



Tuesday, March 25th, 2025 | 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 Kenneth Sumner, Senator Hany Guirguis, Senator Michael McEneney, Senator Amanda Sanseverino, Senator Amir Masoumi, Senator Qian Wang, Senator Heidi Laudien, Senator Amira Annabi, Senator Bahareh Estejab, Senator Bernadette Lopez-Fitzsimmons, Senator Syrita Newman, Senator Anthony Campolo
- b. Absent:** Senator Moujalli Hourani, Senator James McCullagh, Senator Miaomiao Zhang, Senator Kevin Nipal, Senator Tyler Thomason, Senator Emily Gianni, Senator Phillip Austin, Senator Finn Malone, Senator Shahriar Mahi, Senator Daniela Ramirez
- c. Excused:** Senator Kristell Lowe

2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda has been approved by the Manhattan University Senate.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes have been approved by the Manhattan University Senate

4. Reading from the “Green Book”

5. Speaker’s Report

This is the last senate meeting of the year. It has been an honor to serve as speaker, and a separate meeting will be held next year to determine vacant senate positions, and officer roles.

6. Message from CHRO. Robyn Salvo

Salvo is new to Manhattan University, having been here for six months. Everyone has been super welcoming in getting acclimated. Had renewal back in January for initial six months. Trying to get a break on rates whether through coalitions, or new insurance companies. Looking

at different coalitions, yet, experience is really bad since a lot of these groups do not want to participate. As a result, we are continuing with the current plan as is. Additionally, we are trying to help manage costs and claims. Another group is looking at universities that have a consortium that they are trying to potentially build. If experience is better, this will lead to better positioning. The goal is to try to start lowering those costs to get realistic with the market. Benefited from coming out of the consortium, and getting better rates. Any consortium that accepts Manhattan University will cause higher rates in that group. Summer Fridays are planned, continuing with a revised schedule this upcoming summer. President Bonato approved the policy, and not requiring making up time during the work week. There will be activities on campus during the summer. Orientation is one of those activities, which may require use of campus employees. Vacation days past June 30th are subject to some rules. A memo was shared that if an employee needs to extend time for use of vacation, they can ask their supervisor in order to get it approved by Human Resources. No more than five days can be carried over. Encourage use of vacation days. Work from home policy announcement will be coming out on April 16th. Policy is finalized and approved. For staff and administrators only, not for faculty. It needs to go through the approval process again, and nothing will automatically continue. If the request is not approved, you will have two weeks to transition back to campus. Approvals that are processed will go through the Summer Friday schedule, and policy will be reevaluated on July 1. There is no guarantee that someone is going to get approved for remote or hybrid work. Each position will be evaluated by the area vice president. We need to make sure we are here for our students and for them to be welcomed, which is the primary focus in considering this policy.

7. Reports from Standing Committees

a. Educational Affairs Committee (EAC): Senator Sumner

Senator Sumner was not able to attend the EAC meeting. Therefore, Associate Provost Chalk presided over the meeting. The curriculum committee provide a report about the core revision. Looking at core curriculum across multiple institutions. Changes are being made to the BS and BA in biology programs. Other inquiries dealt with technology and Artificial Intelligence. The college technology committee provided their report. Credit acceptance for re-admitted students was discussed again. Michael McRooney provided a three-year academic calendar. There is discussion about the off-campus course and credit policy. There were some updates for online programming, such as six vs seven week sessions. Furthermore, discussion about block schedule revision is ongoing. In new business, there are discussions about monitoring incompletes, and looking at the goals. Incompletes can result in failures, which can be hard to recover from on a transcript.

b. Campus Life Committee (CLC): Gerarda Shields

Pleased to say that a new assistant for residence life has been hired, and there are two finalists for area coordinator. Housing applications are open and underway. Food provided by Gourmet Dining received positive feedback. Orientation dates will be on June 10th, 14th, and 17th. One additional date on August 21st, for international or long-distance students. Focusing on high engagement from orientation leaders. The Center for Career Development made two additional hires, which includes an additional career counselor. We expect she will focus more on the arts and sciences. The Fall 2025 career fair will be held on Tuesday September 30th. We are projected to have 150 employers present.

8. Old Business

No old business was discussed by the Manhattan University Senate.

9. New Business

A senator emphasized making the Manhattan University Senate more interactive and open with the campus community. Important for all senators to reach out to their respective constituencies to ensure proper representation.

10. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn was approved by the Manhattan University Senate.