

The Catholic University of America Student Government Association 2017-18 Senate Session 3-8

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

ROLL CALL

Vice President - Jon Paul Weiss	School of Business
Secretary – Francesca Gualano	Kevin Walsh X
<u>Parliamentarian</u> – Katie Troilo	Nicholas SpinelliX
Class of 2018	School of Engineering
Alexa Schimp X	Mina Grace Larraquel A
Matthew SkrosX_	Olivia GiangiordanoX
<u>Class of 2019</u>	School of Music
Jimmy HarringtonX	Aaron MackiseyX
John ConnollyX	Lizzy AndrewA
Class of 2020	School of Nursing
Elise LaFleur X	Julia Skellie X
Weston KirbyX	Leigh CalottaX
Class of 2021	School of Philosophy
Ally Kilgore X	VACANT
Sean O'GradyX	Jeremy VolzX
School of Architecture	School of Social Services
Kelly Reed X	Matt Finley X
Sara CangarluA	Raquel GarciaX
School of Arts and Science	School of Theology
Alexander Santana X	Alec McGuire X
Cavan Hagerty 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

8:10 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

8:11 PM

PRAYER 8:12 PM

1. Public Comment 8:14 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 → thanks all for their contributions to the Town Hall and tabling
- SGA Election on 11 April 2018
- Rachel Garfield → impresses upon us the importance of leaving programs in the School of Arts and Sciences → Media and Communication Studies Department → critical thinking, analysis, and rhetoric → stays in the School of Arts and Sciences and asks that as many faculty are kept as is feasible
- Andrew Morgan → Junior Media and Communications Studies Major → feels that the underlying problems and misunderstandings are that it is just a fine arts program → "we" are a liberal studies program → Media and Communications Studies is more marketable as such in the job market → a degree from the School of Arts and Sciences is much more vocational
- Alex Rappold→ communities-based education → does not recommend more adjunct professors →
- Jennifer Brown → representing Media Department → studied journalism P.R. and marketing → spoke to individuals in Career Services → the general conception of what "performing arts" encompasses does not compliment her major

2. Adoption of Agenda

8:21 PM

- Senator Volz, seconded by Senator Calotta
- Adopted

3. Approval of Minutes

8:22 PM

- Minutes approved
- Motion by Senator Skros, seconded by Senator Finley

• Monday, February 26, 2018 (3-7) 4. Committee Reports A. Rules and Administration Committee – Senator Kirby • We need a 4/5 vote • Everyone should print the new by-laws B. Academic Affairs Committee - Senator Mackisev about Student Government students • Today, there was a Town Hall in the Music School C. University Services Committee – Senator Harrington

8:23 PM

8:24 PM

- Last meeting was not an official meeting → received feedback about proposal
- Provost has been doing a series of Town Halls with groups of different
- The Provost is going to continue hosting these Town Halls, and Senators will report back to the Senate about the content of those meetings

8:26 PM

- Meeting after this Senate meeting
- Yields time

D. Student Resources Committee – Senator Hagerty

8:26 PM

- Will have a full committee
- Keep an eye out for an upcoming E-mail

E. Campus Life Committee – Senator Connolly

8:27 PM

- Look out for an upcoming E-mail
- More about Senator Santana's resolution at the next Senate Meeting
- Yields back time

5. New Business

A. Nomination, School of Social Work

8:28 PM

- o Raquel Garcia Senate Vote
- Major → Social Work
- Minor → Politics
- Active Minds
- o First-vear student
- Senator O'Grady → speaks on behalf of Raquel Garcia
- o Motion to vote by Senator Finley, seconded by Senator Volz
- o 21 yays, 3 absent, 2 vacancy
- o sworn in

B. Senator LaFluer, Class of 2020 (Res. 015)

8:32 PM

- Senator LaFleur
 - o purpose of college is to learn from others
 - o encourages academic departments and those who have the resources to put this Resolution into place in order to do so
 - o started mentoring program in Politics Department
 - o looking forward to this passing and furthermore to meet with those departments to encourage more mentoring programs in many disciplines of academia
 - o implement sustainable mentoring programs
- Senator Calotta
 - Welcome new students to the University
 - o Guides students on academic and social matters
- Senator O'Grady

 Supports this Resolution due to its positive effects for all students

• Senator Connolly

- Had a similar program such as the Major Mentoring Program in high school and recommends this program so as to incentivize students and foster their academic interests
- Urges support for the Resolution

Debate

- Motion to vote by Finley
- Seconded by O'Grady
- o All in favor to vote
- o 22 yays, 3 absent, 1 vacancy

C. Senator Mackisey, School of Music (Res. 016)

8:41 PM

- point of order
- add Senator Santana as a co-sponsor of the Resolution
- Senator Mackisey
 - o Special year for our SGA Senate
 - Expresses opinion on two of the most fundamental issues of the proposal
 - o Roadmap of needs and desires of student body
 - Shows our commitment to stand with students who gain what was promised to them by the University
 - Representative democracy for our students and to act in their best interest
 - Stands for their personal desires
 - The students of Media and Communications Studies wish not to become part of the School of Music, Visual, and Performing Arts
 - After listening to those students' concerns, he understands their concerns to be dropped into a School that does not fairly represent their field

• Senator Harrington

- o Economics student
- The analytical nature of Media Studies is deserving of preservation in the School of Arts and Sciences
- Asks for support and unanimity in support
- This is our chance to make an impact in the new curriculum
- Stand up for Media Studies students

• Senator Hagerty

- Thanks Senator Mackisey for his spearheading of this Resolution and including the other Chairs
- Asks for support of this on behalf of students who will be affected by the curriculum change

• Senator Connolly

- o Appreciates being included in discussions about this
- On March 14th, students in the Department of Media Studies were asked to meet with the Provost to discuss details
- The points that were raised: a degree from the School of Music is not the same as that from the School of Arts and Sciences

- Elimination of faculty in many departments → this is concerning and it will systematically hurt students who benefit from them
- These proposed changes are quite daunting
- Urge Provost to keep the program in the School of Arts and Sciences
- Received over one thousand signatures
- Expresses disappointment with Provost
- March 8th, not published until March 15th in a press release by SGA
- o This should have been made public a long time ago
- Prevents transparency
- Accusations of students and faculty spreading false information
- o Does not believe false information was disseminated
- Acknowledges students who have spoken out against this and is proud of those students
- We can live a life of purpose → their tenacity inspires him
- o Their voices help
- Does think that we as representatives must demonstrate to the administration that we do not accept this curriculum change
- o This Resolution is not perfect, but it is a strong step forward
- Yields time

• Senator Kirby

- o Applauds students who spoke tonight during Public Comment
- This is in attempt at reform, and the administration is working hard to accommodate students
- Has to go through Board of Trustees
- This Resolution is a first step

• Senator Santana

Our Contract of Support 1 Urges all Senators to support the Resolution

• Senator Mackisev

- o Clarifies a point that Senator Kirby made
- Important to remember that we do have Senators who sit on the Academic Senate

• Senator Kilgore

- Is sure that Senator O'Grady sympathizes with her
- In this case, her Constituency reached out to her and Senator O'Grady, when archetypally, it is her and Senator O'Grady reaching out to the Constituency
- This is imperative for the sake of all Media Studies students

• Senator Giangiordano

- O Why did this change come about?
- Will the new school involve Arts and Sciences students definitely?
- Senator Mackisey responds:
 - to take drama, art, and music, and put them onto a trajectory for better success
 - Provost came to the School of Music today → fund a center for the arts on campus
 - A whole new academic school

- Shows that we are taking arts education seriously
- Fund it properly
- The Provost mentioned that he will not take Medias Studies students from Arts and Sciences to leave if they do not want to
- Senator Volz
 - As a Rhetoric and Writing minor himself → jointly runs through both English and Media
 - Motion to amend for addition of Senator Santana as co-sponsor
 - Change there in "Be it enacted that..."
 - Motion to vote by Senator LaFluer
 - All aye
 - Senator Finley → question → how many degrees? → Senator Mackisey does not know
 - Senator Finley → School of Social Work involves analysis as well → donors may be used to that → be a part of making the new School their own
- Senator Harrington → response to Senator Finley → at this current juncture, with the financial state of the University, we are not in a state to start creating new Schools
- Senator Connolly → many sophomores have prepared transfer papers if this goes through → be it enacted as in first clause, amend to say "Department of Media [and Communications] Studies" → seconded by Senator Mackisey
- Yields time
- All aye → motion passes
- Floor open for debate
- Senator LaFleur → be it enacted that clause in section two → "performing"
- Motion → Senator LaFleur, seconded by Senator Volz
- All in favor of motion
- In favor to vote → all aye
- 20 aye, 2 abstentions, 1 absence
- Motion to vote by O'Grady, seconded by Senator Kilgore
- 20 yays, 0 nays, 2 abstentions, 1 absent 2 vacant, resolution passes

D. Senator Spinelli, School of Business (Res. 017)

9:14 PM

- 11.3% increase in tuition
- inflation since 2000 has grown by roughly 2%
- if we are upset about our tuition rising and not seeing that extra amount added to our education, then we need to say something
- President Garvey said in a letter that we need to ask the students for the added costs for building such projects as the new dining hall → but such funds for that building have been donated
- Wants this Resolution to be sent back to Committee → wrong one sent to Vice President Weiss
- Would like to open the floor to discussion
- Senator Hagerty
 - o A similar piece was brought to the floor last year

- Turned down, because tuition guarantee programs are not effective
- Question → in studying some of the other Universities that have tuition guarantee programs, is this Resolution built upon a precedent?
- Senator Spinelli → George Washington University and Ohio State University as precedence for writing this Resolution
- Senator Hagerty → at a private University, have to tap into the endowment
 - Not fiscally responsible to pass this Resolution, because we are financially unstable as it is
 - o Doesn't think this is a financially responsible measure
 - o Cannot support due to research
- Senator Spinelli → asks what Senator Hagerty would accept
- Senator Hagerty → would need to see a new Resolution
- Senator Connolly → doesn't know how he voted last year → now he thinks that this is a good idea in a perfect world, but not in our world
 - Leaves economics to the Economics and Business majors
 - If we want our University to implement this, we must do it in a strategic way
 - We need to plan this out years in advance
 - The University cannot lose money
 - Supports sending this to Committee
 - Advises Senator Spinelli to do a lot more research to see how it has been done at other Universities, especially ones that are more of our own demographics
 - Yields back time
- Senator Spinelli → in terms of more information, the expected cost is \$58,376 → \$31,104 is the average financial aid package → \$27,272 difference → national average is about \$33,000
- Senator Connolly → needs to see these numbers on paper
- Senator Kirby → under impression that we never increased more than inflation
 - o Can we just amend it now while we are here?
- Senator Spinelli → additional research needed → gives credit to CUA administration in a way for their research
- Motion to send to University Services by Kirby
- Point of order to go to bathroom by Senator Calotta (9:29 P.M. → returns at 9:33 P.M.)
- Senator O'Grady → do we have information about how much tuition would increase in the future? (Senator Spinelli does not) yields time
- Motion was not seconded
- Senator Mackisey → flat tuition guarantee by Senator Elder last year
 → sent to Committee and never made it to a vote → yields time
- Senator Kilgore → not especially concerned about financial status of the University, but more concerned about families paying tuition → grateful for everything that CUA has given to her, but a raise in tuition is not feasible for most people → even though she acknowledges the difficulties that this Resolution faces, she asks us all to consider that there is only so much that CUA can raise it before students have to withdraw

- Senator Spinelli → point where it is financially irresponsible for students to accept the tuition increase → there should be a process in place that conveys the students' concern that tuition is as expensive as it is
- Senator Walsh → supporter of parameters of this legislation → does not support a flat tuition, because we need to adjust for inflation, but there should be a check
- Senator O'Grady → knows many students who are leaving this school because of the tuition → money has a lot more weight than people realize → yields time
- Senator Finley → the Committee that this is sent to should consider changing this Resolution to addressing students' ability to pay for particular things → like being able to use food stamps in food court → yields time
- Senator Finley → motion to send to Committee of University Services
- Seconded by Senator Volz
- All ave on motion
- 22 yays, 3 absent

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

9:42 PM

- Women's History Month → celebrate it
- Commends Women leaders both at CUA and in the world
- Women are an inspiration to our future generations
- Yields his time

6. Vice President, SGA Updates

9:45 PM

- We see a new crosswalk → gratitude to Senator Kilgore
- Gratitude for attendance at Town Hall
- Resolution 016 \rightarrow still being discussed \rightarrow will provide updates
- Resolution 009 and 011 → spoke to Dean Mayer about this, and she was happy to see it pass with the amount of support that it did have
- Wishes everyone a happy and a healthy Easter
- Next meeting \rightarrow April 9th

7. Open Floor 9:46 PM

8. Adjournment 9:46 PM

• Senator Finley, seconded by Senator Volz