

Undergraduate Student Government

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Meeting 23

Meeting Date:	April 13, 2021	Meeting Time:	5:30PM - 11:03PM
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	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
Osvaldo Garcia Chair of Philanthropy	Laiba Hussain Chair of Public Opinion
Tomasz Horczak Representative Senator	Raphael Berdugo Representative Senator
[Absent] Alex Cuanal Representative Senator	Erika Cumbe Representative Senator
Zariana Gonzalez Representative Senator	Mayer Estinville Representative Senator
[Absent] Matthew Sanchez Representative Senator	

Passing of the Minutes

1. Motion to pass Senate Meeting #22 minutes.

- a. Damali: I think if the USG budget was considered to be used, and BSU put in an appeal through official USG business, it should remain on record that USG considered paying for stoles out of the USG budget when they turned down an appeal for BSU for a similar thing. That is part of the fiscal responsibility of USG, and to be used for students or OSL to look back at down the line.
- b. Richard: I recommend we motion to amend the minutes to include the BSU stoles.
- c. Briana: We still need to vote on this motion. If it does not go through, a new motion can be discussed.
 - i. Motion fails, 4-8-5
- d. Briana: Someone can motion an amendment for the minutes.
- e. Damali: You can also ensure that any discussion on Genesis' personal finances is not included.
 - i. Motion to amend Senate Meeting Minutes #22 to include BSU stoles and USG stoles discussion without mentioning Genesis' personal finances.
 1. Motion passes, 11-1-5
- f. Briana: We will be voting on passing the amended minutes next week.

Reports

1. Yudi Wexler | USS Delegate

- a. Yudi: I will report on the last 2 USS meetings. There was an emergency meeting last month as well as a preliminary meeting this past Sunday. I sent all the approved resolutions to the Facebook Messenger group for me, and I could share it in the chat for the audience. Last Sunday's meeting was a highly contentious 6 and a half hour long meeting. If you saw the recording of it, there was a lot of arguing, fighting, name calling and Aharon, who I see in this meeting right now, was told in the comments, "hey you're lucky that we're online" which can be easily construed as a threat. There was also a debate between 2 definitions of anti-semitism, the IHRA definition that we passed here at Baruch and the JLSA definition. It got pretty bad and both of those resolutions were voted down. The CR/NC resolution against the resolution against the Hudson Yards vessel were both approved on Sunday.
- b. Raphael: I didn't have the chance to read through the Hudson Yards vessel resolution. Would you mind briefly explaining it and what the conclusion was with that?
- c. Yudi: The resolution was in response to multiple recent suicides that happened at the Hudson Yards vessel and it calls for divestment from the real estate industrial complex and the improvement and addition of safety measures and removing the vessel from a top 10 list of best attractions, since it also has this brand-new history of death and sadness.

2. Nancy Sea | Treasurer

- a. Nancy: Last Friday I had a meeting with Ally, Lesli, and Savanna in regards to a spending from Cyber Security Club. What the meeting was about was that they misunderstood the guidelines on how they were supposed to spend their budget. They had a lump sum and spent it instead of what was allocated in each program. Considering that a few meetings ago, we passed that clubs can move their refreshment money into their miscellaneous line, I'm willing to help them facilitate that because that's within the club's rights. They're going to be able to pay for the majority of that \$235 and Ally has also said that she could co-sponsor to cover the other cost.
- b. Alison: We had a good discussion and decided that we didn't want any repercussions to happen after this year and to help the person who had to use their money to get their reimbursement. I have no problem with the co-sponsorship since we're moving most of it from their budget.
- c. Nancy: I want to set this as a precedent for other clubs as well, and make it known that all the club leaders attended BOLT training and after doing so, you should know where and how the money is going to be able to be spent rather than just doing this. This is a one off situation. I believe there is club representation if you want to clarify on the situation.
- d. Sunny: My name is Samad Sunny. Thank you Nancy and Ally for the summary. In short, the club became so big and we are also supported by another global chapter for our GIMs every semester and that's what they did. We had a \$235 budget to spend in the entire semester with different kinds of events, which is how it's supposed to be. We had 3 finance team members step down, including the treasurer because he's an accounting student with another job and other responsibilities. As the president and also the fact that we have 5 different committees, it can be really hard to track everyone down sometimes. We have very good project tracking systems but some things we lack and because this program that the money was spent on was for the IT fellowship program, it was the first program in our club that helped 10 students connect with ISACA and cybersecurity professionals. We were under tremendous pressure to not mess this opportunity up, and the director of the fellowship program herself ended up spending

money out of pocket, which I wasn't aware of. Being with the club for the last 2.5 semesters, I'm now aware of the process and I respect all the policies and rules but I truly apologize for the mistake and I have a couple of members also in the meeting who will lead the club next semester so they see what's going on and can learn from this. Thank you for letting me speak.

3. Julia DiMarcello | VP of Campus Affairs

- a. Julia: I want to bring to the table's attention and everyone here and cordially invite everyone to an event that's coming up on April 22nd. It's intended to be for student leaders and it's called "Boardroom U x New York City." Boardroom is an organization that's run by Kevin Durant and recently Boardroom U has grown and the company itself connects with colleges to help with networking, and the Boardroom U x NYC event is meant for New York City colleges to hope to have a networking event. In the past Kevin Durant attended these events. Gary Vee, if you know him from Instagram, he's an inspirational guide, and Chris Paul. For this upcoming event, I can't disclose who will be attending but the 2 guest speakers people who are attending, I can promise you. are reputable and well-known. I'm going to drop the graphic in the chat. The event is meant for student leaders but if you don't really have a position on campus, that's totally cool but they're looking for student leaders to attend and Baruch has been recently brought into this little circle because we're rising in the numbers and we're being compared to NYU, Fordham, and Penn State. If you're interested in attending please let me know it's going to be a very cool event. Next, I am opening up the new Campus Affairs committee and if you would like to join the committee please let me know. I would love to have new and existing members join. I'm happy to meet and work with them and in that committee I hope to do something facility maintenance-wise by the end of the semester. That's one goal I would like to work on. 2 events that I have coming up on April 26th and April 29th. I'm sure with marketing you'll be informed of it more but I'm holding a Bearcat Poetry event in honor of poetry month so students can express themselves virtually and we can have a really nice inclusive event. I also have a family member who works with National Geographic and Pantheron because it's Earth Day this month and they're doing a "Connect with the Cats" campaign and I hope this event can help raise awareness of Bearcats and other wildlife.
- b. Briana: Soft vote on who'd be interested in helping out. I see Genesis, Tomasz, Osvaldo, Richard, Christine, Ally, Briana, and Erika.
- c. Julia: Yes that's awesome and I can add you all to the group chat to confirm if you can attend because we are looking to have student leaders participate.

Impeachment of USS Delegate

1. Briana Staten | EVP

- a. Briana: We will be moving into the petition of impeachment of our USS delegate, Joel De La Cruz.
 - i. Motion to petition to impeach USS delegate Joel De La Cruz under Article 9, serious misconduct including negligence or repeated inattention carrying out official duties.
 1. Briana: It has been motion and seconded. Before we go into voting, Aharon you can speak but I want to note that this is not the actual trial. It will take place during the April 20th senate meeting.
 2. Aharon: Understood. This is more of a question I had on how the impeachment process will work. Based on what I was reading from the USG constitution, under Article 9, it explains the process. I'm a little confused about the process because the constitution

states that the petition must go to the Chair of the Senate and the Executive Board. It doesn't mention that the petition goes to the Senate, but rather just collecting signatures.

3. Briana: We have talked about that matter offline. The signatures will be based on those who vote in favor of the petition and I got confirmation from our advisor that at senate, this is how the signature process works. Does that clarify it?
4. Aharon: So what is the senate voting on?
5. Briana: They are voting if they are in favor of signing the petition. Their vote is their signature.
6. Aharon: Will those names be listed on the petition?
7. Briana: Yes, once voting concludes, the signed petition will be sent to Joel and the trial will take place next week, if the petition passes.
 - a. Motion passes, 16-1-0
- b. Briana: This petition has been accepted. The hearing and trial will take place at next week's senate meeting on April 20th at 5:30p.m. and will be the first item on our agenda. If anyone will be representing Joel, you have by Sunday night to inform us. We will have prosecution set up by Sunday as well. Also for the record, anyone who wishes to speak at the trial also has to let me know by Sunday. There will be ground rules set in place and will be laid out.
- c. Taji: Does this mean as a senate, we won't be discussing at all during the trial? Like how we usually have time to speak for questions and other thoughts, will we not have that?
- d. Damali: There will be time for discussion. I am consulting with Legal and our judicial dean of students' office with the way they run their conduct disciplinary hearings but usually what happens is both sides can present their case, there's a certain amount of time for questions, and some time for discussion so each side can clarify any points of the argument. Each side will have equal time and opportunity, and you will have a certain amount of time to ask questions.
- e. Aharon: Is the hearing and the trial separate?
- f. Damali: They're the same thing. I think we're using the words interchangeably.
- g. Aharon: Okay. Inside section 3 of article 9, it implies that there is no open discussion for questions and it's the sponsor of the petition as well as the defendant who cross-examine any witnesses.
- h. Damali: They won't be asking the witnesses questions. Are you representing Joel?
- i. Aharon: Yes.
- j. Damali: They would be able to ask you questions then, not the witnesses. There will be chances to clarify on some points for both sides. There is no cross-examination of witnesses.
- k. Aharon: In subsection D, it says both the sponsor of the petition and the accused shall have the right to call witnesses and to cross-examine witnesses called by the other party. So will I not be allowed to cross-examine any witnesses?
- l. Damali: What I said is that the table will not be able to ask the witnesses any questions. They get to ask the representative parties for both sides questions, and will have time for discussion. Briana will send all of this in writing and ensure we're following the correct procedures.
- m. Richard: Would we be able to modify, if Joel does get impeached, the language that he will be convicted? I just think the word creates a tone that I don't think should be portrayed in USG because it can be a bit uncomfortable. Is it possible to change it to another word?
- n. Damali: You feel uncomfortable using the word in the official records?
- o. Richard: Yes, to steer away from using the word.

- p. Damali: I can check but I don't see why we can't say that he was removed from office. If that's what happens, then we say that. I'll double check and get back to you on that.
- q. Taji: My concern is that I want to ensure we're allowed to speak our mind throughout the trial. If the table doesn't necessarily have a question for either side, will they still be allowed to speak on what is being said?
- r. Damali: Do you mean will there be an opportunity for deliberation amongst yourselves?
- s. Taji: Yes. Would the discussion occur during an executive session or during the trial?
- t. Damali: The constitution, I don't believe, mentions it. But I am open to you voting on having a discussion for the trial. Just for it all to be clear now and we're prepared for next week's trial.
- u. Taji: Yeah, I would like to vote on that then.
- v. Aharon: I wouldn't be against allowing time for a discussion. There's been a lot happening throughout the USS, and in no way am I condoning Joel's actions. I believe he needs to apologize and regardless if he deserves to get impeached, then whatever the trial decides is right. I just do not want a mob mentality to attack his or anyone's character because I don't believe anyone deserves that and it should be a safe environment for everyone. USS works in a different way and with our executive session, whatever gets approved there gets talked about during the preliminary. Something was violated, and we did not have a parliamentarian. I do believe he deserves due process.
- w. Damali: Just so you know, this USG is not here for that type of behavior. This is public and it's never going to be our intention to embarrass and demean another student. As advisors, we wouldn't let that happen and I believe the people at this table can manage themselves with that level of respect. It's going to be uncomfortable for everyone, and this is the first time we're doing anything like this, but it will be about the business for the students. If it does get out of control, we will handle it. The mute button thankfully always works.
- x. Briana: Circling back to Taji, what exactly would you want to motion for?
- y. Taji: I would want to motion to ensure there will be a time of delegation among us during the trial, preferably after the questions and witness statements.
- z. Briana: Is there any confusion on this?
- aa. Mayer: Yes, can we further elaborate on this?
- bb. Taji: I'm trying to guarantee that as a senate, we'll be able to speak to each other and it's not a situation where both sides present their cases, but we just go ahead and vote on it without public discussion.
- cc. Aharon: I agree with Taji.
- dd. Raphael: I was wondering what would the timing be of our deliberation and when will it occur?
- ee. Taji: Honestly, I prefer deliberation to occur after the facts and statements have been presented. Time wise, I don't think we should have a specific time limit because there will be a lot to discuss.
- ff. Briana: I think it's fair to have it at the end. I can consult with OSL to discuss length because sometimes, discussions can get repetitive and I don't want it to the point where we're not getting anything done.
- gg. Savanna: Since you're talking about it now, I think you should decide on a time frame now, and what you're most comfortable with staying under and not going over.
- hh. Richard: I don't know how many people will come in, but in attempts to decrease any bickering in the comments section, will they be disabled or only limited?
- ii. Briana: That's a good point. If possible and you're all comfortable with it, I can modify the comment's section of the zoom chat to only be sent to me.
- jj. Richard: I would not be opposed to that because you're supposed to be our chair and be impartial and I think that sets a good practice there to ensure that.

- kk. Briana: Okay, then I will implement that measure.
- ll. Raphael: Yeah I agree with it. During the USS meeting, I saw malicious comments with death threats against other students, and believe we should do something to avoid anything like that.
- mm. Damali: Aharon, is there anything else you think the senate should discuss putting in place regarding measures for the trial?
- nn. Aharon: I trust the process, and just would not want the prosecution to only cross-examine Joel for an hour but more so a balance. I don't think they'll be questions about what Joel did or not.
- oo. Damali: Since we're not using conviction, let's not use prosecution either. Let's just use the table and Joel's representation. I don't want that language to set up a different type of energy.
- pp. Taji: We still have a motion I brought up that no one seconded yet. But before that, I do have a question.
- qq. Briana: Taji please restate the motion then.
- i. Motion to ensure there will be a time for deliberation after both parties have presented.
 1. Motion passes, 14-3-0
- rr. Briana: To continue the conversation, we can discuss time lengths.
- ss. Mayer: I would like further clarification on the time. Is it a thing where the table can converse with the witness or the sponsor for further clarification?
- tt. Damali: The way that it's usually handled is both sides are able to present their case, cross examine each other;s witnesses. When that period is over, the table will be able to ask Aharon and whoever is on the USG side questions for further clarification and then you will have time to deliberate.
- uu. Taji: I would like to motion to amend the previous one to include a time limit.
- vv. Briana: We can go back to that once further discussion on this is done.
- ww. Erika: Question about the trial going forward, will we get a background of how the USS runs as an entity? I'm a bit confused about how they work, because I know we send USS delegates there to represent us. Will we get during the trial a background of the USS, their positions, and a background and to what has been happening in the past months that led to those arguments and fights and hateful comments? I think it's important to ensure the USS is working in a good manner.
- xx. Aharon: I can give a brief explanation on that. I believe I'll be bringing in the messages from inside the steering committee chat. Throughout the video, those comments actually led to a sergeant of arms to take out someone. Joel was trying to protect me in that scenario, again not condoning his actions.
- yy. Richard: I know each respective party, Joel's representation will be creating arguments. Will these documents be sent to Briana prior to the trial? I don't want there to be any topic that could be harmful or irrelevant brought up during the trial.
- zz. Briana: Yes, I want to have all documentation in by Sunday so I can share it to both parties.
- aaa. Alison: I want to note when we do go on trial, we should all be careful with our words. When we say the word "but" it can negate statements that were said beforehand. I want to ensure feelings and opinions are being respected on both sides.
- bbb. Briana: To circle back to timing, are there any options in mind?
- ccc. Raphael: Is this the timing for cross examinations or for deliberation?
- ddd. Briana: Timing for deliberation.
- eee. Raphael: Since the deliberation will be at the end, I don't expect us to spend 15 minutes for both parties to present their cases, but I also don't think we should be deliberating for over an hour. So I would recommend a limit of an hour to be set.
- fff. Taji: I wouldn't say an hour. I would say 30 minutes to 40 minutes.

- ggg. Alison: I was wondering if there was ever an impeachment process beforehand and if there was ever a time schedule already that maybe we could get an example of?
- hhh. Damali: To my knowledge while I've been at Baruch, there has not been an impeachment hearing. I have testified at other student disciplinary hearings and the longest one I was at, I was cross examined for 3 hours, standing up. I think that an hour would be a good time limit, but it also depends on what you will be hearing.
- iii. Mayer: I was going to say the time we're setting should be seen as the maximum amount of time we allot for it. I want to ensure there's enough time to digest the information provided and discuss questions. I believe we should set a maximum time longer than an hour, maybe up to 2 hours to ensure there's enough time available and the flow of the discussion. I understand we should respect peoples' time to deal with personal matters, but this is a situation where we need to ensure the proper amount of time is being allocated to resolve it.
- jjj. Erika: When will the USS be informed that this trial is occurring? It's important that they stay in the loop.
- kkk. Briana: After senate, we will inform Joel of the matter. In terms of letting the USS, I will get back to you on that.
- lll. Aharon: Yudi has put inside the chat that the USS has decided to send articles of impeachment internally towards Joel. Even if Joel gets impeached, he will be keeping his position on the steering committee because he got elected internally inside the USS from the preliminary. He's an officer of the USS. I've never seen this process of USG doing an impeachment trial and then the USS. I've only seen the USS give a recommendation to the college to remove the student, and then usually USG responds. This is a unique situation, and most likely this USG impeachment trial will finish before the USS impeachment trial. It may get complicated, but I don't really know what will happen.
- mmm. Richard: In the constitution, it says that we should have our time limit where we don't have to go to that maximum because the time allotted for the impeachment trial is 2 senate meetings. I want to be aware that I don't think it should run like the USS with 6 hour meetings and a filibuster. Question for Aharon, do you have a time frame of when the ethics committee is doing their investigation and will be done with it?
- nnn. Aharon: Based on my understanding, the impeachment articles are being brought up to the ethics committee today. Once they convene, they'll make a recommendation to the steering committee and then it will be brought up to the preliminary. It usually is announced solely in one meeting, so most likely during the next preliminary meeting at the end of April. Regarding the 6 hour meeting, that was crazy but also some of the items were not supposed to be on the agenda. It was not a filibuster in any way, although it did look like that. I was trying to avoid that to focus on the 2 resolutions that were brought up regarding the definition for anti-semitism, and now we have no definition decided on and polarizing sides. There was no parliamentarian to confirm the violation of things added to the agenda.
- ooo. Taji: Personally, I believe if this takes 6 hours, then that's fair. It's very rare for me to hear Damali state that she's consulting with the legal team on this matter, so I see it as a serious matter, but I do understand time concerns because I know next week, we're voting on the Greek Life moratorium.
- ppp. Damali: Do you believe that the vote should still take place next week? I think this trial might need to be the focus because it's an important matter and give Joel the focus and respect, whether he wants it or not, to be the main focus of the meeting.
- qqq. Briana: Okay, so then we will be moving the vote on the Greek Life moratorium to a later date and this trial will be the main focus of next week's senate.
- rrr. Savanna: Aharon, I have a question. Is Joseph still your advisor for the USS?

- sss. Aharon: Yes, Joseph is the liaison from CUNY central to the USS. His capacity is an interesting position, but he is the one who will bring reports back to CUNY central about what goes on within the USS and we can also ask him questions about stuff from previous chairs.
- ttt. Mayer: I wanted to make a point to remind everyone that we know the severity of the situation but also when we spoke “career” in terms of for Joel since he seems to hope to pursue a career in politics, and that anytime moving forward, should this passed through, this is something that could be brought up for him. Just so that we all understand the severity of the situation.
- uuu. Osvaldo: I agree as well, just thinking about the way that job processes work, where they can search your name and find anything on you. I had a question for Aharon regarding the ethics committee, and within it, are the people anonymous or do they include people from steering? Also, if you’re in the ethics committee but you’re a part of the situation as well, are you not going to be included in the ethics committee process for this case?
- vvv. Aharon: The ethics committee is a body of 7 people who are voted into by the preliminary. It involves delegates from each campus. They deliberate inside the ethics committee about the accusation and decide what is the recommendation they will bring to the preliminary. If the ethics committee decided expulsion, then the preliminary votes on that. If it fails, then nothing happens. There might be conflict of interest and I heard that the chair of the committee might be pursuing to impeach me because he has reason to believe I leaked the emails of all the preliminary with details on how to vote. Without any evidence whatsoever, they’re bringing articles of impeachment against me on that. On the other hand, the person who threatened my life inside the chat is not facing impeachment. So really, there is some sort of bias here.
- www. Richard: Question for Aharon. For USG, our term is from July 1st until June 30th. I know for USS it works differently. Do you mind giving us a timeline on positions for your USS term?
- xxx. Aharon: Usually it starts from November of the elected year until the following November. I believe Joel got elected later on. We all become USS delegates in November and we swap. He got elected in February, but he still finishes his term in November.
- yyy. Taji: I thought the ethics committee would be from an actual school with faculty involved, so my question is regarding if there’s no faculty involved in the committee?
- zzz. Aharon: Within the USS, we’re in control of our affairs. Obviously anyone can report anything they deem necessary to student affairs, but that wouldn’t go through the USS. I don’t believe they’re pursuing going through student affairs.
- aaaa. Taji: Question for OSL. Originally I was going to ask for a probation for a USS delegate. I believed Joel got a USG stipend but I guess now that he’s an officer of the USS, he does not. So I don’t know if we could do that or not.
- bbbb. Damali: It’s not in the constitution, so I wouldn’t recommend you now make up this process. Just let Joel know what his fate is with what happens in this trial.
- cccc. Raphael: I talked about this in the chat the other day, but I believe that we should first allow the USS to decide how they will handle this issue, and then work from there, because Joel is more a member of USS than USG, and we should look into following in their lead. However the senate chooses to proceed, I will respect.
- dddd. Briana: The petition has already been voted on, so this trial will be happening.
- eeee. Raphael: I don’t think we ever finished discussing a time limit.
- ffff. Briana: You’re right. Taji, since you did propose the motion, what do you suggest?
- gggg. Taji: Could we have a soft vote for between 30 minutes and an hour and a half?

hhhh. Briana: For clarification, this time limit is for the deliberation that will occur at the end. Julia said in the chat if it would be good to include a minimum and maximum time. I would say we don;t necessarily need a minimum because if conversation gets repetitive, then there would be no point. If we have a maximum, then we can't go over that? Let's soft vote for between 30 minutes and an hour and a half?

iiii. Raphael: If we end up having only an hour and 30nminutes and there's still a lot more left to discuss, could we still have more time to continue discussion?

jjjj. Alison: If we were to do that, then wouldn't we have to move discussion to another day, because then I feel that goes along the lines of us delaying the process and keeping Joel in suspense?

kkkk. Briana: With what Raphael said, I see it as there would be no point in voting on a time limit now and then change it afterwards to add more time, because if we're setting a time limit now and not going to follow it, what would be the point?

llll. Richard: I think what Raphael is alluding to is having a contingency. Like if we hit an hour and 30 minutes, we can allot right now for more time to talk. I think that's what he's alluding to.

mmmm. Briana: So then are we voting on an hour and 30 minutes for deliberation, plus additional time if necessary?

nnnn. Taji: I wouldn't be opposed to that. The reason why we're doing this is so we're specific as possible. If that is the case, then having set time limits for both deliberation and maybe an additional contingency is needed.

oooo. Alison: Just clarifying, so we're talking for the soft vote, an hour and 30 minutes for deliberation, and then possibly adding 30 minutes to an hour for additional time? Does that mean after that contingency hour, there will be no more time for discussion?

pppp. Briana: Correct, but since this is a soft vote, we still have to agree on an exact time length. So soft vote for between 30 minutes to an hour and a half for deliberation. Okay, I see the majority voted in favor of this. Now we need to decide on a specific time length for both deliberation and additional time.

qqqq. Mayer: I feel like it only makes sense to use a higher time length given we're going to use it as a maximum for this. So I feel like an hour and 30 minutes is good.

rrrr. Briana: So an hour and 30 minutes for deliberation time. How about a time for additional deliberation time? I would propose 15 minutes as a fair option. Any thoughts?

ssss. Taji: I would say 30 minutes, to make it an even 2 hours.

tttt. Savanna: Isn't it easier just to say that your total deliberation time won't exceed 2 hours, than having 2 different time lengths for the same amount of deliberation?

uuuu. Alison: I was thinking that if we're going to keep the additional time at 30 minutes, could we split it so that each side gets 15 minutes each?

vvvv. Briana: As it stands, no more than 2 hours for the full deliberation after the initial parties have presented their cases. Use the voting sheet to vote. So 17-0-0. It will be no more than 2 hours for deliberation.

Unfinished Business

1. Briana Staten | EVP

- a. Briana: Last week, Yam-Yu held another mental health awareness event. It went really well. Her next event is this Thursday so please share if you can. Also, the Baruch Healthy Minds survey has been sent out so please be sure to share this as well and fill it out so they can collect as much data as possible.
- b. Raphael: For clarification, the vote on the greek life moratorium will be held at a later date?

- c. Briana: Correct.

2. Yam-Yu Li | VP of Student Affairs

- a. Yam-Yu: My last event will be this Thursday, April 15th. This year we really tried our hardest to build these relationships with the various student departments and services. That information is shared with you, and if anyone wants to take the initiative to reach out to them, I think it would really help the students out. I wish you all the best.

New Business

1. Laiba Hussain | Chair of Public Opinion

- a. Laiba: Recently, I had a friend of mine reach out to me. She goes to Baruch, and she inquired if we could do a petition to push for STEM classes to be conducted in person for this year. The petition could be addressed towards President Wu. Just to give some context, a lot of the STEM classes have heavy content and a lab requirement. Being in a virtual setting, it has been harder for STEM students to grasp the information they're learning and prepare themselves for future careers, speaking as a fellow STEM student myself. The point she brought up to me was since most of us are now eligible for vaccinations, since it's now open to people aged 16 or older, it would make sense to push for President Wu to conduct STEM classes in person, and I wanted to get everyone's input on this.
- b. Richard: When you say this year, do you mean for the remainder of this school year or for next year? I know my professor in my finance class had petitioned to have the remainder of our class this semester in person, but was rejected. I just wanted to make sure which year you were referring to.
- c. Laiba: I meant for next year, starting in the Fall 2021 semester. What is being requested is for STEM classes being conducted in person for next year.
- d. Briana: Question for OSL: is it likely that STEM classes will be in person next year, because they are usually smaller scale classes?
- e. Damali: I know those are the priority, but in every conversation I've had, CUNY can say one thing, but if the state mandates something else that is the opposite, we have to follow the state's guidelines.
- f. Savanna: Laiba do you know if they've reached out to the chair department about this or has anyone in administration been told about this?
- g. Laiba: I don't believe so. My friend reached out to me first because she knew of my involvement in USG. I actually had a conversation with my professor last semester who's the chair of science, Dr. Wahlert, who told us that for the Fall semester of 2020, most of the STEM classes were originally going to be offered as a hybrid option but because of the severity of the COVID pandemic, it didn't go through.
- h. Savanna: I think it's great that it's being brought to USG, but I also would advise that you speak with the department chair about it.
- i. Irine: I actually had a conversation with my biochemistry professor about this. She brought it up to the entire class where she and the rest of the science department were given a deadline of saying if they would want to be in person or online. A lot of them opted for being online to not put anyone in risk of catching COVID. The professors chose to stay online, so it was their decision.

2. Osvaldo Garcia | Chair of Philanthropy

- a. Osvaldo: We sent out a mental health awareness bingo. We're still collecting donations so if you could please share it amongst your social media, that would be great and continue to share Yam-Yu's event as

well. I'm also going to be collaborating with PAWS and Richard on an event, "Bearcat Farmer." The flyer for it will go out tomorrow, and we're confirming with our co-sponsorships. Please share it, and if you would like to help out with the event, reach out to Richard or me as well.

3. Lesli Cuamani | Chair of Finance

- a. Lesli: Starting next week, we will be entering budget season and I'll be presenting club budgets for next year. Expecting long senate meetings after the trial. There are some updates on budgeting and I'll also be sending out an email to the senate as well. There will be no money allocated for refreshments, I spoke with Savanna about this, and you'll probably see a lot of clubs move their money to their contractual or miscellaneous lines. I know we might be on campus for some classes, but we expect that most club events will remain virtual.
- b. Nicole: I know that spending for clubs hasn't been the same because we're not in person, but are clubs being penalized for not being able to spend money in their budget lines?
- c. Lesli: They will not be penalized. We'll be looking at the rules for budgeting, their history, and their club activity for this year. We will keep into consideration that budgets for next year will be lower than in past years, which will be the only difference.

4. Cindy Chen | Chair of Graphic Design

- a. Cindy: I wanted to speak on behalf of graduation this year. There has been news of in person graduations happening with the proper guidelines. I was wondering if OSL can discuss with us if we could do some sort of in person graduation for this year. It would be a big honor for all the seniors after a long year of enduring the pandemic.
- b. Damali: Who told you graduation was in person? Is it about Baruch's commencement?
- c. Cindy: I saw on the news and on social media about in person graduations.
- d. Damali: Our office is the commencement planning team, and no, we, USG, or any Baruch organization absolutely can not do anything in person. We do our commencement at Barclays Center, with over 20,000 people in attendance. Even with Barclay's capacity restrictions, there's not enough room for just the graduates.
- e. Briana: I wanted to clarify from Cindy's statement. New York State had announced that they will be allowing in person graduations starting in May so this is why she was asking.
- f. Damali: Yeah but we pack out Barclays, so with at least 5,000 graduates, there's no room for attendees, all for a cost of \$220,000. I hope to be back at Barclays next year for graduation.
- g. Savanna: It's also not just a Baruch decision. None of the CUNY schools per the CUNY chancellor is having physical commencement ceremonies.
- h. Richard: Thanks Cindy for bringing it up. I know it's unfortunate for the seniors for this year. Concerning virtual graduation, is it going to be one huge graduation and then individually by school like last year's last minute graduation? Can you share details about the format of it?
- i. Damali: It will be a similar setup to last year with the main graduation program going live online and then the individual schools will go live. Because we have more time, we're flushing more time to plan for the individual school ceremonies. The student award's ceremony will occur the day before, with some filmed aspects of it. Black graduation will also be on the same day. SEEK is looking to have a CUNY wide virtual graduation celebration as well.
- j. Cindy: Are there any more slots for senior portraits?

- k. Savanna: In the fall, they were able to rent out a hotel in the city for students to take pictures. Right now, a lot of spaces still have restrictions. The particular vendor that we use has been trying to find a place that's more accessible for everyone and he has had no luck with it. The only place he has available is his studio in Long Island. We do recognize it is a little far, and are trying to work to see if we can figure something else out.
- l. Cindy: Okay. Just keep us updated if you have any updated information.

Executive Session

1. Motion to adjourn Senate Meeting #23.
 - a. Richard: Can I urge people to go into an executive session. I think there's a few things that should be discussed offline.
 - b. Briana: We need to vote on the initial motion first.
 - i. Motion fails, 7-10-0
 - c. Briana: Officially now we can motion to enter into an executive session if needed.
 - d. Richard: Can we invite Savanna and Damali to join in?
 - e. Savanna: You can invite but you have to vote for it.
 - f. Richard: Do you have time to join it? I want to make sure.
 - g. Damali: Yes.
 - i. Motion to enter into Executive Session and include Savanna and Damali.
 1. Mayer: I had noticed that Nicole had a question she wanted to ask offline. Is she allowed to come into the executive session as well.
 2. Alison: She is part of something I wanted to bring up in the executive session.
 3. Briana: Savanna can you clarify?
 4. Savanna: Anyone can be added into your executive session, you just need to vote on what you're the most comfortable with, or you can even put a time limit on it.
 - a. Motion passes, 11-5-1.
 - h. Laiba: Why does Nicole need to be present in the first place?
 - i. Alison: I can give a briefing within the executive session, and discuss letting Nicole in during it.
 - j. Briana: We will take a recess until 7:45p.m. and reconvene for the executive session.

** Recess starts at 7:36p.m. **

**Recess ends at 7:45p.m. **

Adjournment

1. Motion to adjourn Senate Meeting #23 at 11:03 PM. Motion passes, 18-0-0