

Undergraduate Student Government

Newman Vertical Campus 3-270
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Meeting 10

Meeting Date:	November 10, 2020	Meeting Time:	5:30PM - 5:57PM
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
Steven Le 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	[Late] Laiba Hussain Chair of Public Opinion
Tomasz Horczak Representative Senator	Raphael Berdugo Representative Senator
Alex Cuanal Representative Senator	Erika Cumbe Representative Senator
Zariana Gonzalez Representative Senator	Mayer Estinville Representative Senator
[Late] Matthew Sanchez Representative Senator	

Passing of the Minutes

1. Motion to pass Senate Meeting #9 minutes. Motion passes, 17-0-0

Reports

1. Tomasz Horczak | Representative Senator

- a. Tomasz: I have an update on the [Computer Science Survey](#) I talked about last week. It closed, and we have a total of 73 responses. I talked with Laiba about extending the survey to get additional responses because we hope to get at least 100. We plan on extending the survey for a week, until next Tuesday, November 18th. We're going to be reaching out to different clubs so they can help promote that survey as well. Briana and I will be doing an event called "Making Friends in COVID" happening next Thursday, November 19th, at 6:00p.m. I wanted to get the table's input on any activities that you guys think would suit this event. The theme is mainly helping people socialize through zoom, kind of like a "Friendsgiving" type event. If anybody has any activities in mind, besides just the regular games like among us, that you feel we could add, you can either tell me now or message me or Briana later.
- b. Cindy: So this is going to be a really casual event?
- c. Tomasz: We were going to make it a freeform event, but I do want there to be some sort of activities set up just to get conversations going and have people relaxed and break the ice.

- d. Cindy: Okay. I do have a few games in mind. I know there's "code words" which is an online version of "Code Names" and it doesn't matter how many people participate.
- e. Tomasz: I'll look into it, thanks.
- f. Genesis: I guess in terms of breaking the ice, I know we did this back for orientation, you could set up a round of "2 truths and 1 lie" with the students. Would you and Briana also need any volunteers from the table to help out with the event, or just support in general?
- g. Tomasz: Support is always nice. It's going to be primarily hosted by myself, Briana, and Zariana, but of course as much table and USG support is appreciated. I like 2 truths and 1 lie" as well.
- h. Kristina: You can do a "show and tell" type game, where students could share something that they really enjoy or a fun object, as an icebreaker.
- i. Briana: I had a similar idea where we could give students 30 seconds to show us an object that describes themselves and come up with a theme.
- j. Osvaldo: Maybe a "show your pet" type thing would be nice. I think it would be really cute.
- k. Briana: If you guys have any more ideas or would like to help out with the event, feel free to message Tom, Zari, or myself. Tom, would you like everyone to share the survey on their social media?
- l. Tomasz: Yeah, you guys can share it as soon as possible or whenever you can since we're only extending it for a week. We're also reaching out to clubs for them to share it as well so they can spread the survey to other audiences that maybe we haven't been able to reach out to. I appreciate anyone sharing and marketing it.

2. Briana Staten | EVP

- a. Superstar Senator: Steven Le
 - i. Bodied Homecoming, especially in an online environment.
 - ii. Virtual Homecoming took a lot of planning but it was worth it. Every Friday, the Homecoming planning meetings were great.
 - iii. He created amazing events and helped me out during Charity week.
 - iv. Dedicated and great.
- b. Dedicated Member: Lauren Farrugia
 - i. Putting in the work to represent international and first generation students.
 - ii. Been so helpful with her new committee.
 - iii. Even though she's not on the table, she's done an extraordinary job and showing efforts that can be highly appreciated.
- c. Briana: Don't worry if you didn't win this month. All of your hard work is greatly appreciated, and I will be sharing all the comments you each got later on.

Unfinished Business

1. No unfinished business

New Business

1. Tony Chen | President

- a. Tony: Everyone knows that they were given access to the Adobe Creative Cloud service back in March by Baruch for 6 months, and it just recently expired on October 31st. I contacted BCTC on

what their plan is, and they responded back today telling me if you go to their website, there are instructions for everyone to follow so they can still have access to Adobe.

- b. Cindy: BCTC also made lab hours and were nice enough to give students temporary access to the Adobe suite. I got the information in an email from my professor and can share it here.
 - i. Step 1: Go to <https://onlinelabs.baruch.cuny.edu/> and login with your Baruch username and password.
 - ii. Step 2: Select Option #3: Connect to a Lab Computer.
 - iii. Step 3: Select MAC OSX.
 - iv. Step 4: Open Adobe Application (Photoshop, inDesign, etc).
 - v. Step 5: Log into Adobe with your Gmail, Facebook or Apple ID to use Adobe.

2. Savanna Ramsey | USG Advisor

- a. Savanna: 100 calculators have been purchased for the calculator loan program for students and they should be arriving on campus within the next few weeks. I got a shipping notification today.
- b. Briana: Are they going to be used for finals or for next semester?
- c. Savanna: I'm not sure. I think it depends on when receiving can actually get them.

3. Taji Sanders | VP of Academic Affairs

- a. Taji: I wanted to talk about the recent faculty senate that happened last Thursday. A lot went on this time. The first thing was that Professor Kevin Frank presented a resolution saying that they didn't want in person options. At the moment, being in person is an alternative option, and I agreed with his statement. There was discussion on the topic, but it will be officially voted on in December. There was also discussion on the topic of webcams and whether or not they should be enforced. A lot of students claimed they didn't have them, but once the topic of having "in person examination" came into place, a majority of them all of a sudden claimed they did have them and turned them on. This is still an ongoing discussion.
- b. Briana: Isn't it a CUNY regulation that having webcams on could be an option, but it can't be the only option? Would this play a role in their decision being made?
- c. Taji: The discussion on the webcams was kind of sporadic, and a bit confusing for some as well. They will be voting in December, probably about 2 weeks before finals, on whether or not having in person examinations for next semester will be a thing.
- d. Briana: I guess this poses a question for the table if we should do something in order to combat this, given that we can get student's opinion within these next few weeks before they vote on the decision in December. I'm concerned they would just vote on the matter without taking into much consideration student input.
- e. Osvaldo: I'm confused. In terms of this "in person" option, would this apply for only finals or in person for next semester.
- f. Taji: The resolution resolves that it wants to suspend the assessment of in person examinations. On the topic of voting, it wasn't a 50/50 split but there was a lot of discussion because a big issue they're concerned about is academic integrity, for accreditation purposes. This is one of those situations where they're definitely taking students' interests into account but also how do they keep it so that students aren't cheating and that their grades reflect what they actually know and not just another high number.

- g. Briana: As a USG, I do feel like we should do something because I find it bizarre that Baruch won't let us come back in person for the Spring, but they would allow students to come in for finals. Especially for the departmental finals, it wouldn't be a safe option.
- h. Damali: I don't know if they've honestly come up with such a plan. As of right now, there are 2 spaces open in the Newman Vertical Campus and if we need to, we can open the new student center. I think there needs to be some understanding of what the interest is for on campus examination.
- i. Briana: I saw something in the chat about any updates regarding the Credit/No Credit policy. At the moment, I haven't received any updates but I did send President Wu and the Provost a follow up email on the matter today. Savanna or Damali do you have any updates?
- j. Damali: No updates yet. I have been out of the office, but I'll follow up with them tomorrow.

Adjournment

1. Motion to adjourn Senate Meeting #10 at 5:57 PM. Motion passes, 18-0-0