



SENATE

Tuesday, April 21st, 2020 | 3:30 pm | Online via Google Livestream

Agenda

1. Roll Call
 - a. Present: Speaker Caroline Shea, First Deputy Speaker Gerardo Carfagno, Second Deputy Speaker Tim Ward, Secretary Parveen Rampersaud, Senator Sonny Ago, Senator William Clyde, Senator Richard Satterlee, Senator Karen Nicholson, Senator Jimena Gonzalez Ramirez, Senator Fengyun Wu, Senator Ian Levy, Senator William Merriman, Senator Mohab El-Hakim, Senator Mehdi Omidvar, Senator Amy Handfield, Senator Danielle Young, Senator Heidi Furey, Senator Angel Pineda, Senator Syrita Newman, Senator Isabel Quiñones, and Senator Giuliana DeLuca.
Presenters: President O'Donnell and Vice of Finance/CFO McManness
 - b. Absent: Senator Michael McEneney, Senator Sebastian DeGuisto, Senator Sedraya Fletcher, and Senator Jillian Beckerle, Senator Margaret McKiernan, Senator Xavier Kyle, and Senator Luis Garcia.
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 106: "The measure of a country's greatness is its ability to retain compassion in times of crisis." - Thurgood Marshall, Former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States

5. Speaker's Report

- a. Speaker Shea wished everyone well and for everyone being flexible with an online meeting.
- b. Speaker Shea welcomed the Senators, President O'Donnell, and Vice of Finance/CFO McManness for attending, along with all 168 people on the Livestream. She also urged any questions to be sent to the Senate email, collegesenate@manhattan.edu, during the meeting so she could ask the speakers.
- c. Speaker Shea expressed her gratitude for all senators who played a role in making the Period Project possible on campus.
- d. Speaker Shea expressed sadness and pride in this being her last full meeting as Speaker because she is a graduating senior but was extremely honored to serve this year.
- e. Next meeting is the 2020-2021 Election meeting on Wednesday, April 29 at 12:00 pm via Google Meet/Livestream. The meeting today is being recorded and will be posted onto our Moodle page for people who could not attend.

6. Reports from the Standing Committees

- a. Educational Affairs Committee (EAC)
 - i. Senator Clyde spoke on three changes that occurred:
 1. Pass/fail system was addressed. Passed by the EAC at the end of March. It allows students to have their grades represented through a letter grade system or a pass/fail per course.
 - a. Students have until June 1st, 2020 to choose between either the letter grade system or the pass/fail system.
 - b. Graduating seniors have until May 15th, 2020 to decide between pass/fail or the letter grade system.
Diplomas will be mailed after May 15th, 2020.
 2. There is now a policy that protects students from having more than 2 exams in one day. This policy was sent to the faculty.

3. The grade replacement policy was approved in November 2018. A slight revision was made in April 2020. It can be used by someone who got a failing grade because if they get a 1-point policy. A person with a 2-point policy cannot use this policy.

b. Campus Life Committee (CLC)

- i. Senator Ago spoke on CLC's commitment to enhancing student life despite not being on campus.
- ii. There are remote fitness opportunities that the CLC promotes along with other remote events listed on the student engagement page.

7. New Business

a. Report from President Brennan O'Donnell

- i. How COVID-19 is affecting the Jasper community.
 1. We lost alumni and retired employees thus far. A lot of people are in vulnerable situations and grieving. We need to acknowledge the loss of our academic community in a physical place.
 2. We are missing our co-curricular activities and we are doing our best to remotely make it happen. President O'Donnell expressed his empathy for the athletes who did not have a chance to play this season yet worked so hard. The graduating seniors and the loss of a ceremony to celebrate achievement. However, it is only a postpone, those students will be celebrated.
 3. We should be proud of the way we responded to the pandemic. The Center for Academic Success (CAS) is still working to provide opportunities for students as well as the health center. The Quad newspaper continues to publish which provides a sense of vibrancy.
- ii. Provost announcement

1. Steven Schreiner, Ph.D., P.E. from The College of New Jersey, where he has served as Dean of the School of Engineering since 2008. This will be effective July 6, 2020.
2. President O'Donnell expressed thanks to the search committee which was chaired by Senator Ward.

iii. College strategic plan update

1. Moving on to the third phase.
2. The annual goals continue to go forward.
3. Leaders across campus have been working hard to put forward their goals.
4. An email will be provided to the community, providing insight on documents he looks at regarding strategic planning.
5. Accepted student's day online is crucial to our recruitment during this time. There have been two thus far on April 15 and April 19 with the final one on April 22, 2020.
6. The Higgins project is 95% complete
 - a. It is currently on pause due to COVID-19

iv. Finances

1. Refunding residents for room and board is occurring.
2. There were additional expenses with moving to online courses.
3. We had a good year in advancement. Our alumni continue to support us and are stepping up to fundraise and help students in distress.
4. We are still looking at a deficit this year of 7% of our 160-million-dollar budget.

b. Report from Vice President of Finance & Chief Financial Officer Matthew McManness

- i. Emergency funds to distribute to students via money from the federal government. We will be providing refunds individually because everyone's situation is different.

- ii. For work-study students, they have students still working remotely. For those who cannot, they will continue to pay student employees through August.
- iii. Right now, they are still addressing issues such as parking and other curriculum fees for partial reimbursement.
- iv. In summer school we are going fully online. We hope to maintain our revenues. We generate about 6 million in the summer, there will be a loss.
 - 1. Senator Clyde noted that the College is discounting undergraduate summer courses.
- v. Students who come from Italy over the summer are still trying to come in the summer depending advice from the government.
 - 1. We lost \$450,000 in conference money.
- vi. We are trying to minimize our deficit. We now clean rooms and lock them, so they are ready for the next day.
- vii. Our property insurance is rising as well as medical insurance.
- viii. The month of May is big for developing our budget. Scenarios are taken into consideration to further prepare us for any positive or negative changes we should expect next year. Between the Leo and Higgins project, they are a \$92 million budget.
- ix. We are trying to keep all employees until the end of the fiscal year by re-assignment. June 30th, 2020 is the end of our fiscal year.

8. Topics from the Senate membership

- a. No topics were raised by the Senators in attendance.

9. Adjourn

- a. Meeting called to an end at 4:50 pm. The next Senate meeting will be on Wednesday, April 29, 2020, at 12:00 pm with a Google Meet/Livestream link which will be sent.