



**The Catholic University of America  
Student Government Association 2017-18  
Senate Session 3-7**

Pryzbyla, Great Room B  
February 26, 2018  
8:00pm-10:00pm

**ROLL CALL**

**Vice President** - Jon Paul Weiss

**Secretary** – Francesca Gualano

**Parliamentarian** – Katie Troilo

**School of Business**

Kevin Walsh   X  

Nicholas Spinelli   X  

**Class of 2018**

Alexa Schimp   X  

Matthew Skros   X  

**School of Engineering**

Mina Grace Larraquel   A  

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   A  

Leigh Calotta   X  

**Class of 2021**

Ally Kilgore   X  

Sean O'Grady   X  

**School of Philosophy**

Kevin Blanchard   X  

Jeremy Volz   X  

**School of Architecture**

Kelly Reed   X  

Sara Cangarlu   X  

**School of Social Services**

Matt Finley   X  

VACANT \_\_\_\_\_

**School of Arts and Science**

Alexander Santana   X  

Cavan Hagerty   X  

**School of Theology**

Alec McGuire   X  

Antoine Rask   X  

**Key:**  
X- Here  
A- Absent

**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** **8:06 PM**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** **8:07 PM**

**PRAYER** **8:07 PM**

- **Senator Santana**

**1. Public Comment** **8:08 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.

- **Brianna Howard**
  - **Information sessions for executive campaigns tomorrow and Wednesday → Pryz 327 at 8:30 P.M.**
  - **Cardinal First → only about 20 people last time → there are going to be three upcoming sessions; there has been a student leadership initiative that we have been asked to partake in → March 12<sup>th</sup>, March 26<sup>th</sup>, and April 9<sup>th</sup>**
  - **Minimum Wage → Brianna Howard and Senator Kirby met with Dean Jennings → it is not feasible to increase the minimum wage this year but perhaps next year → continue encouraging this initiative**
  - **Crosswalk legislation → scheduled for Spring Break 2018**
  - **Panel with DPS and 6 or 7 administrators to answer questions and provide information about safety**
  - **Town Hall with President Garvey on March 20th in Heritage Hall → tabling for this to come**
  - **Referendum Vote regarding changes to Constitution on Mach 14<sup>th</sup>**
- **Brent Behringer**
  - **Market on Social Media**
  - **[Sga-media@cua.edu](mailto:Sga-media@cua.edu)**
  - **send marketing work and ideas to this address**
  - **once legislation is passed in the Senate, Brianna Howard signs it, and the Executive tries to be speedy in returning information about that → it is Brianna's responsibility to further legislation and not of the Senators**
- **Sean Calabria**
  - **supports Res. 12 → WWI memorial → hopes that the Senators pass this Resolution**
- **Owen Slayers**

- Res. 011 → supports it as someone who has, in the past, endured those problems addressed in the Resolution
- Jon Paul
  - Crosswalk not made to the student body yet → can be discussed, but no information released about specific dates
  - Town Hall is a mandatory event for all Senators

**2. Adoption of Agenda** **8:17 PM**

- Motion by Senator Finley, seconded by Senator Spinelli
- All in favor

**3. Approval of Minutes** **8:18 PM**

- Motion to approve by Senator LaFleur and seconded by Senator Hagerty
- Approved

**4. Committee Reports**

**A. Rules and Administration Committee – Senator Kirby** **8:18 PM**

- Need other Senators to monitor the laptop for voting and encourage people to vote for the changes to the Constitution

**B. Academic Affairs Committee – Senator Mackisey** **8:19 PM**

- Administration is making all attempts to be as transparent as possible
- Curriculum reform

**C. University Services Committee – Senator Harrington** **8:20 PM**

- Senator Spinelli is working with Tax Services
- He is working with Senator Calotta and with the Dean of Students

**D. Student Resources Committee – Senator Hagerty** **8:20 PM**

- Dean Sawyer meeting
- Crosswalk
- Senator Harrington → 24-hour study space in McMahon
- Residence Life and DPS reform of policies with HSA → increase the size of HSA

**E. Campus Life Committee – Senator Connolly** **8:21 PM**

- Update in a couple of meetings

**5. New Business**

**A. Senator Giangjordano, School of Engineering (Res. 011)** **8:22 P.M.**

- There should not be tests that are not final examinations during “Finals Week”
- Gives an example of her own schedule last year
- We should have ample time to study before Finals Week
- Motion to vote by Senator LaFleur, seconded by Senator Finley
- All in favor to vote
- Passed → 23 yays, 1 abstention, 2 absences

**B. Senator Harrington, Class of 2019 (Res. 012)** **8:29 PM**

- Support of this from authorities of our University
- Senator Cangarlu speaks as to the role of the School of Architecture in this
- Senator Harrington → takes questions
- Motion by Senator O’Grady to amend the first “World War” of the document to be capitalized
- Seconded by Senator Harrington
- All aye
- Senator Connolly → more memorials should be built in honor of other acts of patriotism and the like
- Senator Harrington → we already had a memorial for WWI, which has Catholic symbolism as well

- Senator LaFleur → background context on why the original was destroyed and to make sure that destruction of it does not happen again
- Information from Archives and the Washington Post
- No information
- Problem related to parking lot building
- With public safety and patrol on campus, it looks safe
- Senator LaFleur favors this
- Motion by Senator Finley, seconded by Senator Volz
- All aye
- 23 Yays, 2 absent, 1 vacant
- Passes

**C. Senator O’Grady, Class of 2021 (Res. 013)**

**8:35 PM**

- Senator O’Grady → working with Senator Kilgore
- Students are having trouble managing stress
- Use of the counseling center
- Do not want to enter an area that is mainly for Task Forces
- Wants this to be integrated in the Senate
- SGA should be represented as a body that will help and assist those who are in need of relaxation and stress relief training
- Demonstrates that we care for students who require such assistance and support
- This initiative is accomplishing the use of a valuable resource of CUA → outreach resource
- Destress Initiative sponsored by SGA and executed by the Counseling Center
- Senator Kilgore → SGA should do everything that it can to make these services accessible to our constituency
- Senator Calotta → supports this, as mental health is something that we do not support enough → Destress Fest → how does this differ from such?
- Senator O’Grady → Destress Fest does not offer specific training to fit individual needs
- Senator Volz → Motion to amend at the third Whereas, students take it out (the comma)
- tis to its
- all in favor
- motion passes
- Senator Connolly → supports this opportunity for students to destress
- Senator O’Grady → echoes this
- Senator Finley → thinks this is wonderful → curious about the training details
- Senator O’Grady → website of Counseling Center and in speaking with members of the Counseling Center → event at beginning of year for mental health was an inspiration for this → this is centered around specific needs → still need to work closely with Task Forces → day for training and presentation about destress → 3-5 hours → presentation by counselors and then individual interaction with counselors
- Senator Kilgore → even if the event is repeated, that should not be a problem → covering all of the bases, so to speak → we are Senators but not experts, so we do not know the most efficacious ways to address stress, like a counselor would

- Senator Finley → reach out to those resources on campus as well
- Senator Kirby → 2 distress events within a week of Finals Week?
- Senator O’Grady → no distress event
- Motion to vote by Senator Finley and seconded by Senator Blanchard
- All aye
- 23 Yays, 2 absent, 1 vacant
- Passes

**D. Senator Santana, School of Arts and Sciences (Res. 014)**

**8:52 PM**

- Senator Santana → Wants to make sure that the administration values student input
- Senator Harrington → motion to amend → fifth Whereas, there should be a “be” → “Will be using” and “Student Center acting in [its] official capacity”
- Seconded by Senator Volz
- All aye
- Passed
- Senator Harrington → University has consistently done this with new projects on campus → considered and brought in different focus groups on campus, so not sure if specific advisory board would be more effective than different focus groups
- Senator Santana → just wants to make *certain* that student voices are considered
- Senator Harrington yields his time
- Senator Kirby → motion to amend → Numbers 3-6 “Whereas” paragraphs moved into “Be it enacted that”, for the purposes of each
- Seconded by Hagerty
- All in favor of motion
- Passes
- Senator Mackisey → questioning the mechanism of the board → thinks that the SGA Senate is the mechanism and we do not need a new advisory group → yields time
- Senator O’Grady → supports this Bill but asks: would this entail a contracting firm or working with President Garvey?
- Senator Santana → whatever department that is involved in designing and constructing this dining hall will have the opinions of the students → it could be different offices → Dr. Allen’s office will be involved, for example → if other offices are involved they should all work together
- Senator O’Grady → Student Advisory Board → does this Resolution firmly establish the Board *now*?
- Senator Santana → this is an idea for the Office of the Dean of Students to consider the Board → not necessarily to be created right now → this is one way for the administration to hear other students and value our opinions as Senators as well as other students who are not Senators
- Senator O’Grady yields the floor
- Senator Harrington → Asks Senator Santana if he spoke with anyone in Office of Dean of Students
- Senator Santana has not had the chance to do so but is looking forward to doing so quite soon
- Senator Harrington → with the way the Resolution is constructed, it is best to send this to the Committee on Campus Life

- Senator Harrington → Motion to send to the Committee on Campus Life, seconded by Senator Finley
- Senator Finley → Committee on Campus Life is already doing this, so if we pass this, it might seem patronizing
- Senator Kirby → On the Motion to send to Student Life → we already have a Board → this already exists as DSAB → Senator Mackisey gave input on curriculum reform without creating an advisory board
- Senator O’Grady → will Task Forces be involved?
- Senator Santana → open to this
- Senator O’Grady → yields time
- Senator Connolly → thinks this is a good idea, but also supports sending it to the Committee and to meet with Senator Santana and other voices to continue the discussion
- All in favor on voting on Senator Harrington’s motion
- All aye
- Passes
- 23 Yays, 2 absent, 1 vacant
- now tabled to the Committee of Campus Life

**6. Vice President, SGA Updates**

**9:07 PM**

- mandatory attendance at Town hall
- President Weiss would like updates from the Committee Chairs

**7. Open Floor**

**9:08 PM**

- Senator O’Grady → thanks Senators for support → thanks Senator Calotta for constructive criticisms → asking for anyone who is willing to extend a helping hand → yields floor
- Senator Mackisey → wants Committee of Academic Affairs to meet briefly afterwards
- Senator Finley → Cardinal Choose Cards First → with Dean of Students and OCA → promoting the event
- Senator Connolly → asks members of the Committee of Campus Life to meet
- Senator LaFleur → Provost Abela and Dr. Mike Allen → they are working hard to do the best for students at CUA → yields the floor
- Senator Volz → wants to bring awareness to the disdain for the Freshman Class → treat everyone equally → Destress Event on Law School Lawn
- President Weiss → wishes all well on Spring Break

**8. Adjournment**

**9:13 PM**

- Motion to Adjourn by Senator Mackisey and seconded by Senator Finley
- All Aye
- Adjourned