

Undergraduate Student Government

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Meeting Date:	September 8, 2020	Meeting Time:	5:31PM - 7:20PM
Location:	Zoom Call	Note Taker:	Genesis Calle

Attendees:	
Tony Chen President	Briana Staten Executive Vice President
Nancy Sea Executive Treasurer	Genesis Calle Executive Secretary
Taji Sanders VP of Academic Affairs	Steven Le VP of Campus Affairs
Richard Reyes VP of Legislative Affairs	Yam-Yu Li VP of Student Affairs
Irine Thomas Chair of Appeals	Kristina Khabarov Chair of Arts
Alison Lee Chair of Clubs and Orgs	Lesli Cuamani Chair of Finance
Cindy Chen Chair of Graphic Design	Christine Gajdos Chair of Marketing
Osvaldo Garcia Chair of Philanthropy	Laiba Hussain Chair of Public Opinion
Tomasz Horczak Representative Senator	Raphael Berdugo Representative Senator
Alex Cuanal Representative Senator	Erika Cumbe Representative Senator
Zariana Gonzalez Representative Senator	[Absent] Minh Tran Representative Senator
[Late] Mayer Estinville Representative Senator	

Passing of the Minutes

1. Motion to pass Senate Meeting #1 minutes. Motion passes, 15-0-0

Nominations and Elections

1. Briana Staten | Executive Vice President

a. Official nomination and voting for President Pro Tempore

- i. Briana: President Pro Tempore is someone who would take my place for overseeing the senate in the case of my absence. I nominated Taji due to his 3 years of experience with USG matters and I trust him to oversee these responsibilities and lead the table well.

Mayer Estinville arrives at 5:33PM

- ii. Motion to nominate Taji Sanders, President Pro Tempore, 15-0-2
- iii. Motion to elected Taji Sanders as President Pro Tempore, 15-0-2

Reports

1. Nancy Sea | Treasurer

I. Nancy: Hello. Because of COVID-19 and the shift to virtual programming, some of the payments for last year were last and passed the fiscal deadline so we couldn't process it. For the late payments, vouchers were submitted.

We have 21 clubs today and we are voting for late payments from the fiscal year 2019-2020 to be paid by the budget of the fiscal year 2020-2021 by USG. All the late payments will be coming out of USG's budget.

- a. Accounting Society
 - i. 8 late vouchers, with a total amount of \$703.69. Also a clarification; because the vouchers were off a bit, the numbers might be wrong but this is a good estimate of that amount. I will be making any necessary changes later on and letting you know.
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$703.69 to Accounting Society for their late vouchers.
 1. Motion passes. 17-0-0
- b. Alpha Kappa Psi
 - i. Nancy: 5 late vouchers, for a total of \$264.45.
 - ii. Irine: Where in USG's budget line will this money be taken out of?
 - iii. Nancy: It's going to be from our cosponsorship line. I just received the news that we're going to be paying for it right before senate.
 - iv. Savanna: I'm not sure what exact line it can come out of, we may have to move money, but USG will pay for it because of the fact that Tam had to take money back from the clubs during the spring semester, so it'll balance out, and if you need additional money, you can take it out from your surplus..
 - v. Damali: It's something you guys can think about. Nancy we can talk about it offline. It's more so of what BOD will be more receptive to.
 - vi. Nancy: Thank you.
 - vii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$264.45 to Alpha Kappa Psi for their late vouchers.
 1. Motion passes. 17-0-0
- c. Beta Alpha Psi
 - i. Nancy: 5 vouchers, with a total of \$1192.15
 - ii. Briana: Is there any club representation?
 - iii. Alison Lui: Hi, I am the treasurer for Beta Alpha Psi. This money is mainly for reimbursements from paperwork that we submitted last semester but still haven't received.
 - iv. Briana: Motion to allocate \$1192.15 to Beta Alpha Psi for their late vouchers.
 1. Motion passes, 18-0-0
- d. Baruch Actuarial Science Society (BASS)
 - i. Nancy: 2 vouchers, for a total of \$200.38
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$200.38 to BASS for their late vouchers.
 1. Motion passes, 18-0-0
- e. Conversation Partners
 - i. Nancy: 1 voucher for a total of \$3.30
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$3.30 to Conversation Partners for their late vouchers.
 1. Motion passes, 18-0-0
- f. Delta Sigma Pi (DSP)
 - i. Nancy: 9 vouchers and in one voucher I'm not sure if they accounted for USG's co-sponsorship from last year but they didn't give me any co-sponsorship form. They just emailed me with a confirmation from Denise saying that their cosponsorship got approved. With that co-sponsorship taken out, it's \$1868.44. Without it, it's \$2238.44. They didn't give me any USG co-sponsorship paperwork, so we will approve the second amount.
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$2238.44 to DSP for their late vouchers.
 1. Motion passes, 17-0-1
- g. FUSION
 - i. Nancy: 4 vouchers, for a total of \$195.06
 - ii. Kenneth Ho: I'm this year's VP for FUSION. We are just waiting for payments and our reimbursements.
 - iii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$195.06 to FUSION for their late vouchers.

1. Motion passes, 17-0-0
- h. Indian Student Association
 - i. Nancy: 5 vouchers, for a total of \$97.33.
 - ii. Pooja Patel: Hello, I'm the VP. We actually had 6 vouchers, they were 2 different vouchers but they're for the same person. They were for 2 different events and had 2 different payments.
 - iii. Nancy: Give me one second to check that out. I received only 5 vouchers.
 - iv. Pooja: I think the issue might be that our advisor contacted me and said for one of the vouchers she was going to send it to the accounting unit to check up with them.
 - v. Briana: Motion to allocate \$97.33 to Indian Student Association for their late vouchers.
 1. Motion passes, 17-0-0
- i. International Student Organization (ISO)
 - i. Nancy: 6 vouchers, but we didn't fully cosponsor another event so it was 7, for a total of \$302.19.
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$302.19 to ISO for their late vouchers.
 1. Motion passes, 16-0-0
- j. Japanese Anime Asylum (JAA)
 - i. Nancy: 2 vouchers, for a total of \$101.82.
 - ii. Alyssa Hernandez: Hi, I'm the treasurer of JAA. Our vouchers were for one bill, but the cost was split between 2 people.
 - iii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$101.82 to JAA for their late vouchers.
 1. Motion passes, 17-0-0
- k. Muslim Business Association (MBA)
 - i. Nancy: 2 vouchers, for a total of \$269.27
 - ii. Arsela Malik: Hi, I'm the treasurer of MBA. I had 2 vouchers that didn't get processed because of COVID-19 delays. Receipts were included to get our reimbursements.
 - iii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$269.27 to MBA for their late vouchers.
 1. Motion passes, 18-0-0
- l. Muslim Student Association (MSA)
 - i. Nancy: 3 vouchers, for a total of \$960.
 - ii. Umaima Cheema: Hi, I'm the president. 1 voucher was for supplies for an event, and 2 were for refreshments. The paperwork got lost in the process so we resubmitted.
 - iii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$960 to MSA for their late vouchers.
 1. Motion passes, 16-0-0
- m. Residence Hall Council
 - i. Nancy: 1 voucher, for a total of \$99
 - ii. Brian Pan: Hi, I'm the treasurer. We had an event in early March and we submitted the paperwork for it, but they never got back to us because of delays from COVID-19.
 - iii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$99 to Residence Hall Council for their late voucher.
 1. Motion passes, 17-0-0
- n. South Asian Student Association (SASA)
 - i. Nancy: 17 vouchers, for a total of \$2444.69.
 - ii. Maham: Hi, I'm the VP. These vouchers were submitted online but none got processed, so our new advisor told us to resubmit them.
 - iii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$2444.69 to SASA for their late vouchers.
 1. Motion passes, 18-0-0
- o. Sigma Alpha Delta
 - i. Nancy: 5 vouchers, for a total of \$687.12.

- ii. Shamira: Hi, I'm the treasurer. We have submitted 5 vouchers all for events from February, which were submitted back in April but I guess they were delayed. I didn't realize a previous 6th voucher was already reimbursed, so it doesn't count.
 - iii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$687.12 to Sigma Alpha Delta for their late vouchers.
 - 1. Motion passes, 17-0-0
- p. UCLA
 - i. Nancy: 4 vouchers, for a total of \$538.68
 - ii. Suzy Qui: Hi, I'm the president. Our treasurer last year filed the paperwork, but it must've gotten lost in the process so we resubmitted them again.
 - iii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$538.68 to UCLA for their late vouchers.
 - 1. Motion passes, 17-0-0
- q. United Sikh Association (USA)
 - i. Nancy: 16 vouchers, for a total of \$6520.46
 - ii. Karen: Hi, I'm the president. We are actually also waiting for payments back from Fall 2019 since some paperwork got lost as well. We did submit 23 vouchers, but were told by Talia that 7 of them are being processed by the accounting unit. Do you think we can check over the voucher numbers to double check?
 - iii. Nancy: Yes. I have it here.
 - iv. Karen: Talia had sent us an email before about the 7 vouchers being processed, but we can double check.
 - v. Briana: Motion to allocate \$6520.46 to USA for their late vouchers.
 - vi. Karen: We are confirming right now to see if voucher #23 has been processed.
 - vii. Briana: We have a motion on the table now, so there would have to be an amendment to it right after. If there is an amendment, the current motion would have to be voted down, then we propose another motion.
 - viii. Karen: I got confirmation that voucher #23 was correct, so the current amount is correct, thank you.
 - 1. Motion passes, 16-0-0
- r. Debate Team - USG Co-sponsorship
 - i. Nancy: With all the co-sponsorship paperwork I received, it seems like the actual co-sponsorship form itself wasn't attached, so I'm going to base the amounts on the attachments that were given. For the Debate Team, the total would come out to \$675 for their 2 events.
 - ii. Ace: Hi, I'm the president. Nothing to say.
 - iii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$675 to Debate Team for their late vouchers.
 - 1. Motion passes, 17-0-0
- s. ISO - USG Co-sponsorship
 - i. Nancy: For 2 lines, the total was \$498.13
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$756.75 to ISO for their late vouchers.
 - 1. Motion passes, 15-0-1
- t. Women's History Month Committee- USG Co-sponsorship
 - i. Nancy: 5 vouchers, for a total of \$1218.57.
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$1218.57 for the Women's History Month committee for their late vouchers.
 - 1. Motion passes, 18-0-0
- u. Women in Business (WIB) - USG Co-sponsorship
 - i. Nancy: 5 vouchers, for a total of \$239.94.
 - ii. Kimberly: Hi, I'm the treasurer. We have 5 vouchers; 1 of them was from Fall 2019 which had to get resubmitted, and the other 4 were from February, which all got lost.
 - iii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$239.94 to WIB for their late vouchers.
 - 1. Motion passes, 17-0-0
- v. Women in Islam - USG Co-sponsorship
 - i. Nancy: 5 vouchers, for a total of \$515.44.
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$515.44 to Women in Islam for their late vouchers.

1. Motion passes, 17-0-0
- w. Women Empowered for Success (WES) - USG Co-sponsorship
 - i. Nancy: 1 voucher, for a total of \$256.25.
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$256.25 to WES for their late voucher.
 1. Motion passes, 18-0-0
- x. Nancy: That was all the clubs for today. The total for all that was \$20,484.98.

2. Cindy Chen | Chair of Graphics

- a. Cindy: Hi guys. I wanted to share new updates that I have implemented in my USG graphics request form. As chair, I do all the graphic work for USG. I'll be sharing my screen to show you the form. This form is also accessible to Christine, our Chair of Marketing. She and I came up with a system to make the process easier for us because we're both in charge of the promotion and advertising of our USG events. Some new changes to the form. From now on, instead of 2 weeks, I am allocating 1 week or more from your designated date for me to design so just a little more leeway for everyone and of course if you have a vision, feel free to message me and I will provide you with some examples. We can discuss and schedule a meeting. Make sure you guys include key information, such as the date, time, and location. When you submit a graphic, your event is confirmed by the Office of Student Life or there are no major changes that will be happening because the last thing we want is last minute submissions or changes. Mine and Christine's contact information is on the form. This form is not only limited to events. We also do graphic work for non-event purposes, such as Steven's Big Sibs program for example. It's the same procedure except you don't have to fill in the time, date, and location. Once the graphics are complete, I will upload them onto the USG table drive. For types of graphic, I just want to clarify for some of you who are not sure about what graphics need a flyer or a post. A flyer you'll typically see on a bulletin board, whose size is 8 ½ inches by 11 inches. A post is basically what you'll see on our Instagram and Facebook, pretty self-explanatory. If you're making a Facebook page, it would be ideal to select the option for a Facebook event cover photo art. Vision themes are optional. Christine and I will get an email confirmation once you submit the form. Now where can you get access to the form? You can find it in the USG '20-'21 table drive, under my "Graphics" folder. These are where your graphics will be located. I also included the USG logo in the folder if you guys need access to it.
- b. Christine: I understand that with zoom events, they can come up quickly or things will change. If you could just communicate with us about that, it would be really great. For some of the last few events there have been instances where one of us didn't know about the event and the other person did so just try to let us both know. I understand things will come up last minute so hopefully this form will help prevent stuff like that from happening.
- c. Briana: I just want to add in, events should start to be marketed at least 2 weeks before the actual date. The more marketing is done, the bigger the turnout. Be mindful of Cindy and Christine's time and let them know beforehand.
- d. Christine: Since we have to put our events on MyBaruch, please send us your zoom link as soon as possible.
- e. Cindy: You can put it under "location" in the graphics request form. I'll adjust that later.

Recess starts at 6:46PM

Recess ends at 6:50PM

3. Steven Le | VP of Campus Affairs

- a. Steven: Hello everyone, wanted to start off with a reminder about our "Zoom Battle" event this Thursday from 6-8 PM. It would be great if all of you guys can show up and please share and repost our event as well. The first thing I would like to report is that Student Affairs and Campus Affairs will be collaborating with the Star Career Development Center to create this cohort event on September 17th. It's an informal session that would include a tutorial on how to use STARR Simplicity and a Q&A session. Rikki, the head of STARR, will be there to answer any of the questions. This is a great way to show our students how to navigate STARR and take advantage of some of the resources that they provide, such as their annual career fair that'll take place on September 24th. Since we

just recently got the event confirmed, I apologize in advance to Cindy and Christine, I know it's not a two week notice but I hope that you guys could still make some graphics and market the event. There will be a Google form coming out that'll allow students to ask any questions that they want, which may be selected and put on a slide so that Rikki can answer them throughout the event.

- b. Yam-Yu: In terms of marketing, I was hoping Christine could do another poll feature on Instagram to make it easier for students to send us more questions.
- c. Steven: A question I have regarding vendors and when they provided us with their services, how exactly does that work because I remember during BOLT training that we need them to sign a particular contract. Is that contract out yet or are we still waiting for it?
- d. Damali: You need to meet with Savanna and she will walk you through the paperwork. Especially now that we're doing it via CUNYfirst, you guys can't sign anything until it goes through there, and that actually adds more leeway for the process.

4. Yam-Yu Li | VP of Student Affairs

- a. Yam-Yu: Hello everyone. Earlier today, I met with the Transfer Center and we went over what their objectives are and what kind of services they provide. In terms of the services they provide, it's more so the external factors they concentrate on the most. National Transfer Week is from October 19th-24th, Baruch's Transfer Center will be co-hosting an info session with other CUNY/SUNY/some Tri-State school staff and they asked if we, USG, would be interested. I said yes on our behalf because I thought this might be a good idea to reel in some potential transfer students from other schools. They don't have the time for those dates yet, but I will keep the table updated when they get back to us. Because these info sessions are an external event, USG will be invited to speak as guest speakers and will be allotted 10-15 minutes to talk about Baruch. When I do find out about the time, I will create a Google form or some kind of spreadsheet for you guys to check off when you'd be available to come and speak.

5. Richard Reyes | VP of Legislative Affairs

- a. Richard: Hi guys. Just updating everybody, USG released a statement on September 2nd in terms of the online proctoring negotiations that are occurring. This was done with information that was released on September 1st by CUNY. It's pretty much just examining their options and all of the current details on it and so we released that statement and we also included a testimony form. What exactly did we do with that form? Well, I took it upon myself to create a 21 page report with all confessions and data from the testimonies. Just like a preface with all the information and underlying issues such as the underfunding of CUNY, the adjunct professors that were cut from their jobs, and the privacy concerns. Just a major point about these testimonies; I took it upon myself to make sure that they were anonymous just to underline the fact that USG respects the privacy of our students, and CUNY should, too. I will email this report to the table before we send it out to the Chancellor. There's part one of the preface, what the purpose of this report is and the underlying issues and all the data I gathered from the responses. I put a disclaimer on the top of the testimony form that the responses are anonymous because we are expressing their voices and want to respect their privacy and that CUNY cannot hold anyone accountable for speaking against action because it's in our First Amendment right to voice our concerns since this is impeding our privacy rights. We collected 352 responses within the testimony form but some people chose not to write any comments with regards to the negotiations.
- b. Irine: I saw 333 responses.
- c. Richard: That was with the initial data I collected. I will update it later.
- d. Tony: Good job Richard!
- e. Richard: Thank you, and I'll be sure to email the report to the senate.

Unfinished Business

1. Yam-Yu Li | VP of Student Affairs

- a. Yam-Yu: As mentioned during the last senate meeting, there had been talks about concerns regarding tuition. I had a couple of students reach out to me asking if there were going to be any potential reimbursements regarding tuition because not all the facilities that we are using in school are available to us online so I reached out to Laiba and Lauren to spearhead this. The first thought that we plan on doing is to create a non-biased survey, which is still in the development process, and gather students' opinion on what they think about the situation. Especially during this time we are all suffering financially, many of us can relate to each other and we want to see if we can help these students alleviate some kind of financial stress.
- b. Laiba: I've been drafting up the survey as of now. I did show Yam-Yu and Lauren some of it. I was wondering if the table also wanted to see a final draft of it before we officially release it?
- c. Briana: Soft vote for should the survey to be approved by the table before moving forward.
 - i. Majority in favor.
- d. Briana: Question for Savanna or Damali; do you know if there's any consideration for any tuition changes?
- e. Damali: As of right now, I don't know if there's been a conversation about the refund of tuition because most of the services that you guys were talking about are actually not funded by your tuition. I would be specific about what exactly it is that you are concerned that you don't have access to because a lot of that stuff might be covered by the Student Activity fee and if they cut the Student Activity fee, USG gets the largest portion of the Student Activity fee so you will in turn be cutting your budget. Things like the gym downstairs, it's only partially funded by Student Activity fee and most of it is funded by the state so I would just be careful as to research what the funding sources are and confirm it and be very specific about what it is that you're concerned about. If anything gets cut, like when people complained last semester, they cut the Student Activity fee by 25% and that's how we ended up doing all those late payments and clubs had to get their budgets rescinded so be prepared to defend your portion of it; my advice for you there.
- f. Richard: I know that tuition is an important issue, and this is a CUNY wide decision that CUNY central would have to make. We're in a very particular place with how to handle this, but the one thing I would like to point out is that, from his testimony during the NY state assembly, the Chancellor still has \$119 million within the CARES act that he still has not pushed forward and plans are still in development. My input is what can be done with this money to help alleviate any financial burdens and increase transparency on the Chancellor's side as to how they plan to move forward with allocating these funds.
- g. Damali: I would suggest looking back at previous BOD meetings to see what some of the conversations have been. Every school right now does not have an entire budget from CUNY for the fiscal year. We know we're going to have state cuts because the state is at a deficit right now due to COVID-19. Most schools are on some kind of hiring freeze or they've had to let people go. I know that there has been conversation about advocated for adjunct faculty but then if you're advocating for a tuition cut or for the money to go for tuition refund, just be careful about finding legitimate sources and really do your homework so that you're not asking for contradictory things and you're not shooting yourself in the foot. If you decide that students shouldn't have to pay the Student Activity fee and USG can take the hit, then that's a choice that you can make but at least it's an educated choice you made after you look at the big picture and decided that this is how you're going to advocate for students. Make sure that your messages aren't contradictory in terms of "fund this, but don't fund that." Really understand it, and if you have more questions we can set up a meeting with the VP of Finance after you've done your homework so that you can ask her specific questions to get a better sense of the landscape. She's done that in the past, and we can do that again. I don't actually have all the answers but she's the person who oversees all the budgets so she may be able to give you a better sense of exactly what's going on but whatever decision you made I wanted to be an educated one so you just really have to do your homework.

New Business

- a. Genesis: When it comes to voting, everyone must be participating as the motions are being passed. At numerous times today, we had table members not voting, then voting again, which threw off the numbers. I understand there may be internet connection problems or anything else that arises, but should that happen please let me know by private messaging me. Briana and I should not have to be guessing who's voting and who's not. That should also be the only time you're on your phones during the meeting. Letting me know when you're "stepping out" will clear up any confusion we have on the number for voting and has to go on the record for the minutes.

2. Briana Staten | EVP

- a. Briana: We talked offline regarding what can be done about zoom bombers. I filmed a video on a zoom tutorial for professors and staff.
- b. Tomasz: How are you going to distribute the video to professors?
- c. Briana: Not sure yet. I will be talking to OSL about it during my next check in.
- d. Tomasz: Are you going to do just the one video?
- e. Briana: Yes, just a self-explanatory video on how they can update links or fix any issues.
- f. Tony: Are you also planning on distributing this on social media so students can share it as well?
- g. Briana: That's a good idea. Maybe something that can be included once we get our Youtube channel up.
- h. Damali: Just so you know the Center for Teaching and Learning has a lot of resources for faculty members on zoom and they're very detailed and thorough, as well as workshops. Maybe check out their website so you can see what they're doing and not duplicate any efforts but more so amplify them. That's what the provost and the President have been pushing faculty to learn because it's very Baruch specific and set up by the Center for Teaching and Learning and BCTC. It has a lot of information that's more than just zoom general but it's also Baruch zoom-specific, like logging in as authenticated users. I would suggest checking them out first before you put a lot of work into something that may already exist.
- i. Osvaldo: Are there any more details explaining the hotline or what USG will do with it?
- j. Briana: Listening to what Damali said, it's more of an idea at the moment and not fully thought out yet. We can look into it more offline, just because we don't have all the logistics or correct information.

3. Richard Reyes | VP of Legislative Affairs

- a. Richard: I was brainstorming that a hotline was a very good idea before but upon the execution of it, I was thinking that the Baruch administration can ask the faculty and professors to send their corresponding zoom links and attach that to a spreadsheet connected with their course number and course ID and that could be connected with their services to send messages with all the zoom details and meeting information.
- b. Briana: We can talk more offline on the logistics behind that, because it does seem like an interesting idea.
- c. Richard: I was wondering does Baruch have TAs? I feel like it's not very well known if so.
- d. Genesis: I know a couple of professors do have TAs with them, even before the transition to online. As far as where the budget for the TAs come from. I'm not sure exactly how that works, it might be different for each department, but TAs are a great resource for professors who are still struggling with these online platforms, and could be something to look further into.
- e. Richard: In terms of payment, I know some colleges don't pay TAs. it's more of a "resume experience." Not that I'm saying they shouldn't get paid, but that's a discussion for the college to have.

Adjournment

1. Motion to adjourn Senate Meeting #2 at 7:20PM, 18-0-0.