



SENATE

Tuesday, October 20th, 2020 | 3:30 pm | Google Meet

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Minutes

1. Roll Call

- a. Present: Speaker Amy Handfield, First Deputy Speaker Karen Nicholson, Second Deputy Speaker Eunice Nazar, Secretary Isabel Frazza, Senator Sonny Ago, Senator Richard Satterlee, Senator Steven Schreiner, Senator Tim Ward, Senator Michael McEneney, Senator Min Jung Kim, Senator Jimena Gonzalez Ramirez, Senator William Merriman, Senator Ian Levy, Senator Lina Baroudi, Senator Heidi Furey, Senator Margaret Toth, Senator Angel Pineda, Senator Sarah Wacker, Senator Syrita Newman, Senator Sebastian Deguisto, Senator Luis Garcia, Senator Maura Meed, Senator Alexander Nieves.
- b. Absent: Senator Mohab El-Hakim, Senator Margaret McKiernan (Excused), Senator Xavier Kyle, Senator Michael Rafferty.

2. Approval of the Agenda

- a. Approved by a quorum.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

- a. Approved by a quorum.

4. Reading from the “Green Book”

- a. Page 28: “Union in a community is a precious gem which is why Our Lord so often recommended it to his apostles before he died. If we lose this, we lose everything. Preserve it with care, therefore, if you want your community to survive.” -St. John Baptist de La Salle

5. Speaker’s Report

- a. Speaker Handfield announces that the officers now have access to the social media accounts for the Senate.

6. Reports from the Standing Committees

- a. Educational Affairs Committee (EAC): Senator Schreiner
 - i. Senator Schreiner speaks on the topics of the most recent General Meeting held by the EAC.
 - 1. The equity of In Class Camera Policy was discussed.
 - ii. Senator Schreiner reports on the Special Meeting for the Ad Hoc Committee on the School of Liberal Arts and the School of Science held by the EAC.
 - a. An open forum was held in order to receive testimony from the community.
 - b. The recommendation was made by the committee, with approval from the Provost, to keep the schools as they are.
- b. Campus Life Committee (CLC): Senator Ago
 - i. Senator Ago commends the diversity of the student representation on the committee this term.

- ii. Senator Ago discusses the main topics of the most recent meeting of the CLC.
 - 1. An action plan was developed to address students' concerns of a lack of advertisement of campus events and programs:
 - a. Increased fliers
 - b. Consolidation of information on social media.
 - 2. Concerns were brought up by members of the Diversity Council, in regards to the campus climate:
 - a. Feelings of isolation, particularly in the midst of the pandemic.
 - b. Mentorship for new students on campus.
 - c. A “survival guide” for incoming students to be modeled and introduced.

7. Old Business

- a. No old business was brought up by the senators in attendance.

8. New Business

- a. Library Services Update: Laurin Paradise
 - i. The library building is open for the community for regular hours.
 - ii. The library hours will change after Thanksgiving. It will open at 8:30 am on Sunday and go 24hours through Thursday. Friday the library will close at midnight. Saturday it will be open 12 noon - 8pm. Sunday the building will open at 8:30 am and the schedule starts over again. This new schedule will be effective through final exams.
 - iii. Laurin reminded the group of the resources available on the library's website:

1. Research Tools
2. Interlibrary Loans
3. New Database:
 - a. Scopus, a citation search engine that can be used for research.
- b. COVID-19 Discussion: Transparency and Communications on Campus
 - i. The regularity of cleaning campus facilities
 1. Senator Nazar addresses concerns of students regarding the regularity of cleaning in campus spaces.
 2. Senator Satterlee discusses the creation of a working group to address housekeeping and cleanliness concerns.
 - ii. Spring Semester Academic Calendar changes
 1. Senator Nazar addresses concerns of students regarding the process by which the decision was made to change the academic calendar for the Spring semester.
 2. Senator Schreiner discusses the process by which the decision for the change was made, with feedback from students, faculty, and administration. Senator Schreiner acknowledges the urgent nature of the decision.
 - iii. Senator Gonzalez Ramirez raises concerns about a lack of clarity on who follows up on flags raised through Jasper Connect, and whether these are addressed or closed.

1. Provost Schreiner recommends that those who submit reports follow up with him in an email if they do not receive a response shortly after.

9. Adjourn

- a. Meeting called to an end at 4:20 pm. The next Senate meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17th, 2020.