



February 8, 2024

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President  
Manhattan College  
4513 Manhattan College Parkway  
Riverdale, NY 10471

Dr. Rani Roy  
Acting Provost  
Manhattan College  
4513 Manhattan College Parkway  
Riverdale, NY 10471

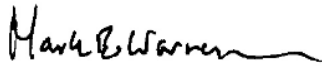
Dear Dr. Rivero and Dr. Roy,

On behalf of the American Political Science Association (APSA), we are writing to express deep concern with the program reductions within the political science department at Manhattan College. It has come to our attention that several faculty members at Manhattan College have recently been fired without warning, including the termination of a tenured faculty member within the political science department. This termination comes in the wake of a second political science professor on tenure-track who was informed of his non-renewal at the end of this academic year. It is also apparent that these terminations and non-renewals are not unique to the political science department and are affecting other liberal arts departments throughout the college.

The abrupt termination of a tenured faculty member in this manner is unacceptable. Furthermore, the terminations combined with the mass non-renewal of tenure-track faculty raises alarms about the future of liberal arts education at Manhattan College. This wave of terminations, which occurred in January of this year, undermined the guidelines enumerated in the Manhattan College faculty handbook requiring a full year's notice of a faculty member's termination and before the deadline of September 1<sup>st</sup>. The decision to delay termination notices until January is especially egregious as it prevents many of the impacted faculty members from seeking employment for the following academic year, displaying a lack of respect for the wellbeing of those impacted faculty.

We recognize these mass program reductions likely coincide with economic and financial pressures Manhattan College is facing and sympathize with the difficulties of the situation. However, these reductions to political science and other departments are not only deleterious to Manhattan College's student body and to the impacted disciplines, but to the college as a whole. We at APSA believe in the value of a well-rounded liberal arts education, and that political science is an integral part of that education. Reductions in capacity for the liberal arts are short-sighted and cause damage to the well-rounded nature of students' liberal arts experience. APSA strongly urges the administration to reverse these reductions to political science and other departments as much as is feasibly possible.

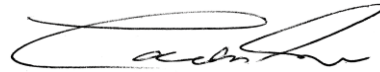
Sincerely,



Mark E. Warren  
President



Lisa Martin  
Past President



Taeku Lee  
President-Elect



Steven Rathgeb Smith  
Executive Director