



Tuesday, November 19th, 2024 | 3:30-5:00 pm | **Hayden Hall**, Room 409

Google Meet Recording Link:

Minutes of the Meeting

1. Roll Call

- a. Present: Speaker Juanita Pacheco, First Deputy Speaker Ioannis Rountos, Second Deputy Speaker Mehnaz Afridi, Secretary Andrew Berg, Senator John Bennett, Senator Kristell Lowell, Senator Rani Roy, Senator Hany Guirguis, Senator Michael McEneney, Senator Amanda Sanseverino, Senator Amir Masoumi, Senator Moujalli Hourani, Senator Michelle Bell, Senator Miaomiao Zhang, Senator Heidi Laudien, Senator Amira Annabi, Senator Bahareh Estejab, Senator Bernadette Lopez-Fitzsimmons, Senator Finn Malone, Senator Daniela Ramirez, Senator Anthony Campolo
- b. Absent: Senator Tyler Thomason, Senator Emily Gianni, Senator Phillip Austin, Senator Shahriar Mahi
- c. Excused: Senator Qian Wang

2. Approval of the Agenda

- a. The agenda has been approved by the Manhattan University Senate.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

- a. The previous minutes have been approved by the Manhattan University Senate.

4. Reading from the “Green Book”

Speaker Pacheco completes a reading from the green book (pg. 80).

“Never be in a hurry: do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset.” – St. Francis de Sales

5. Speaker’s Report

Few concerns were raised. There were some concerns about the maintenance in Thomas Hall and overall temperature regulation. An update was received from IT on update on the timeline of Microsoft migration. There was an update from CFO said there would be more continued updates in the February or March meeting.

6. Reports from the Standing Committees:

a. Educational Affairs Committee (EAC): Senator Roy

- i. There were several votes that took place.
- ii. Transfer credit policy updates were discussed. Accepting up to 90 credits on incoming transfer students. This policy will become effective starting Spring 2025 term. It was passed with unanimous consent.
- iii. The grade replacement policy was discussed. There were concerns that students must fill out an application to get grade changed. Passed that grade change would happen automatically. It is still a manual process. Policy itself stands, but it is not a student-initiated process.
- iv. Block schedule. Ad-hoc committee of EAC reviewing block schedule. One thing that has come up is the two two day a week blocks from Spring 2025 temporarily. Classes are scheduled. Expect a presentation on block schedule.
- v. The CFA had sent the EAC a policy that pertains to faculty members in case of inclement weather. Faculty will either be required to hold synchronous or asynchronous sessions, based on their discretion. If the faculty member cannot get to campus, will notify faculty member or chair. This will not incur a penalty.
- vi. New business. There is a proposal to update summer session schedule. Currently, summer sessions start before commencement. Yet, it does not provide enough time to assess whether students need to take a summer course. This will be further reviewed at next EAC meeting.

b. Campus Life Committee (CLC): Senator Bennett

- i. There are over 1,024 residents in the residence halls. Vice President Lowe met with student leadership and residents in terms of revamping the guess policies. The mentor program has 639 participants in the current fall semester. These represent an increase of 53% in mentees and an increase of 63% in mentors.
- ii. The annual leadership weekend took place. This is the first time it was held in two years.
- iii. Tuesday, December 3, student diversity event. Speaker will be on campus and will return in the spring.
- iv. Sunday December 8 is the annual festivals and Carroll Christmas concert. The preludes start at 3:30PM. The event starts at 4:00PM. A basketball game is also scheduled for that day.

7. Old Business

No old business was discussed at the meeting.

8. New Business

- a. Work from home policy:

No additional updates were mentioned, but the policy is actively being reviewed.

b. Mailroom – Delivery notifications:

A student introduced a proposal about getting text notifications, informing students that mail is ready to be picked up. It was mentioned that it is not feasible, but a possible solution may be the addition of smart lockers for postal delivery and pickup.

c. Include reports from standing committees in advance before next meeting.

A senator suggested receiving standing committee reports before the next senate meeting. This would be to ensure that the reports can be thoroughly reviewed.

9. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn is granted, with approval of the Manhattan University Senate. The meeting adjourned at 3:47 PM. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 3:30 PM.