

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Vertical Campus 3-270
55 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10010

info@usgbaruch.com

   @USGBARUCH



Meeting 17:

Meeting Date:	February 11th, 2020	Meeting Time:	5:31 P.M. - 5:53 P.M.
Location:	USG Conference Room	Note Taker:	Nicole Pung

Attendees:	
Dakshatha Daggala President	CAST Executive Vice President
Tam Phuong Executive Treasurer	Nicole Pung Executive Secretary
Briana Staten VP of Academic Affairs	Robert Da Rita VP of Campus Affairs
[Late] Kim Kazdal VP of Legislative Affairs	Tony Chen VP of Student Affairs
Gigi Kaur Chair of Appeals	Emmanuel Oladejo Chair of Arts
[Absent] Denise Rojas Chair of Clubs and Orgs	Aaron D'Souza Chair of Finance
Annmarie Gajdos Chair of Graphic Design	Sandy Dai Chair of Marketing
Genesis Calle Chair of Philanthropy	Andres Aguirre Representative Senator
Basil Harding Representative Senator	Irine Thomas Representative Senator
Marvin Argueta Representative Senator	Roshen Varughese Representative Senator
[Absent] Taji Sanders Representative Senator	Yam-Yu Li Representative Senator
[Late] Yaseen Rana Representative Senator	

Reports

1. Motion to pass Senate Meeting #16 minutes. Motion passes, 15-0-0.

Reports

1. Briana Staten | VP of Academic Affairs
 - a. Briana: Last Thursday during the rally time, I went to the first half of the faculty senate. President Wallerstein was talking about how there's still a TAP gap that's growing each year by \$200 per student. Some other news, they want to increase enrollment by 5% in the upcoming year. We're having a decline in international students. They're trying to increase enrollment with international students. They gave some facility updates. The underground work of the plaza has finally been finished. They're starting to fix the surface level, but can't pour concrete yet because of the weather. They projected everything to be finished in Fall 2020. The student center is in its final stages. Because it's a federal building, they have to follow federal regulations. Lots more checking and regulations. There's an announcement about commencement later. Savanna said the textbooks are in and they put stickers in the book. They want us to deliver on Thursday to the circulation desk. If you're free then, come stop by.
 - b. Nicole: When you do know what time you're doing it, can you let us know?

- c. Briana: Yes. Today, I had our transfer meet and mingle and it went well. Turn out about 30-35 students. The club was pretty satisfied. On Thursday, Taji and I are hosting a self-love event from 6-9 in the Bearcat Den. I know Mr. Asia is going on, but if you can stop by to paint a canvas or lip balm, stop by.
- d. Marvin: Is there a reason why they want to keep increasing the number of students that they want to accept? A common issue I've noticed is that there are a lot of students on campus.
- e. Briana: It's because of the TAP gap. By having more students, they're getting more money for each student.
- f. Annmarie: Is there physically enough space for new students? How will this impact class size? Will more professors be hired in order to accommodate for the new students?
- g. Marvin: Were these points brought up during the meeting?

*** Yaseen Rana arrives 5:36 PM ***

- h. Briana: Faculty was okay with increasing the enrollment. They said they just need to work harder.
- i. Andres: Can we have a public student hearing to make sure everyone on campus is on board with this?
- j. Joshua: You're asking if an open forum is possible before this?
- k. Briana: Anyone can speak at the faculty senate. It's open to student representation. I don't know how you get on the list for speaking. They have questions at certain points. If you wanted to go to say something, you're allowed to.
- l. Joshua: That's interesting because it does affect the students the most and they're not being asked about it. Real estate has always been a problem at Baruch. It would be good to get a form going before any tangible action is taken.
- m. Dakshatha: I think that's a good idea. Enrollment numbers also affect registration for classes. I know a lot of first-years come to me saying how they couldn't register for 5 classes and they're behind on graduation because they can only register before. That's definitely a conversation we can have.
- n. Marvin: If you were an orientation leader in the past, you have experienced the struggle students go through to apply for classes. It would be best to have a forum. Can you get more details on how we can be involved with that? Some students couldn't move on or had to go to another school because they couldn't take the classes that they needed or to be full time.
- o. Irine: If they're increasing enrollment, are they also increasing the classroom size?
- p. Joshua: Can't because of the fire safety code.
- q. Damali: I can work with you on this. I know last fall when enrollment went up, they added more classes. There were more Friday classes and 7 AM's. The problem was they didn't know in time how many people to hire. These are all very good questions and I can work with Briana to see if we can ask these questions.
- r. Briana: Along with increasing the enrollment numbers, there's also a summer and winter melt. Over 2,000 were admitted, for fall 2019, but after convocation, only 1,872 students stayed at Baruch, due to the melt they will still be back down 1,872.

2. Joshua Castillo | EVP

- a. Joshua: Some updates with dates and housekeeping. In the chat, I sent a link from Ticker for the USG reports. Dak and I have been going back and forth about addressing different opinions and issues by the week.

*** Kim Kazdal arrives 5:41 PM ***

- b. Joshua: We figured it would be best to approach you about it. Most were enthusiastic about it. The first question we'll get is for issue 3 next week. I should get a question by the end of this week. Whoever wants to take it can take it still figure it out from there. Each week, we'll have a different representative senator address it directly to the student body. It'll connect us more with the student population. We don't have an opening day officially for the student center, but we were told mid-March. I'll be sending out a link to figure out the week of the 20th to walk through the space and see it for ourselves. Maybe wait for furniture and market it from there. BASH is going to happen. End of the year. No date yet. We're in talks about locations we had in mind. If you're interested, we'll be aggregating people who are interested in putting it together.
- c. Yam-Yu: It's open to all Baruch students? Is there a way to make a QR code for it to be accessed? The form link is long.
- d. Joshua: I will let them know. Our old USG correspondent was Noah. I think it's someone else now. Not sure exactly. I'll let you know and that person will be your point person for answering the questions. As a reminder, USG elections are filling out the paperwork for it. None of that should be happening in this whole area. Keep it out of the area.

Unfinished Business

- 1. Nicole Pung | Secretary
 - a. Nicole: Just a reminder about the senate meeting food. Whatever food you have just eat at senate. Don't store it. The second reminder is the USG conference room is closed. From last week and this week, people are still bringing others in. Don't do that because it'll seem like we're showing favoritism. Unless you need the space to hold a meeting, that's different. If you're just chilling here, they can chill somewhere else. You have the library, outside in the hallway, the club room area. If you're here later on, you'll also have the student center. If you see someone in here, please tell them they're not supposed to be in here. If you're worried about putting a bad impression on anyone, you can ask E-Board and we will be happy to help you.
- 2. Kim Kazdal | VP of Legislative Affairs
 - a. Kim: I just want to say thank you for coming to the rally. I really appreciate it. It was amazing.

New Business

- 1. Dakshatha Daggala | President
 - a. Dakshatha: Arthur Downing asked me for 3 representatives for the tech fee committee. Dates for the meeting haven't been settled yet. This would give you the opportunity to give student opinion on different ways and priorities for the tech fee, computers, wifi, things like that. I'll extend it to USG all as well. Are there any senators interested?
 - i. Marvin Argueta, Tony Chen, Geovanny Michaca
 - b. Dakshatha: You're showing up to meetings and making sure your voice is heard. You're representing 18,000 students.
- 2. Basil Harding | Representative Senator
 - a. Basil: Thank you, Kim, for organizing a great rally. I was thinking about how important it is for us here at Baruch to represent our constituents to go support our club leaders. They were hoping that we will support black history month and figure out ways to promote.
 - b. Marvin: Sharing in the group chat is one way.

- c. Geovanny: Remembering Kobe.
 - d. Briana: We can share and letting USG all know and show support physically. Stopping by shows we're interested in their venue to go out and see what's going on.
 - e. Basil: I'll be posting events in the chat.
 - f. Dakshatha: You can have the organizers reach out to the committee. Robert might have history month connections.
 - g. Robert: Possibly.
 - h. Dakshatha: We can connect them to Sandy so she can market to the best of her abilities.
3. Savanna Ramsey | Office of Student Life
- a. Savanna: I went through the textbooks. 127 textbooks and inside the textbooks it says Provided by USG 2019-2020. I plan on delivering on Thursday. It would be nice if you guys can be a part of that delivery.
 - b. Joshua: What time?
 - c. Savanna: Whenever most are you are available. It just can't be club hours and must be before 6.
4. Damali Smith Tolson | Office of Student Life
- a. Damali: We're 90% to a commencement date. I'm just waiting for paperwork from Barclays. Looking like June 8th. I had to go a little bit later in the year because the met has playoff chances. Usually, by now, they don't have a chance. You can hold to your calendars for those of you who are graduating.
5. Joshua Castillo | EVP
- a. Joshua: Reminder, a lot of people are going to Albany this weekend. Talk to Kim about anything you want to know. Wish them luck.
6. Daniel Schwartz | Office of Student Life
- a. Daniel: Been here a month, really impressed with all of you. Keep up the good work. Looking forward to the end of the semester.

Adjournment

1. Motion to adjourn Senate Meeting #17 at 5:53 PM. 17-0-0.