RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of The City University of New York approve the naming of Conference Room B-115 at Hostos Community College as the “Vito Marcantonio Conference Room”.

EXPLANATION: Gerald J. Meyer, Professor Emeritus of Hostos Community College, has dedicated many of his scholarly pursuits to documenting and publicizing the life and work of Vito Marcantonio, who served seven terms as Congressman to East Harlem (1932-1950). Marcantonio, a lifelong resident of East Harlem, was a protégé of Congressman Fiorello LaGuardia (1922-1932). When LaGuardia was elected Mayor in 1933, Marcantonio began 14 years of service as the district’s Congressman. As his mentor had done, Marcantonio distinguished himself as a passionate fighter for all those—in particular immigrants, African Americans and Puerto Ricans—who had been left out of the American dream.

In August 2011, Professor Meyer pledged $25,000 to the Hostos Community College Foundation. Professor Meyer believes that Marcantonio’s accomplishments have not been adequately acknowledged and it is his hope that this gift will help remedy the omission. In acknowledgement of his generous donation and in honor of Congressman Marcantonio’s service, Hostos Community College recommends naming Conference Room B-115 in honor of Vito Marcantonio.