

Undergraduate Student Government

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Meeting Date:	October 6, 2020	Meeting Time:	5:30PM - 7:47PM
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
[Absent] 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
[Late] 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
Mayer Estinville Representative Senator	

Passing of the Minutes

1. Motion to pass Senate Meeting #4 minutes. Motion passes, 14-1-0

Reports

1. Yam-Yu Li | VP of Student Affairs

- a. Yam-Yu: Hi everyone. My report today is regarding what my team and I have been working on for the past few months. All the information can be found on [the sheet](#). Out of the over 20 offices that we reached out to, we had the opportunity to speak with at least 10 of them. I wanted to relay this information and also see if this is something that Table would be interested in terms of potentially hosting or co-hosting events. You can also share this with students too. First is the Counseling Center. So my main focus for this semester is on mental and social health as well as career. I'm looking to work with the Counseling Center, PAWS, and STARR on this. The center's framework is mainly surrounding the social justice and trauma-informed so from the survey that they released, their data shows that about 80% of the Baruch population suffer from some sort of trauma. They offer free counseling sessions for all students, but they can only provide services to so many due to the limited number of staff. They have a rotational staff, there are about 30 people in total, but the number of people working is different every day so if students do want to come back for another session, they may not end up with the same staff member they were working with. Each staff member specializes in a certain topic, including trauma,

depression, anxiety and so on. In 2019, the center was a recipient of the New York Thrive program, which was initiated by the Mayor's wife, and more staff members were added to Baruch and paid by the city. We lost the benefit this year, so we also lost half of the staff due to the city's budget cuts. Because of limited staff issues, they don't want us to focus on promoting their services. They do want students to know that these are free services. Everything discussed with the center and their counselors is completely confidential and separate from academic records. For example, if you are experiencing some kind of mental distress that affects your academic performance, what they can do is to send an email, with your permission, to your professor with a simple explanation saying that you have a medical condition and can no longer attend class without going into specific details. The best way to reach them is through appointment through their website. They do respond to their emails, too. There is a 45-minute limit per counseling session, they also offer group counseling that they typically host for an hour and can hold up to around 25 people. Bigger events would be listed on the MyBaruch page and will be promoted through student life. I wanted to ask if any table members would want to work with me on any of the potential ideas I have for events. October is "Depression Awareness" month. What we have planned so far is a roundtable discussion where students can come to share their innermost thoughts and feelings.

Osvaldo Garcia arrives at 5:40PM,

- b. Briana: Soft vote for those who are interested in potentially hosting or co-hosting a future event.
 - i. Soft vote: Tomasz, Richard, Mayer, Alex, Yehuda
- c. Yam-Yu: Thank you for those who are interested. I also encourage you all to join in on these sessions. Especially during this time, it can be very difficult to deal with mental health issues. Even if you don't know exactly what depression and anxiety are, those are actually the two main forms of mental illness that a lot of people are experiencing right now. It's good to educate yourself a little about it. We have an event, "Let's Talk About It" which is a depression discussion on October 15th at 1:00 p.m. We will learn about what depression really is and some ways to help others and yourself on how to cope with it and educate yourself through a more professional lens.
- d. Osvaldo: Can you share this sheet with us please?
- e. Yam-Yu: The sheet has been shared with the table before. You all have editing access as well.
- f. Richard: You stated that the counseling center has been very short on staff due to funding. This is more of a comment, in terms how we were charged a mental health fee and yet here we are with a lack of funding. Something that should be noted and emphasized more.
- g. Yam-Yu: Absolutely, that's a great point. The portion of that fee went to the Counseling Center. From the information that I've gathered, this is a state issue where we lack professionals that specialize in counseling, psychologists and social workers in general. From what I was told, out of all the CUNYs, Baruch specifically is really lacking in terms of the number of resources and staff we have. Moving onto the Office of Health and Wellness. They provide health and wellness services to students and have virtualized their services for the Fall semester. A lot of their events are on the MyBaruch page and from what Alise told me, PAWS mentors are expected to return in October so there will be more active activities then. In terms of ideas, they wanted us to look at their newsletters since they have events planned already and see what we would be interested in collaborating with. The first event is a session on the benefits from certain exercises and poses to help improve and relax your body. We did submit a collaborative effort form and we are waiting on an approval from Joy. Next up is the Transfer Center. They deal with more external things. They are basically recruiters and a lot of the activities are held

outside of Baruch so they would occasionally host a couple of info sessions at other colleges and work with their staff members. Some of the schools that they do reach out to are other CUNYs, some SUNYs, and tri-state area schools. They also help educate international students about Baruch and spike up their interest whether they might be interested in transferring here. They offer between 2,000 to 3,000 seats per semester with the requirement of a 3.2 GPA and basic English reading and writing proficiency. They have 6-7 evaluators in the offices along with the help of Academic Advisement to review the students' grades. They have a virtual front desk available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and work with different offices so that students are able to have a more smoother transferring process. The National Transfer Week is from October 19th to 24th. They will have their own PowerPoint, they will have a slide for USG to come in and give a 5-10 minute talk on academic courses, student life and the new student and family program we have here and relay that information to the students from other schools that are not familiar with what Baruch has to offer. Next up is the International Student Service Center. They have a lot of visa-related forms and any other immigration forms on their website. They have 8 immigration workshops that include a lot of employment opportunities. Most of them are targeted towards paid internships or job opportunities. In order to legally work in the state, international students must go through a CPT training. They have 2-3 immigration lawyers to help these students plan for their future on a long-term basis. "Career Night" celebrates the exchange of culture at Baruch. All the links for their events are on their website. Some ideas they proposed to us were to host "coffee hours" as an opportunity to help international students from other countries connect, possibly during a 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. session. Also a 3-way collaboration with ISSC and USG, and the Counseling Center, to go more in depth about cultural stigmas and "homesick taboo." We also proposed having a questionnaire to get more opinions and ideas from students and what they would like to see from us from these collabs and talking points. November 16 is also International Students Week. I do plan on collaborating on these ideas with Lauren. Question for OSL: they were asking if we could create a fundraiser to support the international students that are experiencing financial difficulties.

- h. Damali: I'm not sure if that is allowed, I would have to double check. What would the support be for?
- i. Yam-Yu: They haven't stated the specifics but I believe it would be more towards tuition or additional expenses, such as for textbooks or supplies.
- j. Briana: Are international students allowed to apply for the Perti grant?
- k. Damali: I believe so, but because of restrictions, Petri does not cover or provide financial support for tuition, just other expenses. Let me ask around and see what I can find out.
- l. Yam-Yu: Next up is the Study Abroad Office. There is a misconception that it is only open to Weissman students, but it's open to both undergraduate and graduate students, regardless of major. For the study abroad programs, they accept around 300 students per semester. People think that the study abroad process is quick when in fact it's actually a long planning process which Dr. Richard, the office director, wants to emphasize. It's better to prepare yourself at least 1 semester or 1 year in advance because there's a lot of paperwork that needs to go through. The reason why they also wanted to push this, even though study abroad programs will probably not be available until Spring 2021, is to promote and inform students that this is still an option for them to pursue, despite COVID. It's a great opportunity to raise awareness of opinions and culture of other countries and open yourself to future opportunities. It can be very affordable because there are grants and scholarships that you can apply to. They're working with other offices and some international companies on an alternative for virtual internships. Their info session is on October 22nd. The Study Abroad Office will be providing the flyers and marketing material and they will be promoted via the USG platform to publicize the event and get students to still consider

study abroad as an option. This is mainly due to the branding complications because if they were to market the event, it would have to fall under the Weissman umbrella which can stir confusion for a lot of students. Next up is STARR, the career development center, they've worked with the more professional-orientated clubs and organizations in the past. They have career fairs every semester and help with resume reviews. One of the events that they typically have in the Spring is their "Suit Up for Success" event, where they have lightly worn, professional clothing donated to them and resell at a fairly low price. For example, you can get a full suit for just \$10. The event discussion was on how to use and navigate digital fairs and they have a video on preparing for the process. We were discussing potential ideas for a before, during, and after the career fair preparations. Their events are registered through the Starr Search website so keep an eye out for it, especially if you are actively looking for job opportunities. Platforms and interviews vary depending on the employers so it's different for everyone. An idea that Steven had proposed during our call with Ricki was to have a skincare and makeup session in addition to the "Suit Up for Success" event idea. Ricki, the Associate Director of STARR, did say if we wanted to move forward with this, USG can take the lead.

- m. Briana: Question from Nicole in the chat, for the "Suit Up for Success" event, is STARR still looking for people to donate and if they are, would it be sent directly to the school?
- n. Yam-Yu: I'm not sure, because this is an event for the Spring but I can look into it.
- o. Steven: Ricki had mentioned that because they weren't able to host the event last Spring, she was looking for some alternative for next semester because we'll most likely be online. If we do collaborate with them, we'll probably have video tutorials and instructions on how to size yourself in order for them to send out the proper suits in the correct sizes. In addition, I think they want to host a makeup donation or collaborate with WIB to host an event to aid low-income women in the workplace.
- p. Yam-Yu: On September 17th, we did co-host an event with STARR called "Prep your Step."
- q. Steven: We were very pleased with the turnout. I believe we had 97 attendees and it was a great way for a lot of our students who are new or not familiar with how an online career fair works to ask questions in such a comfortable setting. All the questions that they had were answered by either myself, Yam-Yu, and Ricki. They gave them tips on how to look good on camera, answered questions on resumes, and showed them a tutorial on how to utilize Starr Search.
- r. Yam-Yu: Some of the feedback we got from students was they actually hoped the event would be much longer. We were able to get a lot of information out there and the chat was extremely active. Most of the questions were answered and I believe this was their most successful event by far. Students were able to use all the information they learned to further their experience and become more comfortable and confident going to the career fair. I definitely want to collaborate with STARR again with similar topics and an open discussion. Any ideas you guys have, let me and Steven know. Typically our events so far have had around 20-30 students in attendance and seeing this spike co-hosting this event with STARR, it really emphasizes what students need help with right now and what they would like to see more of.
- s. Steven: Do you want to talk about the other events we have planned with STARR?
- t. Briana: Let's finish up with Yam-Yu's report on the offices first. We can go over this in new business or in Steven's report.
- u. Yam-Yu: Next up is the Writing Center. We spoke with the director, Diana, and the associate director, Rachel. We learned about appointments on their website and the visual aspects could be a little confusing. The white spaces you see when you login to this system means a spot is available for you to reserve. They also do resume reviews. The difference between their resume reviews and STARR's is the Writing Center helps more with the language in terms of personalizing it and incorporating your own

character on the resume. They also host case study workshops and occasionally have 8 member group workshops for writing emails, cover letters, and interpreting class assignments. Some of the ideas they proposed were having “writing group hours” in place of the library and implementing this during midterms and finals week. They also proposed a creative writing session and inviting a spokesperson to come and speak about their experiences. I do want to propose this to the Chair of Arts- if this is something that you'd be interested in terms of a creative writing idea.

- v. Richard: On the topic of “writing group hours,” I was brainstorming how that could be facilitated. USG could serve as a link between the students and the Writing Center during a zoom call and host break out rooms for 30 minute sessions with their staff and move students within those rooms for a limited amount of time, in place of the library.
- w. Yam-Yu: That’s a great idea. They have expressed that they do want to work with USG. I welcome all ideas. Next up is the Weissman of International Business Internship. Again, this isn’t limited to only Weissman majors but open to all Baruch students. Internships here are tailored towards students’ preferences. For example, if you are looking for a job opportunity in the spring semester because you are available then, they would propose opportunities for you and you can decide whether to accept or decline the offer. What this office essentially does is to bridge that gap and connect the students with companies. These job opportunities are open to other schools as well so it is extremely competitive. If you're interested in participating, you would submit a cover letter, resume, and any additional information you’d like to their office. All that information gets put into their database and when an opportunity arises, they will match the students they believe best fit the job description and propose it to the student. Every semester they do offer around 30 to 40 internships and competition is extremely high and typically have 300-400 applicants. They are interested in co-hosting an event in November and December, and we can further discuss this with Justine later on. One thing she wanted us to publicize is the Baruch entrepreneurial internship fellowship program. The application is attached to [this link](#). Next is the SACC tutoring center. They have been sending out emails, especially to students taking Accounting, Finance, or other classes that require Excel or are more large-scale classes, for tutoring hours specifically tailored for these classes. They have 8 new tutors as well as returning tutors that offer services for over 70 courses. I heard that they are also looking for a tutor for Japanese. Their platforms are on AdvisorTrac, which they use to schedule appointments via Zoom. They use tools like screen sharing, whiteboard, and OneNote for more math-based courses. As of now, they have no co-hosting intentions. We are still waiting to hear back from the Registrar and the Office of Dean of Students, aka the Student Affairs Office.. Next is the Academic Advisement Office. They will be moving on from AdvisorTrac onto a new platform and app called “Navigate.” This can be used to reserve appointments for 30-minute slots, and other offices are also in the process of moving onto this new platform as well.
- x. Briana: The app is really cool and a good alternative for AdvisorTrac.
- y. Damali: The app was released yesterday. You can access your CUNYfirst information, make appointments, and they’ll figure out more things as each semester progresses.
- z. Yam-Yu: Spring 2021 enrollment begins on October 26th. It varies for everyone. They’re hosting an event regarding grad school offered here at Baruch, which will be RSVP-based. Each school will be in it’s own breakout room and the Deans of all three schools will be present for this event. They are strongly encouraging students to attend. I believe it’s called “Is Grad School in Your Future.” They are also hosting a Majors and Minors Fair and will be sending us the information and advertising material later. For the Bursar’s Office, if you’re having trouble with your financial aid, just give them some time and be patient because they’re trying their hardest with the influx of emails and inquiries. When you

send in your request, there is an auto-reply with all the instructions listed so you can propose a better structured question when you touch base with the representatives handling your specific situation. They have 9 staff members, all broken up into specific sections. For example, they have one person specializing with TAP, Bursar holds, etc. For Bursar holds, the process is manual so it will take longer for them to review the material and go over it. There are certain restrictions, at least for this semester since we are virtual. They can still register for classes. In terms of TAP, the common complications that they receive are errors within the applications so make sure you fill it out properly and submit the necessary material. The financial aid pending holds are situational and different for everyone so do check if all your information is correct and up to date. Some complications go as far as verification checks with the Student Center and/or state-level checks. There may also be issues that arise with your tax returns, they or you, personally, may have to look into whether there's missing data and supply additional information to support your case in order for the office to process the financial aid request. We did ask them to update their payment plan resources since it wasn't on the website and it was said that they will have it updated soon. Next up is the Disability Center. The only thing that they wanted us to promote was their [website](#), which lists all their information and resources. Lastly we have the Human Resource Administration office. They provide services to faculty, staff, and external customers. It's not really cater to students unless you are an employee working at the office. I did try to reach out to the Bookstore, the Financial Aid, and SEEK Office but we didn't receive any responses from them.

Recess starts at 6:34PM

Recess ends at 6:36PM

Mayer Estinvile leaves at 6:37PM

2. Nancy Sea | Treasurer

- a. Nancy: We are back at it again with the late payment vouchers. I will mention each club, their vouchers, and the total. Once again, the money is not coming out of clubs' budgets or current USG's budget. It will be coming out of the surplus and be presented at BOD next week.
- b. ASEDOM
 - i. Nancy: They had 1 unpaid voucher for their canceled Spring 2020 carnival. They bought the supplies beforehand. The total is \$138.60.
 - ii. Briana: Is there any club representation?
 - iii. Nancy: I don't think so.
 - iv. Briana: Motion to allocate \$138.60 to Asedom for their late payment voucher.
 1. Motion passes, 15-0-0
- c. Black Student Union (BSU)
 - i. Nancy: Their late voucher is graduation stoles they bought last Spring for the Black Excellence Graduation. The total is \$3805.
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$3805 to BSU for their late payment voucher.
 1. Motion passes, 15-1-0
- d. NABA
 - i. Nancy: They had 6 late vouchers for a GIM, annual awards gala, and their annual alumni dinner. The total is \$1353.12

- ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$1353.12 to NABA for their late payment vouchers.
 - 1. Motion passes, 16-0-0
- e. PSA
 - i. Nancy: They had 4 late vouchers for 2 GIMs, Junoon Night, and their first-year anniversary event. The total is \$1720.
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$1720 to PSU for their late payment vouchers.
 - 1. Motion passes, 16-0-0
- f. SOCA
 - i. Nancy: 1 voucher for decorations for their Winter gala event. The total is \$143.48.
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$143.48 to SOCA for their late payment voucher.
 - 1. Motion passes, 16-0-0
- g. USG 2019-2020
 - i. Nancy: They had 7 vouchers. 1 for refreshments of the Black History Month committee events, 2 for online subscriptions for MailChimp and Squarespace, 1 for graduation stoles, and 3 for senate meetings. The total is \$1234.58
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$1234.58 to USG 2019-2020 for their late payment vouchers. Is there any USG representation from 2019-2020.
 - iii. Nicole: Half this table is from USG 2019-2020. The vouchers for senate meetings are food reimbursements for me. For the graduation stoles, I had ordered them before we went completely virtual and had it approved by Tam. For MailChimp and Squarespace, those belong to Dakshata. Will any of this affect the way reimbursements are distributed?
 - iv. Savanna: No, it shouldn't.
 - 1. Motion passes, 16-0-0
- h. VSA
 - i. Nancy: 1 voucher for refreshments. The total is \$100.
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$100 to VSA for their late payment voucher.
 - 1. Motion passes, 16-0-0

3. Joel De La Cruz and Alfonso Di Rocco | USS Delegates

- a. Alfonso: Not much has happened with the current USS. Unlike USG, the way that the USS works is we begin each new term in October. So the previous year's USS is still technically doing our jobs. We still have the same Steering Committee, which is their version of Eboard, and the delegates are still active. The first scheduled meeting of the current USS took place on Sunday, September 27th. The meeting agenda was informal. We had roll call from 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 2020 video with updates from 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., a USS discussion from 1:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. and then nominations from 2:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The nominations are for the Steering Committee, where we have our chairpeople and 9 vice chairs. Information from last year was shared. I will let Joel talk more about this.
- b. Joel: For the Child Care task force, that's normally in place in most of the community colleges that have child care centers. It's programs like that that they're really trying to focus on. Also on the food pantries and other resources in response to COVID and want to make sure that all the campuses are able to provide their usual services and some extra. They are also focusing on programs like ASAP. I believe in the summer, there were talks that the Mayor wanted to cut the ASAP program but we worked with City Council Members and make sure that they continued to fund the program. In addition, USS worked on the emergency grants and scholarships applications that students applied for last semester. The selections

have been made, and students will be informed on whether they received the grants or not. Same goes for the scholarships. All 25 CUNY campuses had been awarded 4 scholarships each. There were 18,000 applicants this year, the biggest one we've seen. I was nominated for the Fiscal Affairs position by Robert Dexter and I nominated him for the chairperson position.

- c. Alfonso: Joel can talk about the Fiscal Affairs committee and their current situation.
- d. Joel: I've been working with Alfonso and Richard VP to ensure that USS adopts a push for a Credit/No Credit policy. I'm still the Chair of the Academic Affairs committee and we're trying to ensure this happens but it is a bit difficult. For the position I'm running for, I wanted to focus on the economic issues, especially with enrollment and the threat of enrollment drops in other vulnerable CUNY campuses. I'm still in the subcommittee of Investments and in the committee on Faculty and Staff Administration within the CUNY Board of Trustees. We had a meeting yesterday for the subcommittee of Investments. They talked about them wanting to continue with their current investment strategy, and they had a lot of assets in gold and cash. Because of that, they were able to jump on opportunities that were presented over the last few months and are devoted to continuing this process. For the meeting with the committee on Faculty and Staff Administration, we passed the previous minutes and voted on the naming of rooms and buildings after donors. We named a room at York College after a math professor who passed away from COVID. Within the USG legislative committee and the USS sustainability committee. Alfonso really cares about the environmental issues that he's taking part in.
- e. Alfonso: Thank you, Joel. We previously had our first meeting 10 days ago. Here's a layout of the hierarchy of the USS for non-steering committee members. Delegates have to serve on at least one committee. There are multiple committees doing different things. As we move throughout the year, the incoming leadership and delegation will gain the necessary foothold to govern and maintain leadership positions for students and enhance the accessibility of quality education to the people of CUNY. I intend to be a primary member within the CUNY Sustainability committee, as well as the Legislative Affairs committee. You can find the USS Constitution on the website and more information on what each committee and vice-chair position does and so on. We intend to hold a general interest meeting at Baruch laying out the purpose and duties of USS to create awareness of the resource that we serve to provide. We intend to carry out our duties within the USS representing Baruch students to the best of our ability and each of us intends to join multiple committees within the USS, taking on your daily tasks and requirements by the USS Constitution to best take advantage of the opportunities at hand to create and inspire change. The purpose of the USS is to maintain and enhance the accessibility of quality education to the City of New York, upholding the policy of access and excellence. We are to represent the interests and needs of CUNY students on all fronts by communicating all issues to CUNY campuses, faculty, administrators, chancellor, Board of Trustees, New York City Legislature, the Mayor of New York State, the Governor at United States Congress, President of the United States and such other governmental and private agencies as shall be deemed necessary. We are also to serve as a liaison between students and all groups involved in student interest. We delegate responsibilities within the USS. In mine and Joel's case, are to attend regularly scheduled meetings, serve on at least one committee other than steering, as well as attend all meetings of subcommittee and perform all tasks asked of him or her. Undergraduate delegates must be full-time students and maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0, while graduate students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0. We have the chairperson at the top who has executive power over Steering. Then we have the Vice Chair of Technology Affairs who deals with the dispersion of the technology fee. We have the Vice Chair of International Student Affairs dealing with International students. We have the Vice Chair of Disability Affairs dealing with accessibility of our disabled community. The Vice Chair of

Graduate Affairs deals with the graduate student population. The Vice Chair of Legislative affairs is the spokesperson for CUNY USS and deals with anything that requires talking to the previously mentioned government bodies. The Vice Chair of Fiscal Affairs deals with fiscal policy. The Vice Chair of Evening and Part-Time Affairs deals with those students. The Vice Chair of Senior College Affairs deals with the baccalaureate colleges and community college affairs deals with community colleges. Below that, we have committees that each vice-chair partake in alongside the delegates. The standing committees currently are the Steering committee, Ethics, Audit, Scholarship, Academic Affairs, Legislative, Fiscal Affairs, Civic Affairs, Student Voter Awareness, and then any other subcommittee. An example is that within the Civic affairs there is the CUNY sustainability committee. You can visit the CUNY USS website for more information, check out our constitution and by-laws, and our mission statement.

f. Briana: Thank you to our USS Delegates.

4. Lesli Cumani | Chair of Finance

a. Lesli: I'll be presenting 5 late budgets today.

b. Ecuadorian Club

i. Lesli: For this school year, they proposed \$6275 for their budget. They've been growing as a social culture club and usually use more than 80% of their allocated budgets for the last 3 years. Last year because of COVID, they weren't able to use their budget completely. Regardless, they hosted a lot of events and had good attendance for them. They did have 2 new events for this year. One is "Sabor de Ecuador" and the other is "Navidad with Ecuadorian Club." For the new events, they did reach the cap of \$500 so I was happy with that. I allocated them money for refreshments assuming as if we were coming back for the Spring.

ii. Briana: Is there any club representation?

iii. Lesli: The treasurer was here, but left. He did let me know he was satisfied with this amount.

iv. Briana: Motion to allocate \$6275 to Ecuadorian Club for their Fall 2020 - Spring 2021 budget.

1. Motion passes, 15-0-1

c. CEO

i. Lesli: Their proposed budget for this year was a large amount, which I thought was pretty inconsiderate because of their past activity and low attendance for the past 2 years. They started up 3 years ago and they have been increasing their budget little by little each year. For the first year, they received \$665 because of a previous appeal. They did appeal for more than necessary so they do have \$525 remaining. From last year as well, they were on track of using the budget but because of COVID, it shut down a lot of their events. They spent about 25% of their budget for last year, which was \$105. Looking at their past activity and growth as a club, I thought it would be reasonable to allocate them \$1000 for this year's budget. I also allocated them money for refreshments assuming as if we were coming back for the Spring. I think this amount will push them to continue growing and using their budget to the best of their ability.

ii. Briana: Is there any club representation at this time?

iii. Lesli: I did not see any.

iv. Nancy: Is there a reason that they requested \$200 for refreshments for cosponsorship?

v. Lesli: They said they were going to host a virtual event that they would use this money for. They had spoken to the club they're cosponsoring with who were also on board with that. The treasurer wasn't too informed and didn't give me a detailed description, but generally speaking, I thought it would still be useful for them to have that money in their budget.

- vi. Briana: Motion to allocate \$1000 to CEO for their Fall 2020 - Spring 2021 budget.
 - 1. Motion passes, 15-0-1
- d. The Grid
 - i. Lesli: For their budget for this year, they proposed \$5382. Looking at their past activity and event attendance, they always hit the amount they have requested. They continue to use more than 90% of their budget, which shows they know how to manage it well. Their club is continually growing and being successful in their events. After speaking to the treasurer and hearing their reasoning, I went ahead and allocated the full amount. They have very good spending behavior to support their club growth.
 - ii. Briana: Is there any club representation?
 - iii. Lesli: Not sure if they are still here.
 - iv. Briana: Motion to allocate \$5382 to The Grid for their Fall 2020 - Spring 2021 budget.
 - 1. Motion passes, 15-0-1
- e. Traders Club
 - i. Lesli: They proposed \$490 for their budget for this year. After looking at their past activity and how they manage their money in prior years, it might be an issue on the internal side with their Eboard, but they haven't really been managing their money really well. For 2018-2019, they spent about 25% of their allocated budget, and for 2019-2020, they also spent less than usual and \$199 got reposed. They're still a growing club, but haven't been great at managing their budget. I cut in half the proposed amount for refreshments because I don't believe they need \$300 for just one event which will have an attendance of less than 20. For miscellaneous, I allocated money for incentives and giveaways and gift cards. I think \$490 is a good amount to continue their club growth and better help them manage their money as well.
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$490 to Trader's Club for their Fall 2020 - Spring 2021 budget.
 - 1. Motion passes, 15-0-1
- f. Korean Student Association (KSA)
 - i. Lesli: They proposed \$3300 for this year's budget. Looking at their past activity and event attendance, they had a lot of refreshments in the past for events that would attract around 23 people. I allocated a huge cut for their refreshments. For miscellaneous and any incentives are giveaways that they will try to do for the virtual setting, and supplies. I did keep some money for a couple of their bigger events, like "KSA Break Time" which more people go to. I allocated \$1000 for this year's budget so they could sustain their club growth, and manage their money better. They seemed to be on track to use their budget well during 2019-2020 so hopefully this amount will allow them to do so for this year.
 - ii. Briana: Motion to allocate \$1000 to KSA for their Fall 2020 - Spring 2021 budget.
 - 1. Motion passes, 15-0-1

Recess starts at 7:26PM

Recess ends at 7:30PM

5. Steven Le | VP of Campus Affairs

- a. Steven: Updates on the Big Sibs Program and the application process. Everybody that has been accepted to the program has been notified of their acceptance. Now we need to work on the pairing process and

mentors and mentees will be notified of their pairs by this Thursday. I intend to have an introductory event on October 22nd at 6 p.m. so that it doesn't clash with Yam-Yu's event. I would like for table members to come, introduce yourselves, and talk about your roles in USG, so that our students can understand what USG does and learn about the different resources available to them from USG.

- b. Briana: If you are available to help out, let me know, and I'll pass it along to Steven. At the moment, for people interested, we have Richard, Nancy, Yam-Yu, Erika, Ally.

6. Briana Staten | EVP

- a. Briana: We will be going through the impeachment process of Representative Senator Minh Tran. The grounds for the removal are with respect to the USG Constitution, which states that table members who miss 4 senate meetings within the academic semester are subject to impeachment. Are there any questions or further discussion?
 - i. Motion to remove Representative Senator Minh Tran from the USG Senate.
 1. Motion passes, 12-0-4
- b. Briana: With that being said, we now have a vacant seat for Representative Senator and will be releasing a form for anyone who is interested in running. The marketing and graphics will go live after the meeting. With these elections, applicants will be submitting video responses that are 2 to 3 minutes long. Any questions regarding the application process can be addressed to me, and my email is there as well. The form will close on October 21st at 11:59PM, and host elections on October 27th. We will be viewing the videos publicly and voting during an executive session. Last but not least, just a reminder, please use the USG events sheet to keep track of your events. Within the next week, I will also add a column for people to put their names down to attend events.

Unfinished Business

1. No unfinished business

New Business

1. Steven Le | VP of Campus Affairs

- a. Steven: Could we get some more clarity on the updates with the proctoring system?
- b. Tony: As I mentioned before, the proctoring system could only be used if there are alternatives put in place. If you scroll down to the bottom of the recent message released by Provost, students do not have to comply with the proctoring system. Professors can not only use the proctoring system, they must have other alternatives according to CUNY Legal?
- c. Steven: So professors are only allowed to use the proctoring system as an alternative?
- d. Tony: Only with an alternative.
- e. Yam-Yu: Are professors aware of this?
- f. Tony: The message sent out from the Provost was for that purpose. If any faculty is not aware of this, feel free to share it with them.
- g. Briana: If the professor isn't complying and wants to use the proctoring system either way, you can bring it up to the Dean of Students saying they aren't complying with the policy.

- h. Alison: I remember reading that part in the message and it said that proposed alternatives could be a project, paper, or in person examination. I just think it's kind of off for professors to tell students they can either comply with the proctoring system or go in person for tests.
- i. Briana: Savanna or Damali, would students even be allowed to go on campus if that were the case?
- j. Savanna: The option to go on campus to take a test is not something that is happening. It would have to be special circumstances, but campus is closed outside of the student spaces or someone needs to pick something up. As far as I know, students are not on campus taking exams.
- k. Briana: Ally, does that answer your question?
- l. Alison: Kind of, but does that mean that we should assume the more likely alternatives will then be a paper or project?
- m. Tony: The alternatives are based on what each professor dictates.
- n. Savanna: In agreement with Tony, and I would also ask for clarification from your professor.
- o. Briana: I think that was just the wording given out from CUNY central, as it was standardized across all CUNY campuses, with some that have bigger spaces and campuses.
- p. Erika: Correct me if I'm wrong you have to download the program onto your computer but I know Connect also has its own system with Proctorio that my professor was planning on using before the last statement was released. Connect has its own agreement with Proctorio that teachers can turn on so I guess my thing was is there going to be Proctorio use on Blackboard?
- q. Briana: It would be only the system secured according to the contract they have with CUNY. At the moment, the professor can't use Proctorio because there's no contract. It would have to be Proctor Track.
- r. Kristina: So will their first time using this system be during midterms or will they start off using it on smaller tests like quizzes?
- s. Briana: I am having an upcoming meeting with the Center for Teaching and Learning and will be asking them these questions because I also don't think it's the best idea to use this system during midterms when they haven't really tested it out. I will keep you all updated with their actual plans.

Adjournment

1. Motion to adjourn Senate Meeting #5 at 7:47PM. Motion passes. 15-0-1