

## Undergraduate Student Government

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### Meeting 22

<b>Meeting Date:</b>	April 6, 2021	<b>Meeting Time:</b>	5:30PM - 6:50PM
<b>Location:</b>	Zoom Call	<b>Note Taker:</b>	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	Richard Reyes   VP of Legislative Affairs
Julia DiMarcello   VP of Campus 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
[Absent] Osvaldo Garcia   Chair of Philanthropy	[Absent] 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	Mayer Estinville   Representative Senator
Matthew Sanchez   Representative Senator	

### Passing of the Minutes

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1. Motion to pass Senate Meeting #21 minutes. Motion passes, 12-0-2

### Reports

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#### 1. Cindy Chen | Chair of Graphics

- a. Cindy: I created an infographic concerning the vaccine, now that the vaccine is now available for people 16 years or older starting today. With this, we can help spread awareness of it and for people who need help scheduling appointments. I wanted to showcase the graphic with you all for any feedback that would be much appreciated. The graphic goes in depth to what the vaccine is, what it contains, eligibility, options available. I actually got my second dose of the vaccine last week and thought this would be a great opportunity to spread awareness and encourage others to get vaccinated.
- b. Raphael: On one of the cards, the text seems to need to be altered a bit. Otherwise, great job. Thank you.
- c. Julia: I have a link that I can drop in the chat, which is a Northwell Health Link available for students who live in Long Island to schedule vaccination appointments.

[https://www.northwell.edu/coronavirus-covid-19/vaccine?utm\\_source=mkto&utm\\_medium=email&utm](https://www.northwell.edu/coronavirus-covid-19/vaccine?utm_source=mkto&utm_medium=email&utm)

2. Kathy Cobb | Baruch Vice President for Administration and Finance

- a. Kathy: Every year CUNY asks the colleges to submit a financial plan, and then do a budget allocation where they ask us how we will be spending our money. This year was a little unusual because they did not send us a budget allocation. They paid for our payroll, we didn't let anybody go, but because of COVID-19, the state experienced a huge drop in revenue and so they only gave to me a certain amount of money and about 70% of their budget was held back. The state's revenue outlook improved and they were able to not take so much out of the budget and reduced the state budget to a more manageable number for CUNY. In March, CUNY gave us a budget allocation and still wanted us to do a financial plan for the rest of the FY'21 year. The way fiscal years work as, for example for 2021, we started on July 1, 2020 until June 30, 2021. This financial plan is a bit more basic than the usual one but we put the numbers in, they put some numbers in and we sent this plan informing them that we would share this plan with the elected student representatives and also the elected faculty representatives, so this is our opportunity to share that plan. On the spreadsheet, the first tab shows you the tuition revenue, which are the resources that we have to spend, and it shows you last year's which is fiscal year 2020 on the first column, and the second column is fiscal year 2021. This year one of the things that's really noteworthy here is unlike any other CUNY school, we had a huge enrollment increase so what you can see is that while our actual headcount was over 19,000 students, our full-time equivalent (FTE) for Fall 2020 was 16,160 students. This increase also led to an increase in our tuition revenue that we had available to us which was \$142 million in actual cash that we collected. This year we're projecting we're going to collect a \$153,655,011 million increase in our total tuition revenue. "Revenue Target" represents CUNY creating a target for us where they ask, "how many students you'll think you'll have and how much do you think you're going to collect from the revenue commission?" They come up with a revenue target and that allows them to front the money. In other words we haven't collected the money for the year but CUNY and the state will give us the amount of money that we think we're going to be able to collect and in the FY' 20 year, that was \$141 million but this year because of the increased enrollment you can see our revenue target increased up \$149 million dollars. But let's say we collect more than that. We're projecting we're going to collect over \$4 million over that revenue for the total of \$153 million dollars so that the resources that we will have are available in cash. About 97 % of Baruch students pay their tuition in cash and that's what we expect to collect. Now we'll take a look at the second tab, which is expenditures. For FY'21 we have 2 columns, for a year and day, and then we project how much we think we're going to spend this amount for a total for the FY'21 year. The different categories that were showing you in terms of expenditure categories is PS regular, which is full-time staff. In FY'20 we spent over \$120 million dollars on full-time staff. We're projecting this year to spend almost \$117 million. Because of the budget situation in the state, there was a hiring freeze and so a lot of positions that had been on the payroll for FY'20 remained unfilled. A lot of those positions were in buildings and grounds. With the campus closed, we didn't need as many custodians so it was okay to leave some of those positions filled and some we didn't necessarily need them this year but we're definitely going to need them next year because as soon as we reopen, we're going to have some online and some face-to-face. The next line is adjuncts, who are the part-time faculty. In FY'20 the cost was \$17.5 million and for FY' 21, it's \$20 million. Then you have temp services, which are part-time workers, college assistants, and student aides, and then you have deferred collective bargaining. Because of the budget situation CUNY

deferred paying some of the labor contract increases that were due but those are still to be paid. So you have a total of in FY' 2021 we're projecting \$151 million in expenses whereas in FY' 20 we have \$149.3 million in expenses. OTPS by the way is "other than personal service expenses" so if you have to pay for cleaning supplies, software, and elevator maintenance contracts, they come from here. Some of those we're going to get reimbursed because of the CARES act and there's a new version of it called CRRSA with the federal government being able to reimburse us for some of the things that we had to buy because of COVID-19. Some of those laptops, hotspots, or extra cleaning supplies we bought because we do have staff on campus with people running the Building Systems, we're going to get reimbursed for. The next tab is resources and this is what they called target. CUNY gives you a base budget and then they also give you certain other things. For example, with the CUNY Tutor Corps, they gave us \$235,000 to spend on it. They give you targeted money to be spent on those targeted expenditures. Every year they give you a number of these. The top one, for example, is the Black Male Initiative so there's a whole list of those that we get in FY'2. That's basically the financial plan that we submitted to CUNY and that we're sharing with you. When we have a financial plan for FY'22 and get a budget allocation for that, which will probably be sometime in the summer, we will be asked to create a financial plan for FY'22 and we'll make an appointment with the USG to talk about it. Thank you for inviting me.

- b. Briana: I know that a lot of colleges got more grant money under the CARES act for the spring semester so I was wondering have they been allocated yet or when will they? I've seen friends who go to Brooklyn College who got back around \$400 from their school under the CARES act.
- c. Kathy: Under the CARES act, half of that emergency money had to go towards students. My understanding is that at this point that's all been allocated. However, as you know, we have the CRRSA act now, which was passed in December 2020, so we have another amount of money that's going to be allocated, which we haven't received yet, but when we do, half of that money will go towards students.
- d. Mary: Hello, I'm the budget officer. We also have about \$60,000 in the current CARES allocation but they're working on how to allocate it exactly. There are qualification requirements that the enrollment management office will work on but there will be some new allocations coming up.
- e. Kathy: Yes, these are emergency grant funds.

## Unfinished Business

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### 1. Richard Reyes | VP of Legislative Affairs

- a. Richard: I had a meeting with Janet, the director of Alumni relations, where we discussed the event that I'm planning with her as a panel for upcoming 2021 graduates looking back towards those who graduated in 2020 and their experiences. The event will be on May 13th, from 4:30p.m. and will probably be around an hour and a half to 2 hours. We created a list of alumni we'll be reaching out to from different industries. 2 are USG alumni. We're still deciding who will moderate the event, but I had a great idea of someone from the table doing that. I'll reach out to someone I have in mind, but also would anyone want to do it?
- b. Tomasz: I could do it.
- c. Richard: Cool, I'll send you a message with the information and connect you with Janet.
- d. Mayer: Throw me in there, too.

## New Business

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### 1. Mayer Estinville | Representative Senator

- a. Mayer: I spoke with Briana about an event I'm looking to have on May 4th during club hours. Since I interned at Goldman Sachs for the last 2 summers, and I was speaking with people there who were interested in having a financial literacy session with students. Obviously we're all chasing the bag but what you do with the bag once you get it is up to you. We currently have lined up 3 speakers, a banker, impact investor who only invest in things that are good for the planet, to come speak to the students and put together fun activities for us to think about what we're going to do with our money once we graduate. I'm going to try and partner up with STARR and NABA, as well as reach out to other clubs.
- b. Briana: In terms of people interested in helping out with the event, I see Richard, Ally, Erika, Cindy, and Yam-Yu.

### 2. Yam-Yu Li | VP of Students Affairs

- a. Yam-Yu: I received an email from Teresa Hurst from the Counseling Center, asking us to help push out their Baruch Healthy Minds Survey. Thank you to Cindy for making the graphic on this. Collectively as a College, there have been more initiatives pushing for mental health programs and the college is very hands-on with this. The point of the survey is to gather details on what mental health services are needed the most. Please help share the survey, and complete it as well, on their website. Survey links will go out to all the students on April 8th. The more responses we get, the more knowledge the college has about what services are needed.
- b. Damali: This is also part of a grant that the Counseling Center got from the JED Foundation. All of the students will get their own personalized link. Responses will be anonymous so any promotion that you have, you should stress that students check their emails for their own link. They don't have to give any identifying information, and 350 institutions have sent out this survey as well, so Baruch's results can help get us more funding for these services. The deadline for the survey is on May 5th.
- c. Yam-Yu: There's 2 more events regarding mental health. The first one is this Thursday from 4:00p.m. to 5:00p.m., in collaboration with the Counseling Center. This makes our third "Let's Talk About It Session." It's more of a conversational-based event so it would be great to encourage students to come and talk and there will be visuals to look at to make it more interactive. The second event will be on April 15th, in collaboration with Joshua Rivedal from the "I'm Possible Project", which will be a Suicide Prevention CPR event. We'll be working with the Counseling Center as well in case any of the students or staff that come feel uncomfortable and would like to follow-up after the event. Both of these events are open to staff as well. I'll be working with Ozzy on this project, there's a charity aspect to it as well.

### 3. Richard Reyes | VP of Legislative Affairs

- a. Richard: I have an event in the works for May 11th during club hours. It's going to be a conversation on NYC local politics. We're inviting a state assembly person and a city council member and a political science professor. The conversation will be on why local elections are important, the upcoming primary for NYC mayor, and the new rank choice voting that has recently been implemented.

#### 4. Alison Lee | Chair of Clubs and Organizations

- a. Alison: I had a question about USG stoles. To my understanding they're a gift to our USG members. Is it possible for us to give stoles to old USG members? Do we have a set budget?
- b. Genesis: I'm basing it off of a budget that we have for this year and from the headcount I got from the interest form I released for current members. To my knowledge, I know the cost of the stoles came out of pocket last year because of COVID.
- c. Damali: The stoles have always been out of pocket. They're treated like your jackets and personalized hoodies you buy. I think you guys shouldn't use your budget for it, especially since USG denied to pay for BSU stoles when that is open to every student participating in black grad.
- d. Richard: When was the topic on BSU stoles decided? This is the first time I'm hearing of it
- e. Damali: This may be a conversation to have then. The college's BMI program is now paying for the BSU stoles but USG did decline to do so.
- f. Briana: The BSU stoles issue, wasn't that dealt with last year?
- g. Tomasz: Wasn't that up to last year's USG?
- h. Damali: That was last year, but BSU also requested money for stoles for this year and got denied. Last year they spent the money on the stoles without permission.
- i. Briana: When were they denied? Because this is the first I'm hearing of it. I know last year there was a vote for it, but I don't remember them coming to senate and asking for it.
- j. Damali: I can forward you the email chain with the details if you guys want to discuss it.
- k. Richard: When Damali sends over the email thread, when can we discuss it as a table?
- l. Briana: I can look into it first, and relay any details for the next meeting because I feel like I'm out of the loop on this. In the meantime, we can enter into an executive session to further discuss.

#### Executive Session

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1. Motion to enter into Executive session passes at 6:10 p.m.

#### Adjournment

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1. Motion to adjourn Senate Meeting #22 at 6:50 PM. Motion passes, 17-0-0