anthropology, Columbia U	New York	
Liza Fiol-Matta	Professor, Women's and Gender Studies, New Jersey City	New York	
Ethel Brooks	Chair and Graduate Program Director, Women's, Gender	New Brunswick	
Cruz Miguel Ortiz	PhD. Retired Professor	San Juan	,Historical memory should never be receded!
Xóchitl Bada	Associate Professor, Latin American and Latino Studies	Pro Chicago	
Frances Gallart Marqués	Former fellow , Harvard Art Museums	Santiago, Chile	

Edwin Roman	Artist	New York	<p>“A good head and good heart are always a formidable combination. But when you add to that a literate tongue or pen, then you have something very special.” • Nelson Mandela</p>
Christian Davila	Student	Bronx	
Irma García Rose	Retired	Brooklyn, NY	
Juan E Sanchez	Professor of Fine Art, Hunter College, CUNY	Brooklyn	<p>Dear President Raab, Commit to your promise of several years ago and safe guard El Centro. It is the only Puerto Rican Research Institution of its kind in the United States and abroad.</p>
Maia Gil'Adí	Assistant Professor, University of Massachusetts Lowell	Lowell	
Fernando Quinones	SVP - Corp Banker	New York	
John Ziegler	Associate Professor of English	Bronx, NY	
Wilfredo Valentín-Márquez	Assistant Professor of Spanish	Millersville, PA	<p>After almost half a century of existence and so many accomplishments, the Center for Puerto Rican Studies should no longer be operating an archives located below street; having to \$100,000 for offsite storage space; and so many unfilled positions, the message should clear. It is time for a new home without foster parents.</p>
Idilio Gracia Peña	Archives Consultant	Fresh Meadows, New	
Karina A. Vado	Pre-Doctoral Fellow in the Humanities, Penn State University	Philadelphia	
Felipe Hinojosa	Associate Professor, History	Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas	<p>Centro must be saved and fully supported to uphold its mission.</p>
Bonnie Urciuoli	Professor Emerita, Anthropology, Hamilton College	Clinton	
Ivan Mangal	Student, Yale University	Houston	
Andres Olan-Vazquez	PhD Candidate	New York City	
Nestor E. Rodriguez	Caribbean Studies Program, U of Toronto	Toronto	
Crystal Rodrigues	Associate Professor	Bronx	
Debarati Biswas	Adjunct Lecturer	New York	
Nicole Fleetwood	Profesor	New York	
Geysha Sanchez		New York	
Simone Delorme	Associate Professor	Oxford	
Richard Perez	Associate Professor of English	New York (John Jay College, CUNY)	
Alex Rosero	Assistant Director: Advising, Hunter College	New York	
María Elena Cepeda	Professor, Latina/o Studies	Williamstown, MA	
Michael Ng	Ex-college assistant	New York	

Cristina Ruiz		Boston
Alan A. Aja	Professor/Chair, Dep. of Puerto Rican & Latino Studies, Brc	Brooklyn
Victor M. Uribe-Uran	Professor of History and Law and Chair Department of Hist	Miami
Maritza Garcia Castro		San Juan
Alberto Ortiz Díaz	Assistant Professor, University of Iowa	Iowa City, IA
Jaime Inclan PhD	Associate Professor of Psychiatry, NYU School of Medicine	New York
Carlos Manuel Rivera	Professor of Spanish at Workd Languages and Cultures Dep	Bronx, New York
Katie Winkelstein-Duveneck		Hunter College
Mario H. Ramirez	Head of Special Collections and Archives, California State U	Los Angeles
SUSANA TORRUELLA LEVAL	DIRECTOR EMERITA, EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO	NEW YORK, NEW YORK
Barbara Miller	Chicanx Librarian, Pollak Library, Cal State Fullerton	Fullerton, CA
Kathie Cheng	English Adjunct at Hunter/BMCC	New York
Manuel del Valle	Adjunct Professor of Law	CAROLINA
Sol Salazar	Intern	Brooklyn
Orlando José Hernández	Emeritus Professor	Hoboken, New Jersey 07030
Christian V. Ramirez	Ph.D. Michigan State University	Corpus Christi
Leslie Grinner	Adjunct Assistant Professor	Providence

The most important collection of diasporic Puerto Rican materials in the world, a national treasure. It would an irreparable for Puerto Rican, American and Latinx Studies were it to close.

Arnaldo Cruz-Malavé	Professor, Fordham University	New York
Addie Smock	YA Librarian	Brooklyn

As a Native New Yorker, i remember the trugglethat we as a community fought for the creation of this Center that was incredibly needed. Today with the struggle that minorities are still in -the Center is incredibly needed and it would be intellectually dishonet and criminal to even contemplate te elimination of this National Research resource. You will never live your shame down.if you go through your

Angel L. Ortiz	CEO 'The Ortiz Group'.	Philadelphia 19123
Adan Griego	Curator for Latin American, Mexican American & Iberian C	Stanford, CA
Jonathan Hernandez	Graduate student	Gainesville, FL
Nate Marshall	Assistant Professor, English, Colorado College	Colorado Springs, CO

Fred Gitner	Librarian	New York
Lourdes Correa-Carlo	Professor	Ridgewood

The Centro is a unique institution and needs to be supported.

Danielle Rivera	Assistant Professor of Environmental Design	Boulder
Velina Manolova	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Pratt Institute / CUNY Graduate Center	Brooklyn, NY
Arthur Vincie	Director/Producer, also Lecturer at Montclair State U.	New York
Mariana Vargas		New York, NY
William Orchard	Associate Professor, Queens College	New York, NY
Devyn Spence Benson	Associate Professor of Africana & Latin American Studies	Davidson, NC
Elena Martinez	Folklorist, City Lore/Bronx Music Heritage Center	Bronx

Jacob R Morel	Asst. to the President/ CCNY, retired	New York, NY
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Adrian Burgos, Jr	Professor of History, Univ. of Illinois @ Urbana-Champaign	Savoy, IL
Stephanie Alvarez	Director, Center for Mexican American Studies	UTRGV Edinburg, TX
Martha Águila	BA Urban and Public Affairs/Latin American Latinx Studies	Chicago
Miriam M. Basilio Gaztambide	Associate Professor of Art History & Museum Studies,	NYU Brooklyn
Velina Manolova	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Pratt Institute / CUNY Graduate Center	Brooklyn, NY
Jose Martinez-Reyes	Associate Professor	UMass Boston Boston
Marlene Hansen Esplin	Assistant Professor of Humanities,	Brigham Young University Provo
Benoit Vallee	PhD Candidate	Albany
Ricardo Gabriel	Doctoral Candidate, The Graduate Center, City University of New York	Brooklyn, NY

Carmen Dolores Hernández	Ph.D. Independent researcher	San Juan
Prof. Ana M Lopez	Assistant Professor, Latin American and Caribbean Studies	Bronx, NY
Victoria A. Chevalier	Ph. D./Associate Professor of English	Medgar Evers College New York
Andrew J Padilla	Life long East Harlem resident	New York
Iraida López	Professor	Ramapo College of New Jersey
Amílcar Antonio Barreto	Professor & Chair /	Northeastern University Boston
Velina Manolova	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Pratt Institute / CUNY Graduate Center	Brooklyn, NY
Sandra Kim	Adjunct Professor, California State University	Los Angeles Los Angeles
Jonathan Morales		Seattle, WA

Diana Rivera	Librarian Emeritus	Okemos
Carmin Quijano Seda	Ph.D. Candidate in Hispanic Sociolinguistics at The Graduate Center, CUNY	New York

We need this center funded and housed at CUNY!

Centro was instrumental as a research center and an intellectual community to my development as a scholar. We need for it to continue to do so for future generations.

It is imperative that the Center for Puerto Rican Studies survives in order to further important and much-needed research on Puerto Rican culture both in the U.S. and on the island. It is a unique institution that needs to be supported.

Primary and op resources were hard to come by the first time sometimes , don't walk back efforts or history.

Oriana Mejias	GTF / Adjunct lecturer	Long Island City
Melissa Meléndez	Accountant	Lake Mary
Karla M Roig	MSIS Student and GRA at UT Austin	Austin, TX
Eva Chan	Executive director	New York
Eric Silberberg	Graduate Student, CUNY Queens College	New York
Michael Gattine-Suarez		Hudson
Rachel Alba	Hunter College alum	New York
Israel Flores	Client Executive	Middlefield
Suzanne Oboler	Professor, John Jay College-CUNY	New York
Jennifer Ayala	Professor/director at Saint Peters University	Jersey City, Nj
Carmela Muzio Dorman	Assistant Professor	Bronx, NY
Manolo Estavillo	Associate Professor of Politics and Human Rights	New York
Mari Castañeda	Professor at UMass Amherst	Amherst

Must have CUNY pay for the center

El Centro is a founding member of the historic national consortium of US universities: the InterUniversity Programs on Latino Research (IUPLR).

Lorna Rivera	Director, Gaston Institute for Latino Community Development	Boston
Michelle Boyd	InkWell Academic Writing Retreats	Chicago
Christopher Cruz	PhD student/High School English Teacher	Miami
Ginetta Candelario	Professor, Sociology and Latin American & Latin@ Studies	Northampton
Elma Beatriz Rosado	Historian	San Juan
Radhika Balakrishnan	Professor, Rutgers University	New Brunswick
Joann Casado, JD		The Bronx
Claire Solomon	Associate Professor of Hispanic Studies and Comparative Literature	Oberlin College
Anthony Paul Farley	Matthews Distinguished Professor of Jurisprudence at Albany	Albany
Michelle Ronda	Associate Professor & Program Coordinator, Criminal Justice	New York

This is ridiculous. I can't believe we even have to sign, in support of such a gem to the city. Please stop the politicking and do the right thing. The city owes this gem and a lot more to Puerto Ricans.

William Garcia-Medina	Lecturer	New Brunswick
Joann Casado, JD		The Bronx
Carmen Rivera PhD	Retired	New York

Ruth Glasser	Associate Professor in Residence, University of Connecticut	Waterbury
K.R. Roberto	PhD Candidate	Champaign, IL

This situation is horrendous and Centro must be protected and funded!

Víctor Federico Torres	Retired librarian/writer	SAN JUAN
Marisel Moreno	Associate Professor at University of Notre Dame	South Bend
Tanya L. Saunders	Associate Professor, UF Center for Latin American Studies	Gainesville
Ricardo A. Vega	Educator (Retired)	San Leon Umingan
Rosa Soto	Associate Professor	Wayne
Tatiana Bryant	Librarian for dh, History, and African American Studies	NY
Annie Sansone	Program Coordinator, Cuban Heritage Collection, Universit	Miami
Tatiana Flores	Professor, Rutgers University	New Brunswick
Pablo Delano	Charles A Dana Professor of Fine Arts, Trinity College	Hartford, CT
Shenique Davis	Assistant Professor	New York

Los recursos de la biblioteca y el archivo han sido fundamentales para los libros que he publicado en los últimos años.

Without Centro's programming I would have no knowledge of my history as a New York Puerto Rican, as a part of the diaspora and as a critical force of the history of the United States and New York City. I would have no knowledge of the history of Puerto Rico accessible to me. I would not be able to learn from a community fighting for the human rights of Puerto Rican's.

Raquel Rodriguez		New York
Miguel Rosales	Reference Librarian, New York Public Library	New York
Amanda Moreno, MSLIS/MA	Archivist, Cuban Heritage Collection, University of Miami	Miami, FL
Faye V. Harrison	Professor of African American Studies & Anthropology, UI	CHAMPAIGN, IL
Raja Flores		New York
Carlos A. Fernandez	Director, Center for Latino Arts and Culture, Rutgers Unive	New Brunswick, NJ
Sarah Chinn	Professor	New York
Marie Varghese	Senior Advisor - CUNY Start Program, Bronx Community Cc	Bronx
Aurora Levins Morales	Writer and Independent Scholar	Maricao

Centro has opened the door to other institutes of research in CUNY and in other university settings that represent marginalized and disenfranchised groups. CUNY DSI benefited directly from Centro's existence in CUNY. Centro's funding director, Maestro Frank Bonilla, was instrumental in the creation of CUNY DSI and proclaimed publicly its legitimacy and its right to be a voice for the Dominican people in academia.

Ramona Hernandez	Professor	City College of New York
Nicholas De Genova	Professor & Chair of Comparative Cultural Studies, University of Houston/ Chicago	
Juan A Villanueva	Archives Assistant, Cuban Heritage Collection	Coral Gables
Brian Marein	PhD candidate, Economics, University of Colorado Boulder	Boulder, CO
Satenik Margaryan	Assistant Professor	New York
Daniel Torres	Teacher - NYC high school	Bronx, N.Y.
Raul Ramos	Latino writer	Paramus
Christian V. Ramirez	Ph.D. Michigan State University	Corpus Christi
Piya Chatterjee	Professor, Feminist, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Scripps Institution of Oceanography	Claremont, CA.
Devyn Spence Benson	Associate Professor of Africana & Latin American Studies	Davidson, NC
Ileana Vargas, MD, MS	Pediatric Endocrinologist	New York
Richard M Shain	Professor of History	Philadelphia
Jorge E. Cuéllar	Mellon Faculty Fellow & Assistant Professor of Latin American Studies	Hanover, NH
Glendaliris Torres Greaux	Sam Houston State University Student	Houston , Texas

National searches needed and
Albany NY and Seattle protection/growth for library and archives

Christine E Bose	Prof Emerita, Sociology, University at Albany, SUNY	Albany NY and Seattle protection/growth for library and archives
Dr. Grisel Y. Acosta	Associate Professor	Bronx-CUNY
Andrew Juan Rosa	Associate Professor, History and African American Studies	WKU
Verónica Mancheno	PhD student	Milwaukee
Roberto C. Orozco	PhD Candidate, Rutgers University	New Brunswick, NJ
Nitasha Sharma	Director, Asian American Studies, Northwestern University	Chicago
Hyacinth Miller	Lecturer - Rutgers University	Newark, NJ
Susana Gallardo	Instructor of Women's Studies	San Jose, CA
Cara Mea Bruno	Scheduling Manager	Philadelphia
Maria L Cruz-Torres	Associate Professor	Tempe
Bryan Winston	Postdoc Fellow, Dartmouth College	Lebanon, NH
Laura Matthew	Associate Professor and Director, Latin American and Latin American Studies	Milwaukee, WI
Yeidly M Rivero	Professor and Chair, Department of Film, TV, and Media	Ann Arbor
Frederick D Perry	Retired	Oakland

antonio nadal	emeritus from Department of Puerto Rican/Latino(a) Studi Brooklyn, New York		Pa'lante, siempre pa'lante. CENTRO has consecrated years to promote research to address the inequalities faced by Puerto Ricans for more than a century. The struggles to assess the history of this community are materialized in volumes of documents now under threat of being appropriated and taken away by what may be an attempt by CUNY to hide these efforts to address these inequalities. Despierta Boricua. Defiende lo tuyo.
Edgardo Díaz Diaz	Musician, Composer, Ethnomusicologist	New York	
Megean Madden	Global Director, Customer Engagement	Bastrop, TX	
Jennifer Guglielmo	Associate Professor of History, Smith College	Northampton, MA	
Daniela Velázquez		St. Louis	
Dana-Ain Davis	Professor	New York	
Meredith D. Clark	Assistant Professor	Charlottesville	
Dr. Sara Doan	Assistant Professor of Technical Communication, Kennesaw	Kennesaw, GA	
Kendall Martinez-Wright	Human Rights and LGBTQ Legislative Strategist	Palmyra	
Jasmin Figueroa	PhD Student	Boston	
Perla M. Guerrero	Association Professor, American Studies and U.S. Latina/o	College Park, MD	
Jorge Hernandez	Sr Quality Assurance Validation Specialist	Billerica	Although my area of expertise is Biotechnology, I recognize how critical is to study and preserve our identity. I am familiar with the outstanding work of El Centro
Jorge Hernandez	Sr Quality Assurance Validation Specialist	Billerica	Although my area of expertise is Biotechnology, I recognize how critical is to study and preserve our identity. I am familiar with the outstanding work of El Centro
Erika Abad	Assistant Professor in Residence	las vegas	
Maya Smith	Associate Professor of French	Seattle	
Lauren Wilks	Graduate student / TA	Madison	
Michael Aquino	Composer, musician, sound designer	Bloomfield	
Melissa Galeano	Policy Director at NYS Senate	NYC	
Megan Ybarra	Associate Professor of Geography, University of Washington	Seattle	
Michelle Habell-Pallan	Professor, GWSS, University of Washington	Seattle	
Khudejha Asghar	PhD Student	Baltimore	
Keith McNeal	Associate Professor of Anthropology	Houston	
Edgardo R. Orlandi		Houston, TX	

John Marquez	Assistant Professor, Colorado College	Colorado Springs
José I. Fusté	Assistant Professor, UC San Diego	San Diego, CA
Liza Chowdhury	Assistant Professor	PASSAIC
Daniel J. Vazquez Sanabria	Student, Puerto Rican and Latino Studies, Brooklyn College	Brooklyn
Carolina Toscano	Graduate Student	Seattle
Deniz Daser	External Lecturer	Bern
Elga Parrilla		Toronto
Isabel E. Vélez	Independent Scholar	Granada, Spain
David Maldonado Rivera	Assistant Professor	Gambier, Ohio

My research at Centro has been vital to my doctoral dissertation research. The staff at Centro were wonderful and professional. Centro is irreplaceable in my view and should be supported.

Anna Henger	PhD Candidate in Latin American Studies, LaTrobe University	Melbourne, Australia
Maria Campbell	Teacher Dept. of Defense Fort Buchanan PR	Carolina
Rhoda Reddock	Professor Emerita & past Rockefeller Fellow, Hunter College	St. Augustine
Lydia Curet Rivera	Teacher	San Juan
Carmen Gonzalez	Professor UPR School of Medicine	San Juan
Joaquin Villanueva	Associate Professor	Minneapolis

Save Centro
As a Caribbean academic, I support this call.

Rita Urquijo-Ruiz	Professor of Spanish and Director of Global Latinx Studies	San Antonio, TX
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Save the Centro and stop these discriminatory practices
Sería bien importante que el nuevo centro regrese a sus raíces y no sea tan elitista. Que la comunidad no académica sea parte y tenga aceso.

Sandra Guzmán	Escritora/periodista	New York
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Yvette Piovanello	Director Centro Pediatras de Lactancia y Crianza	San Juan
Joseba Gabilondo	Associate Professor, Michigan State University	Lansing
Evelyn Collazo	Retired and former Centro staff	New York

Apoyo 200% sostener y mantener el Centro De Estudios Puertorriqueños en Hunter College

Dr. Carlos Sanabria	Retired Associate Professor and former coordinator of Latino Studies	New York City
Alberto Varon	Associate Professor of English and Latino Studies	Bloomington
M Martínez	Retired	New York

The City University of New York must honor its commitment to the Center for Puerto Rican Studies and the Puerto Rican community in recognition of its many economic, political, social, and cultural contributions to the city of New York, New York State, and the United States at large.

Carla Española	Instructor, Bank Street College	New York	Centro is a treasure! It must not be allowed to wither away.
Kathleen Benson Haskins	East Harlem Community Advocate	New York	
Mimi Sheller	Professor and Head of Department	Drexel University, Philadelphia	The collections at Centro are indispensable. If the University and the College do not protect this the institutional integrity of Centro, it would be a great disservice to students, scholars, and the community.
Alejandra Mendez	EdD Candidate	San Juan, Puerto Rico/Lowell, MA	
Gwendolyn Ferreti	Assistant Professor of Latinx Studies	Berea, KY	
Ignacio Rodeño	Associate Professor	University of Alabama	
Jodie Roue	Associate Professor, John Jay College, CUNY and Founder a	New York	
Crystal Francis	Student of Latino American Caribbean Studies at the Unive	Albany	
Rose M. Kim, Ph.D	Associate Professor, Sociology, BMCC/CUNY	New York, NY	
Margie Jimenez	Budget Administrator, Bank Street College of Education	New York	I am a graduate from Hunter College (BA and MA). I urge you to fund and support the
Nashieli Marcano	Associate Prof. Librarian of Humanities & Social Sciences, K	Kennesaw	
Iris Morales	Hunter College, MFA	New York	
Crystal Feimster	Associate Professor	New Haven	
Anthony Harb	PhD Candidate / Adjunct	Brooklyn	
Marvin-Alonzo Greer	Lead Historical Interpretation and Community Engagement	Washington DC	We MUST preserve this important archive for generations of scholars and researchers to come.
Samuel Malave		Queens	
Ana Noriega	Assistant Director, Colby Libraries	Waterville	
Oswald Araujo	CUNY, Queens College Alumni	Forest Hills, NY	
Frances Segan, Ph.D.	Retired Bilingual/Spec. Ed. Administrator	Bronx	
Eliseo Jacob	Howard University	Washington, D.C.	
Christina Marie Castro	Alumna, The City College of New York	New York	
Francisco Cabanillas	Professor	Bowling Green, Ohio	
Marilisa Jimenez Garcia	Assistant Professor, English and Latinx Studies, Founding D	Easton	
Naheem Adio Kujenya	Producer	Staten Island	
Luis Muñoz Villanueva	Musician	San Juan	
Roberta Schwartz	Research Services Archivist	Brunswick, ME	
Iliana T. Burgos	Graduate Student, the University of North Carolina at Cha	Chapel Hill, NC	
Brandy Karl	Head of Scholarly Communications & Copyright, Penn Stat	State College	

Bobby Rivera	Associate Professor	Queens	In solidarity with the Center for Puerto Rican Studies. Hunter College, you must support and help to ensure the future of this critical center for research!
Vincent Toro	Professor, Bronx Community College	Fort Lee	This act of aggressive neglect is an act of violence through erasure. Centro's archives and resources are internationally renowned and absolutely crucial to Latinx, Puerto Rican, Caribbean, and Ethnic studies programs all over the country.
Anniessa Antar	Educator and independent scholar	Minneapolis	
Gloria Rodriguez	Professor	New York	
Adam Levine	Doctoral candidate, Columbia University	Toronto, Ontario	
Aaisha Haykal	Manager of Archival Services	Charleston, SC	
Shiva Darbandi	Director of the Joanne Waxman Library	Portland	
William Michael Burton	Lecturer, Columbia University	New York	
Maria Helena Lima	Professor of English and Comparative Literature	Geneseo	
Merylou Rodriguez	PhD Candidate	New Brunswick	
Theresa Christenson-Caballero	Director of Grad Student Professional and Career Developr	Chicago	
			Administrative neglect for an institution's rare and unique materials is, unfortunately, not uncommon and this shortsightedness poses grave dangers for cultural preservation and crucial scholarship. I hope the Centro can regain institutional support, especially the human resources essential to collections care and broad access.
Patricia Burdick	Head, Special Collections & Archives, Colby College	Waterville	
Felix S.Ruiz	Retired from Hostos CC	Jersey City,NJ 07305-1004	
Martha Few	Professor, History, Penn State and Editor, Hispanic American Studies Review	State College	
Pablo Piccato	Professor of History, Columbia University	New York	
Anjuli		Miami	
Ofelia García	Professor Emerita, The Graduate Center, CUNY	New York	
Ricardo Otheguy	Professor Emeritus, Graduate Center, CUNY	New York, NY	
Alexandra deGraffenreid	Processing Archivist	State College	
Julio Lopez Torres	MS Candidate EPSM The New School	New York	
Chayanne Marciano	Art worker	NYC	
Juliana Martinez		Jersey City	
Raj Chetty	Associate Professor, Caribbean Literature, St. John's University	Queens	

Brianna		Washington, DC	Cuando estudié en NY usé el Centro para mis investigaciones y también mis estudiantes. La revista es importante.
Ana Bourasseau	Profesora de Español Jubilada	San Juan Puerto Rico	It is imperative that cut backs like the dissolution of the Centro don't occur at the very time when it is needed the most. The political future of Puerto Ricans on the Island and in the states is on the line now more than ever with talk of making the Island a state and addressing the disproportionate impact of the Covid-19 epidemic on the economic lives of Puerto Ricans in the states. The Centro provides a knowledge base available to all those who will or may be in a position to make policy decisions that affect our entire community. Save the Centro!
Philip Rivera	Retired	Langhorne, Pennsylvania	
Antonio	Chairman Hispanic Leaders Group of Greater St. Louis	Florissant, Mo	I am requesting that "Centro" is supported in its mission and funding. A national treasure. I FIND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND WHY A CITY AS DIVERSE AS NYC, WOULD DENY ITS CITIZENS OF A RESOURCE WHERE THEY MAY FIND THE NECESSARY INFORMATION, ASSISTANCE, AND ACHIEVEMENT THAT EL CENTRO FOR PUERTO RICAN AND LATINO STUDIES PROVIDES FOR THEM.
ROSEMARIE SANTANA RAMIREZ	RETIRED ASSOC. PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION, ACTING DIRE	NEW YORK CITY	
Edwin Ramoran	Human Rights Commissioner	Palm Springs	
Jasmine Caccavelli-Garcia	ASAP Academic Advisor	Bronx	
Jeriel Acosta		NEW YORK	
Michelle Athanas	Literacy and Language Librarian & Co-Chair of MOSAIC, Suffolk County	East Northport	
Heidi R. Lewis	Director & Associate Professor of Feminist & Gender Studies	Colorado Springs, CO	
Joseph Kapovich	Registered Nurse	New York	

Ray Maldonado	General contractor	Larchmont	My family is involved with this organization and I support them every time I visit them. I see the effort they give to the community so I totally back it up, it would be a total shame and disaster if they get dissolve. Please reconsider
Miguel Luciano	Artist	New York	
Evelyn Rodriguez	Retired NYC Bilingual Teacher K-12	New York City	Please honor and increase all funding and operational support for Centro, an invaluable resource for all communities in NYC, the caribbean and world at large.
Henry (Hank) Williams	Adjunct Lecturer in Africana Studies and English	Bronx	
José Nicolás Medina Fuentes	Abogado, escritor	San Juan	Signed Please support and expand the significant mission and resources of Centro -Centro for Puerto Rican Studies CUNY.
Tyler J. Ortiz		Berkeley	
Genesis		Houston	The "Centro" is an important educational and research institution.
Jorge Luis Rodríguez	Artist and retired CUNY Professor	New York	
Yessenia Sanchez		Bensalem	The Centro is the most important national research entity addressing the past and present situation of Puertorriquenos in the U.S. Please allocate sufficient funding to enable the Centro to continue its work and prioritize providing endowment for the Centro. This should have been done years before.
edwin quiles	Professor University of Puerto Rico	san juan	
Sandra Rivera	Dance Artist, Educator, Independent Researcher	New York	Please support El Centro!!!
Luz del Alba Acevedo	Full Professor	Puerto Rico	
Nikole Torres	Youth Library Assistant	Winter Park	
Arnaldo Cordero-Román	Associate Professor of Spanish/Comparative Literature, Stc Pomona, New Jersey		
Jaime Estades	President Latino Leadership Institute/adjunct Columbia an	New York City	
Alexander Lamazares	Professor and Chairperson, World Languages and Cultures, New York		
Aaron Botwick	Assistant Professor of English, Hostos Community College, Bronx		
Gilberto Cardenas	Professor Emeritus, University of Notre Dame	Austin	
Maria DeLongoria	Associate Prof of History	Nyc	
Luz Sandoval	Graduate Student at the School of Public Health, Rutgers B	New Brunswick	
Victor M Torres-Velez	Assistant Professor	New York	
Ronald Mize	Professor and Coordinator, Ethnic Studies, Oregon State U	Corvallis	

Alexandra P Gelbard	PhD Candidate, Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies	Miami	Apoyo solidario
Danielle Rowland	American & Ethnic Studies Librarian, University of Washington	Bothell, WA	
Mariana Regalado	Professor and Librarian	Brooklyn, NY	
ariana hernandez-reguant	visiting assistant professor/founder EthnoCuba network	miami, FL	
Aarón Gamaliel Ramos	Professor, Center for Advanced Studies of Puerto Rico & the Caribbean	San Juan	
Luis Figueroa López	Profesor	Manatí	
Pablo M. Ortiz Ramos	Editor	San Juan	
Gladys Escalona	Profesora UPR Retirada	San Juan, PR	Save and preserve This Puerto Rican institution that archives individuals s/hero, events, and entities that have impacted the Puerto Rican Culture. As a result, the historical information serves to instill a sense of pride to empower future generations.
Taina Traverso	Taina's Touch Arts Enterprize, Founder/CEO	New York City	Save the Centro
Tiffany Dubon	Student Life Specialist - Civic Engagement	Bronx	
Sonja Malek	Yale '22, Outreach Coordinator at Despierta Boricua PR Student Union	New Haven	
Yolanda Padilla	Associate Professor, University of Washington, Bothell	Seattle	
Nancy Serrano	Student	Youngstown, Ohio	
Luis Rubén Sánchez	BoricuaTV	San Juan	
Bianet Castellanos	Associate Professor, University of Minnesota	Minneapolis	
Yago Cura	Bilingual Outreach Librarian	Los Angeles, CA	Please do whatever is possible to preserve this vital space of intellectual, academic, and community inquiry.
Manuel Rodríguez Banchs	Labor and Social Justice Advocate	San Juan	
Idalis Briaes		Allentown, PA	
Mabel Cuesta	Associate Professor, University of Houston	Houston	
Alejandro Torres Rivera	Catedrático Auxiliar UPR-Río Piedras	San Juan, Puerto Rico	
Juana María Rodríguez	Professor and Chair, Dept of Ethnic Studies, UC Berkeley	Berkeley, CA	
Nancy Raquel Mirabal	Associate Professor, American Studies, University of Maryland	College Park	
Carmen	Visiting Professor, School of Law	San Juan	
Natanya Ann Pulley	Asst. Prof. in English at Colorado College	Colorado Springs	
Nemir Matos Cintron	Learning Designer	Orlando	
Ana María García	Associate Professor, University of Puerto Rico	Río Piedras	
Nancy Mercado, PhD	Associate Professor of English	New York City	

Lorrin Thomas	Associate professor of history, Rutgers University - Camden	Camden, NJ
Dan Berger	Associate professor of comparative ethnic studies	Seattle
Loaíza M Walker Boudreau	Registered Nurse, BSN	Centreville
Corinna Mullin	Adjunct Professor, John Jay, Political Science Department	New York
Caren Kaplan	Professor Emerita, American Studies, UC Davis	Davis
Zelideth Maria Rivas	Professor of Japanese, Marshall University	HUNTINGTON
Vanessa Droz	Escritora	San Juan
Amador Roman-Garcia	Professor at NYCCT-CUNY	New York
maritza pajarito	community member	oakland
Luis N. Rivera-Pagán	Henry Winters Luce Professor in Ecumenics Emeritus	San Juan, Puerto Rico
Sergio Ibisate	Doctorando en Antropología, becario CONICET	Córdoba, Argentina
Deborah Paredes	Associate Professor, Columbia University	New York
Martha Quiñones Domínguez	Catedrática UPR	Arecibo
Ismael Torrew	Journalist, former The Associated Press Staffer in the Caribbean	San Juan, Puerto Rico
Mayra Rosario Urrutia	Professor	Uprp
Mariluz Franco-Ortiz	Professor	Cayey
Gayatri Gopinath	Director, Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality, NYU	New York

Salvemos nuestro patrimonio
Apoyo el Centro por su importante labor.

Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños @ Hunter is a remarkable institution that has rightfully earned the support of CUNY through its tireless service to the general public, to academics and to artists, as well as through its commitment to academic scholarship and its tireless advocacy for Puerto Ricans and Puerto Rico.

We ask that Hunter College continue to unwaveringly support this model of community and academic scholarship and advocacy by helping maintain its staff, its space/s and collection/s as well as its publications.

Miguel Trelles	Executive/Artistic Director Teatro LATEA	New York
Ronald Gregg	Director of the MA Program in Film and Media Studies, CUNY	New York City
Fernando Rivera	Professor of Sociology and Director Puerto Rico Research Center	Orlando
Orchid Mazurkiewicz	Director, Hispanic American Periodicals Index, UCLA	Los Angeles

Julianna Mirra		New York
Carina del Valle Schorske	New York Times Magazine Contributing Writer	New York
Maura Toro-Morn	Professor, Illinois State University	Normal, Illinois
Ivelisse Jiménez	Artist & Faculty, University of Puerto Rico	San Juan, Puerto Rico
Ada Haiman	Retired, UPR	San Juan
Victor M DeLeon	Professor	New York
Leticia Alvarado	Associate Professor, American Studies, Brown University	Providence
Marina Ortiz	Founder, VirtualBoricua	New York
Rosana M. Santana	Youth Services Program Coordinator	Schaumburg
Eric Mercado		ARLINGTON
Juan Otero Garabís	Professor	San Juan
Rubén Ríos Avila	Professor	New York
Elizabeth R Jimenez	LCSW	Montclair
Nelson Reynoso	Associate Professor of Psychology	Bronx
Carlos Seiglie	Professor	Rutgers University
Paul Cruz Rosa	Historian	Las Vegas
Paolette Rodriguez		San Juan
Gilbert Marzan	Associate Professor	White Plains
David S. Goldstein	Teaching Professor	Bothell, WA
Kenneth Sebastian León	Assistant Professor of Latino and Caribbean Studies; and C	New Brunswick
Brian Eugenio Herrera	Associate Professor of Theater and Gender & Sexuality Stu	Princeton
Eduardo Conde	Speaker	Washington, DC
Adriana Estill	Professor of American Studies and English	Northfield MN
Carmen R. Lugo-Lugo	Professor of Comparative Ethnic Studies	Washington State University
Amelia Martinez-Guzman		Fayetteville

Centro is the largest and most established collection of academic resources regarding Puerto Rico available. This neglect is basically cultural erasure of a community who has characteristically lived in and contributed to New York City and the greater New York State for decades.

Also, bring back former Congressman Serrano's las carpetas files online

El Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños es imprescindible.
My support is for the survival of a necessary part of any university but more so for CUNY the beginning of Puerto Rican studies.

We need to save anything that's research related regarding all the people's that compose nations and/or helped build our society as we know it.

Viviane Mahieux	Associate Professor, UC Irvine	Irvine	My students use the Centro's resources every semester. Everything must be done to preserve and enrich the Centro, so that it may continue its invaluable mission. We need to hold CUNY accountable!
María Josefina Saldaña-Portillo	Professor, NYU	Brooklyn, NY	
Fernando Tirado		Bronx	
Shannon Dudley	Professor of Ethnomusicology	Seattle	
Alvan Colon-Lespier	Associate Artistic Director,, Pregones / PRTT	New York	
Jessica Barbara	Student	New Rochelle, NY	
Pedro Gonzalez	N/a	Carolina	
Michelle Carroll	Sexual Violence Advocate	Rochester	
Molly Crabapple		New York	
Taylor Negrón	Graduate student	Queens	
Luis Joel Méndez González	Journalist	Moca	
Nailene Gonzalez	Graduate Student at DePaul University	Chicago	
Caroline Gil Rodríguez	Media Conservator and Archivist	Brooklyn	
Denise Rivera	Professional Singer	La Crosse	
Nebraska Hernandez	Penn State Student	State College	
Stephanie Tsopanidis	Student	New York City	
Myrna Rivera	Health Information Administrator	San Juan	
Jade Power Sotomayor	Assistant Professor, University of California San Diego	San Diego	
Bobbi Leão™ Rae Valentin		New York	
Luis Fernando Coss	Catedrático	San Juan, Puerto Rico	
Amanda Guzman	Ann Plato Postdoctoral Fellow in Anthropology and American Studies	Hartford, Connecticut	
Robert Lazaro Ehrlich	Graduate of Puerto Rican/African Studies at Hunter College	Santa Cruz	
Aurea María Sotomayor	Professor, University of Pittsburgh	Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	
Ruth Santiago	Lawyer	Salinas, PR	
Salvador Vidal-Ortiz	Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, American University	Washington, DC	
Rebecca Grabie	Reference Librarian & Archivist	New York	
George Chauncey	DeWitt Clinton Professor of History, Columbia University	New York	
Nicole Collazo Santana	Student	Caguas, Puerto Rico	
Jennifer Eggerling-Boeck	PhD	Madison, WI	
Javier Laureano, PhD	Historian	New York City	
Lena Burgos-Lafuente	Director, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, SUNY Stony Brook	New York	

Ana Rokafella Garcia	Street and Club dancer, choreographer, professor	Bronx
Jossianna Arroyo	Professor	Austin TX
Ana Gotay	IT Manager	Miami
Elise Arnold-Levene	Assistant Professor of Spanish, Mercy College	Dobbs Ferry, NY
Manuel F O'NEILL	Former Faculty Goddard College	Woodbury
Cesar Diaz		Frederick
Alvan Colon-Lespier	Associate Artistic Director,, Pregones / PRTT	New York
Juan Carlos Rodriguez	Associate Professor of Spanish, Georgia Tech	Atlanta, GA
Michael Rodríguez-Muñiz	Assistant Professor of Sociology and Latina/o Studies	Chicago
Peter Caraballo		Carolina
Andrea Taylor		bronx
Pablo Segarra, Esq	Executive Director of Nexus Latinx, Inc.	Bronx
Sebastián Hidalgo Roig	Human Services Student	New York City
Denise Pagán-Vega, Ed.D	Educational Administrator	Springfield
Reginald Reaves Jr	Social Services Administrator, Baltimore City Dept of Social	Abingdon, MD
Dr. Kathleen Kremins	Poet	Maplewood, NJ
Dimitri Reyes	Marketing & Communications Director/ Poet/ Art Administ	Newark
Maisha Morales	Community organizer/Advocate	Brooklyn
Gamaliel Ramos Oliver	Former Centro employee, 2001, now a editorial manager for	Caguas
Luciana Garcia Barreras	Estudiante	San Juan
Jonathan Soinner	Director of Development	Effort
Albert Areizaga	Artist	Brooklyn
Donyelle T. Marshall	LATAM Entertainment Business Analyst	Tallahassee
Ebenecer Lopez Ruyol	Lawyer	Loiza
Sol Crespo	Actor/Writer	The Bronx
oswaldo benavides	Professor, and Chair, Sociology and Anthropology Department	brooklyn
Héctor M. Martínez Ramírez	Associate Professor of Political Science	San Juan, Puerto Rico

I learned so much at the Centro and know that it needs to continue to offer important information to young and elder seekers of knowledge.

We must do all we can to save this valued institution.

Keep El Centro open.

Now more than ever we need a healthy and Independent Centro.

Center's mission and resources are a necessity to our community.

lets work together,
CENTRO has been imperative for my research as a Puerto Rican performer and writer. It is an asset of the utmost importance to the city of New York and anyone interested in any nook and cranny of information on Puerto Rico and the diaspora

Camille Rodriguez	Retired Centro Higher Education Associate	Estero, FL
Anthony Geist	Professor of Spanish and Comp Lit, University of Washington	Seattle
Vicente Jose Alba Perez	Activista	San Juan Puerto Rico
Ana B Rodríguez Navas	Associate Professor of Latin American Literature and Culture	CHICAGO
Urayoán Noel	Associate Professor, New York University	Bronx
Julian Morales		Queens, NY

Centro is home for me. I learned so much about myself and have so much more to know. Please keep this space alive for future generations.

Anthony Morales	Nuyorican Poet, Educator	Bronx, NY
Wilson Valentín-Escobar, PhD	Assistant Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies/Director, B&B	Lowell, MA
Bruno Campos		New York

We deserve to have our history taught and integrity and mission deserves to be saved by maintaining community control.

Crystal Cipriani-Hoch	Borinqueña	Houston, Texas
Victoria Lugo	Director of Finance and Administration	New York
Carmen Santana		Ridgewood NY
Anthony Felicisno	Executive Director and Hunter Alumni	New York
Meral Kerim		Brooklyn NY

Great letter. Happy to see so much support and concern.

Nélida Pérez	Retired, former head of the Centro Library and Archives	New York
Juan Wynn Jr	Educator/Poet	NEWARK

El Centro is a major archive it must be protected!

Dr. Marta Moreno Vega	Executive Director	Puerto Rico/ New York
Erik Carrión	Independent Creative Director & Strategist	San Juan
Maggie Rodríguez	Writer	San Juan
Mariela Deynes	Master's Student at NYU's Center For Experimental	New York City
Juan Carlos Quintero-Herencia	Professor	College Park, Maryland
Rosa Santiago-Marazzi, EdD	Researcher	San Juan, Puerto Rico
Victor Cruz	CEO, Victor Cruz Films, LLC	New York City

Save it!

In an era of renewed commitment to social justice, it is appalling that CENTRO be defunded. CUNY has always been a leader in the collection, engagement, and dissemination of the rich legacy of the Puerto Rican Community of greater NYC. The work CENTRO performs is vital not only to students, teachers, and scholars in the metropolitan area: CENTRO is also a historical, intellectual, and cultural repository that benefits educators globally. Defunding CENTRO signals the abandonment of intellectual rigor in favor of neoliberal policies that continue to devastate the very historical and cultural spine of NYC.

I support El Centro

Ylce Irizarry, Ph.D.	Associate Professor of Latinx Literatures, University of South Tampa	
Mercy Loyo		New York
Ana Patricia Rodriguez	Associate Professor, School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures	Washington, DC
Tatiana Reinoza	Assistant Professor of Art History, University of Notre Dame	South Bend
Jared Simard	Clinical Assistant Professor, NYU	New York
Monique Pinero LMSW MPA	Professional development counselor	NY
Ricky Flores	Photojournalist - Adjunct professor of photojournalism	Lehigh Valley
Ronald Saulo Méndez-Clark	Associate Professor	Bronx
Bryan Flores		Hartford
George Martinez	Director of Leadership and Youth Programs, Alaska Human Services	Anchorage
Dr. Juan A Carmona	Retired professor	Boriqua College
Laura Bayona-Román	Graduate Student	Guaynabo
Julián Sánchez		Rochester
Frances Maysonet		New York
Mayzabeth Lopez		Brooklyn, NY

George G Ortiz-Mejias	Technical Trainer	Staten Island
Sandra Espada	Former Executive Director, PR Council In Higher Education	Trujillo Alto
Ramon Irizarry	MBA graduate	Winter Haven
Adam Friscia		Harrisburg
Rebeca Agosto Rosa	PhD student, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Urbana, IL
Rebeca Agosto Rosa	PhD student, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Urbana, IL
Jennifer Vilchez	Doctoral candidate, Department of Women’s, Gender,	Elizabeth, NJ
Sofía Raquel Colón Rivera	College Student	Trujillo Alto
Carmen Bracero	LCSW, graduate of CCNY and Nunter	New york
Don E. Walicek	Professor of English and Linguistics, U of Puerto Rico, Río P	San Juan
Nickolas D McCauley		Winterset
Jorge Ruiz		New York
Cesar A. Salgado	Associate Professor, University of Texas at Austin	Austin
Guillermo B Irizarry	Associate Professor	Storrs
Vincente	PhD Student	Berkeley
Damaris Reyes	Executive Director, GOLES	New York
Myrna García-Calderón	Associate Professor	Syracuse, NY
Natasha Rodríguez	Drug Rehabilitation Nurse	Lehigh Acres, FL
Tyler Sprouse	Pastor	New York City
Jessica Durand		Queens, NY
Zacarías Rivera	Retired ELA high school teacher	Queens
Enrique Coleman Tió		San Juan, PR
N Torres		New York

I had the privilege to be educated in the public school system in Puerto Rico in contrast with my cousins who grew up in the City of New York. Without El Centro, they and their friends would have lacked the knowledge and history of how the Puerto Rican community in New York City helped shape it, as well as some of the information on their ancestry to put their parents and neighbors culture in contrast with the ones they were creating . In addition, other fellow NYC dwellers would not have the opportunity to explore the mark their Puerto Rican neighbors had beyond the ghastly portrayals done in film and television. Save El Centro!

My research has benefitted immensely from the material at the Centro Archives.

Save Centro's mission and archives.

Camila Alire	Dean Emeritae, University of New Mexixo	Albuquerque
Maria Chaves Daza	assistant professor, Africana and Latinx Studies	Oneonta
Kelly Roberts	PhD Candidate, Rutgers	Brooklyn
Régine Carreras	Graphic Designer	Baltimore, MD
Michael Watson	Director	New York
Ramiro Matos Avilés Jr.	Retired	East Brunswick
Dra. Teresa Nazario	Concerned Puerto Rican	San Juan, PR
Amílcar Tirado-Avilés	Librarian-Researcher	San Juan, PR
Nichole Almanzar	Recent Graduate from Haverford College	New York,NY
Keishmarie Díaz Vega		San Juan
Evelyn Reyes	Retired/DOE NYC	Bronx
Evelyn Reyes	Retired/DOE NYC	Bronx
Noel Valentin	former Permanent Collection Manager, El Museo del Barrio	Eastchester
Alix Hatzidakis		New York
Dahlma Llanos-Figueroa	Author, Daughters of the Stone	Bronx
CM Carreras	Engineer	Columbia, MD
Jason Morse	Lecturer in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences	Seattle
Jonathan Lessuck		BRONX
Ana Cecilia Calle Poveda	PhD. The University of Texas at Austin	Austin
Jose E. Velazquez	Educator / Historian	Bloomfield, NJ
Ed Morales	CSER Columbia	New York
Dr. Ivelisse Rodriguez	Writer	Whitsett
Aimee J Lusty		Brooklyn
Jeannine Murray-Román	Associate Professor of Modern Languages, FSU	Tallahassee

We must save our history so future generations can learn from us.
keep the knowledge available to grow in all citizens

The Centro Library has been an invaluable source for my research and the only repository for primary and secondary sources of materials documenting the life of Puerto Ricans in NYC and beyond. For those of us in academia and in the arts, this is an indispensable resource. Further, it holds the patrimony to our community and our future generations. In a time of attacks on Brown and Black people, this attempt to further erase us from the national dialogue is shameful and indefensible.

Do the right thing and support Centro! Any decision to undermine the important role that it plays within the Puerto Rican Culture will be unacceptable. It is the duty and responsibility of the University to ensure that this jewel of research and cultural heritage continues to offer the services for current and future generations. We will not accepted or tolerated any disrespectful action that will undermine its existence.

Carmen Bardeguez-Brown	Educator poet and writer	New York, Chiangmai
Elizabeth Ospina	Retired Administrator, Fordham University	New york

Ernesto Quiñonez	Cornell Professor/Author of Bodega Dreams	Ithaca
María Navedo		New York
Maxine DeSeta	Retired	New York
Luis Sanchez-Lopez	Visiting Assistant Professor, Loyola Marymount University	Los Angeles
Cynthia Tobar	Assistant Professor/Head of Archives, Bronx Community College	Bronx, NY
Evelyn Collazo	Retired, former Centre staff	New York
Luis Mejia	Formerly Research Associate at the Hispanic Research Center	New York
Jeffrey Delgado	Assistant Professor/ Reader Services Librarian	Brooklyn
Lenny A. Ureña Valerio	Associate Director	Gainesville, FL
Mr. Elvis Bakaitis	Interim Head of Reference, The Graduate Center, CUNY	New York
Scott Sheidlowner	Professor	Jamaica, NY
Michael Handis	Collection Management Specialist/Associate Professor	New York
Ariel Quiñones		NYC
Monica Berger	Associate Professor, NYC College of Technology	Brooklyn
Haruko Yamauchi	Assoc. Prof/Librarian - Eugenio Maria de Hostos Comm. College	Bronx

Please save the Integrity, Mission and
Resources of the Center for Puerto Rican

Mario Mercado-Diaz	Sociology PhD Candidate, Rutgers University	Philadelphia
Annie Tummino	Head of Special Collections and Archives	Queens
Sharell Walker	Assistant Professor/ Student Outreach Librarian	New York
Robin Brown	Head of Public Services, Associate Professor	New York
Anne Leonard	Information Literacy Librarian	Brooklyn, NY
Jean-Jacques Strayer	Assistant Professor (Retired) Hunter College Library	Rye, NY
Linda Molier	Retired Teacher of the NYC Dept of Education- History/Soc	New York

Lydia Cortes	Poet	New York
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Julio Luis Hernandez-Delgado	Hunter College, Retired Associate Professor	Medford, N.Y.
Judith Sierra-Rivera	Associate Professor of Spanish and Latina/o Studies	State College

Mary Roldan	Dorothy Epstein Professor of Latin American History and CI	JACKSON HEIGHTS
Colleen Bradley-Sanders	Associate Professor/Archivist	Brooklyn
Andrea Queeley	Associate Professor	Miami
Josephine Nieves	Former chair, Department of Puerto Rican studies, Brookl	Bethesda, Maryland
Junior Tidal	Multimedia & Web Services Librarian, Assoc. Prof., NYCCT	Brooklyn
Seamus Scanlon	Librarian at City College's Center for Worker Education	New York
Alycia Sellie	Associate Librarian for Collections, CUNY Graduate Center	Brooklyn
Vanessa Arce Senati	Head of Reference, Leonard Lief Library, Lehman College	Bronx
Rachel Stein	Research & Instruction Librarian, The Latin American Librai	New Orleans, Louisiana, U.S.A
Michele Bertran, Esq.	Retired	New York
M. Quinones	Nuyorican	Rochester
Dr. Amy Beth	Associate Professor	New York City
Ivana Mena		New York
Margarita Javier		New york
Stephen Francoeur	Associate Professor/ UX Librarian, Baruch College	New York
Rebecca Arzola	CUNY Lehman College Faculty - Government Information-S	Bronx
María Navedo		New York

It would be a supreme travesty to have anything negative befall El Centro. We, the community and its individuals must actively fight against any such events.

The Centro Library & Archives are an essential resource center for faculty, students, and for the Puerto Rican community in Puerto Rico and throughout the United States.

This is appalling. I add my name to protest the defunding and reduction of personnel at the Centro, one of the most valuable and important archival and research centers for the study of Puerto Rican and Latino Studies in the United States.

Putting resources where lives matter

Brian Sebor	Student	New York, NY	We worked with Dr. Bonilla at 500 Fifth Avenue in the founding of El Centro
Richard Villar	Writer/Educator, Program Coordinator, NYU Prison Educat	New York, NY	
Blanca Vazquez	Adjunct Associate Professor, Hunter College	NY	
Alejandra Romero		New York	
Arsenio "Butch" Gonzalez	Retired member of student committee that worked with D	Peekskill, New York	As a proud Nuyorican Hunter Alumni and El Barrio native El Centro played an important part of me learning more about my heritage , artists in the community and the history of the island! This must be sustain for future generations - this is important The Centro is a valuable resource
M. Anne Visser	Associate Professor - University of California, Davis	Davis	
Meagan Lacy	Assistant Professor/Information Literacy Librarian	New York	
Marisol Hernandez	Associate Professor- CUNY School of Medicine	New York	
Netania Budofsky		New York City	
Gabriella Navas		Jersey City	
Helen Hazelwood Isaac	PhD Candidate, NYU History	New York	
Julia Rivera		Philadelphia, PA	
Georgeann Ramos		New York	"The Centro Library & Archives is the only archival repository nationwide exclusively devoted to documenting the Puerto Rican communities living in the United States". This collection in its entirety MUST be saved.
Kim Sanabria	Retired professor	New York	
Priscilla Hernandez		New York	
Hilary Collins		New York	
Regner Ramos	Associate Professor	San Juan, PR	
Divya Chandrasekhar	Associate Professor, City & Metropolitan Planning, Univers	Salt Lake City	
LaRoi M. Lawton, MLS, MA, EdD	Assistant Professor/Learning Services Head/Library Depart	Bronx, NY	
Beth Posner	Head of Library Resource Sharing, The Graduate Center, Cl	New York	

The most important archive on Puerto Rico, and considering that Puerto Ricans are the second largest US Latinx group in the US, and that Puerto Rico has been colonized by the US since 1898, endangering this institution and its mission is akin to then President Trump throwing rolls of paper towels to Puerto Ricans upon visiting the island after its most deadly catastrophe in a century. It is that callous, vulgar and unacceptable, and should be political anathema to decision-makers. Are US-based Puerto Rican communities “and particularly those of New York” still not among the groups historically disenfranchised from US higher learning? Lets continue to enumerate the myriad reasons this threat is so appalling.

Maritza Stanchich	Professor of English	San Juan
Emma Antobam-Ntekudzi	Reference & Instruction Librarian	Bronx
Michelle Morton	Community College Instruction Librarian	Santa Cruz
John A. Drobnicki	Professor/York College, CUNY	Jamaica
Kathleen Collins	Professor/Librarian	New York
Meredith Powers	Eresources Librarian	Brooklyn
Amanda Suriel	International Student Advisor	Plattsburgh
J. Silvia Cho	Library liaison to the Latin American, Iberian and Latino Cu	New York, NY
Colleen Clark	Graduate Student	Albany
Roxanne Shirazi	Assistant Professor/Dissertation Research Librarian	CUNY Graduate Center
Emily Drabinski	Interim Chief Librarian, Graduate Center	New York
Eric Morales-Franceschini	Assistant Professor of English and Latin American Studies - Athens	
Ana Guzman	Bilingual/Special Ed teacher	New York
Jill Cirasella	Associate Librarian for Scholarly Communication and Digital	New York
Vikki Terrile	Assistant Professor	Brooklyn, NY
Ann Matsuuchi		New York
Iris Vargas	Alumni of Hunter College - CUNY	Bronx, NY
Isabel Vargas	Faculty Librarian	Turlock
Adamarie Laboy	UX Researcher	Brooklyn NY
Jose Edgardo Guzman Fontanez		NEW YORK
Eddie Bautista	Executive Director	NYC
Kristal M. Figueroa-Vergara	Social Work Student / DSP	Lancaster
Nathaniel Rodriguez	Digital Media Coordinator/Anthropology Student	Dothan

Clay Williams	librarian	New York
Wanett Clyde	Collections Management Librarian & Archivist	Brooklyn, NY
Rafaela Luz (Ronnie) Billini	Hunter College-CUNY Alumni; Founder SSI EQUALITY COAL	South Orange, NJ
Elijah Davila		Charlotte
Ebe De Leon	Administrative Assistant	New York
Trevar Riley-Reid	Associate Professor	New York
Jason Rivera	College assistant library	Brooklyn
Lee Ann Fullington	Librarian/Assistant Professor	Brooklyn, NY
Anthony Cortez Vera	Translation Intern and Volunteer	Bronx
Mariana Leticia Romero	Grad Student	NYC
Jorge Matos Valldejuli	Assistant Professor-Hostos Community College-CUNY	New York
Luis Galanes Valldejuli	Full Professor, UPR-Cayey	San Juan
Yolanda Rivera Castillo	Professor	San Juan, Puerto Rico
Chelsea Reil	Archivist	New York
Krystie Wilfong	Associate College Librarian for Collection Management and	Lewiston
Juan Gudiño-Cabrera	Graduate student	San Juan
Shir Lerman Ginzburg		Farmington
Suraya Choudhury	Administrative Specialist/ HEa	Queens
Megan Pinder	Library Specialist (bilingual)	Medford, OR
Patricia Glowinski	Archivist	New York City
Otomie Vale	Professor	San Juan
Louise Fluk	Collection Development Librarian, LaGuardia Community C	Long Island City, NY
Jose Ortiz	Drumologist/Cultural Educator	BRONX
Lizette Lizardi	M.A. International Disaster Psychology	Rowland Heights
Curtis Matthew	Head of Circulation/ Reserves, CUNY Graduate Center	New York
Dorothea Coiffe-Chin	Associate Professor	New York
Marcy Schwartz	Professor and dept. chair	New Brunswick
Elizabeth Tompkins	Associate Professor	Kingsborough Community College

This jewel of CUNY must be saved and preserved for future generations.

Its mission, research, publications and outreach programs are necessary and important to maintain the plurality, diversity and intersectionality; all key elements in contemporary epistemological approaches.

We cannot depend on a system to protect what is dear to us. Let's do this together.

Dr. David Luciano	Associate Professor of Social Work and Research Master of Charlotte, NC		Please help to support the historical mission and research of the Centro Journal. The Centro Journal is an important cultural institution and journal that promotes Latino research and scholarship.
Carl Andrews	Assistant Professor/Reference & Instruction Librarian	Bronx	
Miguel Murillo Ayala	Archivist	Chula Vista	
Roberto Vélez-Vélez	Associate Professor Sociology/LACS, SUNY New Paltz	New Paltz, NY	
Robert Farrell	Associate Professor, Lehman College, CUNY	Bronx	
Noel Allende Goitia	Independent Scholar; Associate Fellow at Colectivo de Estu	San Antonio, Texas	The Center for Puerto Rican Studies, is an important, and integral part of the cumulative knowledge of the Puerto Rican community in general and the Puerto Rican scholarship, in particular. It has been at the center of all the processes of community building events for Puerto Ricans in the Greater New York area, as well as the Puerto Rican in the Island.
Kathleen Dreyer	Chief Librarian	New York	
Madeline Ford	Professor/Chief Librarian	Bronx	
Katherine Parsons	Librarian/Lecturer	Bronx	Libraries are the heart of the academic community; save the libraries, and its faculty and staff
Elizabeth Jardine	Associate Professor/Librarian	LaGuardia Community College, New York	
Eddie Caceres	Creative manager / designer	New York	
Eddie Caceres	Creative manager / designer	New York	
Eke Williams	Library Manager	New York, NY	
Leonell Torres-Pagan	Clinical Psychologist Assistant Clinical Professor of Medic	New York	
Juan Vazquez		Brooklyn	
Lawrence La Fountain-Stokes	Professor of American Culture and Romance Languages, U	Ann Arbor	I fully support Centro's mission.
Tania Carrasquillo Hernández	Associate Professor of Spanish and Latin American/Latinx S	Beaverton, Oregon	Restore staff and preserve the archives that are necessary to preserve latino history. There should never have been any layoffs.
Maxine Cooper	Adjucnct librarian	Brooklyn	
Tania Carrasquillo Hernández	Associate Professor of Spanish and Latin American/Latinx S	Beaverton, Oregon	
Rogers M Smith	Christopher H. Browne Distinguished Professor of Political	Philadelphia	
William A Casari	Hostos Community College Archivist/Prof.	Bronx	Fully Fund Centro! An invaluable national and international resource.
Bartholomew H. Sparrow	Professor of Government, The University of Texas	Austin	

Zadia M. Feliciano	Professor, Queens College & Graduate Center, CUNY	Flushing, NY	The Center is vital to studies of Puerto Rico, the diaspora and the Caribbean. The Center is vital to studies of Puerto Rico, the diaspora and the Caribbean.
María Elena Rodríguez Castro	Full Professor	San Juan	
María Elena Rodríguez Castro Maureen Garvey	Full Professor Librarian	San Juan RAHWAY	
			Many of us including those outside Puerto Rican Studies have benefited professionally and intellectually from the work of el Centro. At this social crossroads, el Centro as well as other key institutions providing knowledge about multiple Latino populations should be growingâ€” not shrinking.
Maria de los Angeles Torres	Professor	Chicago	CENTRO has been an invaluable resources, not only in the US, but internationally. I first heard of CENTRO while living in Canada and doing research on Puerto Ricans and Residential Segregation. I published several articles in CENTRO Journal and have been networking with other Puerto Rican Scholars. CENTRO has been key to my professional development, a key intellectual hub in studies of racial and ethic relations, and a great resources in the study of social stratification. It is very short-sighted to cut the funding and resources of this valuable highly regarded international institution. Before CENTRO, I never even heard about Hunter College.
Donna Davey	Adjunct Reference Librarian / Graduate Center, CUNY	New York	
Norma Rodriguez Roldan	Retired UPR Professor	San Juan	
Tania María Ríos Marrero	Community Organizer, Free Library of Philadelphia	Philadelphia	
Jayson Velazquez	Undergraduate Student at The Ohio State University	Columbus, Ohio	
Danielle Nista	Reference Associate	New York	
Francine Egger-Sider	Coordinator of Technical Services/Professor	New York City	
Giovani Burgos	Associate Professor of Sociology -Adelphi University	Garden City	For PR!
Brayden Pollvogt	undergrad student at valparaiso university	valparaiso, IN	
Roaya Higazi	Ohio State University, Undergraduate Student	Columbus, OH	
Yarith Morales		Columbus	
John Devereux	Professor, Queens College CUNY	New York	

Michael Staudenmaier	Assistant Professor of History, Manchester University	Chicago
Shannon Dalrymple	Graduate Student	New York NY
Lisa Ellis	Associate Professor and Librarian, Baruch College	New York
Kathryn Hart	Undergraduate	Fort Wayne
Juan Carlos Quintero-Herencia	Professor	College Park

I am currently in the process of preserving and archiving 'testament' and material I have from the first Bilingual/bicultural school, CS 211x, which was 'founded' in 1969 under the leadership of Dr. Carmen E. Rivera. Oral histories were well underway at El Centro in October of 2019 to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the school. Regrettably, our efforts have been halted by the 2020 pandemic. Of all the important areas of study - affecting the Puerto Rican community as well as acknowledging the significant contributions of Puertorriqueños in NYC and nationwide - the area of 'education' seemed to have but a minimum of documented information. Additionally, I was in the process of 'contributing' original documents attesting to the establishment & functioning of PREA - the Puerto Rican Educator's Association (started in the 1960's). I trust wisdom will prevail in sustaining & enhancing further the unique office & library that is El Centro. ¡Mil gracias!

Susan L. Serrano

Susan L. Serrano	tary, and resource that is 'El Centro.' Thank you, Susan L. !Bronx
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Luis Aponte-Pares	Associate Professor	Boston
Johnathan Rivera Garcia	Student	Columbus
Alevtina Verbovetskaya	University Director of Library Systems, The City University of New York, NY	New York, NY
William Suarez II	Adj. Assistant Professor, CUNY	New York City
Christine Kim		Bayside NY
Justin Agrelo	Journalist	Chicago
Calla Rivera	Student at MIAD	Manatí

The Center for Puerto Rican Studies retains a leadership position in Latinx Studies, Transnational research, the Social Sciences and Humanities

Angel 'Monxo' López	Mellon Foundation Curatorial Fellow - Museum of the City	New York City
Jose Nicolas Reyero		Bronx
Paloma Beauchamp		Denver
Elizabeth Rodriguez	Writer/Teacher	Bronx, NY
Sarah Ward	Associate Professor, Hunter College Libraries	New York
Lourdes Rodriguez	Legal Secretary	Bronx, New York
Teresa L McManus	Professor, Bronx Community College, CUNY	Bronx, NY
Jacqueline N Font	Program Director and Faculty	Omaha
Angel 'Monxo' López	Mellon Foundation Curatorial Fellow - Museum of the City	New York City
Max Thorn	Librarian, Queens College	New York
John Rivera	Co-Director of the Holyoke Food and Equity Collective	Holyoke
Ismael Garcia-Colon	Professor of Anthropology, CUNY-CSI and GC	New York
Phyllis Heitjan	MSLIS candidate	Queens
Lillian Castillo-Speed	Head Librarian, Ethnic Studies Library, University of California	Berkeley, CA
Evelyn Collazo	Retired, former Centre staff	New York
Marisol Morales	Vice President for Network Leadership	Chicago
Meave Gallagher	Student, Queens College GSLIS	Brooklyn
Cristina Esteves-Wolff	PhD Student, University of Chicago	Chicago, IL
Taína Vargas		Bronx, NY
Kenneth Schlesinger	Chief Librarian, Lehman College	Bronx, New York
Ashley Larson	Special Collections Public Services Librarian, Subject Librarian	Claremont
Teresa Basilio		Brooklyn
BETH EVANS	Associate Professor, Brooklyn College Library	BROOKLYN
Caroline Zayas King		Brooklyn
Iris Finkel	Assistant Professor/Librarian	New York
Dania Ramos	Writer	Bloomfield
Joel Berrocal	National Director/NPR Chamber of Commerce	Bristol
Cecilia Enjuto Rangel	Associate Professor of Spanish, University of Oregon	Eugene, OR

The resources and history that Centro preserves, examines, and shares are irreplaceable and cannot be lost.

This program and its teachings are vital to our community and future.
On behalf of so many stakeholders, please support this rare, valuable and important resource.

I support the Centro and I strongly encourage you to continue to provide support to it. It is an important resource for the communities it serves and it produces stellar scholarly work.

This is a unique research center in the mainland US. It must be preserved and supported.

Mucho ¡Mucho éxito!

Sonia Rodriguez	Retired Nurse	Escondido, CA
Ellie Walsh	Associate Professor of History, Governors State University	Chicago
Bobby Sanabria	Musician/Educator	Bronx
April Rosenblum	Graduate student	Oakland, CA
Elisa Gonzalez	Associate, Community Science	Gaithersburg
Simone Yearwood	Associate Professor	Flushing
Joseph Hartnett	Information Services Librarian, Baruch College	New York
Linda Barber		New York City
David Badillo	Lehman College	Bronx, NY
Johanna Fernández	Associate Professor, Baruch CUNY	New York
Nanette Johnson	Assistant Professor	Brooklyn, NY
Binu Godage	Student	Columbus
Jose Luis Morin	Professor & Chair, Latin American and Latinx Studies Dept.	New York
Aisha Pena	Associate Professor	Brooklyn
Nilda Ruiz	President and CEO	Philadlephia
Joshua Peach	Adjunct Open Educational Resources and Reference Librarian	Brooklyn, NY
Isar Godreau	Researcher	Cayey
Amada Santiago	Adjunct Professor	New york
H. Manuel Acevedo-Reyes		Charlottesville
Sugenny Santiago	Adjunct Lecturer	New York
Daniel A. Rodríguez	Assistant Professor of History, Brown University	Providence
Chaney Kalinich	MD Student, Yale University	New Haven, CT
Ricardo Bertran	Retired	The Bronx
Rita Ormsby	Associate Professor - information Services Librarian	New York
Melvin González-Rivera	Professor	Mayagüez
Sonia Maldonado Torres	Associate Professor HostosCC	Bronx
Thomas James	Professor of History and Education, Teachers College, Colu	New York City
Debora Maldonado-DeOliveira	Associate Professor of Spanish	Meredith College
Michelle Noble	Mother/Rancher	Maud, Oklahoma

As a New Yorker of Puerto Rican descent I carry my NY college education with me always and I am proud of my Latina Heritage. This is a place where all young students can learn of our mark in the world and be proud of and learn to embrace their heritage. This a place to respect and preserve. It is not to be respected nor disrespected like this.

Centro is an invaluable resource for our community

I support El Centro

I will support anything that is to improve and further someone's education!!

Dr. Rosario Rivera	Professor	San Juan
Joel Castro	PhD/JD	San Juan
Abner Nieves		Hanover
Melisa Collazo	Student	Bronx
Elisabeth Perez	Student	Bronx
Ed Morales	Columbia CSER	New York
Noemí Cruz	Student	Bronx
gerald meyer	Prof. Emeritus Hostos Community College	New York
Noemi Perez	Student	Bronx
Maritza Rodriguez	Student	Bronx
Michael Cruz	Student	Bronx
Thai Jones	Curator for US History, RBML, Columbia University	New York City
Lisa Ortiz	Provost Postdoctoral Research Scholar	Iowa City
Maureen Richards	Assistant Professor and Librarian	New York
Mónica Celeste Lladó Ortega	Professor	San Juan
Helga Fontanez		Los Angeles
Ruth Santiago	Lawyer	Salinas, PR
Belinda Linn Rincon	Associate Professor of Latin American and Latinx Studies at	New York City
Rosana Diaz Zambrana	Professor of Spanish	Winter Garden
Katherine McCaffrey	Associate Professor, Anthropology, Montclair State Univer	Montclair
Kevin S. Carroll	Full Professor, University of Puerto Rico	San Juan, Puerto Rico
Howard Jordan	Professor	New York
Fernando Rodriguez	Clergy, Presbyterian Church (USA)	Denver
Maritza De La Trinidad	Associate Professor, Mexican American Studies	Edinburg
M Miriam aherrera	Lecturer III, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Edinburg
M Miriam aherrera	Lecturer III, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley	Edinburg
Mariana Leckner	Business Owner	Southampton
Connie Gutierrez		new York
Angelika Barris		Hasbrouck Heights
Marco Sabater		Bronx
Christopher M. Jones	Executive Director, Florida Legal Services	Orlando, FL
Aseel Sawalha	Associate Professor of Anthropology-Fordham University	New York
Christine Jokisch Polo		Washington
Mirelsie Velázquez	Associate Professor, University of Oklahoma	Norman
William Torres	Former Student	Brooklyn

Preserve and protect el Centro.

As a historian in a Mexican American Studies program, I understand the importance of intellectual centers such as Centro and fully support the requests in this petition.

Cybele Garcia Kohel	Writer	Pasadena, CA	Centro is an important support hub and research center for Puerto Ricans across the US, like me. Please keep it going!
Diana Agosta, Ph.D.	Independent Scholar/Educator	New York, NY	
Eleanor Parker Sapia	Author	Martinsburg	Save the Centro
Ileana Cintron	Deputy Director, Enterprising Latinas, Inc.	Wimauma, FL	
CARLOS RIVERA VELEZ, PhD	CEO The Foundation Global Group	San Juan, Puerto Rico	Centro needs its vacant staff positions filled and its funding restored.
George Yudicce	Professor	Coral Gables	
J. Dillon Brown	Associate Professor of Anglophone Literatures, Washington	St. Louis, MO	This center was instrumental in my research for a PhD and has enabled me to educate subsequent generations of students over the past 30 years. It is top notch, and visionary, and remains so to this very day.
Belinda Linn Rincon	Associate Professor of Latin American and Latinx Studies at	New York City	
Melanie Maldonado	Founder and Director, Puerto Rican Organization for the Pe	Orlando	Do the right thing and support Centro! Any decision to undermine the important role that it plays within the Puerto Rican Culture will be unacceptable. It is the duty and responsibility of the University to ensure that this jewel of research and cultural heritage continues to offer the services for current and future generations. We will not accepted or tolerated any disrespectful action that will undermine its existence.
Adrian Bordoni	Adjunct Lecturer Latinx Studies	Maspeth	
Kristel De Jesus		San Juan	
Mitchell Pinsky	Student at The Ohio State University	Columbus, OH	
Elsa Davidson	Associate Professor, Montclair State University	Brooklyn	
Makeba Lavan	Assistant Professor	Grinnell	
Roberto Morales	Episcopal Priest	Kisimmee Florida	
Arelis Forty		New York	
Ben Olguin	Professor	Santa Barbara, Califor	
René Antrop-González	Dean, School of Education	New Paltz	
Cynthia Knittle	Doctor of Health Administration	York, PA	
Carmen Bardeguet-Brown	Educator poet and writer	New York. Chiangmai	
Aurora Alcaide Ramírez	Profesora Titular del Departamento de Bellas Artes de la U	Murcia (España)	
Amy Starecheski	Director, Columbia University Oral History Master of Arts	The Bronx	

Jonathan Hearn	Professor of Political and Historical Sociology, University of Edinburgh, Scotland, UK		
Luis Lugo		New York	
Amanda Moreno, MSLIS/MA	Archivist, Cuban Heritage Collection, University of Miami	Miami, FL	
Alex Stehn	Associate Professor of Philosophy	McAllen, TX	
Kelly Kreps Depin	Director, Whelden Memorial Library	West Barnstable	
Eddie J Pesante	Graduate Student- Graduate Center CUNY	Asco, PR	
Stanley Thangaraj	Associate Professor of Anthropology, Gender Studies, and	New York	Support Centro!
Erika Marte	Adjunct Lecturer at CUNY John Jay College	Bronx	
Michele Wan	Special Collections Cataloging Librarian, Columbia University	New York	
Genesis Nieves	QC graduate student	New York	
Hugo Viera-Vargas	Assistant Professor Caribbean Studies and Music	Sarasota, Florida	
Wendy Tan	Associate Professor	New York City	
Rosalind Reyes-Medina	Chief Financial Officer	New York	League of P Centro must never be closed!
Anthony Marcus	Professor	New York	
Ujju Aggarwal		New York	
Maggie Dickinson	Assistant Professor, Guttman Community College	New York	
Peter Cattani		Geneva, Switzerland	
Elliott Feliciano	Writer	Los Angeles	
Wesley Moraes	Assistant Professor	Geneseo	Yes, save it!
Jose Bermudez		Washington DC	
Jim Jupp	Professor & Chair	Edinburg	Critical and race-based resources and programs need protection and investments in this time of racial inequalities, not being "scrapped." As a previous priest at the Church of The Mediator in the Bronx NY, I'm aware of the value to sustain and keep alive our cultural roots and identity for our families, especially our children. Do not rip us of our value as citizens of the world!
Loyda Morales	Rector, Church of the Good Shepherd	Hartford, CT	
Angelica Gonzalez	Associate Director of Graduate Studies	McAllen	
Destiny S		Brooklyn	
Maria Scharron-del Rio	Associate Dean, School of Education; Professor, School of	Brooklyn	
Lila Barchetto		Beacon, NY	
Alisse Waterston	Professor and Chair, John Jay College, CUNY	New York	
Michael Seltzer	Distinguished Lecturer	New York	
Christopher Carmona	Associate Professor	Brownsville	Save this Center
Dr. Ernesto Fidel Ramirez	Data & Research Manager - UTRGV	Edinburg	
Josiah Heyman	Endowed Professor, University of Texas at El Paso	El Paso, TX	Proud alumnus of CUNY Graduate School, 1988

Ed Morales	Columbia CSER	New York	This is crucial to our cultural development and the abandonment of cultural erasure! Please don't take our studies away. It is very important to keep the historical memory alive...
Francés miró	CUNY Student	New York	
Dr. Luis Barrios Dimas Sánchez	Professor Professor	New York Orlando	
			To whom it may concern, it is time to save the Centro, an Institution that for decades has served well the Puerto Rican community in New York and the cities and the states in the United States where there has been Puerto Rican emigration. Save the Center!!!
Carlos I. Hernandez-Hernandez Brian Montes	Full Professor Assistant Professor	UPR, Mayaguez New York	I support the recommendations that were made as Centro is a vital resources for scholars.
Sonja Arredondo Murphy Halliburton Gretchen Sierra-Zorita	Lecturer III University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Professor - Queens College, CUNY	Mcallen New York Bethesda	
Felix Cruz Jusino Norma Pérez Gabriela Montanez William Luis Mario R. Cancel-Sepulveda	Historian Mexican American Studies graduate Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Professor of Spanish Full Professor History (RUMUPR)	San Juan Weslaco Islandia Nashville Mayaguez	The Centro is a the keeper of the history of the struggle of all Puerto Ricans and Latinos in the United States.
Joy Dunkley	Librarian	John Jay College- CUN	We cannot afford to allow this extremely important cultural and historical institution to go under.
Anthony jean amaral José Anazagasty Rodríguez Pepita Soto Simone Yearwood	Dean, School of Information, Pratt Institute associate professor and open knowledge librarian Phd, Full Professor, UPR at Mayaguez Graduate - 1969 Associate Professor	New York New York Cabo Rojo New York Flushing	I have collaborated with Centro for my class projects at Pratt. I can confirm that they are a valuable resource to NYC, especially the archives that documents the history of Puerto Ricans in the diaspora.
			LISTEN to our many, diverse, and loud voices!!!

Steven Jaffe	Independent scholar	Maplewood	An absolutely vital institution that must be sustained and strengthened.
Rev. Andre Trevathan	Former instructor in Liturgy and Ethics, Seminario Episcop	Philadelphia, PA	
Enedina Enriquez	Lecturer II	Edinburg	Save the center and don't close it if it is meeting the needs of your community.
Marines Aponte	Professor	San Juan, Puerto Rico	
Adriana Palmer	Electronic Resources Librarian, CUNY Graduate Center	New York City	The Centro and its archives are invaluable for Puerto Ricans in view of the very limited archival materials in PR and the poor conditions of archives there in general. Especially now that we are beginning to develop a global, transnational history of Puerto Ricans' experience beyond the island 's geographical confines, the Centro and its archival collections have become even more indispensable. The Puerto Rican migratory experience is, after all, one of the first massive transnational waves from the Caribbean Basin in the East Coast of the US. Understanding its dynamic and history can help in developing a more defined vision of US immigrant communities in general and Latin in particular. As one of the guardians of that historical memory, the Centro provides an intellectual and archival infrastructure for the study of a significant transnational component that Has helped define the United States as a global community in the 21st century. Sandra Pujals, University of Puerto Rico
Mary N. Taylor	Assistant Director, Center for Place, Culture and Politics, C	New York	
Taylor Seaver	student	donna texas	
Sonali Perera	Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature	New York	
Carah A Naseem	CUNY Hunter College Alumna	New York	
Linsey Ly	doctoral student, CUNY GC Anthropology	Brooklyn	
Samina Gul Ali	PhD candidate in English, University of Miami	union, nj	
K. Lewis	Speaker	Manhattan	
Clara Cabrera	Research Reference Supervisor, WilmerHale LLP; & CUNY A	New York, NY	
Alyosha Goldstein	Professor of American Studies, University of New Mexico	Albuquerque, NM	
Sandra Pujals	Professor, University of Puerto Rico	San Juan	

Vanessa K. Valdés	Professor & Director of CCNY Black Studies Program	New York
Samuel Stein		New York
Karen Miller	Professor	New York City
Diana J Fox	Professor and Chair	Bridgewater
Tom Nielsen	Adjunct Librarian, York College/CUNY	Woodhaven
A.J. Muhammad	Librarian	New York
Prithi Kanakamedala	Associate Professor, History, Bronx Community College	CU Bronx, NY
Diana Cordova-Cobo	PhD Candidate, Teachers College, Columbia University	New York, NY
Rose Jimenez	PhD Candidate, City University of New York	Brooklyn, New York
Andrew Hauner	Early Childhood Teacher	New York
Anthony Alessandrini	Professor of English, Kingsborough Community College, an	Brooklyn
Julie Turley	Reader Services Librarian/Assistant Professor	Brooklyn
Janette Santana	Maintenance	New York
Asya Stepnova	CUNY MFA Student	Brooklyn
Giovanni Seijo	PhD Student, CU-Boulder	Boulder, CO
Lauren M	Graduate student	New York, NY
Alaina Claire Feldman	Director, Mishkin Gallery at Baruch College, CUNY	New York
Miriam Ticktin	Associate Professor, Anthropology, The New School	New York
Marc Edelman	Professor of Anthropology, Hunter College & CUNY Gradua	New York
Alvina Lai		Brooklyn, NY
Natalia Muñoz Paralicci	Student, independent researcher.	Naguabo, Puerto Rico
Alice Garcia	Retired Family Genealogy	NYC/Florida
Jane Guskin	Adjunct Lecturer, Urban Studies, Queens College	New York
Ramon Borges-Mendez	Associate Professor, Clark University	Worcester
Andy Battle	Bard Early Colleges	New York
Joshua Mullenite	Assistant Professor, Wagner College	Brooklyn, NY
Meg Kallman Feeley	Adj Lecturer English CUNY-KCC	Brooklyn
Destiny		Bronx

This is a vital resource that must be protected and maintained in these difficult times! Starving this renowned Center is not only tragic for scholarship but for the transformations that research can make toward policy, toward ongoing transnational collaborations—it's wrongheaded and shortsighted.

A valuable asset of researching not one's history but access information. This should not be lost due to budget cuts as it's valued by the many people it has helped. This is something money can not buy.

Shanique Brown	Student	New York
Rachel Corey	PublicsLab Fellow and PhD student, CUNY Graduate Center	Portland, ME
Eleanor J. Bader	Freelance writer/teacher	Brooklyn
Emmy Hammond	CUNY Graduate Center alumna & former Hunter TA	Brooklyn
Rosa Diaz	Bilingual School Library Media Specialist	Rochester
Edward Sammons	Asst. Prof. (CLTA) Univ. of Toronto	Toronto
Chantal Gailloux	Postdoctoral fellow, Texas State University	San Marcos
Jarrett Moran	Graduate Student	Brooklyn
Julie Skurski	Distinguished Lecturer, Graduate Center, CUNY	New York
Melina Sang	MLS graduate student at CUNY Queens College	Queens, NY
Laura Rivas	PhD student	New York
Andres Espinoza Agurto	Assistant professor of music FAU	Boynton Beach
Jaylin Antwan Holland	Ohio State University Student	Columbus
Melissa Mercedes Valle	Assistant Professor of Sociology & African American Studies	Newark, New Jersey
Elba Serrano	Regents Professor, New Mexico state University (neuroscience)	Las Cruces, NM
Kristina Richardson	Associate Professor of History	New York
Eric Lott	Distinguished Professor of English/American Studies, CUNY	New York, NY
Abraham N. Rodriguez Guzman, AIA	Architect	Portland
Angelika Winner	Adjunct lecturer/PhD Candidate The CUNY Graduate Center	Brooklyn
Jocelyn A. Géliga Vargas	Full Professor	Mayaguez, PR

Olga Sanabria Davila	Cttee PR at UN	San Juan
Norma Rodriguez Roldan	Retired UPR Professor	San Juan
Jeanie P.		NYC
Angeles Donoso Macaya	Associate Professor of Spanish	New York
christopher colon	Graduate Student CUNY GC Urban Education Ph.D.	brooklyn
Charles Stewart	Retired Assoc. Dean & Chief Librarian, CCNY	Frenchtown NJ
Rachael LaPolla	Teacher	Philadelphia
Agnes Quinones		Meriden
Corey D Clawson	Administrative Assistant, Rutgers University-Newark	Newark, NJ
Nilda Ruiz	President of NPRA	Philadelphia
Frances Negrón-Muntaner	Professor, Columbia University	New York
Nellie Zambrana Ortiz	Professor College of Education	University of Puerto Rico
Julio E. Rodríguez Torres	Professor University of Puerto Rico	Trujillo Alto
Sherry Millner	Professor, Media Culture Department, College of Staten Island	NYC
Anita Yudkin	Professor, University of Puerto Rico	San Juan

Centro is an important institution of the Puerto Rican and academic communities that must be given the priority it deserves.

LEAVE CENTRO ALONE
This is a most vital research, teaching & study center.

Jack Devine	PhD Candidate in History CUNY GC	Brooklyn	I wholeheartedly support this petition
Ana Maria Hernandez	Professor of Spanish and Latin American Studies	New York	
María Dolores Fernos	Law professor (retired) Inter American University of Puerto Rico	San Juan	
Luis E. Nieves Rosa	Professor	Ricón, PR	Graduate Student from the Hunter College
Raven Gomez	Master's Student	Bronx	Graduate School of Social Work
Sonia LabradorRodrio	Associate Professor	New College of Florida	I just want the best for your country. Ty
Kay Gabriel	Instructor, Bard Microcollege at Brooklyn Public Library	New York	
David Clark	Mr	Gainnesville	
Lydia Krage		Columbus, OH	
Marianne Madoré	PhD student, CUNY	nyc	
Europa Pinero	Retired full professor	San Juan	
DINORAH Colon Ordonez	Retired Physical Therapist	New York	We need this building open to share with our younger generation our heritage
Gerard Dalbon		Brooklyn	
Judith Deleon		Altamonte springs fl	
Firdaws Roufai		BRONX	En defensa del Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños en NYC.
Andrew Suárez	Graduate Student	Bentonville	
Johanna Fernández	Associate Professor, Baruch CUNY	New York	
Wanda Velez	Tele Health Specialist	BOISE, ID	Adelante! I majored in Puerto Rican Studies and became a Research Assistant at the Centro when it first began. It was a great experience and I hope that the Centro continues to be a beacon of knowledge in the years to come.
Celia Madona Vincent		Trivandrum	
Luz Elena Sanchez	Retired UPR Rio Piedras	San Juan	
Ileana M. Quintero	Profesora	San Juan	
Ivonne Villafaña	MD	San Juan , Puerto Rico	
Reinaldo Rosado-Silva	Doctorando e Instructor de Ciencias Sociales e Historia, UP Mayagüez	Mayagüez	
Margaret Martinez	Retired Attorney	Isabela, PR	
Johanna Fernández	Associate Professor, Baruch CUNY	New York	
Sonia Valentín	Actriz/ Directora /Productora	San Juan	
Rubi Otero		Guaynabo PR	
Eduardo Bhatia	Former Senator	San Juan	
Heidi Diehl	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Brooklyn College	Brooklyn, NY	
Richard Lieberman	Professor	New York	
Ramona Montaño	Music Artist	Queens, NY	

David Betances	artist	Berlin	
Yolanda Izquierdo	Catedrática, Universidad de Puerto Rico	Río Piedras	
Christian Vega	Hunter College Alum, 2017	New York	
Maria G Rosado Almedina, PhD	Catedrática UPRRP	San Juan, Puerto Rico	Apoyo esta propuesta.
Margarita Moscoso	Retired Professor of Education UPR Puerto Rico	San Juan	
Lisette Palma	Alumni	Bronx	
Amarilys Estrella	Postdoctoral Fellow, Johns Hopkins University	New York	
Mabel Rodríguez Centeno	PhD/Professor Univerisidad de Puerto Rico	Rio Piedras, San Juan	
Monica Santana Melendez	Former member of The Boricua Student Association at the	Houston, TX	
Edwin Arroyo		Mauldin	
Eneida Rivas	LaGuardia Community College	Flushing	
Bryan Welton	PhD Student, CUNY Graduate Center	Brooklyn	
Gladys E Rivera	Retired Administrator Hempstead School District NY	Hempstead, Long Islar	KEEP THIS CENTER OPEN!!!
Victor Martinez	Retired Teacher	Hempstead, NY	
Ana E. Quijano-Cabrera	Full Professor UPR-RP, Retired	SanJuan, Puerto Rico	Hope hoy reach uour goal!
Lillian Jimenez	Producer, Director of "Antonia Pantoja: !Presente!	New City	
Bahia Munem	WGS Merrimack College	New York	
Harris Feinsod	Associate Professor of English & Comparative Literature, N	Evanston, IL	
Stephen Petrus	Historian and Curator, LaGuardia and Wagner Archives, La	New York City	
Brenda Carrasquillo	Principal	Bronx New York	I support this petition
Donatella Galella	Associate Professor, UC Riverside and PhD, CUNY Graduate	Riverside, CA and New York, NY	
Allia Abdullah-Matta	Professor of English	New York City	
Jasmine Butler	student	Memphis	
Eduardo Bhatia	Former Senator	San Juan	
Donna J Keren	CUNY PhD 1987	New York	For all of us working & living in NYC this is an essential resource The Center for Puerto Rican Studies has tremendous relevance, importance, and cultural heritage. I would be a great loss for everybody The Center...
Haydée Zayas-Ramos	Puertorrican Author	Caguas	
Joanna Dressel	PhD Student and Instructor in Sociology, CUNY	New York	
Víctor M Rodriguez	Emeritus Professor, California State Univ, Long Beach	Long Beach California	
Diana Narváez	Educator; Hunter '07	New York	
Alan W. Moore	PhD CUNY GC 2000; retired	Madrid, Madrid, Spair every day.	Build it up, don't tear it down.
Sonia Valentín	Actriz/ Directora /Productora	San Juan	

Alex Betancourt	Professor at University of Puerto Rico	San Juan	Keep the CENTRO alive. Fund it fully!!!!
Kathe Karlson		NYC	
Yolanda Izquierdo	Catedrática, Universidad de Puerto Rico	Río Piedras	
Gisabel Leonardo	PhD Student, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Champaign, IL	
Angelica Pla-Cortes		San Juan	Please add me to the letter P'lante!
Wendy Barrales	Doctoral Candidate - CUNY The Graduate Center	New York	
Gil Joseph	Farnam Professor of History Yale Univ.	Woodbridge	
Sophia Monegro	Graduate Student & Research Assistant	Austin & New York	
Juan A Villanueva	Archives Assistant, Cuban Heritage Collection	Coral Gables	
Ivonne Villafaña	MD	SanJuan , Puerto Rico	
Steven Dike	Associate Director, Honors Residential Academic Program,	Longmont, Colorado	
Lisa Materson	Associate Professor of History, UC Davis	Davis, California	
Karen Judd	Associate Editor, New Labor Forum, CUNY School of Labor	New York City	
Héctor Lindo-Fuentes	Professor Emeritus, Fordham University	New York	
Nikhil Shimpi		Brooklyn	
Angel Velez	Ph.D. Candidate at University of Illinois	Chicago	
Angel Velez	Ph.D. Candidate at University of Illinois	Chicago	
Fernando Burga	Assistant Professor	Minneapolis	
Ivelisse Cuevas-Molina, PhD	Assistant Professor	New York	
Paavo Monkkonen	Associate Professor and Director, Latin American Cities Init	Los Angeles	
Anaid Yerena	Assistant Professor UW Tacoma in the School of Urban Stu	Tacoma	
Angie Santiago, MA	Visiting Scholar University of North Carolina at Greensboro	Durham, NC	
Katherine Rivera		Brooklyn	
Waldemar Cruz	President Puerto Rican Police Association	Chicago	Invest and make sure the program continues to exist for educational and historical standpoint.
James Jennings, PhD	Professor Emeritus, Tufts University	Medford, Ma.	
Vanessa León	Director of Urban Planning - New York University Wagner S	New York	
James Tolleson	PhD Student, Cultural Anthropology at the CUNY Graduate	NYC	
NAZIFE GANAPATI	ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVER	MIAMI	
Anaid Yerena	Assistant Professor UW Tacoma in the School of Urban Stu	Tacoma	
Hector Aponte	retired psychologist	Chicago	
Luis F. Avilés	Full Professor/University of California, Irvine	Irvine	
Waldemar Morety	DSI- Research Assistant	New York City	Invest and make sure the program continues to exist for educational and historical standpoint.
Waldemar Cruz	President Puerto Rican Police Association	Chicago	
Cristina Pacione-Zayas, PhD	State Senator, 20th Legislative District, Illinois Senate	Chicago	
Allyson Ferrante	Associate Professor of English	Bridgewater, MA	
Suzan Arce	Retired Chairperson for the Committee of Special Educatio	West Hempstead	

			<p>The Centro and its archives are invaluable for Puerto Ricans in view of the very limited archival materials in PR and the poor conditions of archives there in general. Especially now that we are beginning to develop a global, transnational history of Puerto Ricans' experience beyond the island 's geographical confines, the Centro and its archival collections have become even more indispensable. The Puerto Rican migratory experience is, after all, one of the first massive transnational waves from the Caribbean Basin in the East Coast of the US. Understanding its dynamic and history can help in developing a more defined vision of US immigrant communities in general and Latin in particular. As one of the guardians of that historical memory, the Centro provides an intellectual and archival infrastructure for the study of a significant transnational component that Has helped define the United States as a global community in the 21st century. Sandra Pujals, University of Puerto Rico</p> <p>The Centro is an essential academic entity for all of us interested in improving the social and economic wellbeing of Puerto Ricans and other minorities. It is an iconic institution very much in sync with changing times.</p> <p>Self determination, self actualización and self reliance</p> <p>Please support our Centro's legacy if excellence for our students and generations to</p>
Sandra Pujals	Professor, University of Puerto Rico	San Juan	
José J. Villamil	Retired Professor University of Puerto Rico	San Juan	
Enrique Salgado Jr		Chicago	
Julian Brash	Associate Professor, Montclair State University	Maplewood, NJ	
Juan M. Calderon-Cuza	Chief Operations Officer	Chicago	
April Jackson	Assistant Professor, Urban and Regional Planning, Florida State	Tallahassee, FL	
Eric Dean Wilson	Graduate Student at the Graduate Center, CUNY	Brooklyn, NY	
Doris S. Medina Hernandez	Graduate Student	San Juan	
Gloria Bonilla-Santiago	Distinguished professor	Rutgers University	car come
David Southgate	Ralph Bunche Distinguished Graduate Fellow	Ponce, Puerto Rico	

Hugo Fernandez	Professor	Long Island City	El Centro is the backbone for all research regarding the diaspora and the island of PR.
Ralph E. Cintron	Professor, English and Latin American and Latino Studies, I	Chicago	
Solsiree del Moral	Professor of American Studies and Black Studies, Amherst	Amherst, MA	
Eda Correa	Assistant Librarian, University of Central Florida	Orlando, FL	
Amaryllis Lopez	Program Director, Elevated Thought	Lawrence, MA	
Maria del C Garcia Padilla	Professor UPRRP, Philosophical Foundations of Education	San Juan, Puerto Rico	
Julie Gamble	Assistant Professor	Hartford	Very proud to be supporting this very important initiative which defends and preserves the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College, CUNY. Centro is the most important academic institution for the almost 5.8 million Puerto Ricans living in the Diaspora, mainland USA.
Jose Luis Rivera	Founder & Director, National Puerto Rican Student Coalitic	San Juan, Puerto Rico	
Isabel Rodriguez	Student - Rutgers University	New Brunswick	
Patria Marin	Adjunct Psychologist, CITY COLLEGE	Bronx	
federico del monte	Planner/Sociedad Puertorriquena de Planificacion	Trujillo Alto	
Clara Irazabal	Professor, Director of the Urban Studies and Planning Prog	College Park, MD	
Miguel A. Valerio	Assistant Professor of Spanish	SAINT LOUIS	El Centro must survive now more than ever in this current political climate ! We strongly support the extraordinary work of Center for Puerto Rican Studies
Ileana M. Rodríguez-Silva	Associate Professor	Seattle	
Dolores Miranda Gierbolini	Professor	San Juan	
Lexus Pino-Quan	The City College of New York, CUNY Alumni	Queens	
Luis Santiago	Associate Profesor, University of Central Florida	Orlando	
Rafael Angel Zapata	Associate Vice President, Fordham University	New York	
Sylvia Rivera Viera	Retired professor, university of Puerto Rico	San Juan	I support the defense of the Center fit Puerto Rican Studies, Hunter College, CUNY
Luis Bothwell Travieso	Retired Prof. C aribbean Literature	Baltimore	
Carmen Vazquez Arce	Full professor (ret.) University of Puerto Rico- RP	San Juan, PR	
John Hinshaw	Professor of History, Lebanon Valley College	Annville	
Cesar Rolon	President	Chicago	
Carissa Caban-Aleman	Assistant Professor, Community Psychiatrist	Miami FL	
Christina Bangaroo		Ozone Park	Out history is critical to us. Too much has been taken away from us.

Ada Nivia Lopez	Educator / Former Trustee University of Illinois	Chicago
William Siembieda	Professor of City and Regional Planning, California Polytechnic	San Luis Obispo
ISMAEL NUNEZ	ALUMNI FROM HUNTER COLLEGE	NEW YORK CITY
Nydia Cabrera, PhD	Professor/Librarian, Independent Scholar	Miami Beach
Nydia Cabrera, PhD	Professor/Librarian, Independent Scholar	Miami Beach
Ivette N. Hernández-Torres	Associate Professor, UC Irvine	Irvine
Edwin Carrasquillo-Molina	Assoc. Prof. Department of Chemistry, University of Houston	Houston
Mariela Rodriguez	Professor of Educational Leadership	San Antonio
Miguel Palacio		Chicago
Ivette López	Retired Professor, University of Puerto Rico	San Juan

Centro is the Puerto Rican's response to racism and exclusion , now more than ever Hunter College must make it an integral part of its strategic plan. I remember when we were totally invisible as a people.

Add my name to the supporting letter list

Robert Olshansky	Professor Emeritus, Urban Planning, University of Illinois at Champaign, IL
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In my work researching and assisting in post-Maria recovery in Puerto Rico, Centro has been an enormously valuable and irreplaceable resource.

Apoyo mantener los recursos para el Centro y mantener viva nuestra nacionalidad

Rubén Estremera	Catedrático jubilado	San Juan, Puerto Rico
Robert Cordero	Executive Director, Grand Street Settlement	New York
Melissa Batty	MEd Student Affairs Counseling	New Bedford
Justo Méndez Arámburu	Coordinador General VAMOS Puerto Rico	San Juan
Regina Joy Alcazar	Graduate Student, Columbia GSAPP	New York City
Betty Medina Lichtenstein	Executive Director Enlace de Familias Inc.	Holyoke, Massachusetts
Elisa Sanchez	Enlace Comunitario	San Juan

Now more than ever, we need El Centro to hold our stories that witness our presence in this age of revisionist history and erasure.

Lois Elaine Griffith	Artist/Writer /founding Nuyorican Poets Cafe Founders Ar	Brooklyn, New York
Carlos Ivan Ramos	PhD	Saint Johns
Carlos Ivan Ramos PhD		Saint Johns
Sara Hamideh	assistant professor	Stony Brook
Lisette Torres-Gerald	Senior Research Associate & Program Coordinator	Lincoln, Nebraska
Sheila Northrop	Professor	Port Orchard
Cindy Huyser	Office Associate for Financial Aid University of Nebraska- K Kearney	
Gabrielle napolitano	Graphic designer	Brooklyn
Tisha Joseph Holmes	Assistant Professor, FSU Department of Urban and Regional	Tallahassee, FL
Kevin Fagundo-Ojeda	PhD Student	Salt Lake City

Andrea Mia Ortiz-Cana Lissette Acosta Corniel	Graduate student Assistant Professor	San Juan, PR Borough of Manhattan Community College	A Puerto Rican and Latin American Institution that have served for many decades should not be scarce from funds and nor should be closed . It will be a dis-service for the Hispanic communities of Hunter College and CUNY. Please save the Puerto Rican Institute at Hunter College
Clotilde Santana-Eccardi	Retired from the NYCDOE & Currently student of the Doctc Staten Island NY		Centro serves and has served as a crucial resource for research and design of the \$16B in CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT programs for the archipelago of Puerto Rico. Defunding this cache of collaborative study that collectivizes the work of PR diaspora/residents/allies will remove a powerful, formalized, learning platform from the evidence base of these programs and their future outcomes...the unfolding realities of people. As a researcher, designer and listener, Centro continually informs my work developing recovery programs, and will continue to do so as I begin to tackle the \$8B in mitigation funds. We need strong institutional allies to counter the assumptions of the powerful economic forces that continually seek to use disasters as a means to undermining democratic recovery.
Brendan Gordon Dr Jose Rodriguez Gomez Yolanda Martinez San Miguel Dorcas Lind Greene	Manager Full prfessor Marta S Weeks Chair in Latin American Studies Teacher Puerto Rican Studies	San Juan San Juan University of Miami New York City	
Frank R. Solano, PhD	Director, Partial Hospital Program	New York, NY	Let's keep El Centro open and functioning at full capacity.
Nancy López Priscilla Mejia Yolanda Delgado-Villao	Professor, Sociology, UNM Research Assistant Resource Specialist, NYS Language RBERN at NYU	Albuquerque, NM Bronx New York	A robust Puerto Rican Studies for posterity is a ethical obligation for CUNY

Iris Ofelia Lopez	Professor, Director of Latin American & Latin@ Studies	Brooklyn
Mario Catalino Cintron	VP of Communications for the Puerto Rican Leadership Council	Miami, FL
José Luis Méndez Muñoz	Profesor Universidad de Puerto Rico	San Juan
Angela Crumdy	Doctoral Candidate, The Graduate Center, CUNY	BROOKLYN
Large Sophie	Associate Professor, Université de Tours	Tours (France)
Luz M Cordero-Vega	Professor UPRH	Toa Baja
Michael Lee	Director, Fordham University Center for American Catholic Studies	Bronx, NY
Willie Perdomo	Poet	Exeter
Daisy Soto-Coppola	Registered Nurse	Bronxville
Marilyn Aguirre-Molina, MS, EdD	Professor Emerita	Wellfleet, MA
Comrade Libre		Miami
Miguel Angel Valladares Llata	Research Faculty Librarian for Latin American Studies, Univ of Virginia	Charlottesville, VA
Yvonne Anglero	Hunter College Graduate	Bronx, NY
Daniel Doncel	PhD candidate	Charlottesville, Virginia
Bianca Pizarro Vázquez	Graduate Student, UT Austin	Austin
Hiram Maristany	Photographer	New York City
Marisa Alicea	Professor	CHICAGO
Rebecca Tally	Associate Professor - LaGuardia Community College	New York
Deborah Lopez	President, Chicago Chapter National Conference of Puerto Rican Scholars	Chicago
Patricia Silver	former Centro Research Associate	New York

The Center for Puerto Rican Studies is a vital institution to CUNY. Our students use their library and other resources each semester. In this period of racial and social strife our students need the Centro!
These needs and demands need to be met immediately.

Institutional erasure affects our institutional memory. CENTRO must be saved. Punto

For Boricuas, by Boricuas!

Very pleased to see Boricua's responding!
We must mandate, El Centro's new Leadership is required to involve and nature a constructed relationship both local and regional communities. Never allow the executive Director to operate independently of the community.

Last recommendation: Board of directors should include several (3) members of the committee on the. Board.

Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter is an iconic institution nationally and its contributions must be equally respected and honored for the legacy of its archives and recognition of Puerto Ricans in the US and on the island of Puerto Rico. The state and the higher education system of New York must take on this responsibility as a reparation and equity gesture to the Puerto Rican people who are citizens and contributing

College Park, Maryland members .

Ruth Enid Zambrana	Distinguished University Professor	College Park, Maryland
Yafrainy Familia	PhD Student at UVA	BAYAMON
Vilma Ortiz	Professor, Sociology	UCLA
Lizzette Richardson	Director Post-Secondary Initiatives	Chicago
Alexandra Rojas	Full Professor	New York
Chon Noriega	Distinguished Professor, UCLA	Los Angeles
Jane Fuentes	Community Support	NY
Marina Del Rios	Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine/ University of	Chicago, Illinois
Juan Guerra	Professor Emeritus, University of Washington	Seattle
Paul Austerlitz	Professor, CUNY Dominican Studies Institute	New York
Bob Holman	Poet, Bowery Poetry Club	New York
Rafael Pérez-Torres	President, Latina/o Studies Association	Los Angeles
patricia gandara	Research Professor and Co-Director, Civil Rights Project UC	Los Angeles
Roger Waldinger	Distinguished Professor of Sociology, UCLA	Los Angeles, C
Gaspar Rivera-Salgado	Project Director, UCLA Labor Center	Los Angeles
Isidro B. Salusky, M.D.	Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics	Los Angeles
Chris Tilly	Professor	Los Angeles
J.Ed Araiza	Professor, Head of Graduate Acting, UCLA School of TFT	Los Angeles, CA
Anne Gilliland	Professor, Information Studies, UCLA	Los Angeles
Cathy Cabrera-Figueroa	Student	New York

Save Centro

I strongly support this initiative

Anaida Colon-Muniz	Professor Emerita, Chapman University	Orange, California
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Please save Centro. It has been and continues to be a vital resource and icon to Puerto Rican/ Latinx scholars and the Puerto Rican community in the Diaspora and on the Island. Please don't send one more painful blow to our community during these trying times. We need Centro!

Dennis A. Simonpietri	Attorney at law and founder of the Museum of Contempor	Guaynabo,
Melina Olmo	Consultant	Adjuntas
Yes, I support the letter -	Professor of Ethnomusicology and Chair, Global Jazz Studie	Los Angeles
Teresa Tió	Professor	Universidad de Puerto Rico San Juan
Jessica Magnani	Professor	St. Petersburg
Gerald P. López	Professor of Law, UCLA School of Law	Los Angeles
Laurie Kain Hart	Professor of Anthropology and Global Studies, Director, Ce	Los Angeles
Judith Baca	Emeritus UCLA Professor of Chicano/a and Latin American	venice
David A. Fuentes	Professor	Wayne, NJ
Carmen Medina	Associate professor, Indiana Universty	Bloomington
Javier Cardona Otero	PHD Student & Instructor - Indiana University	Bloomington
Lourdes R. Miranda	Founder and President MIRANDA FOUNDATIONNNNONN	San Julan, Puerto Rico
Leidy Pichardo	College Discovery Academic Support Manager	Bronx
Arturo O'Farrill	Professor/The UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music, Global Ja	Brooklyn
Rafael Trelles	Artist	San Juan
Charlene Villaseñor Black	Professor, Art History & Chicana/o Studies; Associate Direc	Los Angeles
Yvonne Gonzalez Duncan	CA State LULAC Director	Huntington Beach
Arlene J Díaz	Associate Professor of History, Indiana University	Bloomington, IN
David Yoo	Professor, UCLA	Los Angeles
David A. Fuentes	Professor	Wayne, NJ
Lisa Finder	Associate Professor and Librarian	New York, NY
Arturo Nieves Huertas	Lawyer	San Juan, Puerto Rico
Carey Kasten	Associate Professor of Spanish, Fordham University	NEW YORK
Dr Jose Rodriguez Gomez	Full profeszor	San Juan
Brunilda Pabon	Former NYC BD of ED / Board Member Lower East Side Girl	NYC
Dra. Raquel Delgado-Valentín	Instructora, UPRM	Mayaguez, PR

I totally endorse the efforts described in the Petition and the dire need to fund the Centro ant its programs and activities with the necessary professional staff.

I am in support of Centro remaining as a unit at CUNY - Hunter College

Very pleased to see Boricua's responding!
We must mandate, El Centro's new Leadership is required to involve and nature a constructed relationship both local and regional communities. Never allow the executive Director to operate independently of the community.

Last recommendation: Board of directors should include several (3) members of the committee on the. Board.

The University owes a debt to the artistic, cultural and intellectual contributions of the Puerto Rican community to the history and future of New York City.
Centro has been most supportive in the development of our group the Hispanic Genealogical Society of NY. I am a founding member. Centro archives are an unique resource for the study of puerto rican migration and establishment of communities in New York and other cities. Information is these archives is not found anywhere else!
We urge the continuing support of centro activities and adequate faculty and ancillary staff.
The Center is a valuable and wonderful institution. Every step must be taken to save and yes expand its function

Keep el Centro fully functioning!

Hiram Maristany	Photographer	New York City
Kalani Michell	Assistant Professor	Los Angeles
Argeo T. Quiñones Pérez	Professor- Economics, University of Puerto Rico-Río Piedr	San Juan
Argeo T Quinones Perez	Professor-Economics, University of Puerto Rico-RP	San Juan
Jesús-Papoleto Meléndez	Poet, Playwright	New York
Jorge Camuñas	Thoracic Surgeon - Retired	New York
Marc Zimmerman	Prof. Em LatAmn/Latino Studies, U. Il. Chicago,	San Juan
LILIAN DAVILA	Assistant Professional Researcher, UC Merced	Davis, CA
Sonja Diaz	Founding Director, UCLA Latino Policy & Politics Initiative	Los Angeles
Omar Perez Figueroa	M.S, PhD Candidate	Irvine
Jorge Marturano	Associate Professor, Chair of the Program on Caribbean St	Los Angeles, California
Carlos Santos	Associate Professor	Los Angeles, CA
Raquel Anderson	professor, Indiana University	Bloomington

Zoraida Banks	retired counselor	VALENCIA	
Justin Torres	Author, UCLA	Los Angeles	
Rick Baldoz	Associate Professor	Oberlin College	
Enrique Vivoni-Farage	Retired professor, University of Puerto Rico	San Juan	
Gustavo J. Bobonis	Professor, Dept. of Economics, University of Toronto	Toronto, ON	We must all stand up for this incredible institution.
PEDRO REYES	Retired Educator	West New York	
Jennifer Raibaldi	CUNY Office Assistant	Staten Island	
Edwin Roig Casanova	Physician San Juan City Hospital (Retired)	San Juan	
Anita Rivera	Teacher	Mount Kisco	We need to stay together as a community and for the Latinos. Do the right thing. Devolve funding and follow strict academic hiring process. Solidaridad siempre!
Emily Blais Alemany	Movimiento Independentista Nacional Hostosiano	San Juan	
milga nadal	Former Faculty of School of Education and VP Student Affa	Brooklyn	
Dennis Flores	El Grito, Director	Brooklyn	
Jose Aaron Hinojosa	Program Coordinator Center for Diversity & Inclusion and I	Edinburg	
The Rev. Henry J Hoffman	Retired Clergy/New Yorker/Puerto Rican	Marana, Arizona	
Marina I Alemán Bermúdez	Social Justice, decolonization and communities advocate	Carolina, Puerto Rico	
Maria Bracero	Retired	Orlando, Florida	
Emilio Pantojas	Director, Institute of Caribbean Studies, UPR	San Juan	
Sandra Cruz-García	coordinadora Auxiliar VAMOS	Carolina	
María Isabel Rodríguez	Cantante y musicoterapeuta	San Juan	I strongly support to continue the support and strengthening of the Center for the relevance and contributions it gives the physical and social reconstruction and development process of Puerto Rico in the future.
Salvador Mercado	Associate Professor and Chair/ Dept. of Spanish Language,	Denver	
Zoraida Biaggi	retired university professor	San Juan,PR	
Ismael Pagán Trinidad	Professor/Chairman and PI- UPRM-DHS Coastal Resilience	Mayagüez , Puerto Rico	

El Centro is integral to our history as Americans, as activists in New York Cities and as keepers of the diasporic stories often lost through forced migrations under colonial impositions. It is a vital center for scholarship that has long ago proven its worth and vitality, and has upheld its promises to expand and secure Puerto Rican studies. It is important to add that because the Puerto Ricans are a diverse people, this i is not just their archive but an archive that holds multiples histories of New York City and many states and historical periods in US history. It must be protected and fully supported.

Melissa Coss Aquino, Ph.D.	Associate Professor	New York
Jo Pantaleo	CDO/Queensborough Community College/CUNY	New York City
Kevin Edmonds	Assistant Professor, Caribbean Studies	Toronto
Janet Cortes	Retire judge	San Juan Puerto Rico
Zoilo Garcia	President	Guaynabo
Cristina Fontáñez Rodriguez	Archivist; Visiting Assistant Professor	Brooklyn
Jhensen Ortiz	Librarian	New York City
Zahra Khalid	Adjunct Lecturer, Queens College, CUNY	New York
Marta Alvarez	Professor, University of Puerto Rico	San Juan
Daisy Domínguez	Interim Associate Dean and Chief Librarian, City College of	New York
Tace M Hedrick	Professor	Gainesville
Beti Garcia	Head Science Teacher for Special Needs students	NYC
National Coalition of Latinxs with Disabilities		Chicago
Jasper Diaz	Legislative Director	New York
Adina Mulliken	Assistant Professor, Librarian	New Rochelle
Alma Flor Ada, Ph. D.	Professor Emerita University of San Francisco	San Rafael, CA
Marcelino Puig-Pastrana	Professor, Universidad del Sagrado Corazón	San Juan
Rubén Gaztambide-Fernández	Professor	Toronto
Sara L. Lehman	Professor of Spanish	New York City
Susan Homar	Full Professor, retired, Universidad de Puerto Rico	San Juan
Dr Valerie Washington	Assoc Prof Emeritus , Lehman College CUNY	Bronx, NY
José-Manuel Navarro. Ph.D.	Independent Scholar	Philadelphia, PA

Apoyo al Centro por su importancia para los puertorriqueños y los puertorriqueños de la diáspora

SAVE THE CENTRO!

The Centro for PuertoRican Studies fulfills a most important mission and deserves all

Abel Valenzuela Jr	Professor and Director, UCLA	Los Angeles	
Edgard Rodríguez Luiggi	Artist	Guaynabo, PR	
Luis Asencio Camacho	Independent scholar	Cabo Rojo	
Alex Wolf	Associate Professor	Bronx	Save the centro!
Travis Richard Sweatte	Adjunct Lecturer Medgar Evers College	Brooklyn	
Nilda RuizSingh, NPRA	President of the Board	Phoenixville	Needed resource for over 9-mil residents
Sasha Singh	Teacher	Philadelphia	A must have resource
Olivia Ildefonso	Ph.D. Candidate	New York	
Pablo Ojeda-O'Neill	Architect, Puerto Rican Institute of Culture	San Juan	
Dr. Maria DeGuzman	Eugene H. Falk Distinguished Professor of English & Comp	Chapel Hill, NC	
Annette M Rodriguez	Assistant Professor	Pittsboro	
David L. Giordano	Community Board 11 Member-Chair Youth & Education Co	New York	Save Our Cultural History
Aisha Finch	Associate Professor of Gender Studies and African America	Los Angeles	
Margaret Stetz	Mae & Robert Carter Professor of Women's Studies, Unive	Newark, DE	
Margaret Maurer	PhD Candidate, UNC Chapel Hill	Chapel Hill	
Krysten Voelkner	Graduate Student, UNC Chapel Hill	Chapel Hill NC	
Magdalena Lopez	Researcher, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Uni	Notre Dame	
Roberto Perez	Chair of Diamante Arts and Cultural Center Board of Direct	CARY	
David F. Garcia	Professor and Chair, Department of Music, UNC Chapel Hil	Durham	Iâ€™m an alumnus of CUNY The Graduate Center (PhD 2003)
Janelle Ashley Viera	PhD candidate	Chapel Hill	
Lois Elaine Griffith	Artist/Writer /founding Nuyorican Poets Cafe Founders Ar	Brooklyn, New York	Now more than ever, we need El Centro to hold our stories that witness our presence in this age of revisionist history and erasure. Our organization has worked with El Centro, and its priceless historical resurces for 2 decades. I am proud to sign on behave of the myself and the organization who I will forward thia petition to.
Charlie Fourquet	President of The Hispanic Genealogical Society of NY	Middle Village	
Daniel Quiles	Associate Professor of Art History, Theory and Criticism, SA	Chicago	
Hector Cordero-Guzman	Professor Baruch College-CUNY	NYC	Thanks and be well
Antonieta { Toni]Hambleton	Co-Director Casa, Inc. Candina, inc. Artist	San Juan	This important center deserves to be saved to keep on enriching us
Francis Ríos	Project manager	Falls Church	
Louis E. Hernandez	Senior Church Elder	New Windsor, New Yc	This good work must continue!
Alexandra Yarashevich		Apex	

Teresa L McManus	Professor, Bronx Community College, CUNY	Bronx, NY	On behalf of so many stakeholders, please support this rare, valuable and important resource.
Melissa Castillo Planas	Assistant Professor of English, Lehman College	Brooklyn, New York	
Pablo Medina	Retired, Chicago,s Commission on Human Relations, IGR D Chicago		My support to Centro's historical journey and therefore, its Mission and resources. Is important to protect our culture and heritage and continue to keep it accesible to our younger generations!
Marina Giron	Genealogist	Willingboro	
Gregory Acevedo	Associate Professor of Social Work - Fordham University	Philadelphia, PA	
Noel QuiÃ±ones	M.F.A. Candidate in Poetry	Oxford, Mississippi	
Trisha Remetir	PhD Candidate at UNC Chapel Hill	DURHAM	
Ian J. Seda-Irizarry	Associate Professor	BROOKLYN	
Orlando GuerrÃ­os		Richmond	
Ãngel Viera	Professor, University of Puerto Rico	MayagÃ¼ez, Puerto Rico	
JÃ©lia Andino, LCSW-R	Adjunct Professor, CUNY Center for Worker Education	New York, New York	
Joseph F. Jordan	Interim Vice Provost and Director, UNC at Chapel Hill	Chapel Hill	
Kelly Haydon	AV Archivist	Jackson Heights	
Teresa L McManus	Professor, Bronx Community College, CUNY	Bronx, NY	On behalf of so many stakeholders, please support this rare, valuable and important resource. I am blown away reading about this and I am in complete agreement with this petition. Centro is vital for the Puerto Rican community.
Lisa ColÃ³n	Doctoral Candidate	Parker, CO	
Andrea Garfinkel-Castro	PhD Candidate, Instructor	Salt Lake City	
Maria Luisa Fischer	Associate Professor of Spanish, Romance Languages, Hunter College	New York	
Beti Garcia	Head Science Teacher for Special Needs Students	NYC	Save the Centro!
ina rimpau	Librarian	maplewood	
Caroline Gil Rodriguez	Time based media conservator/archivist	Brooklyn, NY	

Robin Margolis	Archival Consultant for Ayin Press; XFR Collectove core me	Brooklyn
Victor morales	Artist	Round rock
Marisa Klages-Bombich	Professor	Staten Island
Treva Walsh	Collections Project Manager, Museum of Jewish Heritage	New York
Dolly Garcia		NYC
Bret Maney	Assistant Professor of English, Lehman College, CUNY	New York
Melissa Lino	Student	Flushing
Alexander Rettie	Student, CUNY Queens College	Thornwood
Kylie Goetz	MLS Student - Queens College	Woodside
Melissa Cabarcas	Rare Book Processor	New York City
Ingrid Carretero	Administrator/Columbia University	Leonia, NJ
Carmen M. Martínez-Roldán	Associate Professor in Bilingual Bicultural Education, Teach	New York
Iyman Ahmed	Program Manager	Chapel Hill

As an archivist and an oral historian focused on community heritage and histories, I know the living legacy stewarded by the staff of this institution is invaluable. Collections donâ€™t take care of themselves, nor can community/researcher access to the collections happen without the support and vision of professional with not only training but connections and relationships to the communities whose materials live within them. To continue to defund and hobble the people and materials is to risk losing history and knowledge that is more fragile than we like to admit. Nuyoricans and puertorriqueÃ±x are already hobbled by the too often onesided and shallow histories with which this country and this city paints them and the complexity is erased precisely through lack of material and institutional support of the means of telling stories from within the perspectives of the peoples themselves. you canâ€™t understand NYC or American music without allowing rich and varied accounts of the part and PRESENT of puertorriqueÃ±x experience the are not an outsiders view nor a few cherry picked token individualsâ€™ stories .

Please support all standing archives!

Maria Mena Portalatin	Retiref	San Juan, Puerto Rico
Anna Geltzer	Assistant Director, Univ of Notre Dame	Notre Dame
Maria Mena Portalatin	Retired	San Juan, Puerto Rico
Gabby Womack	Reference/Access Services Librarian	North Andover
Arlene Edmonds	Writer	Philadelphia
Nancy Cabrero		New York
Kassie Infante	Lawrence public school commitee member	Lawrence, MA

David F. Garcia	Professor and Chair, Department of Music, UNC Chapel Hil	Durham
Dr. Arlene Rodriguez	Vice President, Academic and Student Affairs, Cape Cod Co	Barnstable, Massachusetts
Wesley E. Badillo	Retired	New York
Madeleine Villanueva		Sunnyside

Iâ€™m an alumnus of CUNY The Graduate Center (PhD 2003)

Let us put together a group of Puerto Ricans, supporters, and friends and invest in housing the collection ourselves. I will invest about \$1,000 and challenge others to do the same. To preserve our culture and history, we need to depend on our community, not on outsiders. We need to develop our own institutions, administered and managed of US. Collectively we have the resources, finances, and a wealth of human talents and gifts.

CAPPAS ALBERTO	Publisher	Buffalo
Jose Miguel Colon	Fashion stylist	New York
Addys Castillo	Cofounder of Colectivo Bambula	New Haven
Cullen Gallagher	Graduate Student, Queens College	Brooklyn
Yvonne Payne		Boston
Ramonita Vega Lugo, Ph.D.	Full Professor	UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO-MAYAGÃœEZ

Este Centro ha sido vital en sus publicaciones e investigaciones que fortalecen la actividad acad mica. Reafirma la identificaci n con nuestras ra ces.

Elizabeth Miranda, PhD	Professor	San Juan Puerto Rico
Donna Lorenzo	Director Health Careers Program/EOF and Upward Bound,	Newark, NJ
Ian McDermott	Associate Professor, LaGuardia Community College	New York City
Arleen Caballero Gonz�lez	Associate Professor	Atlantic City
Diana Gitesha Hernandez	Director, Creative Arts Enterprise	Nyc
Julia Caro	Deputy Director of Student Programs at NYS Senate	SCHENECTADY
Dominique Rivera	Grad�ate Student USF	Tampa
Quetzali Torres	Art teacher	Nyc

Zaira Vallenilla	Capacity Planner, Projects Coordinator	San Juan
Thomas Cleary	Archivist, LaGuardia Community College	Long Island City, NY
Rafaela Luz & Ronnie Billini	Founder Co-Executive Producer of The Art Settlers of New	South Orange, NJ
José Rosa	Artista gráfico y pintor	Bayamón
Julian Gonzalez		Jackson Heights, NY
Virginia Rodriguez	Retired CSW	Bx New York
Shawn Best, EdD.	University Director, CUNY BMI	NY
Kate Brandt	Professional Development Coordinator	New York City
Rachel Romain	Student Life Manager	Long Island City
Andre Brereton	Program Director	Brooklyn
Alade McKen	Assistant Director BMI-Lehman College	New York
Rodrigo Gaspar-Barajas	Latino Services Coordinator, Deschutes Public Library	Bend
Steven Clarke	Instructor and Student Advisor/BMI Project Manager CUNY	New York, NY
Martha Tenney	Director, Barnard Archives & Special Collections	New York
Maria I Barbot Sosa	Associate Dean for Academics & Students Affairs College of Mayaguez	
Juber Ayala	Archivist, NJ Hispanic Research & Info Center at The Newark	Newark, NJ
Juber Ayala	Archivist, NJ Hispanic Research & Info Center at The Newark	Newark, NJ
Juber Ayala	Archivist, NJ Hispanic Research & Info Center at The Newark	Newark, NJ
Julian Brash	Associate Professor, Montclair State University	Maplewood, NJ
Liza Cancel	Non-mandated intervention	Bronx
Anne Kenniff	Educator, BA from CUNY Brooklyn College	East Northport, NY
José Loya	Assistant Professor	Los Angeles
Beverly Chong	Student	Yonkers
José Jiménez Monroig	Estudiante	San Juan
Melissa Martinez		NYC
NORMA BURGOS-VAZQUEZ	Hunter College alumna, Black & Puerto Rican Studies Dept.	Bayamón PR
Carmel Curtis	Moving Image Archivist	Bloomington, Indiana
Luis A. Pagan	Artist	Bronx
ramon garrido		Nyc
Adriana Erin Rivera	Author	White Plains, NY

Me uno a este esfuerzo. Mucho éxito. Que se cumpla el cometido.

SAVE EL CENTRO!

Minerva Roman Urrutia
Rafael Rivera-Viruet

Roger J Hernandez
Hector L. Díaz Montes

Retired Educator/Psychologist
Author/Documentary Filmmaker

Social Ecologist

New York City
YONKERS

El Barrio, NYC
Lancaster PA

Hunter College's Center for Puerto Rican Studies has been at the forefront of Puerto Rican Research and Policy since the early seventies.

It has been instrumental in engaging the Puerto Rican community in dialogue vis-vis issues involving education, government, housing, employment, mental health, climate change, and justice, in the United States as well as in the Caribbean. It is vital that El Centro continues to thrive and to be a watchful guardian of the Puerto Rican community.

We fought so hard to get this open and viable and MMV just wrote it off as a grudge...

The response to such a matter needs to be inclusive of Puerto Rican lives and Centro has made a difference in providing an oasis of knowledge to everyone in the community, activists, inclusive of differences, access to the truth about us as a people.

Dr. Nilsa Olivero Professor Boricua College

Berta Jottar Independent Scholar new york

Maria Aponte Founder & President of Latina 50 Plus, Inc. Former Assistar Bronx

Centro is a foundational institution in the egalitarian construction of a Puerto Rican History and present. The dedication and commitment to archiving Puerto Rican culture, art, history and educational services must be preserved and kept a service to the community for younger generations. It is important, especially in these times where social justice, equity and inclusion are on forefront.

Eleuterio Santiago-Díaz	Associate Professor	Albuquerque	I strongly support this petition.
Ilia Rodriguez	Associate Professor, University of New Mexico	Albuquerque	
Alonso Arana	Teaching/Graduate Assistant	Albuquerque	
Basilio Serrano	Professor Emeritus - SUNY - Old Westbury	New York	El Centro has been and continues to be instrumental in the education of the public at-large on all issues relating to the Puerto Rican people.
Kathryn McKnight	Associate Professor, Spanish & Portuguese, U of New Mexi	Albuquerque	
Claude-Rhéal Malary	Associate Professor	Oakland	
Anna M. Nogar	Associate Professor	Albuquerque	
Felipe Gonzales	Emeritus Professor of Sociology	Albuquerque	
Amanda Lashaw	Lecturer	Oakland	
Camila Jimenez		Yonkers	Support this integral center that offers a field of study that is critical to the region, the state and the constituents of the campus.
Irene Vasquez	Chair, Chicana and Chicano Studied	Albuquerque	
Elba Cabrera	Retired	The Bronx	
Patricia Rosas Lopategui	Associate Professor/ University of New Mexico	Albuquerque, NM	Necesitamos más centros educativos que representen a Puerto Rico!!!
Angela Valenzuela	Professor, College of Education UT-Austin	Austin	
DIANE TORRES-VELASQUEZ	Associate Professor/ University of New Mexico	Albuquerque	
Christine Marie Sierra	Professor Emerita of Political Science, University of New M	ALBUQUERQUE	
José Angel Figueroa	Assistant Professor, Liberal Arts & Science at Boricua Colle	New York City	We must never become an endangered people easily erased by racist hypocrites!
Laura Kaplan	Assistant Professor Pace University	New York	
Alejandro Epifanio	Artist	New York City	
Richard File-Muriel	Associate Professor Hispanic Linguistics	Albuquerque	This Centro is crucial and should be funded.
Marceline Torres	Educator	Bronx	
Ana Chireno	Director of Government and Community Affairs, El Museo	New York	
Roberta L. Singer	Director of Music Programs, Emerita, City Lore, The NY Cer	NYC	I fully support this letter and efforts to sustain and expand El Centro
Camelia G. Calabrese	Teacher Brooklyn College Alumni	Brooklyn, New York	
Tanya E Torres	Artist	New York	
Dr. Tony Baez	School Board Member, Milwaukee	Milwaukee	Save our cultural artifacts and traditions
Sery Colon	Artist/Activist	New York	
Ivette Gonzalez	Teaching Assistant	Albuquerque	
Evelyn Collazo	Retired	New York City	

Oswaldo Malave	Retired Principal	Brooklyn, New York	El Centro is a necessary institution for our community and for others interested in learning and contributing to the Puerto Rican presence in the world.
Robert Otto Valdez, Ph.D.	RWJF Professor Emeritus	Albuquerque	Additional tenured faculty lines are also important for the continued success of Centro
Rodrigo Moura	Chief Curator, El Museo del Barrio	New York	
Kelsey Trevino	Doctoral Student	Albuquerque, New Mexico	
Victoria Lawton-Diez	University Graduate	Ashland	This program is vital to our community.
Samantha Diaz	Student	The Bronx	
Camilo Gomides	Professor of Foreign Languages	San Juan	
Jose Medina		Brooklyn	
Libertad Guerra	Executive Director of The Clemente Soto Velez Cultural Center	NYC	
Luis A Cordero	Founder of PRIDA	Yonkers	Saving El Centro and its mission allows us to tell our story!
Elena Marie Rosario	PhD. Candidate, Department of History, University of Michigan	Hartford	
C.M. Haddock	Scholar/Activist/Artist	Bronx, NY	
Israel Ruiz Cumba	Retired Professor, St. Mary's College of Maryland	San Jose, California	I totally support the statement made on the letter regarding the actions needed to ensure the future of The Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College CUNY.
Julie Anna Alvarez Rivera, Esq.	Director, Alumni & International Career Services, OCS, Columbia University	New York	
Doris Pizarro Claudio, Ph.D.	Associate Professor, University of Puerto Rico Escuela Graduate	San Juan Puerto Rico	
Sandra Granizo Cruz	Lecturer/counselor	NYC	
Linda Ruiz		New York	
Jorge Giovannetti-Torres	Professor, Sociology & Anthropology, UPR	San Juan	
Leenda Bonilla	Artist Culture Producer Creative Placemaker Community Organizer	Bronx	I understand the importance of preserving a cultural center for Puerto Ricans everywhere. I had been documented by El Centro for Antonio Martorell's project and have used the resources for grad school at the Pratt Institute. We must champion to sustain this center for current and future generations.
Edwin Figueroa Sr.	SBxCC, President	Bronx, New York	
Peter L. Carlo Becerra	Visiting Assistant Professor	Richmond	
Christopher Rodriguez	Retired Homeland Security	Columbia	
Roque Luna	Manager Retail Operations, Peggy Guggenheim Collection	Venice	
William Pagan	Partner	New York	I wholeheartedly support this effort.

Sonia Gonzalez	Student	Pelham
Nancy Lemberger	Retired Associate Professor	Long Island University
Alex Wolf	Associate Professor of Biological Sciences	Qué viva el Centro!
Tilcara Webb	Student	Bronx, NY
Yaribel Cortorreal	Student	Albuquerque
Ashley Polanco		New York
Amina Islam	student	BRONX
Myrriah Gómez	Assistant Professor, Honors College, University of New Me	New York
Adriana Ramírez de Arellano	Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies Faculty, Graduate Adv	Albuquerque
Jennivette Jimenez		Bronx

Laura Davis	BCC Student	NEW YORK
Christine Licata	Arts Consultuant Curator	Bronx. New York
Denise Cruz	Student	Bronx, New York
Janavi Santana	Graduate Student	Gainesville
Jose L Rodriguez	CEO	NYC
Leisy Abrego	Professor, Chicana/o and Central American Studies, UCLA	Los Angeles
Julio Alicea	MPP/PhD Candidate - UCLA	Los Angeles
David G. Embrick	Associate Professor in Africana Studies and Sociology	Storrs
Katie Duarte	PhD Student, Brown University	Providence, RI
Teresa Irene Gonzales	Assistant Professor	Lowell
Nelson Vera Hernández	Full Professor	Moca
Diana Cordova-Cobo	PhD Candidate, Teachers College, Columbia University	New York, NY
Aaron Benavidez	PhD Candidate	Cambridge
Gabriella Albanese	Retired English teacher and linguist	Venezia
Gabriella Albanese		Venice, Italy

The CUNY board of trustees should be ashamed of themselves.

Wendy Roth	Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Pennsylvani	Philadelphia
Beatriz Aldana Marquez	Assistant Professor of Sociology, Texas State University	Austin, Texas
Katie Duarte	PhD Student, Brown University	Providence, RI
Tim Black	Associate Professor of Sociology	Cleveland
Sarah Buck Kachaluba	Latin American History PHD and Research Librarian, UCSD	San Diego
Susanne Jonas	Continuing Lecturer, Latin American & Latino Studiess (r), l	Oakland, CA
Paulina	Student	Bronx
Wanda Cruz		Bronx

I used the Centro library and resources for my dissertation research and it was a crucial resource. It needs to be maintained for the benefit of scholars across disciplines and the general public.

Karen Tejada	Associate Professor Sociology	West Hartford	Please save this invaluable repository of our history!
Jessie K. Finch, PhD	Lecturer of Sociology	Flagstaff	
Sylvia Rodriguez-Seda	Retired	Yonkers	
Natalie Latino	Grant & Department Coordinator, El Museo del Barrio	Astoria, New York	SAVE El Centro's Mission and Resources I wholeheartedly join in the request to properly fund and support the Centro's mission and resources, as outlined in the letter.
Betty Gonzalez-Soto	C. S. 211 Principal (former)	Bronx, NY	
Sonia Rivera Suire	Staff Attorney, The Refugee & Immigrant Center for Education	San Antonio, Texas	
Susanna Temkin	Curator, El Museo del Barrio	New York	We fought long and hard for Puerto Rican Studies, departments and programs at every college under CUNY. It would be an absolute slap in the face and disgrace to dismantle such a significant repository of Puerto Rican/American history. SAVE EL CENTRO!
Vilma Santiago-Irizarry	Anthropology and Latinx Studies	Ithaca	
Adriana Zavala	Associate Professor, History of Art and director Latinx Trac	Medford, MA	
Janelle Ashley Viera	PhD candidate	UNC Chapel Hill	
Carmen Graciela Díaz	Journalist	Jersey City / San Juan	
Melody Capote	Executive Director	New York	Save Centro!
Jada C. Heredia		NYC	
Hilda Rosario Escher	President Board Puerto Rican's United in the Distance	Rochester NY	
Evelyn Malave		New York	
George Malave	Visual Artist	New York	
ALLAN	Rios	Nanuet	I'd have thought support for El Centro would be a no-brainer, so why is it not
Dr Georgina Falu	Former Dean UPR Management School and President Falu	New York	
Christopher Hirschmann Brandt	Adj. Prof., Creative Writing and Peace & Justice Programs,	Bronx	
Ida N Torres	Professor, Boricua College	New York	
María Román-Dumén		The Bronx	
Ashleigh Hendrix	Operations Coordinator, Los Pleneros de la 21	New York	
Maria Isabel Rodríguez	Cantante	TOA BAJA	

			El Centro De Estudios Puertorriquenos has been a learning cradle for CUNY students and professors alike. It has been a vehicle where community concerns are discussed and turned into policy. The archives must be preserved for posterity. El Centro must be kept alive, at all costs. We must fight for it!!!
Minerva Urrutia	Retired Educator	Bronx, New York City	
Haydee Morales	Former Fellow of the LLOP at El Centro	Bronx	
Desireé Caro		Bronx	
Johnny Colon	Citizen	Bronx	Please maintain Centro open for all!
Karen Jaime	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Performing and Media Arts/L	Ithaca	
Johnny Colon	Citizen	Bronx	Save Centro!
Walter Alomar	President	Long branxh	
Melanie Z. Plasencia	Doctoral Candidate, Department of Ethnic Studies	Berkeley	
			As an original activist member of P.R.S.U. Bklyn College Chapter (1971-'73) active in the founding of El Centro I am sadden by the current events involving EL Centro at the Graduate Center of CUNY. I urge everyone to join in this struggle to save this institution and preserve its legacy. EL Centro siempre.
Americo Casiano, Jr. MPA	Author, Co-Founder/Director, NuyoRican School Poetry Jaz	New York City, NY	
Josie Gonzalez	Artist/Ed. Manager	NYC	
Yahaira Thillet		Bronx, NY	
Myrna Thillet		Bronx, NY	
Juan Thillet		Bronx, NY	
Ruth Lizardi		New York	
Rafael Rivera-Viruet		YONKERS	
Sonia Rosa-Barrood	Teacher	St Cloud, Florida	
Luis Figueroa López	Profesor	Manatí	Apoyo solidario
Erika Nuñez		New York	
Mayra Cortez	Graduate Student	San Jose	
Heather Escalona	MSW	Plainsboro, NJ	
Jose-Luis Sanchez		Washington, DC	
María Teresa Vázquez Castillo	Associate Professor	Ciudad Juárez	Con todo el apoyo
Santa Arias	Professor of Latin American Literatures and Culturess	Lawrence, KS	
William J. Soto	Security Manager of El Museo	New York	Que Viva Puerto Rico!
Suzanne Im	Acting Senior Librarian	Los Angeles	

Alisa Jimenez		New York	
Crystal Esteves	Undergrad	Bronx	
Deborah Quinones		Nrew Ytok	
María Torres-López	Founder/President of Diáspora En Resistencia	Loxahatchee	
Elizabeth Ramos	Admissions Officer Boricua College	New York City	
Teresa Tió	Catedrática Universidad de Puerto Rico /ret.	San Juan	
Luis Romero	Assistant Professor	Fort Worth, TX	
Rafael Torruella	Executive Director- Intercambios Puerto Rico	Fajardo	
Efrain O'Neill	Engineering Professor	Mayaguez	
Douglas Spalding	educator	San Leandro, CA	
Nilda RuizSingh	President/CEO	Phoenixville	
Jennifer Orellana		Bronx	
Jennifer Orellana		Bronx	
Julia Keiser	Collections and Archives Consultant	Brooklyn	
Heriberto Martinez	Director Puerto Rico Bible Society	San Juan	
Matthew David Goodwin	Visiting Scholar at Institute for Advanced Studies	Princeton	
Gladys D Bruno	Union Organizer	New York	Let's fight for CENTRO!!!
			Please list as endorsers myself and the Labor
			Council for Latin American Advancement - NYC.
Eduardo Rosario	President, NYC LCLAA	New York City	Thank you!

to Chancellor Fink. It makes no sense, we have to support an institution that holds the principles of democracy, social justice, diversity, culture, and higher education. In addition, this institution has provided me and my community the opportunity to have access to education, and have contributed access to other academic needs otherwise I would have been afforded too. Centro Civico, has been a vital part of our community for years, and has developed leaders that are now servicing the same community. At this time in our history we are faced with the urgency to renew our social fabric, empower communities that for so long have been disproportionate and disadvantaged, and rebuild-economic stability. The only way to achieve change and ensure sustainability in our community is through higher education and continue support. We urged you to provide a budget that will reflect CUNY's commitment to our community and the next generation. In preparation for the 2021-2022 Budget we are counting on CUNY's commitment to fulfil its mission to our community and to preserved employment opportunities, and most needed funding that can uphold its mission. We cannot accept any more loss at this time and the loss of a cut of \$1million dollars, stripping our community of its core values and our dignity

Carmen I Flores
Angel Martinez
Tanya Lopez-Mendez

DC 37 Education Fund Principal Program Coordinator, NYC New York
Business Agent
Parent Liaison
Bronx
Amstetdam, NY

Reiko Tahara	Adjunct Assistant Professor at Hunter College	Brooklyn, NY
Hans Tammen	Adjunct Professor	New York
Shantee Rosado	Assistant Professor of Afro-Latinx Studies at Rutgers University	Philadelphia
Marc Ella Roy	Media Student at Hunter College	New York
ncollazo@hostos.cuny.edu	ncollazo@hostos.cuny.edu	ncollazo@hostos.cuny.edu
Etienne A. Kouakou	CLIP Instructor	Bronx
Cyris Vega	Student	Bronx
Wallace Jean	IT Professional	Bronx
jissette ulloa	clip's student	New York
Angeles Donoso Macaya	Associate Professor of Spanish	New York
Jennifer Marrero	Compliance	New York
Otto E. Landron-Perez	Master in Social Work, Attorney at Law	Dorado, PR
Helen Rosenberg	Retired and mother of a Puerto Rican son !!	New York

Centro is a historic place for all New Yorkers and all immigrant communities across the states. Hunter College and its president should fulfill the promise she made. Also, now that racial justice is their top priority for the grants they are receiving from the private foundations and Covid-related funds from the government, they should listen to the existing experts and nurture the existing Hunter BIPOC communities, disciplines, adjunct professors and staff in addition to creating new initiatives that make them look good.

excellent meeting

**New York City Council Committee on Higher Education
Panel on the CUNY Research Foundation**

David Jeruzalmi

Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry

Chair, Faculty Senate

City College of New York • Graduate Center of the City University of New York

85 St Nicholas Terrace • New York • NY • 10031

dj@ccny.cuny.edu

Chair Inez Barron and members of the New York City Council Committee on Higher Education. I thank you for the opportunity to speak today.

My name is David Jeruzalmi and I am a Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the City College of New York. I also Chair the City College Faculty Senate and the CUNY University Faculty Senate Research Foundation Faculty Advisory Council. I am also a member of the RF's Board of Directors.

We welcome the involvement of the New York City Council in oversight of the CUNY-RF.

I represent CUNY faculty, and, as such, will only speak from this perspective.

For CUNY faculty, the CUNY Research Foundation is the fiscal agent for research awards, grants, and contracts. The CUNY RF manages a number of functions of running these awards, grants, and contracts. As such, the CUNY-RF is a crucial tool for the research mission of the City University of New York. In turn, the research mission is an important component of the access and excellence missions to educate “the children of the whole people” of New York City.

In 2015, the City College Faculty Senate published results of a survey of faculty satisfaction in services provided by the CUNY-RF. The survey found deep dissatisfaction in the processes and services of the RF, though many CUNY faculty clients reported positive interactions with CUNY-RF employees. The 2015 survey was followed by a satisfaction survey conducted by the RF itself in 2018; this, more recent survey, confirmed the findings of the 2015 survey, and identified some specific areas of concern.

The appointment of Gayle Horwitz in 2019 as interim president of the CUNY-RF brought with it an honesty and willingness to change to the RF. She led an effort to improve some of the services provided by the RF and honestly and openly engaged with faculty who wish to reform the RF into a more efficient partner for faculty research.

In just a few months on the job as interim president, Jarnee Bramlette, has impressed me not only with her willingness to take a critical look at the CUNY-RF, but also by her personal example of openness and transparency. CUNY Faculty have every reason to expect that Jarnee Bramlette's tenure as president will bring important changes to the RF. I look forward to continuing to work with her in fulfilling the RF's role in CUNY's teaching and research missions.

Thank you.

The Faculty Senate
The City College of New York

*Shepard Hall, Room 150
160 Convent Avenue
New York, NY 10031*



David Jeruzalmi, PhD
Chair
V: 212.650.6850
F: 212.650.7948
E: dj@ccny.cuny.edu

October 30, 2015

James B. Milliken
Chancellor
The City University of New York
205 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017

Dear Chancellor Milliken,

Enclosed please find a report written by the College-Wide Resources Committee of the City College Faculty Senate. The report describes results of a satisfaction survey of the services provided by the CUNY Research Foundation (RF-CUNY) to CUNY faculty who conduct sponsored research. The committee conducted the satisfaction survey in the spring of 2015 and received responses from faculty across CUNY.

Faculty at CCNY are united by their belief that the RF-CUNY is an essential piece of the research and education mission of the University. We also believe that RF-CUNY should fulfill its mission as smoothly as possible. However, as you may know, there is much dissatisfaction at City College and across CUNY with the quality of service provided by RF-CUNY. The attached survey is a first attempt at documenting and quantifying this dissatisfaction. Through this effort, we hope to catalyze much-needed reforms in the ways that RF-CUNY currently operates. To this end, the report recommends that a CUNY-wide RF-CUNY Restructuring Committee examine urgent issues raised by our survey. We hope that you will consider establishing such a committee.

I, and the College-Wide Resources Committee, would be pleased to meet with you or members of your staff to discuss the attached report.

Sincerely,

David Jeruzalmi

David Jeruzalmi

Report on the Satisfaction Survey of the
Research Foundation of the
City University of New York
Conducted by
the College-Wide Resources Committee of the
Faculty Senate of the
City College of New York

October 30, 2015

Members of the College-Wide Resources Committee:

Kevin Foster (Chair), Alan Feigenberg, Christine Li, Rajan Menon, Renata Kobetts Miller, Jeff Morris, Fred Moshary, David Rumschitzki, Ruth Stark, David Jeruzalmi (Chair, Faculty Senate, member ex officio)

Summary. The mission of the Research Foundation of the City University of New York (RF-CUNY) is crucial to the research enterprise at the City University of New York. As such, it is imperative that problems with the services provided by RF-CUNY be identified and fixed. In the spring of 2015, the College-Wide Resources Committee of the Faculty Senate of City College, in response to anecdotal evidence of dissatisfaction in the sponsored research management services provided by RF-CUNY, conducted a satisfaction survey. To our knowledge, remarkably, this report marks the first time that an independent satisfaction survey of the RF-CUNY has been conducted.

The survey asked respondents to answer questions that addressed satisfaction in 11 distinct areas. Respondents were divided into three cohorts: 1) external grantees, 2) internal grantees, and 3) past grantees. The survey was conducted from March 18 to May 1, 2015. In total, 214 responses were received. Responses were received from a number of senior colleges within CUNY. More than 100 faculty from City College of New York (CCNY) responded; this represents a response rate of nearly 50% of CCNY faculty who are engaged in funded research programs.

The 2015 Satisfaction Survey documents a deep dissatisfaction with the processes, professionalism and services provided by RF-CUNY. The survey found dissatisfaction in all 3 cohorts, although the levels differed slightly, and in all 11 of the categories measured. Even as the survey found widespread dissatisfaction in processes and products provided by RF-CUNY, one positive aspect is noteworthy. Respondents identified 65 RF-CUNY employees for providing excellent service. The disconnect between overall deep dissatisfaction with services provided by RF-CUNY and praise for a large number of RF-CUNY employees leads us to conclude that the main problem with RF-CUNY is that excellent employees are working within a system and with processes that fail to deliver a quality product to faculty clients.

Recommendations. We recommend that CUNY and/or the University Faculty Senate conduct a deeper and more detailed study of the sources of dissatisfaction in RF-CUNY and propose reforms that will serve to lower barriers to research, scholarship, and creative activity at CUNY. We recommend that a CUNY-wide RF-CUNY Restructuring Committee be established to carry out this study. This committee should be chaired by the CUNY Vice Chancellor for Research and include the President of RF-CUNY, as well as representation from CUNY senior colleges in proportion to their respective research awards. Owing to the crucial role played by RF-CUNY in the research mission of the University, we recommend constituting this committee immediately and tasking it to complete its work by May 15, 2016.

Introduction. The Research Foundation of the City University of New York (RF-CUNY) is an independent, not for profit, educational corporation as provided in section 216 of the New York State Education Law. According to its bylaws, the RF-CUNY has four principal purposes:

- “1) to assist in developing and increasing the facilities of The City University of New York to provide more extensive educational opportunities and service to its constituent colleges, students, faculties, staffs and alumni, and to the general public, by making and encouraging gifts, grants, contributions and donations of real and personal property to or for the benefit of The City University of New York;
- 2) to receive, hold and administer gifts or grants, and to act without profit as trustee of educational or charitable trusts of benefit to and in keeping with the educational purposes and objects of The City University of New York;
- 3) to finance and otherwise facilitate the conduct of studies and research in any and all fields of intellectual inquiry of benefit to and in keeping with the educational purposes and objects of The City University of New York; and/or its constituent colleges, and to enter into contractual relationships appropriate to the purposes of the Foundation;
- 4) to provide prudent stewardship of research funds to satisfy the requirements of the State, the City, sponsors, and The City University of New York.

The RF-CUNY is governed by a Board of Directors who serve on five committees as provided by the bylaws. The RF-CUNY internet site lists five Research Foundation Officers who oversee the daily activities of the foundation. The RF-CUNY bylaws also provide for a Faculty Advisory Council, which currently has eight CUNY faculty members in its ranks. The purpose of the Faculty Advisory Council is to “serve as a means of facilitating close consultation between Faculty engaged in research and other activities involving the funds administered by the Foundation, who may be expected to use the services of the Foundation, and the Board of Directors of the Foundation on matters of substance related to the performance and administration of sponsored research and other activities.”

The RF-CUNY is based at 230 West 41st Street in Mid-town Manhattan in a building that it owns. Many CUNY campuses have satellite RF-CUNY offices that house local representatives (Grant Officers) who are permanently based on a campus, and some have field-service personnel who spend several days a week on a campus.

As specified by its bylaws, the RF-CUNY “manages private and government sponsored programs at The City University of New York (CUNY),” and also the intellectual property matters associated with the above sponsored programs. According to the most recent annual report (2014), RF-CUNY managed \$394 million dollars worth of sponsored program awards from various sources. Management includes providing personnel services (hiring, processing of salaries, etc.), processing invoices, issuing and maintaining purchasing cards, handling sub-contracts in cooperation with other institutions, and managing intellectual property. The leadership of the RF states that a 6.5% charge is assessed for these services, though the specific details of how fees are assessed are not provided to the faculty client. The consequence of these fees, however, is considerably clearer: a large percentage of the total indirect cost remains with RF-CUNY. For example at City College, in FY15, the fees collected by RF-CUNY account for nearly 40% of the total indirect costs generated (CUNY collects ~6% and CCNY recovers the balance, which comprises 54% of the total). The large portion of the indirect costs that goes to RF-CUNY to manage the various research programs at CUNY raises the reasonable question of whether the current business model of RF-CUNY is providing good value, or whether alternate models could provide similar or better service at a much lower cost. The current tight research-funding climate makes addressing this question all the more urgent. Yet to our knowledge, RF-CUNY has not recently addressed this question.

Dissatisfaction with the service provided by the RF-CUNY. Considerable dissatisfaction with the service provided by RF-CUNY was voiced to the Faculty Senate of City College and its constituent committees. Some examples of poor service included unhelpful staff, poor communication between RF-CUNY staff and faculty clients, excessively bureaucratic and often cryptic administrative

procedures, and unacceptable delays in processing invoices and intellectual property paperwork. Indeed, City College faculty described issues with service by RF-CUNY that went back many years. Sadly, the current state of affairs seems similar to that described in the 1999 Mayor's Advisory Task Force on the City University of New York: RF-CUNY is "another central bureaucracy which imposes substantial procedural burdens on faculty who are doing funded research. Moreover, in the judgment of many faculty, the Research Foundation provides incompetent service."

The Office of the Provost of City College collected the above instances of poor service and brought them to the attention of the leadership of RF-CUNY Fall of 2014; this action resulted in a number of meetings at the City College campus to address these matters. The leadership of RF-CUNY expressed considerable surprise at the negative opinions of the faculty regarding the service provided by RF-CUNY, and attributed these issues to a few problematic faculty. To bolster their claims of overall satisfaction by CUNY faculty, the leadership cited the results of annual surveys of faculty clients conducted by the RF-CUNY Faculty Advisory Council. In the meeting, RF-CUNY referenced a Cohen-Resnick study that also found overall satisfaction with the services provided. However, the leadership of the RF-CUNY declined to provide any details of the annual surveys nor would they release the text of the Cohen-Resnick report. Moreover, search of the RF-CUNY internet site failed to reveal mention of either document. In this context, the only document available is a memo dated Sept 12, 2014 (Appendix C) that details the response of the President of the RF-CUNY to a survey that was conducted by the RF Faculty Advisory Council, but details of the survey, which are crucial to a complete understanding of the response, were not made available.

Rationale for a survey. Smooth operation of the Research Foundation of the City University of New York is essential to support the research and education mission of the University. Therefore, RF-CUNY should be responsive to the changing needs of its faculty clients. To gauge the needs of these faculty clients and to respond to widespread dissatisfaction with RF-CUNY, the College-Wide Resources Committee of the Faculty Senate of City College conducted a satisfaction survey. The committee solicited responses from the faculty at CCNY and also asked faculty governance bodies at sister CUNY colleges to solicit responses. The survey was conducted over a six-week period from March 18, 2015 to May 1, 2015.

The RF-CUNY satisfaction survey. Survey respondents were first asked to provide information about the CUNY campus to which they are appointed, faculty rank, and length of CUNY faculty appointment. Survey respondents were then divided into three categories based on the types of grants for which they serve as a Principal investigator (PI): 1) internal grants (PSC-CUNY, etc.), 2) external grants (NIH, NSF, DOD, DOE, etc.), 3) grants whose term ended more than five years prior to March 2015. Each category of grant holder was asked to also specify the total dollar value of grants being administered. Respondents then gauged their satisfaction on a 10 point scale (1 = very dissatisfied, 10 = very satisfied), answering a series of questions about the quality and professionalism of service provided by RF-CUNY. Questions also addressed handling of personnel matters, invoice processing, purchasing card matters, relationships with vendors, handling of grant sub-contracts, intellectual property matters, and matters associated with Institutional Review Boards. Respondents were invited to relate positive experiences with RF-CUNY and to name specific RF-CUNY staff members who had been helpful. Lastly, respondents were asked to suggest urgent changes to RF-CUNY.

The City College RF-CUNY Satisfaction Survey received 214 responses from faculty at City College, Brooklyn College, Queens College, and the College of Staten Island. 106 faculty (across all three cohorts) from CCNY responded, representing a response rate of nearly 50% (City College estimates that there are 200+ faculty in the three cohorts listed above, who are engaged in funded research programs). In addition, 108 faculty from Brooklyn College, Queens College, and the College of Staten Island responded. A complete copy of the survey questions appears in Appendix A.

The survey received input from 102 respondents with outside grants (median award \$200,000 - \$500,000), 80 respondents with PSC-CUNY grants (median \$3500), and 32 respondents without

recent awards. The responses were analyzed based on which of the above the groups they belonged to because we observed that there were differences in satisfaction between these groups.

Detailed analysis results of the RF-CUNY satisfaction survey: grantees with external grants. Satisfaction with services provided by the RF-CUNY was measured in 11 discrete areas. The average satisfaction scores for this group appear in Table 1. (In all cases, the scores were multiplied by 10 for ease of presentation, therefore 10 = very dissatisfied, 100 = very satisfied). To aid the analysis, we provide two contexts that allow for meaningful conclusions. First, we graded the scores using a letter scale from “A” to “F”. Values of 90 or above are given the letter grade of “A”, values of 80-89 are scored as “B”, values of 70-79 are scored as “C”, values of 60 - 69 are scored as “D”, values below 60 are scored as “F”.

Second, we compared the scores in Table 1 to customer satisfaction scores developed by the American Customer Satisfaction Index (<http://www.theacsi.org/>) for a variety of industries in the United States. Of course, the measurements are performed with very different instruments; nevertheless, the ACSI data provides a useful context for the present RF satisfaction survey. The results from re-plotting the data in Table 1 against data taken from the ACSI internet site are shown in

Service	Satisfaction (n=100)	Grade
RF-Institutional Review Board	48	F
RF-Intellectual Property	49	F
RF-Invoice Processing	55	F
RF-Personnel Matters	59	F
RF-Professionalism of Central Office	58	F
RF-Professionalism of Local Staff	71	C
RF-Purchasing Cards	59	F
RF-Service by Central Office	57	F
RF-Service by Local Staff	66	D
RF-Subcontracts	47	F
RF-Vendor Relationships	51	F

Table 1: Satisfaction with the Professionalism and Service Provided to External Grantees.

Figure 1. Notably, the last complete data set from ACSI is from 2012, and it has been culled for ease of presentation; culling was done without alteration to the high and low values of the survey.

The letter grade and ACSI data comparisons tell the same story: deep dissatisfaction with the service provided by RF-CUNY in the external grantee cohort. The data suggest that this cohort’s highest satisfaction levels are with professionalism and service of the local RF staff, though the “C” and “D” grades indicate that the service could still be improved. For the vast majority of measures (8/11), however, professionalism and service are given failing grades.

The ACSI data provides a scale for satisfaction in consumer services that range from a high of 86/100 to a low of 64/100. In this context, satisfaction by external grantees with services provided by RF-CUNY appears at the low end of the scale set by the ACSI data. The highest satisfaction rating measured by the survey is for the professionalism and service provided by local RF staff (71 and 66, respectively). However, satisfaction in services and professionalism provided by the central RF-CUNY staff are judged to be considerably lower. Indeed, satisfaction for these services ranks lower than any category tracked by the ACSI.

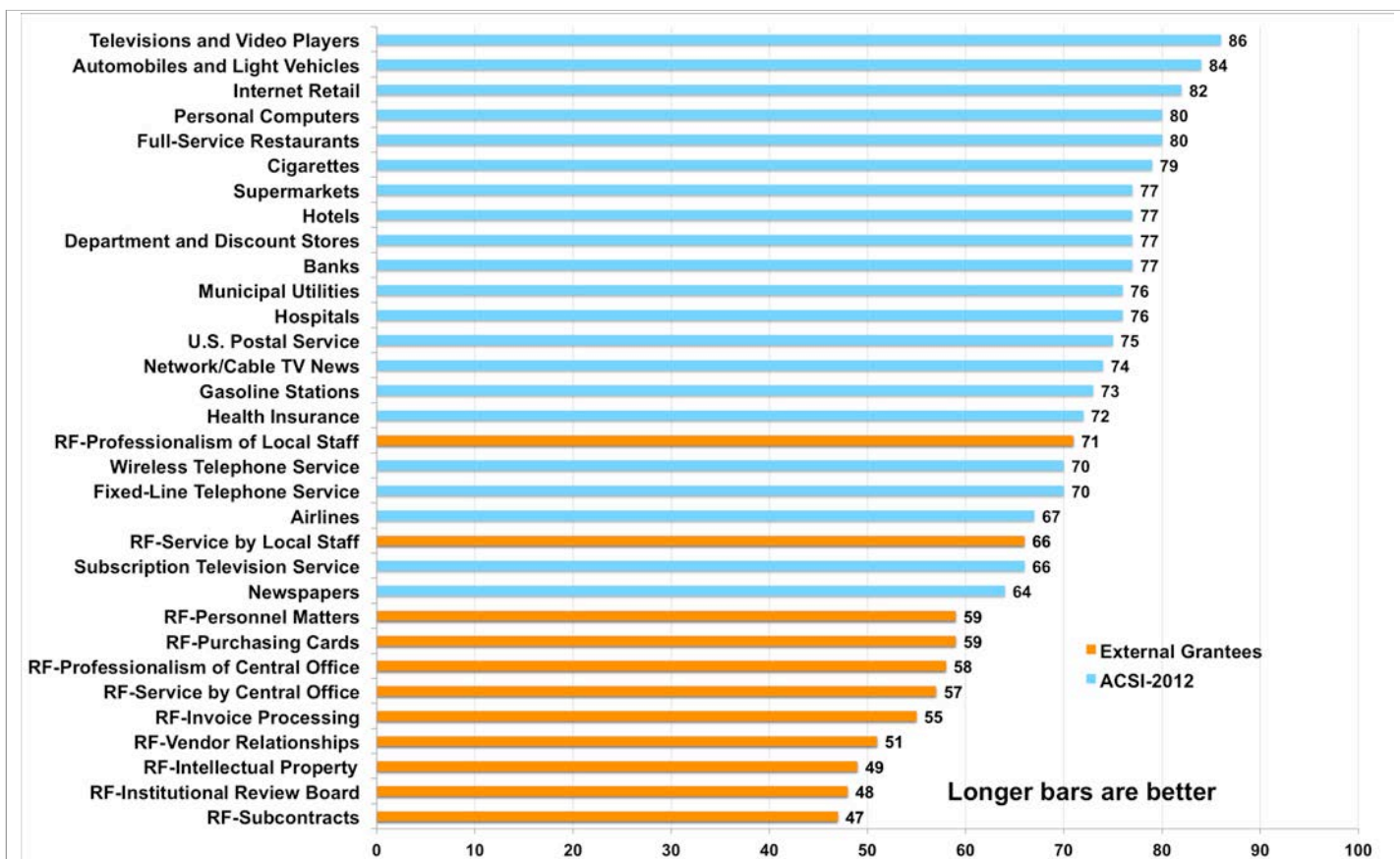
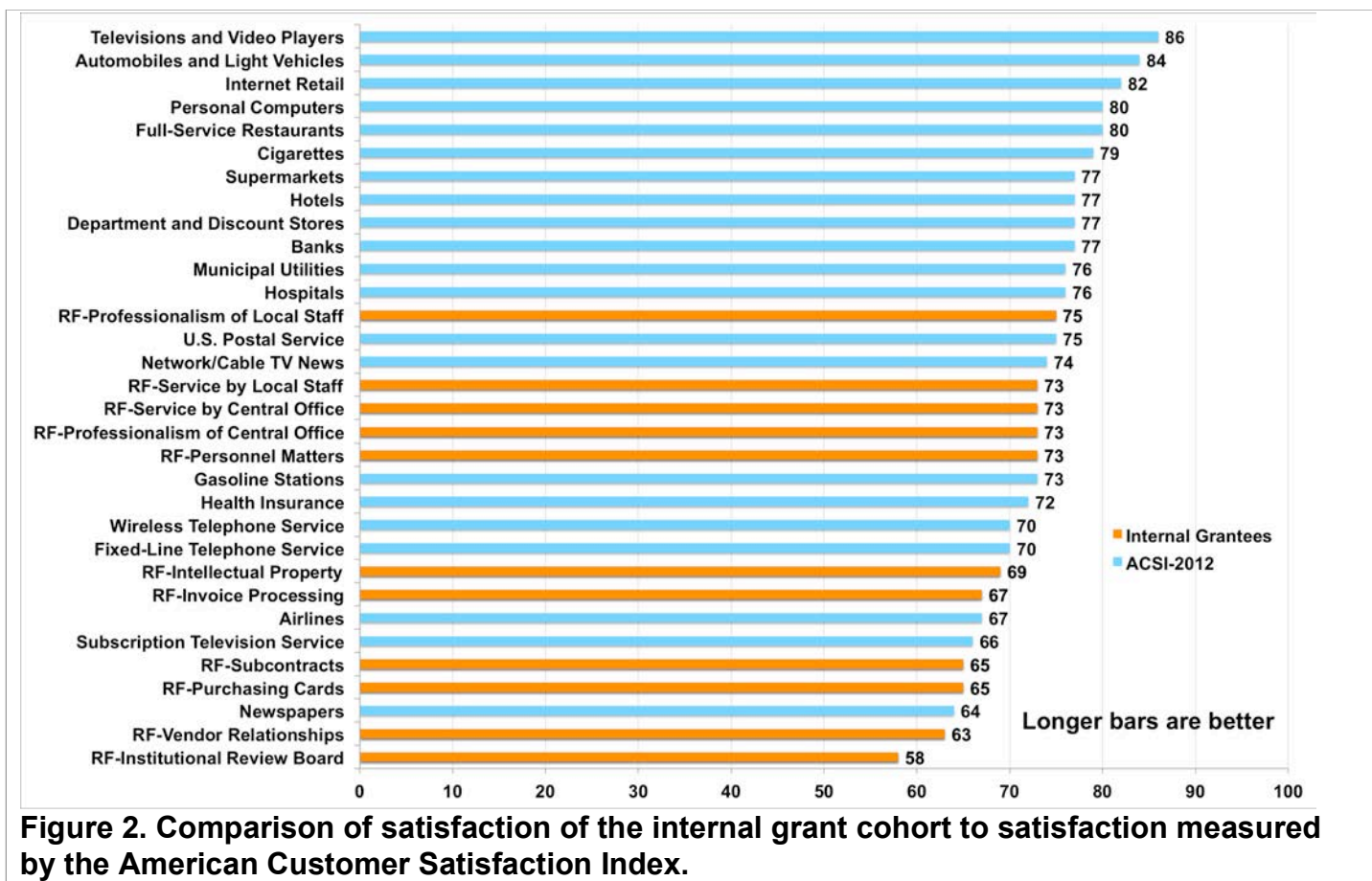


Figure 1. Comparison of satisfaction of the external grant cohort to satisfaction measured by the American Customer Satisfaction Index.

Detailed analysis results of the RF-CUNY satisfaction survey: grantees with internal grants. Table 2 and Figure 2 shows the satisfaction scores for the grantees with internal grants. Overall, this cohort graded the service provided by both RF-CUNY and the local RF slightly higher than the external grantee cohort: the list of grades includes satisfaction areas that earned grades of “C”, a level of satisfaction not seen with the external grantees. That said, the grades remain low across all the categories. As with the external grantee cohort, the internal grant cohort shows the highest

Service	Satisfaction (n=80)	Grade
RF-Institutional Review Board	58	F
RF-Intellectual Property	69	D
RF-Invoice Processing	67	D
RF-Personnel Matters	73	C
RF-Professionalism of Central Office	73	C
RF-Professionalism of Local Staff	75	C
RF-Purchasing Cards	65	D
RF-Service by Central Office	73	C
RF-Service by Local Staff	73	C
RF-Subcontracts	65	D
RF-Vendor Relationships	63	D

Table 2: Satisfaction in Professionalism and Service Provided to Internal Grantees.



satisfaction with the professionalism and service provided by the local RF, though here too, the “C” grades imply that efforts to improve satisfaction are indicated. Satisfaction in professionalism and service provided by the central RF-CUNY staff to the internal grantee cohort are considerably lower.

Detailed analysis results of the RF-CUNY satisfaction survey: grantees with past grants. Table 3 and Figure 3 shows the satisfaction scores for the grantees that are not currently funded, but who have had grants in the recent past (more than 5 years). Overall, the past grantee cohort gave failing or nearly failing grades across the board in all the measurements of professionalism and service

Service	Satisfaction (n = 28)	Grade
RF-Institutional Review Board	42	F
RF-Intellectual Property	49	F
RF-Invoice Processing	57	F
RF-Personnel Matters	54	F
RF-Professionalism of Central Office	60	D
RF-Professionalism of Local Staff	64	D
RF-Purchasing Cards	41	F
RF-Service by Central Office	59	F
RF-Service by Local Staff	63	D
RF-Subcontracts	42	F
RF-Vendor Relationships	48	F

Table 3: Satisfaction in Professionalism and Service Provided to Past Grantees.

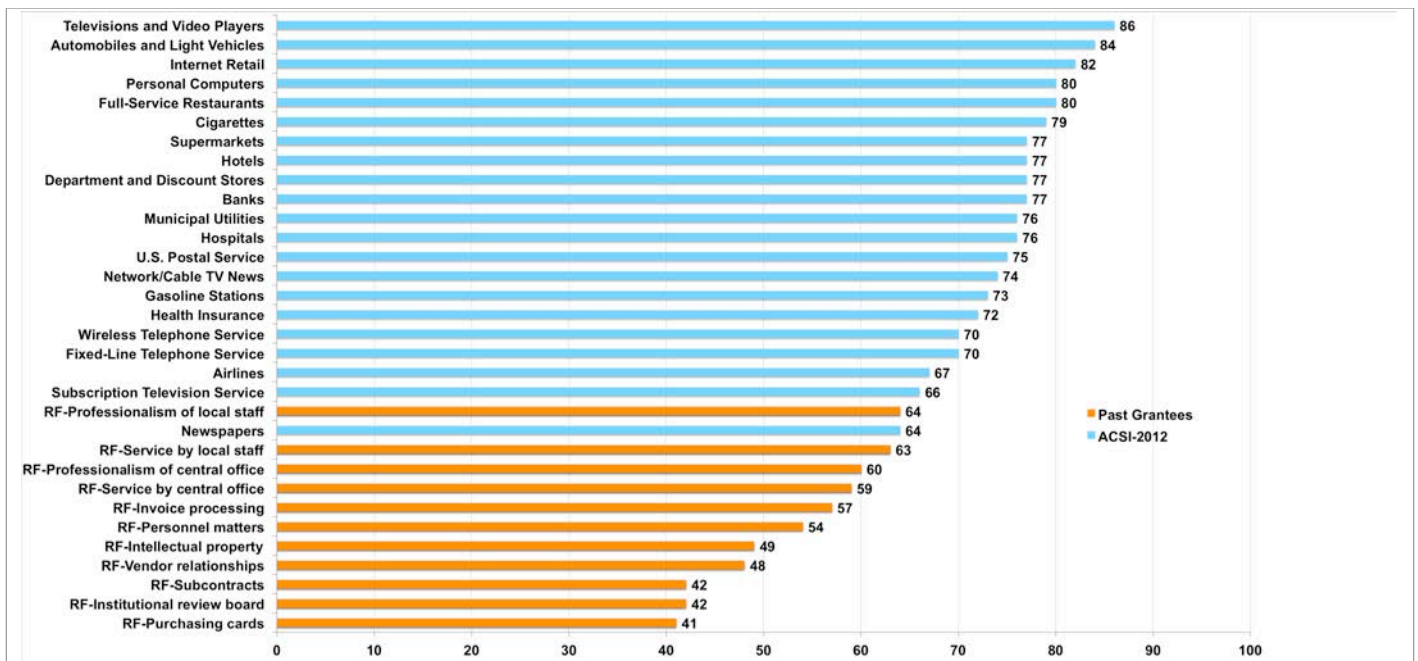


Figure 3. Comparison of satisfaction of the internal grant cohort to satisfaction measured by the American Customer Satisfaction Index.

provide by the local and RF-CUNY.

Comments provided by the respondents. Survey respondents were asked to name people at RF-CUNY who had been exceptionally helpful. The survey produced a list of 65 names (Appendix B). That so many individuals were identified as providing especially helpful service seems at odds with the deep dissatisfaction that survey participants showed in the service provided by RF-CUNY. This incongruence leads us to one of the main conclusions of this survey: that excellent people are forced to work with processes and procedures that pose nearly insuperable challenges.

Urgent changes suggested by the respondents. Survey respondents were asked to identify changes that should be implemented immediately. The responses vary from the very general to the very specific. The vast majority called for urgent changes in the processes of RF-CUNY (bureaucracy, outdated forms, poorly designed forms, poorly trained staff, etc.). Many respondents indicated that poor communication between staff from RF-CUNY and the PI should be greatly improved. Several individuals were named as candidates for dismissal for incompetence. The changes suggested by survey respondents are in complete agreement with the numerical scores discussed above.

Overall conclusions. The main finding of the 2015 Satisfaction Survey of the Research Foundation of the City University of New York as conducted by the Faculty Senate of City College of New York is a deep dissatisfaction in the professionalism and services provided by RF-CUNY across 11 categories of measurements. Current, external, and past grantees reported essentially the same low level of satisfaction. The internal grantee cohort, whose grants are typically smaller in dollar value and less complicated to administer, reported a slightly higher level of satisfaction than the other cohorts. This finding may indicate that although additional improvements can be made, the current processes and procedures of the RF-CUNY may provide somewhat adequate service to clients with small-dollar-value grants (\$50,000 or less). The survey very clearly indicates that these same processes and procedures are failing to meet the needs of current grantees whose projects have much larger and arguably more complex budgets (\$200,000 to \$5,000,000). Thus, if RF-CUNY is to fulfill the critical mission of servicing high-dollar-value projects, it must redesign and optimize the processes and procedures for this group of projects.

As noted above, survey respondents in all cohorts expressed deep dissatisfaction with the professionalism and service provided by RF-CUNY. However, when asked to identify by name RF-CUNY personnel who had been especially helpful, the respondents produced names of 65 different individuals. We reconcile these two seemingly contradictory findings by concluding that RF-CUNY has excellent, experienced, well-trained, and well-intentioned people whose work product is marred by a set of inadequate procedures, processes, and systems.

Recommendations. This survey serves as a first attempt to document and quantify the deep dissatisfaction in RF-CUNY by researchers at CUNY. Although the results of this survey are clear, we recommend that CUNY and/or the University Faculty Senate conduct a deeper and more detailed study of the sources of this dissatisfaction and propose changes to RF-CUNY that will lower the barriers to academic research at CUNY. Specifically, we recommend that a CUNY-wide RF-CUNY Restructuring Committee be established to carry out this study. We recommend that this committee be chaired by the CUNY Vice Chancellor for Research and include the President of RF-CUNY as well as representation from CUNY senior colleges in proportion to their respective research funding levels. Representation from the senior colleges should be selected in consultation with the appropriate faculty governance bodies. Owing to the crucial role played by RF-CUNY in supporting the research mission of the University, we recommend that the above committee be constituted immediately and that it be tasked to complete its work by May 15, 2016.

Appendix A: Survey Questions

The survey asked first, "In the past five years, on which type of research grant have you served as PI, co-PI, or principal subcontractor?" with choices as follows:

- External to CUNY (NIH, NSF, DOD, DOE, etc),
- Internal to CUNY (PSC-CUNY, etc),
- I have not served as a PI, co-PI, or principal subcontractor on a grant in the last five years.

There were 102 respondents with external grants in the past five years, 80 with internal grants in the past five years, and 32 without grants in the past five years. There were 106 respondents from CCNY, 37 from Brooklyn, 35 from Queens, 35 from CSI, and 1 from LGCC.

Next, respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction (on a scale of 1-10, where they could leave the question blank if it were not applicable) on these items:

1. Overall, how satisfied are you with the quality of service provided by local RF-CUNY staff?
2. Overall, how would you rate the professionalism of the service provided by the local RF-CUNY staff?
3. Overall, how satisfied are you with the quality of service provided by the RF-CUNY staff who are located in the RF-CUNY Central Office?
4. Overall, how would you rate the professionalism of the service provided by the RF-CUNY staff who are located in the RF-CUNY Central Office?
5. How satisfied are you with services associated with personnel matters that are provided by staff in the Central RF-CUNY Office?
6. How satisfied are you with services associated with invoice processing as provided by staff in the Central RF-CUNY Office?
7. How satisfied are you with services associated with handling of Purchasing Cards (PCards) as provided by staff in the Central RF-CUNY Office?
8. How satisfied are you with services associated with relationships with vendors as provided by staff in the Central RF-CUNY Office?
9. How satisfied are you with services associated with the handling of sub-contracts in your grants as provided by staff in the Central RF-CUNY Office?
10. In considering the handling of intellectual property matters by the RF-CUNY, how satisfied are you with the service provided by staff in Central RF-CUNY office?
11. In considering the handling of Institutional Review Board (IRB) matters by the RF-CUNY, how satisfied are you with the service provided by staff in Central RF-CUNY office?

Appendix B

The following RF staff were mentioned as being particularly helpful.

Arnold, Kymberlee
Baptiste-Sexton, Candice
Bowles, Virginia
Caamano, Marisol
Carezo, Sabrina
Carrier, Daniel
Caulfield, Regina
Chiang, William
Chung, Linda
Clarke, Angela
Clements, Sara
Cole, Paul
Courtney, Cheryl
Delgado, Ana
Diaz, Maryluz
Doki, Regina
Drumgoole, Bernadette
Durant, Neil
Elayan, Mohammad
Felix, Jesse
Garcia, Saul
Githui, Dennis
Gonzalez, Elizabeth
Greenberg, Adam
Hur, Kyung
Hussain, Shahadat
Hwang, YOUNG
Irizarry, Mary
Jones, Margarite
Jones, Nicholas
Koon, Lily
Lantz, Clark
Li, Yan Bing
Liang, Gary

Louie, Margie
Lutkenhouse, Anne
Markgraf, Richard
Mayhew, Tricia
Mendel, Judith
Moore, Ingrid
Moore, Kristene
Morizio, Antoinette
Nicols, Bardria
Olszewska, Margaret
Osbaahr, Patrice
Papoulis, Poline
Patitucci, Wendy E.
Rao, Sam
Reid, Jacqueline
Rodriguez, Yinet
Rose, Barbara
Rubinstein, Bruce
Shih, Alan
Sifford, Katherine
Su, Brandon
Sudol, Marek
Vargas, Cynthia
Vargas, Joseph
Veliz, Tracy
Werhner, Greg
Williams, Aster
Winter, Arita
Yassin, Firdos
Yee, Grace
Zalewski, Tomasz

Appendix C

(attached)



Richard F. Rothbard
PRESIDENT

Research Foundation
The City University
of New York

230 West 41st Street
New York, NY 10036
212 417-8507
212 417-8510 fax
Richard_Rothbard@rfcuny.org
www.rfcuny.org

September 12, 2014

TO: Professor Edward Rogoff, Chairman, Faculty Advisory Council, RFCUNY

FROM: Richard Rothbard

SUBJECT: FAC Survey of Principal Investigators

Thank you for sharing the responses you received from the most recent FAC survey of PIs. The RF appreciates that FAC regularly engages PIs on issues related to their experiences with us. We find the responses to be helpful in evaluating our operations and for making changes that improve the services we provide.

Because the material you provided to me omits specific identifiers, and because the issues raised are somewhat anecdotal (and in several instances are entirely unrelated to the RF), I have chosen to respond, not to each individual message you received, but rather by addressing the broad categories of legitimate concern that the responses as a whole touch upon. Please feel free to share this with your respondents and anyone else.

First, I think it's important to address some misunderstandings about the role, reach, and authority of the Research Foundation. In particular:

- The RF does not set any policies regarding the PSC-CUNY Research Award program. We merely administer the program's finances in accordance with the policies set by the Vice Chancellor for Research and the University Committee on Research Awards.
- The RF does not hire campus Grants Officers and has no authority over them, their staff, or their offices. We do, however, work extremely closely with them and they are the best source of information on campus regarding working with the RF.
- The RF does not allocate lab space or other assets to PIs on the campus. That is a local matter.
- The RF does not impose arbitrary rules and regulations on PIs on the conduct of their grants. We mainly apply the requirements of sponsors and governmental entities such as the Department of Labor, the Internal Revenue Service, and others. (To ignore these would place a substantial financial and reputational risk on the campuses and the University.)
- The RF does not receive any financing from CUNY, the City, the State, or any sponsors. Ninety percent of the revenue the RF needs to sustain its own operations is derived from a fee for service that it charges for its administration of awards. That fee is set based on a sliding scale tied to the cost of carrying out various functions, from employing field staff to purchasing goods and services for PIs.

- The RF does not decide on the distribution of overhead recoveries that colleges receive on awards.¹ Presidents (or their designees) do.
- The RF does not set released time, workload, or any other policies that impact a faculty member's ability to prepare proposals or carry out sponsored programs. CUNY does.
- The RF does not provide PI training on IRBs, research conduct, or ethics compliance. This is the responsibility of the Vice Chancellor for Research.
- The RF is not a department or arm of CUNY. It is a private, not-for-profit corporation chartered by the New York State Regents in 1963 and which acts, per contract, as fiscal agent for CUNY on all grants and contracts.

With the above as prelude, permit me to address the PI concerns. I acknowledge at the outset that there are times when we have not lived up to our own standards of customer service. Communications is a particular area where there is always room for improvement and where we have some very specific plans in the works, which I will address below. Having said that, however, it must be remembered that the RF manages thousands of awards at any one time, worth hundreds of millions of dollars, spanning multiple and differing fiscal years, from hundreds of sponsors (each one of which has its own rules that must be followed), employing thousands of staff employees and purchasing from tens of thousands of vendors, contractors, and sub-contractors. So it is important to keep the occasional issues that arise in perspective. (But as my father always said, "The boil on your neck is always the most painful.")

Timeliness and Completeness of Responses

The past few months have been something of a perfect storm. The implementation of a new accounting system coupled with an unusually high number of staff departures has, unfortunately, slowed down certain processes as staff have taken on increased workloads and have had to acclimate themselves to new ways of doing business. Furthermore, internal restrictions placed by me on new hiring, in order to keep our costs low, has compounded the situation.

At the RF, we place a premium on customer service. I meet personally with every new hire in the central office and stress the importance of this. Unfortunately, from time to time staff fail to respond to phone calls or e-mails, or to get back with answers or explanations in a manner satisfying to the PIs.

Here's what we're doing about this. First, I have recently authorized the filling of several positions in various departments. Once staff are hired and trained, there should be a significant realignment of workload and a noticeable improvement in responsiveness. Second, we are considering setting, as a matter of policy, a requirement that all inquiries from the field must receive a response within a definite time period. That does not necessarily mean that every issue

¹ Overhead recoveries are not award "add-ons" for PIs. PIs receive direct funding that supports the various costs of their awards. Overhead recoveries are meant to reimburse colleges for indirect expenses not easily computed individually and that are contributed by colleges in support of grants being carried out in their facilities. These include space, utilities, security, telecommunications, etc. Colleges determine how they use overhead recoveries and practices vary widely across the University. The RF does, however, negotiate the federal overhead rates (called F&A, for facilities and administrative, by the feds) for each college, and these rates are included in proposals to federal funders. State, City, and private funders are not bound by the negotiated rates and use substantially lower rates in most cases.

will be resolved within that period, but if a PI calls with a question or problem, the staff member who is the recipient should acknowledge the contact, indicate steps being taken, and follow up through resolution. Third, I have ordered customer service re-training for EVERY member of the staff, from the President on down.

On a related matter, we have heard it suggested at various times over the years that PIs be provided with a single point of contact at the RF for all matters with which they deal. We have resisted this in the past for the simple reason that no one person, regardless of their commitment and skill level, can possibly deal with the myriad issues that arise over the course of a grant's life. It has always been our belief, though, that whoever the first point of contact is has a responsibility for taking ownership of a PI's matter and must make sure that the right individual(s) at the RF follow up. In light of renewed calls for a single point of contact, we are re-evaluating the possibility, along with how we would actually organize ourselves and what the costs would be.

Web Site

Some of the new hiring that has been authorized will provide us with staff skilled in current web technology and enable us both to update the look and content of the web site, and to make it more user friendly. We acknowledge that navigation of the current site, both for PIs and employees, can be improved – and it will be.

Mobile Devices

While working to improve our web site, which was designed for use on desktop and laptop computers, we understand that in today's world devices such as tablets and smartphones are replacing traditional computing platforms. So while we work to improve the web site, we will also be adapting it to function well on other devices so that PIs and employees can work from anywhere at any time on any platform.

Social Media

We have not made significant use of social media. That's about to change. In order to enhance meaningful communication with PIs and employees, we are launching a social media initiative. Whether it's to notify researchers of a grant opportunity or employees of an open enrollment deadline, we intend to be far more active than in the past and not rely on others coming to us. There will be much more of us going to them (but only where it is their preference).

Transaction Rejections

On occasion, a PI tries to do something (hire someone, buy an item, or make some other expenditure of funds) that one of our systems rejects or that a staff member will not allow. When those situations arise it is incumbent that the PI receives a prompt and complete explanation from us as to the reason, as well as suggestions on how to achieve the desired outcome in another way (if possible). Staff in the central office do not arbitrarily reject items. Usually when a rejection happens it is either because the requested transaction is at odds with specific grant terms or because it violates governmental or RF policy. And yes, sometimes it is because someone here

fails to review all relevant material or misinterprets something and in those cases they should engage the PI in discussion. Again, additional training will, hopefully, address this.

Our ePay system, which continues to add capabilities, does and will deal with many of the current concerns, including the “loss” of material.

PI, Administrator, and Field Employee Training

RF central office staff make numerous visits to campuses throughout the year in order to provide training on our web-based systems, and on a variety of other matters. We always respond eagerly when a request is made for a campus visit for any type of training. We also conduct numerous training sessions at our headquarters, especially to orient newly hired staff who will be working on the campuses. Unfortunately, these opportunities are not always convenient for those who could benefit most. And frankly, those who need training the most don’t always make an effort to participate.

Again, we are turning to technology for solutions. In the coming year we will be creating high quality on-line video training modules so that PIs and staff can select from those that are relevant to their particular needs and watch them at their convenience. Staff will still be available to support the training function whenever and wherever that support is desired.

Hiring

Hiring someone on a grant is, admittedly, a complex and time consuming process. The PI must provide a broad range of information in order to post a vacancy notice and then to appoint the successful candidate. Sometimes the same information has to be entered multiple times on different paper forms. While our systems are designed to minimize human error and be user friendly, there is clearly room for improvement.

Governmental regulations don’t make things any easier. Employees must prove eligibility to work in the United States. They have to be checked against numerous restricted party lists. If they will be working with vulnerable populations or in financially sensitive positions they must undergo criminal and sometimes civil background checks. If there are any errors or aged information the process is slowed. If employees are foreign nationals, visas must be obtained or verified and the tax requirements of the home country must be accounted for in the payroll. And this must all take place *before* a new hire begins actual work.

Then, employees must make various decisions concerning health coverage, pension, flexible spending accounts, etc., each of which requires yet more “paperwork.”²

(Sometimes PIs seek to hire someone as a “consultant” or “independent contractor” in order to save the costs of benefits to which the person would be entitled as an employee. The IRS and

² Staff on grants are employees of the RF, not of CUNY, not of the sponsor, and not of the PI. If a PI hires someone half-time who also works half-time for another PI, that staff member is a full-time RF employee and entitled, therefore, to all full-time staff benefits. It behooves PIs, therefore, to determine if their RF staff or potential hires are simultaneously being paid off other awards and understand the implications.

state and federal labor departments have very strict guidelines for what constitutes an independent contractor, and PIs inappropriately seeking that status can trigger significant negative tax consequences for the individual and sizeable fines and disruptive audits for the organization.)

We are in the process of converting many of our paper forms, and static forms currently on the web, into “smart” forms that can actually be filled out on line. We are also in the process of evaluating vendors for an employee on-boarding system that will expedite processing and eliminate the need for populating different forms with identical information.

Pre-Award Assistance

The traditional role of the RF, at least over the past two decades, has been to provide post-award support while it has been the role of the campuses, coordinated by the grants offices, to engage in pre-award activity. As many PIs themselves have acknowledged, this artificial divide in responsibilities does not maximize success. The RF is prepared to take a far more active role in pre-award activity than we have. True, we have tried to assist in some modest ways previously, such as with our licensing of Pivot, an electronic searchable database of awards and faculty experts. But for CUNY to reach its full potential – especially as research funding becomes more and more competitive – the RF, in partnership with the campuses, must do all it can on the pre-award side, while at the same time respecting and deferring to local practices.

Three specific initiatives are under consideration. The first would create a voluntary system of pre-submission reviews so that campus proposals could be evaluated and strengthened by seasoned and expert grant recipients prior to submission to funders. The second would be the creation of a searchable electronic database of successful CUNY proposals that faculty could examine as they prepare their own. And the third would utilize social media and other mechanisms to identify and “push” out to interested faculty those funding opportunities that match their research interests.

These initiatives are meant to enhance, not supplant, the roles of those on campus who are charged with pre-award support.

I believe that I have addressed all of the concerns that your respondents have raised. As always, should any of them need assistance with a specific issue that they feel is not being properly addressed, they can contact me directly. Thank you for your support.

Faculty Advisory Council to the CUNY Research Foundation

Analysis of the Results of Spring 2018 Survey

Structure of the survey

Areas of RF surveyed of CUNY clients

- RF-General
- Legal Affairs
- Grants & Contracts
- Procurement & Payables
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Pre-Proposal Support

Questions

Communication, Turnaround time, Responsiveness, Professionalism, Competence, Easy to work with, Understands needs, Provides Vital support, Communication skills, and many others

Results

678 questions x 1624 participants = 1,101,072 responses

120619

A spreadsheet with the raw data from the 2018 Beta Corp survey of all CUNY clients was received on Sept 9, 2019.

The survey surveyed a variety of CUNY clients on 7 areas as outlined above.

Each area was probed from satisfaction via a number of questions (summarized above).

The result was a spreadsheet with 678 columns for 1624 participants, totaling more than a million response.

Structure of the survey

Two general types questions

Understanding of the RF by client

383 questions (56%)

Not analyzed

Satisfaction in services provided by RF

295 questions (44%)

Employed Likert-type scale to gauge satisfaction

Very Satisfied (5)

Somewhat Satisfied (4)

Neither Satisfied Nor Dissatisfied (3)

Somewhat Dissatisfied (2)

Very Dissatisfied (1)

N/A (9)

Responses

Values: 295,487 (27%)

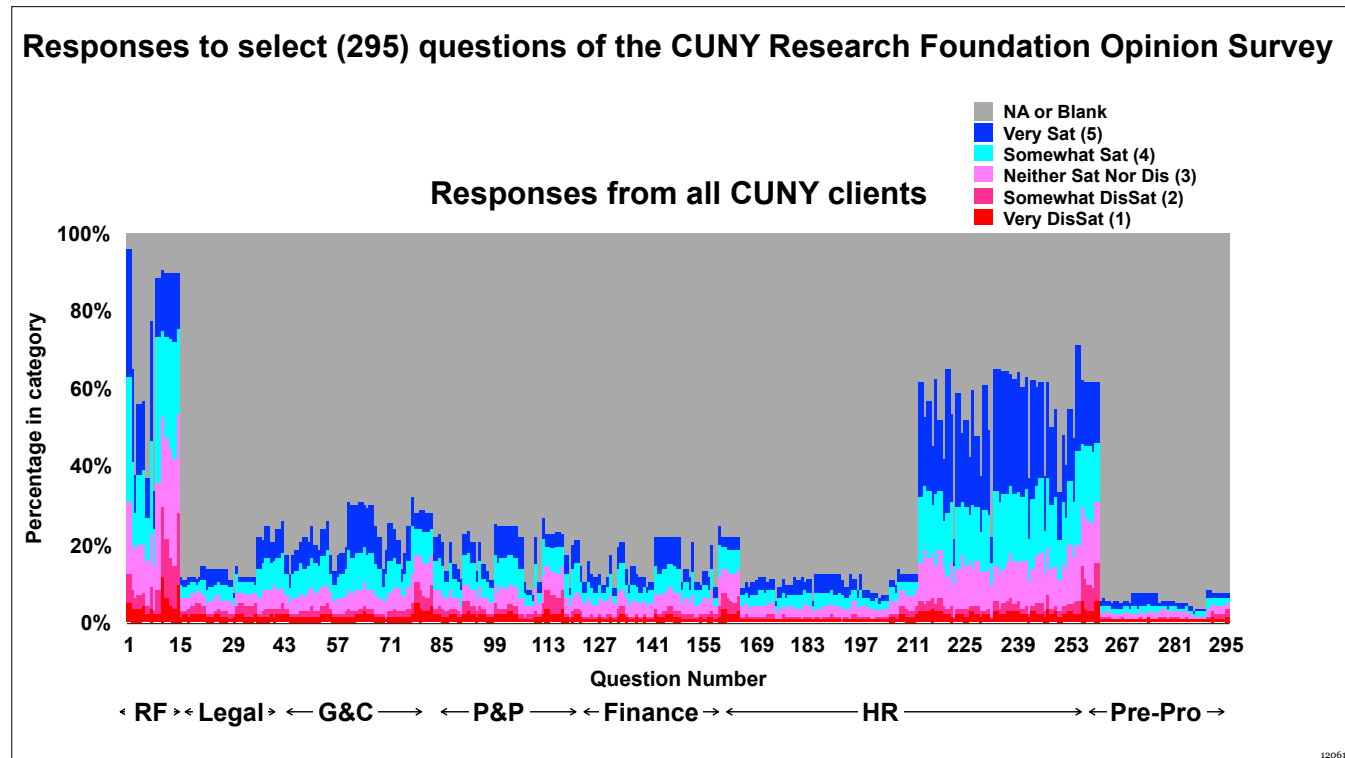
NA or left blank: 805,585 (73%)

120619

The survey consisted of two types of questions. 383 questions (56%) about the understanding of the RF by CUNY clients; these are not analyzed here.

The second type of question (295, 44%) probed satisfaction by RF clients in services provided by the RF. These questions recorded responses using a Likert type scale as indicated above.

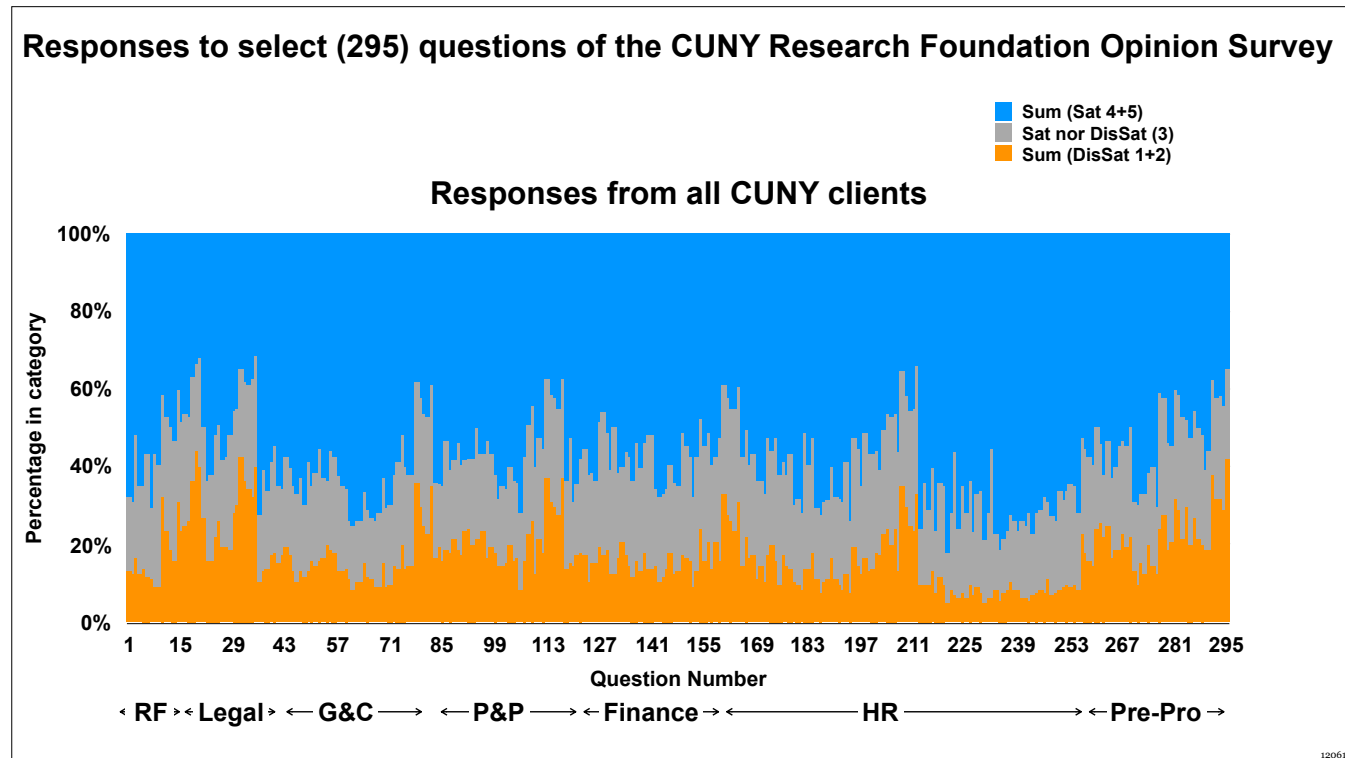
27% of the cells showed a response. 73% of the cells were found have been filled with NA or were left blank.



Plotted here are the responses to the 295 satisfaction type questions analyzed. For each question, the number of responses in each Likert category are shown (expressed as percentage of the total (including the NA and blank responses)).

Questions associated with the 7 seven areas of the RF, whose satisfaction were measured are indicated below the plot.

Shades of blue capture satisfaction, while shades red highlight areas of dissatisfaction as indicated above. Responses of NA or no answer are shown in grey

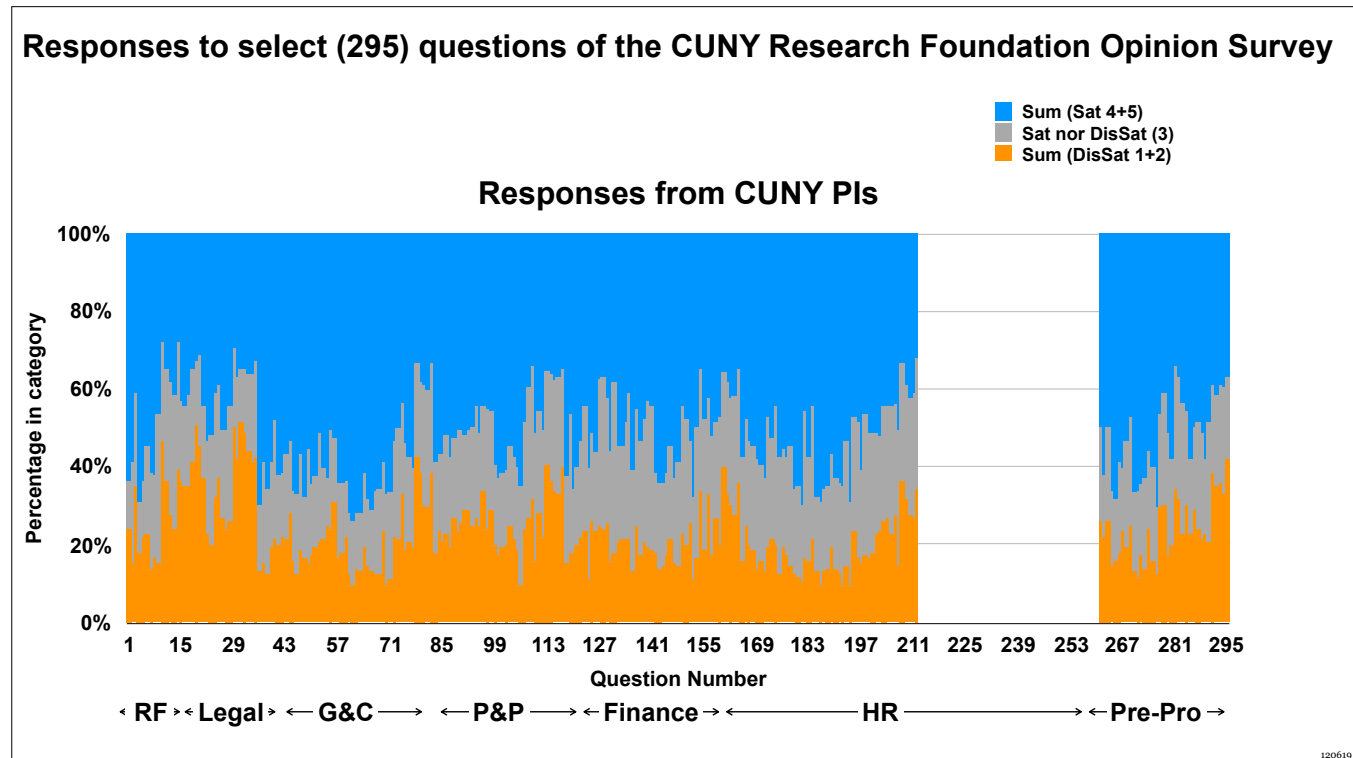


To simplify understanding and interpretation of the satisfaction data, here the data are collected in three categories:

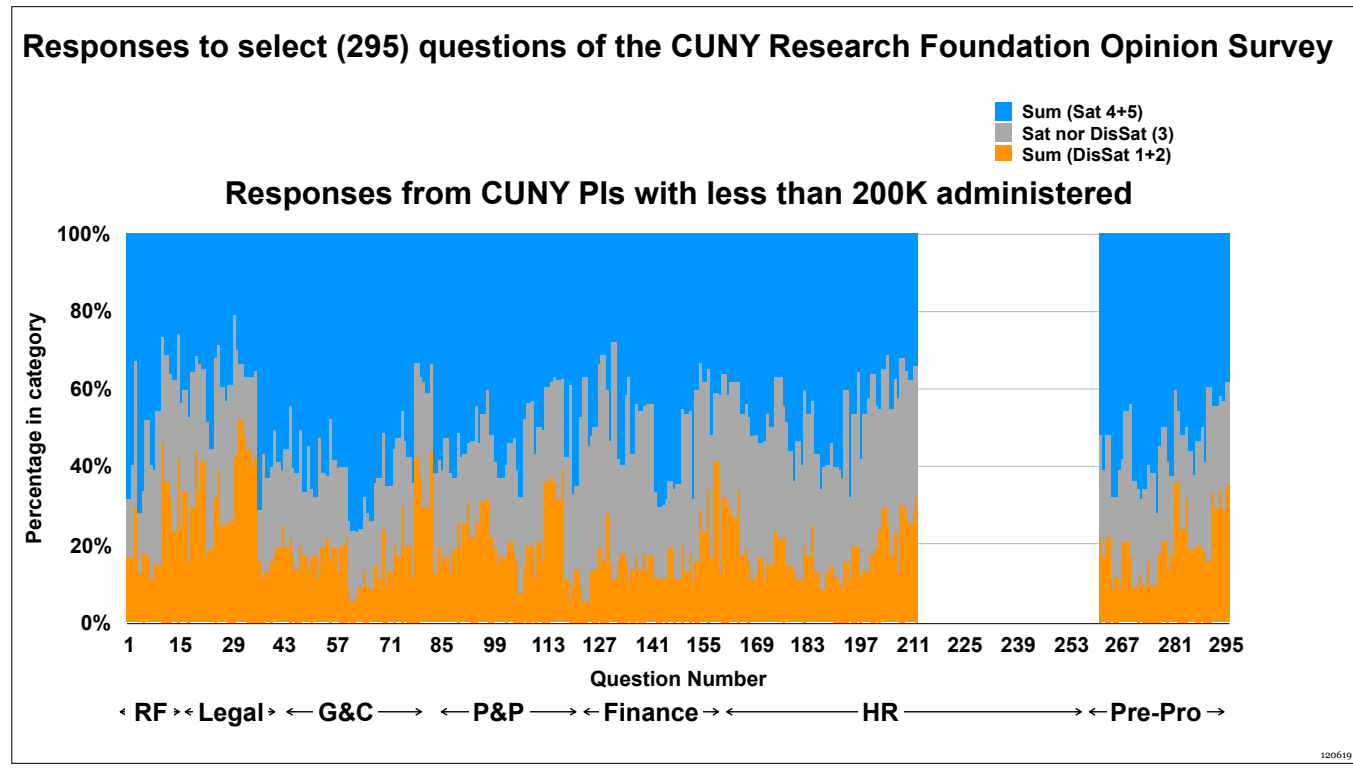
- 1) Satisfied, which corresponds to the sum of responses of 4 + 5 (colored blue);
- 2) Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, which corresponds to responses of 3 (colored gray); and,
- 3) Dissatisfied, which corresponds to the sum of responses of 1 + 2 (colored orange);

As in the prior slide, questions associated with the 7 seven areas of the RF, whose satisfaction were measured are indicated below the plot.

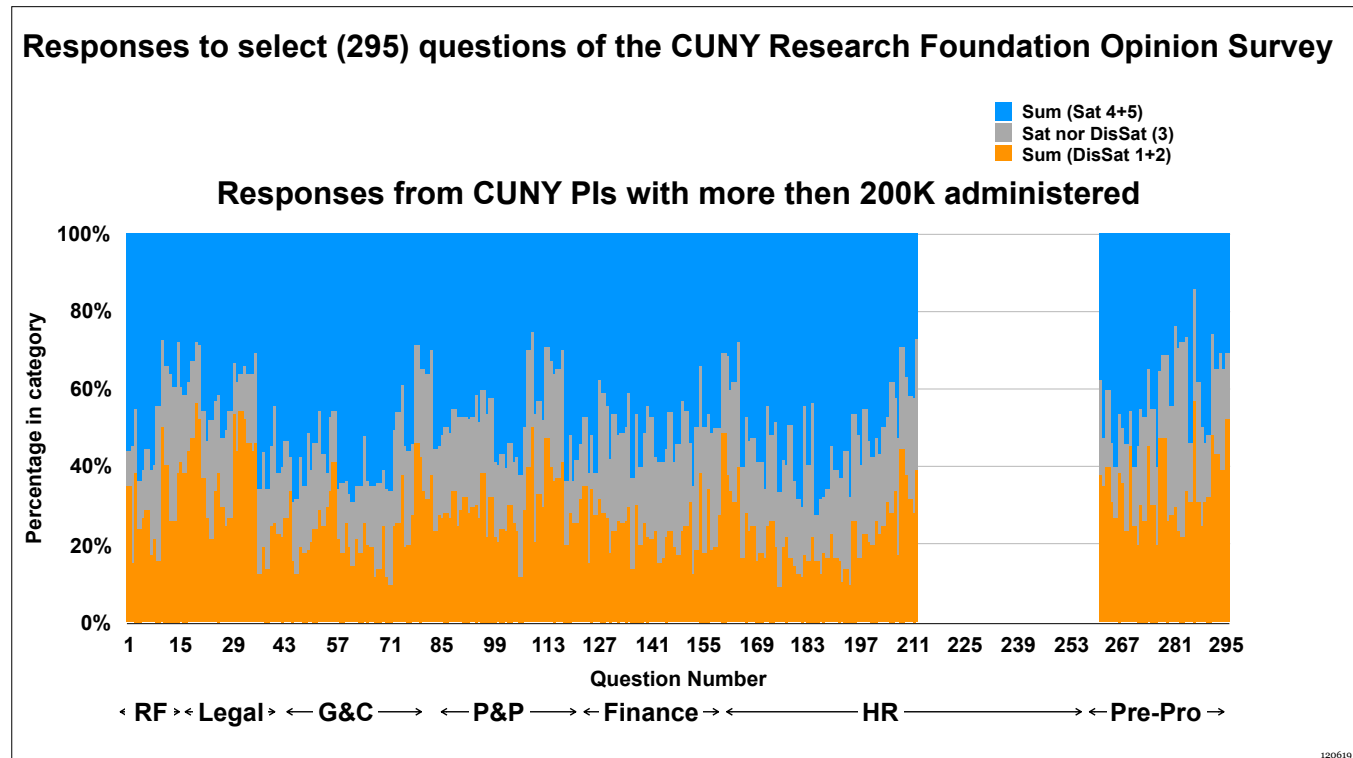
These data arise from responses from all CUNY clients.



The data in this plot are presented in the identical manner as in slide #5, except that these data arise from responses due to CUNY PIs.



The data in this plot are presented in the identical manner as in slide #5, except that these data arise from responses due to CUNY PIs, with LESS than \$200,000 managed.



The data in this plot are presented in the identical manner as in slide #5, except that these data arise from responses due to CUNY PIs, with GREATER than \$200,000 managed.

Responses to select (295) questions of the CUNY Research Foundation Opinion Survey

Sum of Very DisSat + DisSat greater than 30%

	CUNY-ALL	CUNY-PI	CUNY-PI-less-than-200k	CUNY-PI-more-than-200k
RF-General	0	1	0	2
Legal Affairs	11	19	17	19
Grants & Contracts	4	6	3	9
Procurement & Payables	3	7	6	14
Finance	2	6	4	13
Human Resources	2	3	1	6
Pre-proposal Support	5	9	6	23

Concern to all clients: **RF Website**

120619

In this table are summarized the areas of greatest concern to the indicated subset of RF clients.

The number questions where the sum of 'very dissatisfied' and 'somewhat dissatisfied' exceeded 30% is presented in the above table, referenced by RF area and the subset of respondents probed.

**Testimony of Interim President and Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer
Jarnee Bramlette
Research Foundation of The City University of New York
New York City Council Higher Education Committee Hearing
April 9, 2021**

Good morning, Chairperson Barron and members of the Higher Education Committee. I am Jarnee Bramlette, Interim President and Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Research Foundation of the City University of New York. I have been with the Research Foundation of CUNY for over 25 years. I was appointed Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer in April 2020 and Interim President in December 2020. I welcome the opportunity to speak with you about the Research Foundation of CUNY.

Research Foundation of the City University of New York

The Research Foundation of The City University of New York (RF) is a private not-for-profit educational corporation established in 1963 under the laws of the State of New York. According to its charter, the RF's purpose is to encourage the making of gifts and grants to the City University of New York (CUNY); to receive, hold and administer gifts and grants on behalf of CUNY; to finance the conducting of research studies for the benefit of CUNY; and to enter into contractual relationships appropriate to the RF's purpose.

The 1983 Agreement

In 1983, RF entered into an agreement with CUNY to administer sponsored programs for all of CUNY's operations. The 1983 Agreement designated the RF as the fiscal agent for administering all grants and contracts awarded to any unit of CUNY.

The 1983 Agreement specifies the RF's responsibilities to include: assisting CUNY in identifying funds from public and private donors to support programs at CUNY; serving as joint grantee in applying for such funds; administering grants and

contracts in accordance with their terms and conditions; employing necessary personnel to conduct the programs, who shall be deemed to be employees of the RF and not CUNY; purchasing necessary equipment and supplies; providing administrative function including controlling and accounting for expenditures; and establishing policies and procedures governing all expenditures.

The CUNY faculty and staff who are responsible for identifying, obtaining, and managing these sponsored funds are referred to as “Principal Investigators”. Once funding is awarded, the RF manages the post-award process pursuant to the 1983 Agreement, which specifies that the RF should monitor all expenditures for availability of funds, for compliance with RF policies and sponsor requirements, and maintain auditable accounts and render periodic expenditure reports.

Oversight of the award, or compliance with its terms is the responsibility of the college. Pursuant to the 1983 Agreement, “The college will comply with sponsor requirements, University policy and applicable governmental laws and regulations, and will expedite the processing of applications. The college will also see that the principal investigator carries out a sponsored project in compliance with the terms of the award, University policy, and city and state requirements.”

CUNY’s responsibility for compliance was re-affirmed in the March 2012 letter between CUNY’s general counsel and the RF’s president. The RF serves as fiscal administrator and provides oversight on the spending, to the extent of assuring that spending complies with established budgets, but compliance with the terms of the award is CUNY’s responsibility.

The 1983 Agreement is still in effect but may be terminated by either the RF or CUNY upon one year’s notice to the other party.

RF is a separate entity from CUNY

The RF is a private not-for-profit corporation while CUNY is a public university. The benefits of being a private, rather than governmental corporation were a major consideration in CUNY's selection of the RF to administer the sponsored programs. The RF's status allows for greater flexibility in administering sponsored programs than would be the case if the RF were an arm of CUNY. The legal and fiscal separation of the RF and CUNY also prevents the comingling of tax-levy and sponsored program funds, which come from private and public sources.

Unlike CUNY, the RF receives no government appropriated or tax-levy funds from any local, county, state, or federal government or political subdivision for the operation of its business. The RF's operating revenues are principally derived from administrative fees charged to CUNY for the services it provides pursuant to the 1983 Agreement. The RF also obtains income from the ownership of the building where its central office is located. This property is a private office building owned by 230 W 41st Street LLC (the LLC), a limited liability company that was formed to acquire, own, and operate the building. The RF is the sole member of the LLC.

Previously, the RF also derived revenue from GrantsPlus Inc. That corporation was created by the RF to provide post award administration of sponsored programs for not-for-profit organizations other than the RF or CUNY. However, all activities of GrantsPlus Inc. ended on June 30, 2019. The income RF obtained from the LLC and GrantsPlus Inc. was used to support its operations.

The RF's annual operating budget is approved by the RF's board of directors. It is not reviewed or approved by CUNY or any other governmental body or political subdivision. The RF files its own tax returns, issues its own independently audited financial statements, operates its own payroll and financial accounting systems, fringe benefit plans and purchases a wide variety of goods and services in accordance with its own rules and regulations.

The RF staffs and maintains its own operating divisions, such as its human resources, legal, finance, internal audit, grants and contracts, procurement and payables, award pre-proposal support and information technology. The RF maintains its own policies, procedures, and practices relating to human resources, employee and labor relations.

The health, retirement and worker's compensation plans maintained by the RF for its employees are private in nature and the RF's pension and benefit plans are subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA).

The RF retains private outside legal counsel when it requires representation or services that exceed the capabilities of its in-house legal department. The RF is not represented by a governmental agency in any legal proceeding or action in court.

Although the RF provides the function of post-award fiscal administration for CUNY's grants and contracts, the RF operates independently of CUNY in performing this function. The RF is not owned, operated, or controlled by CUNY or any other governmental entity.

RF Board of Directors

The RF is governed by its own board of directors. The composition of the RF board is established by its bylaws.

In order to ensure that all segments of the CUNY community are fairly represented, some RF directors are affiliated with CUNY. This enables the RF to provide better service to CUNY and its member colleges while contributing to the diversity of viewpoints and body of knowledge.

The 17 member board of directors is comprised of: (i) the Chancellor of CUNY, or his or her designee, who serves ex-officio; (ii) the President of the Graduate School and University Center, who also serves ex-officio; (iii) two individuals appointed by the

Chancellor; (iv) four at-large members, nominated by a nominating committee and then elected by the board, who may not be employed by or under contract to the RF or CUNY; (v) two senior college presidents, who are elected to the board by their fellow CUNY college presidents; (vi) two community college presidents, who are elected to the board by their fellow CUNY college presidents; (vii) four faculty members, namely the Chairperson of the Faculty Advisor Council who serves ex-officio and three other faculty members selected by the Faculty Advisory Council; and (viii) one full-time CUNY graduate student selected by the CUNY doctoral student council.

Other than the Chancellor, none of the CUNY representatives hold a position of control over CUNY. The Chancellor has only one vote on the RF's board of directors. Under the bylaws, the Chancellor as chairperson of the RF's board has no individual authority other than to call meetings of the board; to preside at meetings of the board; to sign and execute RF documents; and to perform other duties at the request of the board.

The appointment and removal of the RF's board members is governed solely by its bylaws and without reference to any statute or other law. The RF's board of directors is independent of CUNY, does not report to CUNY and cannot be removed by CUNY. CUNY exercises no authority over the RF directly or indirectly through the RF's board of directors. The RF's bylaws do not provide a single seat on the RF board of directors for a member of CUNY's governing board of trustees, which provides oversight over CUNY.

RF Operations

While the RF's board of directors is ultimately responsible for the RF, the RF's day-to-day operations are managed and carried out by its administration, managers, and supervisory personnel who work in the RF's Central Office, located at 230 W 41st Street, New York, NY 10036. CUNY does not have the authority to hire or fire the executive staff of the RF such as its President, Chief Financial Officer, Chief

Operating Officer, Chief Counsel, Chief Information Officer, or any other RF central office employee.

The RF's human resources, legal, finance, internal audit, grants and contracts, procurement and payables, award pre-proposal support, and information technology departments are all located at the RF's central office. The RF does not maintain any offices on any CUNY campus or in any CUNY office building.

While there are numerous RF employees working on CUNY campuses, those Field employees perform work for and on behalf of CUNY in connection with the sponsored grants, awards, and programs. The offices and building on CUNY campuses where RF Field employees perform work on sponsored grants, award and programs are not the RF's offices or locations.

As fiscal agent, the RF administers over \$500 million in federal, state, city and private sponsored programs awarded to CUNY. CUNY PIs and staff who engage in sponsored programs are required to comply with RF policies and sponsoring agency regulations regarding the management of awards in accordance with internal controls.

Since the RF receives over \$750,000 in federal funds on behalf of CUNY and its colleges, it is required to undergo an annual audit by an independent accounting firm retained by its RF's board of directors. The RF is also subject to cyclical audits from sponsors.

RF Employees

RF employs up to 6,000 employees at any one time and 11,000 overall each year. Currently, the number of full-time and part-time employees is 2,000 and 4,000, respectively.

The RF has two types of employees, referred to as “Central Office” employees and “Field” employees. Central Office employees are those employees working in the various administrative departments at the RF’s central office location. Currently, there are 191 Central Office employees that are exclusively chosen by the RF. The wages and salaries of Central Office employees are paid from the RF’s operating revenue pursuant to the 1983 Agreement.

The Field employees are those employees hired to work on research programs and other activities for which outside sponsors support. While Field employees are identified and selected by the Principal Investigator on whose project the employees will be working, the RF must approve and effectuate the hire after confirming that the candidate meets all necessary qualifications and legal requirements. While the Principal Investigators have critical input on hiring and firing decisions for Field employees, the RF is at all times the employer-of-record and accordingly must comply with all applicable employment laws, rules, and regulations.

The wages and salaries for Field employees are paid by the RF utilizing monies from the grants, awards, and sponsored programs. Currently, there are over 5,500 field employees physically working on CUNY campuses in connection with the sponsored programs, grants, and awards.

For all RF employees, benefits are given based on the employee’s employment status (i.e., full-time vs. part-time). Employees who are appointed to work at least 35 hours a week are classified as full-time and eligible for full benefits. Employees who are appointed to work for less than 35 hours a week are classified as part-time and benefits will vary based on their part-time classification. Benefits to RF employees are based solely on the hours appointed and worked through RF. Those benefits are defined RF policy and may be different from those benefits given by CUNY to CUNY employees.