



The Catholic University of America Student Government Association 2017-18

Senate Session 3-1

Pryzbyla, Great Room A

October 2, 2017

8:00pm-10:00pm

ROLL CALL

Vice President - Jon Paul Weiss
Secretary – Francesca Gualano
Parliamentarian –

School of Business

Kevin Walsh X
Nicholas Spinelli X

Class of 2018

Alexa Schimp X
Matthew Skros X

School of Engineering

Mina Grace Larraquel X
Olivia Giangiordano X

Class of 2019

Jimmy Harrington X
John Connolly X

School of Music

Aaron Mackisey X
Lizzy Andrew X

Class of 2020

Elise LaFleur X
Weston Kirby X

School of Nursing

Julia Skellie X
Leigh Calotta X

Class of 2021

Ally Kilgore X
Sean O'Grady X

School of Philosophy

Kevin Blanchard X
VACANT

School of Architecture

Kelly Reed X
Sara Cangarlu X

School of Social Services

Matt Finley X
Patricia Halloran X

School of Arts and Science

Alex Santana X
Cavan Hagerty X

School of Theology

Alec McGuire X
Antoine Rask X

Key:
X- Here

NOTE: Below is an agenda of all items scheduled to be considered for the present meeting. Notification is hereby proved that items on the agenda may be taken out of the order presented, two or more agenda items may be combined for consideration, and an agenda item may be removed from the agenda or discussion relating to an item on the agenda may be delayed at any time.

Any legislation business being presented has been provided to the Vice President at least 24 prior to tonight's meeting and to all other members of the Senate at least 12 hours in advance of tonight's meeting. The Vice President reserves the right to postpone debate of legislation based on the time constraints of the Senate meeting

CALL TO ORDER -- ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- Moment of silence for Las Vegas Massacre victims

PRAYER

1. Public Comment

8:05 PM

A. Public comment will be taken at the start of the session. Comments will be limited to one minute per person. Persons making comment will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record, and if applicable naming the college or organization they represent. In accordance with Senate bylaws, the Vice President may prohibit comment if the content of that comment is a topic that is not relevant to, or within the authority of this body, or if the content is willfully disruptive of the meeting, irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, inflammatory, irrational or amounting to personal attacks or interfering with the rights of other speakers.

- None

2. Swearing In of Senators

8:10 PM

- President Weiss asks that all Senators stand and raise their right hands
- *"I (state your name) do solemnly swear to execute the duties of the office of the Senate, and that I will abide by the governing documents in order to promote the interests and welfare of the students of The Catholic University of America."*

3. Adoption of Agenda

8:15 PM

- Motion by Senator Hagerty
- Seconded by Senator Halloran
- Unanimous "Aye" vote to adopt agenda

4. New Business:

A. Confirmation and Swearing In of Senate Appointment

8:20 PM

1. Jeremy Volz, School of Philosophy

- President Weiss stated that he does maintain the duty to appoint students to the office of the Senate
- President Weiss introduced Jeremy Volz as a student from Oregon who is matriculated in the School of Philosophy. Jeremy is a freshman who selected CUA for its academia and Catholic identity. He partook in his high school student council.
- Motion to vote by Senator Finley
- Second by Senator Connolly
- All Aye
- Senator Harrington mentions that the Senators only voted on the *motion* to vote.
- All Senators voted on the motion to vote again – Unanimous “Aye”
- Official Voting – Unanimous “Aye”
- Senator Kirby mentions that Jeremy Volz must be sworn in by the President of the Senate
- President Weiss asks Jeremy Volz to repeat the Oath of the Office of the Senate, and Jeremy does so, officially thereafter becoming Senator Volz

B. Confirmation of Treasury Board Director Appointments

8:30 P.M.

1. Griffin Namin
 - Motion to vote by Senator Finley
 - Seconded by Senator Halloran
 - Unanimous “Aye”
2. Blake Comrie
 - 25 say “Aye”
 - 1 Abstention by Senator O’Grady
3. Brendan Civitello
 - Unanimous “Aye”

C. Committee Chairman Nominations

8:40 PM

1. President Pro Tempore/Chairman of Rules and Administration Committee
 - Nomination by Senator Harrington – nominates Senator Kirby
 - Seconded by Senator Hagerty
 - Senator Harrington praises Senator Kirby for his contribution to the transcription of the most recent Senate By-Laws
 - Senator Harrington yields the floor
 - Motion to vote by Senator Harrington and seconded by Senator Connolly
 - All say “Aye” for motion to vote
 - All say “Aye” for official vote
 - Senator Kirby is appointed
2. Chairman of Academic Affairs Committee
 - Senator Kirby Nominates Senator Mackisey
 - Seconded by Senator Hagerty
 - Motion to vote – Senator Skros, seconded by Senator Harrington
 - All say “Aye”
 - Official vote
 - 25 say “Aye”
 - 1 Abstention – Senator Mackisey

3. Chairman of University Services Committee
 - Senator Hagerty nominates Senator Harrington
 - Second by Senator LaFleur
 - Motion to vote – by Senator Halloran
 - All say “Aye”
 - Official vote
 - 25 say “Aye”
 - 1 Abstention by Senator Harrington
4. Chairman of Student Resources Committee
 - Senator Mackisey nominates Senator Hagerty
 - Seconded by Senator Harrington
 - Senator Mackisey praises Senator Hagerty and subsequently yields the floor
 - Nomination by O’Grady for Kilgore, who is a freshman
 - Seconded by Senator Finley
 - No other nominations
 - Motion to vote – seconded by Senator Halloran
 - Senator Harrington requests a roll-call vote
 - In favor of Senator Hagerty – 20
 - In favor of Senator Kilgore – 4
 - Abstentions – 2
 - Senator Hagerty is appointed
5. Chairman of Campus Life
 - Senator Skros nominates Senator Connolly
 - Seconded by Senator Harrington
 - Senator Skros praises Senator Connolly
 - Motion to vote by Senator Andrew, seconded by Senator Halloran
 - All say “Aye”
 - Official vote
 - 25 say “Aye”
 - 1 Abstention

D. Senator Hagerty, School of Arts and Sciences (Resolution 001)

9:00 PM

- Call for student referendum regarding WMATA
- WMATA has been unresponsive to modifications program
- WMATA is asking students to offer their opinions
- Repeal Resolution 035
- Amendment by Senator Harrington – Replace “action” with “acting”
- All say “Aye”
- The 3rd “whereas” is misspelled
- Motion on the floor – seconded by Senator Connolly
- All say “Aye”
- Senators Hagerty, La Fleur, Kirby, and Halloran approach the podium to speak on behalf of this legislation
- Senator Hagerty congratulates everyone
- Resolution 035 – calls for student-wide referendum vote WMATA U-Pass program – a fixed cost ridership program that grants college students and DMV access to the metro rail and bus
- Unlimited academic, professional, and other use

- This resolution calls for a student referendum, not an adoption
- Since April, WMATA has been unresponsive, and the first return call received from them was two days ago
- Thus: the proposition that the referendum be repealed
- Unanswered questions by WMATA
- The pilot program that was established in 2016 will be ending before CUA can implement the program for students
- Answers will not be provided by WMATA until their Board meets in March 2018
- Senator Hagerty purported that if we are to have a referendum this month, then we would be asking students to vote on a contract that is speculative, for we do not know the cost of the contract
- Senator Hagerty hopes to continue speaking with WMATA following the acquisition of more concrete answers, thereafter yielding the floor for questions
- Point of order by Senator Mackisey: the referendum is not present on the ballot, and since the ballot has already been passed, there is no legislation qualifying a referendum
- Senator Hagerty mentions his communication with President Weiss during Summer 2017
- President Weiss has been strongly advised by OCA that there is not sufficient time to have the WMATA bill voted on during September 20th, which has already passed, ostensibly, and has been rescheduled for October 17th
- Senator Mackisey yields his time
- Senator Connolly supports the repeal, with confidence in the judgment of Senator Hagerty
- Senator Skros asks Senator Hagerty to provide an overview of the original U-Pass program, so that the newly-elected Senators may be acquainted with it
- Senator Hagerty responds with: WMATA is currently operating under a pilot program, with American University and a smaller satellite school as the program's customers. Students at that University and satellite school pay \$1 per day in addition to administrative cost, which are altogether added to the students' tuition. Students receive – receives something similar to a SmarTrip card, and this is not an opt-out/opt-in program. All students are charged a fee who attend the University, unless the student is abroad for a semester or more. The University is responsible for the distribution of the cards. The details of the new program will not be revealed until March 2018.
- Motion to vote by Senator Finley, seconded by Senator Harrington
- All say “Aye”
- Motion to vote seconded by Senator Connolly: opposed by Finley and Volz
- Official vote: 26 say “Aye”
- Resolution now passed
- Point of Order by Senator Mackisey – any piece of legislation has to be voted on by a roll call vote
- President Weiss mentions that some of the votes last year were conducted solely by voice

E. Senator Santana, School of Arts and Sciences (Resolution 002)

9:10 PM

- Tropical and Atlantic hurricanes have been negatively impacting North America
- Senator Santana asks that the Senate support this Resolution and urge the community to show its support as well

- Senator Santana yields his time, and the floor is open for debate
- Senator O’Grady asks Senator Santana to provide more information about the duties of CUA Cares
- Senator Santana says that the Campus Ministry website supports CUA Cares in taking this initiative. CUA Cares is a financial initiative, and it raises money that is directed to victims and to Catholic charities in the USA: he yields his time
- Senator Spinelli asks if this Resolution asks that the Senate enact anything that already has not been by Campus Ministry and/or CUA Cares: yields his time
- Senator Santana is simply asking that everyone support this initiative and to consider donating to CUA Cares – yields his time
- Senator Walsh wishes to include recognition of recent earthquake victims as well
- Senator Santana accepts this recommendation
- Point of Order – Senator Finley asks if that was a motion, and after calling it as one, such is seconded by Senator Connolly
- Call to have the Resolution amended and to have “earthquakes in Mexico” added into Resolution 002
- Senator Kilgore asks if earthquake victims are also beneficiaries of CUA Cares and if CUA Cares is supporting them already
- Senator Mackisey motions for discontinuation of the Resolution, due to confusion; also motions to amend the first “whereas”
- Return to first motion
- Motion to vote on Senator Walsh’s motion (Senators Finley, Halloran, and Giangiordano abstain, and there two say “Nay”; 21 say “Aye”)
- Motion passed
- Point of Order by Senator La-Fleur – that the amendment be re-read for clarification
- Senator Spinelli says that the Resolution is a well-intentioned piece of legislation, but that it undermines us as a student government association; he thinks that we are wasting our time and subsequently yields his time
- Senator Hagerty says that not all resolutions have to be tangible
- Senator Mackisey echoes what Senator Hagerty said, mentioning that CUA Cares is the second-largest producer of social services on campus; he thinks that this Resolution should be supported; yields his time
- Senator Connolly says that the optics of shutting this piece of legislation down would be disparaging to CUA; the Senate should support this resolution
- Senator LaFleur supports this resolution and wants to spread the word about what CUA Cares does; she yields the floor
- Motion to vote by Senator Andrew and seconded by Senator LaFleur
- 25 say “Aye”, with one “Nay” by O’Grady
- Motion for roll call vote by Senator Connolly, seconded by Senator Andrew
- Abstentions by Senators Finley and Volz
- Point of Order by Senator Finley to counter Senator Mackisey’s question about the bill and the amendment to by-laws
- The bill would have to amend the by-laws
- Senator Kirby asks for the Parliamentarian to reference the rules
- Senator O’Grady asks if all debates are closed, and the answer is that they are
- Vote for roll call – 25 “Aye” and 1 “nay” by Senator O’Grady
- Official vote – 26 say “Aye”

- Resolution 002 passed

F. Senator Mackisey, School of Music (Resolution 003)

9:20 PM

- President Weiss reads the Resolution Jon Paul reads resolution
- Requests the addition of a mandatory arts requirement to the General Education Curriculum
- Senator Mackisey mentions, for Senators not here last year, that the Senate passed Resolution 039 – Dr. Mayer and her committee are enthusiastically behind this – and Senator Mackisey praises the arts
- Senator Andrew – supports this as a fellow arts student – co-sponsor
- Music plays unexpectedly
- Senator Andrew yields her time
- Senator Volz – inquiries to clarify what liberal arts specifies, since the term is broad
- Senator Mackisey mentions that in Resolution 039, music, drama, dance, and visual art is what art is defined as
- Senator Hagerty agrees with Resolution 039: increasing funding for music school is supported; an issue with requirement of these courses; objection by constituents who already feel like they are majoring in politics but also minoring in other disciplines; perhaps an alternative to this Resolution is offering more electives, which would be more greatly supported
- Senator Hagerty does not support this Resolution thus
- Hagerty takes 15 credits per semester, and a music major takes 21 – Mackisey counters that the addition of another required course is not another burden
- Senator LaFleur – worked as an office assistant in the Benjamin T. Rome School of Music; she is not a music student (Politics student instead); the main concern is a lack of funding, and so a propos of music education here, we should encourage more funding as opposed to requirements in the curriculum
- Senator Mackisey counters that this is thus the resolution for Senator LaFleur – funding is provided based upon the number of students who are involved in the program; we therefore need more students in the School of Music in order to acquire *that* funding
- Senator Finley – supports this Resolution as a student in the School of Social Services
- Senator Connolly supports resolution – “art is a great equalizer” – if this was to be a requirement, he is curious as to whether or not it would offset another requirement
- Senator Mackisey answers that he cannot provide a definitive answer, but he leans towards “yes”
- Senator O’Grady – thinks this committee needs to slow down – doesn’t think that we should vote right away on something, considering that Senator Mackisey does not have all of the answers at this time; he urges the Senators to speak with constituents and professors to acquire a better idea and to postpone the vote
- President Weiss clarifies that this is not a motion, and Senator O’Grady verifies that it is not yet
- Senator Kilgore asks Mackisey to amplify his vocal volume
- Mackisey says that the constituents elected us for our judgment, and so we should move forward – the only question that he says he cannot answer regards the Academic Senate’s decision

- Point of Inquiry by LaFleur – Would requesting implementation have to proceed through the administration?
- President Weiss and Senator Mackisey answer “yes”
- Senator Harrington thinks that we should encourage students to find the road of well-roundedness, not force it upon them; encourages that we vote against this bill, because we are a liberal arts college and should not force students to enroll in a course
- Senator Mackisey retorts: he primarily played bingo in Studio X; he tells a story about what a Maestro delivered in lecture once – that is, about a Jewish Man with a requiem, who taught inmates how to sing it, and who performed it for the Red Cross
- Senator Halloran – just because we pass a resolution, it doesn't mean that it will go through the administration, but at least we send a message
- She yields her time
- Senator Mackisey motions for the rules to be suspended for 2.5 minutes for Dr. Mayer to erase confusion: “Nay” from Senator Kirby and a second to the motion by Senator Finley
- Dr. Mayer will have something more substantial to present in about a month, as she is trying to build flexibility into the curriculum, particularly with this new and potential requirement supplementing for another
- Motion to reinstate the rules by Senator Harrington, seconded by Senator Mackisey
- All say “Aye”
- Senator Spinelli – asks if the Academic Senate would have full-range over creating the change if the SGA Senate passes this Resolution; also asks if Senator Mackisey has a preference for an art to be added in supplement or addition to the current curriculum
- Senator Mackisey does not have a preference
- Senator Spinelli asks if it would be advantageous for the student government to we wait for a more recent draft of the curriculum modification proposal
- Senator Mackisey replies that the Senate should not wait
- Senator Kilgore purports that there should be a greater respect for the arts, and she therefore supports this Resolution
- Motion to vote by Senator Andrew, seconded by Senator Connolly
- Opposed by Volz and Kirby
- Official vote taken by roll call
- Passes with 15 “Ayes”, 10 “Nays”, and 1 abstention

G. Senator Connolly, Class of 2019 (Reserved Time)

9:30 PM

- 1 in 5 women and 1 in 7 men face sexual assault – occurs on the CUA campus
- Join with Senator Connolly to fight on campus for consensual intimacy – yields his time

5. Open Floor

9:40 PM

- Senator Finley – messages to victims of sexual assault being offered
- Motion to adjourn –rescinded by Harrington
- Senator Kirby on Public Comment
- Senator Kirby asks for individuals who are interested in rules and legislation to convey their interest to him – yields his time

- Senator LaFleur mentions that the CCA is hosting a cultural leadership retreat this month
- President Weiss extends his gratitude/congratulations, also mentioning that there will be a new Senate Meeting layout: Great Room B for remainder of the 2017-2018 academic year
- Senators Kirby, Connolly, Hagerty, and Mackisey are asked by President Weiss to remain after adjournment

6. Adjournment

10:00 PM

- By Senator Mackisey, seconded by Senator Halloran
- All say “Aye”