



Tuesday, October 14th, 2025 | 3:30-4:30 pm | **De La Salle**, Room 302

Google Meet Recording Link:

Minutes of the Meeting

1. Roll Call

- a. **Present:** Speaker Amir Masoumi, First Deputy Speaker Andrew Berg, Second Deputy Speaker Ioannis Rountos, Secretary Heidi Laudien, Senator Bridget Chalk, Senator Kristell Lowe, Senator John Clyde, Senator Gerarda Shields, Senator Hany Guirguis, Senator Mehdi Nosrati, Senator James McCullagh, Senator Jeff Cherubini, Senator Mehnaz Afridi, Senator Bahareh Estejab, Senator Bernadette Lopez-Fitzsimmons, Senator Corinne Walsh, Senator Erika Mendoza, Senator Daniela Ramirez
- b. **Absent:**
- c. **Excused:** Senator Michael McEneney, Senator Amanda Sanseverino, Senator Moujalli Hourani, Senator Jimena Gonzalez-Ramirez

2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda has been approved by the Manhattan University Senate.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

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

4. Reading from the “Green Book”

“May we be so united and closely bound together having but one spirit, namely, the Spirit of God, that we may never be disunited.” – St. John Baptist de la Salle

5. Speaker’s Report

Speaker Masoumi is grateful to have been elected as speaker. He appreciates everyone’s help and support for the senate and agenda committee. He is especially thankful to Senator Berg for his continued help and support. There are some vacant positions on the senate, and all student positions that need to be filled. Student government has reached out to students a few times, and Senator Berg will discuss any continued updates.

6. Reports from Standing Committees

a. Board of Trustees Enrollment Committee:

The numbers will probably change, yet it was reported on September 13, 570 students. Wanted at least 650 but did not reach that threshold. For Fall 2026, the committee would like enrollment to be 765. Should get census soon. Kakos school of arts and sciences should launch associate degree programs. These will include new programs in healthcare management, and data analytics. Also want to have increased outreach to veterans. Admissions and enrollment management are studying the history of enrollment at the university. The delayed/flex start program commenced on September 22nd. Obtained five more students through the program. More metrics will be counted after the flex delay start. Admissions will start accepting students as of this week. This is a change from previous precedents. JPHP will invite secondary school counselors to events to spark interest in Manhattan University. Three profiles are tracked. Lasallian scholarships will be based on 75% merit. Two companies that will aid admissions are Encore and Tempo. Jasper Guarantee Initiative announced tuition freezes and flat tuition for four years. Students will learn FICO scores for students who leave their deposit. 453 new first year, 98 new transfers, new graduate 166 make up the new enrolled student composition. It is unclear how the numbers are typically distributed.

The companies help with recruiting new students. Wondering why two companies are needed to do that? Can ask at the next meeting. Next meeting is on November 19th.

b. Academic Affairs Committee (EAC): Senator Afridi

The committee learned about the numbers, so it will now go into enrollment review. The university has several strong programs. There are some concerns with Kakos programs. Strategic business plan initiatives and Provost led programs were briefly mentioned. IBM skills program was also added to strengthen skills in AI, analytics, and machine learning. School of engineering program revitalization was further discussed. Accelerate degree programs. JPHP. Core curriculum revision, which is being evaluated by faculty and surveys right now. Kakos summer scholars funding, digital and sound studies have been updated. School of business new graduate programs will have some updates. Online learning executive program creation is underway. Address religion and philosophy religion program, finalize core curriculum revision proposals.

Educational Affairs Committee: Senator Chalk

Met on Tuesday October 7. Heard report from university wide curriculum committee. They have developed two draft proposals. Sent out a survey for faculty to fill out. Priorities faculty would like to see. Only 17 responses so far. Encourages higher responses. Deadline is October 15th. No report from college tech and library committee. Discussed the block schedule and the status of the revision of the block schedule. Fall 2026 schedule will be voted at EAC's next meeting. Slight change in Block 13 for Spring 2026. Double dipping to limit number of courses for two majors. Discussed having a mandatory attendance taking policy. Not voted on but was just discussed. The committee also talked about changing the wellness day date. Change in wellness day comes from availability of Draddy as it pertains to Springfest. Men's volleyball was added to a Division I team. Not moving games and practices. February 25th is the proposed date for Jasper Day of Wellness.

Campus Life Committee: Senator Lowe

Resident Life has 61% occupancy, slight decrease from 67% in the previous year. Elevated experiences for housing selection in Spring. Four day moving experience, obtained positive

feedback. About 30 movers, updated signage and repaired game rooms in Horan and Lee halls. Can reserve an entire side of a four-person suite for a premium price. Single rooms in Chrysostom and Jasper Hall come with communal bathrooms, so students have the ability to select single rooms in Horan Hall with a bathroom that is shared with two suitemates. Elevates processed in place. Given aggressive goal to residence life for curating a first six-week experience for first year students. One program each night is ideal. Actually, the goal was not just met but exceeded. Examples include game nights, movie nights, etc. A lot of exciting things are going on. Big improvements from last year, which were challenging. Student engagement. Nicole Brosnan was promoted to Director of Student Engagement. 10 orientation leaders volunteered over the summer, doing an exceptional job delivering a fantastic experience. Orientation was a tool to facilitate a great experience, and a complete overhaul of what orientation looks like on campus. Good food and a great time. For welcome weekend, offered neighborhood walking tours, organized Target runs, movie night hosted by Men's basketball team. Women's basketball hosted a brunch event the following day, and took students to Central Park. Intramurals have started. There is a lot of attraction from the students. Manhattan Madness is next week October 23rd and Lessons and Carols will be held on December 7th. The hope is to drive attendance to athletic games. They want to make sure enough people are in the bleachers to support our teams. Madness will build excitement around the teams, as well as better game day signage and better tailgates. Appears the incentives are food and free gifts for the students. On the public safety side, new cameras were installed, Lifevac's, and additional businesses added to Jasper Safe initiative. Continue with ongoing hospitality training. A lot of credit to director of public safety Bill Cook for his job on campus. Safety locks will be installed throughout the university. Event and conference services. Language school on campus. Most condensed weeks. Someone said best execution we have seen. Great compliments on the food. Gourmet Dining received two awards which include residential event award of the year, and outreach award of the year. Cooking classes have been popular, and meal swipes have been introduced at Café 1853. There is a calendar of events to consult the food menu and treats. Currently updating all legacy events. Family weekend was fun and had great spirit. Families had some time to connect with their students and the campus community. New student government executive board and the committee are collaborating closely, especially as it pertains to budgeting. Really proactive and timely communication with the student body. Want to be timelier this year in terms of communicating and selecting dates.

7. Old Business

No old business was discussed by the Manhattan University Senate.

8. New Business

Study abroad enrollment credits issue. Engineering students have a difficult time fulfilling credits when studying abroad.

The Act to establish the joint senate committee vote will be conducted via electronic ballot. The Senate will vote on the proposal, and Senator Berg will consult with the SGA.

Gum Free campus. Gum may be discontinued from being sold in campus vending machines.

Disposable dishware was not a part of the plan. Dishwashing machine is old and broken. It takes

a long time to source parts.

9. Adjourn

The motion to adjourn is approved. The meeting ended at 4:32pm. The next senate meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 18th.