

The Graduate Student Advocate

City University of New York

Volume 2
 Number 6

EDITORIAL:

No More Lip Service

The Free Academy is now to go into operation. The experiment is to be tried, whether the highest education can be given to the masses; whether the children of the whole people can be educated; and whether an institution of learning, of the highest grade, can be successfully controlled by the popular will, not by the privileged few, but by the privileged many.

1849 Mission of the Free Academy (City College)

A close reading of all of the press releases issued by the Chancellor's office and the CUNY Board of Trustees will not reveal even the faintest resistance to Governor Mario Cuomo's proposed \$500 tuition hike and \$92 million budget cuts, only the kind of political lip-service now made famous by our "Education President", George Bush. That is, though these two entities, which ostensibly represent our interests, always announce their opposition, at no point do they ever detail a plan to oppose the assault on our university. For example, in an April 18 letter to the CUNY community, James Murphy and Ann Reynolds state in the opening paragraph, that the Board of Trustees, College Presidents, and Central Administration, "advocate the lowest possible tuition for our students." What does their advocacy entail? A tuition increase of only \$200? Where are their principles and their dedication to the long-standing mission of the City University of New York. Indeed, the fence-straddling character of their public rhetoric suggests that they are prepared to actually accede to the mechanics of a narrowly determined legislative process (defined by the Governor) which will include a vote to mask the decidedly undemocratic assault on a public institution. Nowhere do Murphy and Reynolds state that

continued on page 9

Planned Shrinkage of the CUNY System by Tom Smith

The process of offering CUNY students less education for more tuition is once again accelerating. Mid-year, tuition went up \$200/year throughout CUNY, while the budgets and course offerings of many departments, especially in the arts, were slashed. Now Cuomo is proposing another \$92 million cut in state aid, along with another \$500/year tuition hike.

The plan being put forth from the CUNY administration to deal with Cuomo's austerity cuts is planned shrinkage. What is "shrunken" in planned shrinkage is the commitments of city governments and public universities to working and poor people. Planned shrinkage is the managerial strategy to selectively target shrinking resources towards attracting greater revenues. In New York City, money for hospitals and fire companies is cut to make way for an attractive downtown area. Revenues are spent to competitively attract new, greater revenues from a corporate and middle class clientele. New York City uses its funds to make Times Square an attractive place for corporate directors and yuppies to do business and have fun in, thereby hoping to encourage corporations and banks to invest in the New York City economy rather than in L.A. or in Miami. CUNY is attempting to do likewise; for CUNY this will mean the planned reduction of the student body, closing campuses and drastically raising tuition. The administration will attempt to spend its shrinking revenues on creating a "higher quality" education which will attract middle class students who can pay higher tuitions. The justifications and arguments that will be used for doing away with

campuses, services and what remains of open admission and low tuition will be "trimming the fat" and the need to maintain academic "standards."

Leading the pack in recession budgeting is the Hunter plan, designed by the chairman of the Hunter College Senate Budget Advisory Committee, Dr. Randy Filer, a professor here at the Graduate Center as well, which recommends that the Hunter College student body be cut by 20 percent, while tuition and fees increase over the next three years from \$1450 to \$2,259 per year—nearly double Cuomo's figure! According to the Committee's statement, these steps are necessary "to reverse recent trends that are undermining the college's ability to meet its mission and provide the quality of education our students deserve."

Which students does Filer mean? When 20% of the students would be dropped and the other 80% would have to nearly double their already Herculean efforts to pay for their tuition while still studying during the remaining hours of the week, how is CUNY made better able to fulfill its mission? In Filer's spoken presentation, his and the Hunter Committee's real purpose became clearer. Filer was

continued on page 8

CONTENTS

PTU Interview.....	2
Levin & Jeffries Off the Hook.....	3
Latinos at CUNY.....	5
CUNY Budget Cuts.....	8
Graduate School Takeover.....	9
80th Street Takeover.....	10

Dr. Frances Degen Horowitz Is Named President Of The Graduate School

Editor's note: The following text is an edited version of an April 30th CUNY press release.

In a closed session of the April 29th meeting of the CUNY Board of Trustees, the Chair, James P. Murphy, announced the appointment of Dr. Frances Degen Horowitz as President of the Graduate School and University Center, effective September 1st, 1991.

Since 1978, Dr. Horowitz was Vice Chancellor for Research, Graduate Studies and Public Service and Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kansas. A psychologist by training, and a specialist in child development, particularly that of infants, her scholarship is nationally recognized.

Dr. Horowitz was born and raised in the Bronx and earned her B.A. in Philosophy at Antioch College, her M.Ed. in Elementary Education at Goucher College and her Ph.D in Developmental Psychology at the University of Iowa in 1959. She joined the faculty of the University of Kansas in 1961 and steadily rose through the administrative ranks. She has held the posts of Professor in the Department of Human Development and Family Life and the Department of Psychology, as well as Senior Scientist in the Bureau of Child Research and Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Dr. Horowitz

established new research centers, increased support for the arts and humanities, strengthened interdisciplinary doctoral programs and provided resources for their development and was actively involved in the recruitment of minority graduate students. She has published more than 100 scholarly articles and has served on the editorial and advisory boards of six scholarly journals.

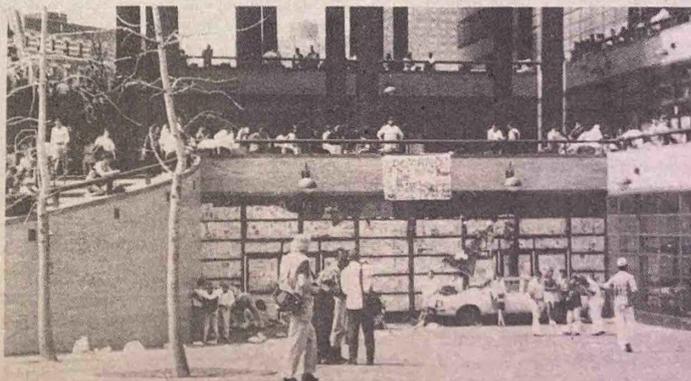
She has served as a Ford Foundation Fellow, and a consultant to MacArthur Foundation Fellows, and has held teaching and research posts at universities in the United States and Israel. She was also a Fellow at the prestigious Center for the Advanced Study of Behavioural Sciences at Stanford University.

Chairperson Murphy stated that, "Dr. Horowitz has a vision for graduate education, a creative approach to research and public services partnerships, and many skills and talents that will serve the Graduate School and the entire university. We are very grateful to Trustee Calvin O. Pruessley who chaired the Search Committee, and all the members for their exemplary work."

Dr. Horowitz succeeds Dr. Harold M. Proshansky who died in December after serving as President of the Graduate School for 18 years. Dr. Steven Cahn has served as Acting President in the interim.

Advocate Congratulates

The selection of Dr. Frances Degen Horowitz as the next President of the Graduate School is a message of good tidings received during CUNY's darkest hour. Dr. Horowitz' experience in and dedication to public education, as well as her sincere interests in student concerns are qualities that a CUNY president should always demonstrate. However, at this time, when CUNY's future looks bleak, and rumours abound that the Graduate School might be closed as the first sacrificial victim of austerity logic, we need an administration that respects and recognizes student rights, and welcomes our attempts to defend our school. We are confident that Dr. Horowitz will bring about this necessary reconciliation and look forward to her arrival for the Fall 1991 semester.



April 1991; Student controlled NAC Building at CCNY

The Graduate School Strikes Back!

by Tara McGann and Andrew Long

The ten day occupation of the Graduate School began at 6:30 a.m. on April 16th. This action was taken to demonstrate solidarity with all other CUNY campus protests, and to oppose the proposed \$500 tuition hike and \$92 million reduction of the budget. Graduate students gathered on the steps of the New York Public Library at 41st street and 5th Avenue and walked over to the Graduate Center at 7:00 a.m. By 7:15 the building had been shut down and doors were barricaded and locked.

At the meeting of the previous evening, where the occupation of the building was planned, it was also decided to hold an open forum which would include a referendum on the student occupation of the school.

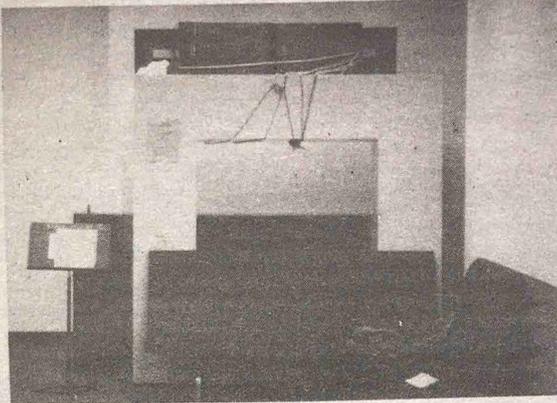
As students arrived for work and classes, the ranks of the strikers within the building swelled and picketers outside leafletted about the budget cuts facing CUNY, and circulated petitions to the state legislature. Over the next few days, well over a hundred students became directly involved with the takeover.

Approximately 300 students, staff and faculty showed up to the first day's open forum where the vote was taken by a large majority to remain in the building. An open microphone was provided for people to express their opinion of the action, whether in support or opposition. Many speakers aptly commented that the takeover and open forums had created the largest gatherings and engendered the greatest moment of mass participation they had ever seen at the Graduate School.

Open forums at 4:00 p.m. were a daily feature of the takeover, as were nightly meetings inside the building for those participating in the occupation. The open forums continued to draw in excess of 200 people and decisions were made by large majorities at these forums to continue the occupation on a 24 hour basis. Meanwhile, teach-ins were held in the mall on the nature of the budget crisis, and the particular crisis facing CUNY and an alternative edu-

cation series, dubbed Liberation Education, that will be ongoing, was initiated with a lecture on "Gays and Lesbians in Radical Struggle". The Strike Committee also facilitated a joint meeting of the Part-Timers United and Concerned Faculty who met in the auditorium to discuss the strikes and other CUNY crisis matters.

Demands addressing CUNY-wide concerns as well as concerns specific to the Graduate Center were formulated and presented to the administration, including, in addition to no \$500 tuition hike, and no \$96 million budget cut, calls for no disciplinary action to be taken against students



Art for Revolution: The 12th Floor Crossover (4/16/91)

involved in the Graduate Center takeover; statements by our Graduate Center administration that they will not bring police onto our campus, and that they oppose the use of police to end occupation on other CUNY campuses; and the formulation of a plan by our administration to show what they are going to do to escalate pressure on the legislature to stop the budget cuts, tuition hikes and firing of adjuncts. Also the students demanded that Chancellor Ann

Reynolds meet with delegated representatives of the strike committees from all CUNY campuses. Additional demands were included at an open forum, swelling the final list of demands to sixteen.

Graduate student strikers first met with Graduate School administrators on Friday, April 19, the fourth day of the strike, to discuss demands. Acting President Cahn initially declared a deadline for leaving the building of 7 p.m. that night, and though that was extended to 9 p.m., students decided to retain control of the building. At that time, representatives of the Graduate Center student Strike Committee felt that the main stumbling block to negotiating an end to the occupation was the refusal by our administration to publicly recommend or endorse the demand that Reynolds meet with representatives of the strike committees from each of the CUNY campuses.

Several Graduate Center faculty, including Professor Schneider of the Anthropology Department, Professors Alford and Meyerson of Sociology, and Professor Piven of Political Science, stepped forward to act as liaisons between the students and administration. Their mediation helped to move the stalled negotiations and proceedings along.

On Tuesday, April 23, there was a break-through in these negotiations, and student strikers and the Graduate School administration reached an agreement. The Strike Committee declared they would leave the building at noon on Thursday, April 25 and in a letter to the Graduate Center community, Acting President Steven Cahn agreed to immediately set up an ad-hoc committee of faculty members, students, staff and administrators to develop a further plan for effective action toward halting the proposed tuition increases and budget cuts. In addition it was agreed that Dean of Students, Floyd Moreland, would provide resources for students to continue their defense of CUNY. The administration also promised to address demands particular to the Graduate Center (numbers 3,4,5,6,7,11,13,14, and 15).

The Strike Committee immediately declared a victory and in their April 23 press release stated that, "this is not an end... rather this victory will be a foundation from which to escalate pressure by other means. We will continue to

continued on page 10

No More Lip Service from page 1

they are pursuing legislative alliances with New York City unions or with the budget opposition, such as Assembly member Albert Vann and Senator Franz Leichter. Thus, in the same paragraph Murphy and Reynolds state that, "Since the budget was proposed in January, we have testified on numerous occasions before Albany and New York City lawmakers against the tuition proposal, financial aid cuts, and cuts at the community and senior colleges. We are in daily contact with the legislative and leadership. The legislative process in New York State is not over and we do not yet have a budget for 1991-92. We hope that our continuing efforts will improve the situation for our University and its students." The implication of this last sentence is that "our University", presumably owned by Murphy and Reynolds, simply contains students and does not actually include them in the community.

Shamefully, the remaining six paragraphs of this letter, issued at a time of financial crisis, are about the student strikes and the "legal" attempts (the courts and the cops) to break them. This letter, in particular, then, is indicative of the bad faith of both the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor's office, which the student strikers, through the takeovers and protests revealed. To underline their position the student representatives from the coalition of CUNY campus strike committees,

CUNY, attended the April 29th meeting of the Board of Trustees and asked how the Board and the Chancellor's office will oppose the Governor's devastating budget proposals, thereby short-circuiting their evasive rhetoric. Instead of responding to the students righteous questions, the Board and the Chancellor shirked the responsibility which they have assumed and skulked off to continue the meeting in "executive session".

CUNY students, staff, and faculty should realize that the Board of Trustees, the Chancellor, and her inner circle have political and financial loyalties that are antithetical to the mission of our university, even in its current hobbled condition. Consider that the entire Board of Trustees are appointed, not elected, and that ten of the fifteen are appointed by the Governor, while the Mayor selects the other five. Clearly, Ann Reynolds was, de facto, Governor Cuomo's selection. Also consider that Ann Reynolds was a candidate with a tainted record while Chancellor at California State University who arrived to lead a crisis ridden CUNY without any political ties or alliances in New York State. She is, therefore, entirely beholden to the forces which appointed her. Finally, consider that James P. Murphy and Edith B. Everett, respectively the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees, are currently employees of, respectively, Fleet/Norstar (a bank

which just purchased S & L victim The Bank of New England) and Gruntal & Company, a New York Stock Exchange member firm. Furthermore, Murphy is a member of the City University Construction Fund, the major financial repository of our tuition money (how are our tuition dollars invested and distributed?). Given that many of the counter budget-cut proposals include tax increases for the wealthiest 5% of New York State as well as New York corporations, and the plugging of the many loop-holes which allow for the shift of untaxed capital out of our state, we have to understand that the non-actions of the Board leadership and the Chancellor are entirely in line with their considerable political and financial obligations.

We therefore call on the remainder of the Board of Trustees to push aside all those who are not fully committed to the mission of the City University of New York and immediately implement the following recommendations as a gesture of good-faith:

1). Give complete amnesty to all student protesters. Again, the protests would not have taken place if the Chancellor and the Board of Trustees had acted in good-faith, done the right thing, and decisively countered the Governor's proposals. Furthermore, as they pursue disciplinary and criminal proceedings against student protesters, the Chancellor and the Board are destroying the political and social fabric of the CUNY campuses. Many of the protesters are involved in student government, campus newspapers, and various club activities. Their actions are tantamount to the

destruction of all opposition and the anti-democratic consolidation of power.

2). Endorse Senator Franz Leichter's "Brother Can You Spare a Dime" tax increase proposal and/or the "Tax the Rich" proposal of the Black and Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus. These proposals call for progressive taxation of New York State's wealthiest 5% to ensure that they pay their fair share.

3). Provide logistical support for student lobbying efforts. This should include buses for an Albany rally, as well as telephones, fax machines, and other communication equipment for outreach purposes.

4). Publicly and formally contact the local unions, notably 1199's Dennis Rivera and DC 37's Stanley Hill in order to declare an anti-budget cut coalition.

5). Contact and mobilize all CUNY alumni against the proposed tuition increase and budget cuts.

6). Refuse to implement the tuition increase.

7). Begin to democratize the CUNY power structure, which must include the election of the Board of Trustees and the elimination of all ties which compromise the integrity of its members.

--Andrew Long, Tara McGann,
Michael Waldron

CUNY Strike News

Graduate Center Student Strike Update

At 5PM Thursday, April 18, the following demands were reconfirmed. The continued occupation of the Graduate Center was also reconfirmed by an overwhelming majority. The negotiation process has begun with Graduate Center administrators. The Graduate Students' continued takeover is in solidarity with the student strikes at other CUNY campuses.

These are our demands by consensus.

1. We insist that Chancellor Reynolds meet with the delegated representatives of the strike committees from all CUNY campuses.
2. Statements by our Graduate Center administration that they will not bring police or additional outside security forces onto our campus, and a statement opposing the use of police to end occupations on other CUNY campuses.
3. The administration present a plan showing what they are going to immediately do to escalate pressure on the legislature to stop the budget cuts, proposed tuition hikes, proposed termination of 800 adjunct positions, and the decrease in state financial aid. This plan should be presented at an open forum of students and administrators at the Graduate Center and in a public statement to the press.
4. The agreement reached between the PSC and CUNY which specifies that CUNY Graduate Center students be given priority over other graduate students in all adjunct hirings should be enforced.
5. Mina Rees Library hours be substantially extended, especially evening and weekend hours. The budget of the library be increased sufficiently to cover the expenses of book and journal purchases, and to support those services necessary for our research needs.
6. The Graduate Center administration, and each program, actively recruit students and faculty, who would reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of the City of New York. Sufficient support should be provided to ensure completion of degrees by these students, and the accomplishment of tenure for faculty.
7. The Graduate Center administration should actively recruit from the CUNY system, and should ensure a greater representation of lower-income people. The Graduate Center should more actively support working people, women, and gays and lesbians.
8. Chancellor Reynolds should initiate a plan showing what she is going to do to escalate pressure on the legislature to stop the budget cuts proposed tuition hikes, proposed termination of adjunct positions, and the decrease in financial aid.
9. Chancellor Reynolds should rescind the raising of minimum high school requirements for entering college students, since

at this time, high schools are incapable of complying with her expectations, and thereby fewer public school students will be able to obtain a college education.

10. Governor Mario Cuomo should rescind his proposed CUNY budget cuts, tuition hikes and cuts in financial aid. Instead he should expand the State budget for health and education.
11. End the freeze on new PhD. programs.
12. CUNY should return to a policy of free tuition.
13. The number of distinguished faculty lines [parity of "central appointments"] in each Graduate Center department should be equally proportional to the number of students in each of those departments.
14. The CUNY administration should be responsible for negotiating pay for the contract workers who are unable to work due to the strike.
15. The appointment of Executive Officers should be done by program faculty, student, and staff committees.
16. No disciplinary action against people involved in the Graduate Center takeover.

"Strike Breaking" 101 at 80th St.

by Tara McGann

The student occupations of CUNY campus buildings that began April 8th at City College, and swept 13 CUNY campuses, were all but over by May 1st, 1991. The CUNY administration seemed intent on removing students from the buildings by the end of the week ending April 27th. Indeed, most of the buildings were given back in a space of 48 hours, as court orders were issued, arrests made, and counter-protests by other CUNY students were held on Friday and Saturday April 26th and 27th. At most of the campuses, however, students voluntarily relinquished buildings.

When asked about how the court orders were issued so closely together, Rita Rodin of the Office of Public Relations for CUNY said, "I doubt it was coincidental." She explained that "the weekend was coming up," and this facilitated the flow of paperwork through the legal bureaucracy. The coincidence seemed also to signal the administration's desire for a fresh start on the following Monday.

For two weeks prior the CUNY campus administrations and Board of Trustees had been seeking temporary restraining orders against the striking students; and desk appearances were issued to strikers at several campuses who ignored these orders, including Lehman College, Bronx Community College, New York City Technical College and Borough of Manhattan Community College. Currently 49 CUNY students are facing disciplinary proceedings, which could result in suspensions and ex-

pulsions, according to Rita Rodin. The ways in which disciplinary and legal actions were brought upon the striking students raises questions about the role and autonomy of campus administrations and the political relationship of the Board of Trustees and Chancellor Ann Reynolds to the CUNY student body. Specifically, the questions raised are whether the protocol for dealing with the student strikers was formulated from 80th street and passed down as directives to campus administrations, which seems patently the case, and if this set up a system meant to bypass dialogue with the students and engagement with their struggle. Rodin described a "flow of command back and forth," between 80th Street and the campus administrations, and a "collaborative effort" in decision making.

The Board of Trustees likes to remind us of their commitment to the mission of CUNY, and their efforts to defeat the budget cuts, yet their first, last and only concern was ending the occupations, and ending them without having to grant demands to students.

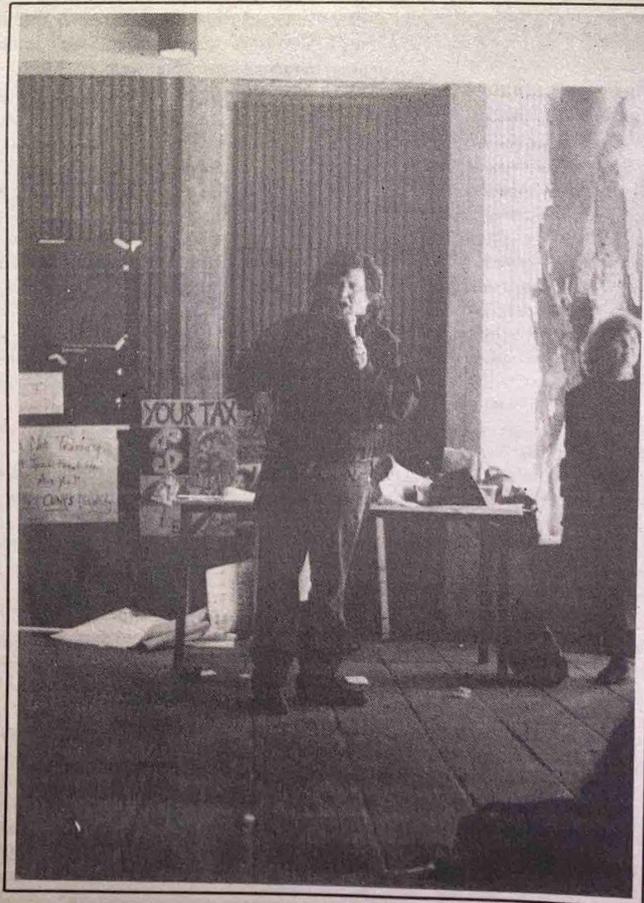
While according to Rita Rodin, each campus president had the prerogative to make agreements with students as they saw fit, over leaving buildings, she stated the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and Chancellor Ann Reynolds "did not want total and unconditional amnesty." In a May 1st article in *Newsday* one reporter

continued on next page

Graduate Center Strikes Back from page 9

work towards a progressive tax plan at the state level which will provide for education, health care and other human needs. We continue to support the other CUNY strikers." The Strike Committee also noted that they had made gains by, "successfully forc(ing) our administration to take a more public stand and to actively struggle against the budget cuts and tuition hikes that could devastate CUNY, a responsibility which this administration has heretofore shirked."

After leaving the building, graduate students continued their activities in support of the other ongoing strikes; leafletting and letter writing at the Graduate Center; bringing out contingents to demonstrations against the state budget cuts; organizing lobbying of legislators; protesting at meetings of the Board of Trustees; and at 8:00 a.m. on May 4, protesting at the Gracie Mansion power breakfast between Governor Cuomo and Mayor Dinkins. The numbers of graduate students engaged in the struggle against the budget cuts and tuition hikes has increased geometrically since the occupation of the building. Recently, the Graduate Student Strike Committee renamed itself Students for Educational Rights in order to link it with similarly named groups at the other CUNY campuses. Graduate student delegates continue to attend meetings of the CUNY-wide strike committees, CUNYU, and to coordinate actions and protests.



More Strike News

"Strike Breaking" 101 at 80th St. from page 10

noted that, "Some protesters Tuesday said they would surrender the buildings if City College President Bernard Harleston granted them amnesty. But Harleston refused on orders by CUNY Chancellor W. Ann Reynolds. (emphasis ours)" This seems to suggest a more limited autonomy for how campus administrations could negotiate with their own students; they could negotiate within the guideline that they were not allowed to grant amnesty.

The arrangement that the City College administration arrived at with its students seems carved out of this limited sphere allowed by the Board. In an imaginative twist, of the 49 CUNY students facing disciplinary procedures, the 22 who are City College students will be forced to face hearings or submit affidavits about their activities in the strike, though none will face punitive measures, according to the Office of Public Relations of City College. A press release from City College states, "If the student participates in a disciplinary hearing, the President will stay the penalty imposed by the committee until the student graduates. . . If the student admits to the charges in a signed affidavit, no penalties will be assessed."

When Rodin was informed that in seeming contradiction to the strictures of Reynolds, the CUNY graduate students had received a promise of no disciplinary action from acting-President Cahn, she said, clearly flustered, "I don't know how to respond to that." Acting Provost Marshall of the Graduate Center said, "I don't believe there's a contradiction." He explained the bureaucratic logic wherein unless some disciplinary action had already been taken, there was nothing to be given amnesty for. "No amnesty needed to be granted." In light of the agreements reached between City College and Graduate Center students and their administrations, disciplinary actions taken against other CUNY students would be vindictive and inequitable. It would be hard for 80th Street to argue that the campus administrators were acting autonomously, as they saw fit. Rather it would be a way of punishing students less able to defend themselves—namely Community College students.

Although the CUNY administration refused to see the protests as strikes and characterized them instead as illegal lockouts, their manner of dealing with the students, particularly seeking court injunctions, was very similar to management dealings with striking workers, indicative of their corporate ties and dispositions. The CUNY administration immediately responded aggressively; their strategy was to delegitimize the aims of the protesters, and the protesters themselves. Campus administrations (excepting Hostos Community College) and 80th Street continually reiterated in near identical press releases that they would not tolerate the methods chosen by the students that they characterized as counter-productive. A press release from the Office of University Relations, dated April 22 stated that continued protests would jeopardize next year's financial aid grants. Administration spokespeople insisted that protesters represented a minority of the student popula-

students resorted to these actions only after all other means had failed (means unsupported by CUNY administration).

Not even willing to pronounce the liberal truism, "we like your aims, but hate your tactics", the Board was careful to commend nothing about the takeovers, praising what they presented as outside of, or in opposition to the strikes. A statement from the Board to the New York City Community, dated April 29, of course states their opposition to the budget cuts and tuition hikes, but makes clear, "While we disapprove of the lockout tactics employed by some students, the Board of Trustees applauds the efforts of all the students who have voiced their concerns peacefully and lawfully. We commend our administrators for their tireless efforts to restore calm on the campuses and let classes proceed." Nowhere does this letter make explicit how they will oppose the budget cuts and tuition hikes, but also nowhere is there an engagement with the student protestors. The image of the protestors as hooligans was a barely concealed tactic of the CUNY administration.

Chancellor Ann Reynolds has categorically refused to engage in dialogue with students on these critical issues facing CUNY; there have been no meetings between Reynolds and students, either prior to the takeovers or since. The Board of Trustees are quick to bring legal action and at best slow to dialogue with the students; though a more cynical reading is that they are uninterested in dialogue.

(At press time Chancellor Reynolds plans to meet in a closed session with students from the CUNY Internship Program in Government and Politics to be televised by CUNY t.v. Students involved in tuition cut tuition hike opposition are not permitted to attend.) Reynolds was, however, willing to appear and talk with students opposed to the takeovers. At the Borough of Manhattan Community College, the only campuses where the strike was ended by fellow students, Chancellor Reynolds was eager to congratulate the students who smashed through the doors to end the occupation. By official accounts, nursing students who were upset over losing class hours, which could jeopardize their certification, broke through glass doors and barricaded doors. BMCC security, who were on hand, had metal cutters available to cut chains locking doors, thereby gaining entrance to the building. Chancellor Ann Reynolds showed up within a short period of time (she had been en route from a Board meeting in Staten Island) to congratulate the student strike breakers just in time for the 7:00 evening news.

The BMCC students, according to a student involved with the strike who declined to give his name, had decided the night before to leave the building and initiate dialogue with their administration, and had signalled this to the administration.

During the next 48 hours after the incident at BMCC, court orders were served and arrests were made at Bronx Community College, New York City Technical College and Lehman College. At New York City Tehnical College, a 2-year college in downtown Brooklyn, student strikers reported that a demonstration of



the express intent of breaking through the barricades, as with BMCC. Again, many of the students were nursing students. Strikers say they spoke with these students, and the situation was diffused. Later, a court order was delivered, and police were brought on campus to clear out the students and arrest those who refused to leave.

It's reprehensible that administrations put more energy into organizing students against students than in fighting the budget cuts and tuition hikes, and did not feel compelled to open up all lanes of communications with the students whose aims they purportedly share. Vice-President Richardson of New York City Technical College said his administration had offered to meet with and negotiate with students, though students standing by vocally denounced this assertion as a lie. Meanwhile, at the Graduate Center, our provost's of-

fice asked departments to mobilize students to vote against the strike at the daily 4:00 p.m. meetings. The opposition never appeared in substantial numbers.

Finally, the question is whether the Board and Reynolds represent the interests of CUNY. Although the Board congratulates all those who engage in peaceful legal actions, when asked if anyone from 80th St. attended peaceful legal rallies on March 19, April 24 or April 30, opposing state budget cuts, Rodin said, "I'd have to find out and call you back." When asked if considering that the extensive lobbying and letter writing has not worked so far, whether the Board foresees the need for a change of tactics, Rodin speaking for the pundits in 80th Street said, "I don't know." Whomever Ann Reynolds represents, it is certainly not the students of the City University of New York.

