



Tuesday, October 17th, 2023 | 3:30-5:00 pm | **Hayden Hall**, Room 409

Recording: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GbmRug4-cs2nMeStASJrkhWxmxiESREF/view?usp=sharing>

Minutes

1. Roll Call

- a. Present: Speaker Kashifuddin Qazi, Second Deputy Speaker Cory Blad, Senator John Bennett, Senator Ronald Gray, Senator Juanita Pacheco, Senator Michael McEneney, Senator Amanda Sanseverino, Senator Enrico Forti, Senator William Merriman, Senator Qian Wang, Senator Bahareh Estejab, Senator Martha Mendez-Baldwin, Senator Courtney Bryant, Senator Miaomiao Zhang, Senator Amy Handfield, Senator Kevin Nipal, Senator Matthew Schule
- b. Excused: Senator Rani Roy, Senator Jason Weaver, Senator Finn Malone
- c. Absent: Senator Michelle Bell, Senator Syrita Newman, Senator Brian Saul

2. Approval of the Agenda

- a. The agenda was approved.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

- a. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

4. Reading from the “Green Book”

- a. From the “Green Book”, Page 42 “We build too many walls and not enough bridges. - Sir Isaac Newton”

5. Speaker’s Report

- a. Senator Qazi reported that several faculty leaders were in discussions with the President about the various steps to be taken to handle the college’s financial scenario.
- b. All the proposed steps are currently being considered and evaluated by the CFA.

6. Reports from the Standing Committees:

- a. Educational Affairs Committee (EAC): Senator Roy (Sub: Assoc. Provost Kelly Marin)
 - i. The EAC met in the first week of Oct, and there were three topics of discussion.
 - ii. The updated academic calendar has been prepared and will be voted on in the November 7 meeting. Commencement dates have been changed from Wednesday and Friday to Friday and Saturday.
 - iii. The repeat course policy was discussed. It has been proposed to expand the KSoS 2 course repeat policy throughout the college. Dean Marcy had presented data, loss of financial aid, etc. due to students repeating courses more than two times. The

EAC has created some language that specifies that students may enroll in a course at most 3 times, excluding withdrawals. If a student is unsuccessful after that, they cannot enroll in another institution and cannot have the credits transferred. The impact of this rule on advising needs to be considered. Overall, based on the data, the percentage of students passing after the third time is small. The proposal will be voted on in the next meeting. Currently, the EAC representatives are talking to their constituents and collecting feedback.

- iv. Course transparency and assignment grading were discussed. It was reiterated that assignment grades should be provided to students in a timely manner. Student reps pointed out that some faculty are not returning graded work in a timely manner. The EAC suggested adopting less ambiguous policy in the course catalog. The proposal suggests that all assignments and exams should be graded and returned within 3 weeks. The proposal will be voted on in the next meeting.
- v. Senator Forti suggested that the process of advising currently appears very convoluted. He proposed to look at ways to automate most of it. Conversations can be initiated to analyze how it can be made more efficient. It was also pointed out that some students had to check three different websites to figure out their registration needs. This process could be consolidated.

b. Campus Life Committee (CLC): Senator Bennett

- i. Last week the Pipes and Drums group was named the number one band in the St. Patrick's Day parade, selected by NYC committee.
- ii. 82 students from Performing Arts will perform in the upcoming open house.
- iii. The intramurals for volleyball are wrapping up. Many students participated in the intramurals. Data is being gathered to identify metrics of student participation.
- iv. Next week is the largest attendance event, Manhattan Madness. It is scheduled for Thursday at 9 pm in the gym. Over 2000 people (mostly students) are expected to attend the event.

7. Old Business

- a. Student Veterans MTA discounts updates
 - i. Senator Weaver was unavailable for this meeting, and the item was tabled.
- b. Parking issues updates / discussions
 - i. Senator Pacheco discussed with Senator Gray to invite Director of Public Safety, Pete DeCaro for an update on Parking plans and enforcement.

8. New Business

- a. Other?
 - i. Senator Forti suggested that it could be beneficial to have an update on college finances and breakdown by school. For example, what is our customer acquisition cost, historical breakdown, enrolment, etc. This would be useful for all stakeholders, so we can brainstorm ideas and proposals on improving the enrolment and financial health of the college. The CFO can be invited to a senate meeting. Senator Blad mentioned that all department chairs have access to some of the data and they can provide it in the interim. Senator Qazi will reach out to the CFO and invite him to a senate meeting, either in the next meeting or the meeting following that.

9. Adjourn

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.