

LEHMAN COLLEGE
ACADEMIC FREEDOM COMMITTEE REPORT

Minutes of the committee meeting
20 Feb 2026

Present: Diane Auslander, Brianna Grant, Kevin Johnson, David Manier (chair), Richard Relkin, and Robin Soto.

1. A quorum having been established, and minutes of the preceding meeting having been previously approved via email, the (online) meeting was called to order by Prof. Manier at 2:30 p.m.
2. We discussed a demand from US Dept of Justice for CUNY to provide demographic data about students receiving scholarships and Prof. Manier stated that faculty should make the decisions about merit-based scholarships without government interference.
3. We discussed CUNY's compliance with ADA, which allows some students to record classes, at least whenever other students are permitted to take notes, and discussed whether such recordings might be used to violate the academic freedom of professors. Prof. Manier stated that such recordings must ONLY be used for educational purposes by the one doing the recording and should not be shared with others.
4. We discussed CUNY's Title VI training, which continues to concern professors because it permits anonymous reporting through the CUNY portal and this may be used to violate academic freedom. Prof. Manier stated that reports about Title VI concerns can be made directly to professors and department chairs, in the first instance, rather than to the CUNY portal.
5. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
David Manier, Assoc. Professor
Chair and Secretary Pro Tempore

Cc: Sophia Diamantis-Fry