



The Catholic University of America Student Government Association 2022-2023 Senate Session 8-10

February 27, 2023
8:15 p.m. – 10:15 p.m. EST

ROLL CALL

Vice President - Maevis Fahey

Secretaries – Gary Van Pelt and
Natalie Zentz

Parliamentarian - Jon Norman

Class of 2023

Curtis Bommer X
Matthew Drauschak X

Class of 2024

Jamie Besendorfer X
Matthew Michels X

Class of 2025

Neil D'Attelo X
Ashley Martin X

Class of 2026

Michael Kish X
Bennett Bert X

School of Architecture

Hess Djilioni X
Marisol Zayas X

School of Arts and Sciences

Jordan Gehrig X
Jack Kruger X

School of Business

Ryan Downing X
Samantha Phillips X

School of Engineering

Luke Bubel X
Allison Ewing X

School of Music, Drama, and Art

Anthony Curioso X
Daniel Campbell A

School of Nursing

Cristian Henriquez X
Olivia Musick X

School of Philosophy

Liam Foley X
Charlie Tamayo X

School of Social Service

Michael McCarthy X
Frances Noory X

School of Theology

Ryan Corey X
Andrea Suarez A

Key:

X- Here, A- Absent

CALL TO ORDER -- ROLL CALL **8:15 PM**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE **8:16 PM**

PRAYER **8:17 PM**

Senator Drauschak opens up in prayer with a Hail Mary.

1. Public Comment **8:18 PM**

Matthew Blomgren, a freshman accounting major and Treasury Board director, encourages the senators to pass the Treasury Board Bylaws. He says they worked hard on them, and the changes are great for the future.

Joseph Accardi, SGA Chief of Staff, raises on behalf of President Crnkovich and says he could not attend the meeting tonight because it was his brother's confirmation. He says that Tony has been in contact with administrators regarding Res 025, he says they are looking into the solar panels and making sure the resolution is enacted. Also, he says in regards to Res 028, administrators walked through campus and found multiple locations where the interfaith chapel can go. Also, he says in regard to Res 026, he met with Dean Mayer and she is open to creating a committee and looking for students for it. Finally, Tony thanks Karla Martinez-Victoria for her and Treasury Board's hard work on clarifying the bylaws. He says he the changes are a great way to empower all clubs to utilize Treasury board.

2. Adoption of Agenda **8:24 PM**

Motion to adopt the agenda by Senator Bommer and seconded by Senator Kish

Vote on adoption itself → Adoption passes

3. Approval of Minutes **8:24 PM**

Motion to approve by Senator Besendorfer and seconded by Senator Corey

Vote on approval of meeting minutes for Senate 8-9 → Approval Passes

4. Senate Speaker **8:25 PM**

A. Mr. Bill Jonas, Assistant Vice President of University Events and Dining Services

Motion to suspend the rules by Senator Gehrig and seconded by Senator Kruger

Vote on suspension of the rules → Suspension Passes

Mr. Jonas begins by complimenting everyone in the senate for running a tight ship and keeping things rolling. He thanks everyone for having him and says he has been at the university for over 20 years. He says that all of the Events and Dining Services staff want students to succeed and their ideas to be approved. At times, things may seem to be difficult, but they really want you guys

to get what you want and need. He says there are two factors that cause problems. One, the institution moves slowly, and two, students are only here for a short period of time. He says all students want to feel like they have done something and leave their mark. His staff wants you all to be able to do that also, but this is just the nature of higher education and the real world. He encourages the senators to try and find the easy whim things that aren't controversial and are achievable. Items that are common sense and haven't been necessarily thought about because we all fall into habits.

Mr. Jonas says that these ideas don't always have to be formal, sometimes all it takes is to talk with him or another one of his colleagues and see if it's possible. He gives an example from about 19 years ago when the president of student government came to his office and said they have a great idea. The president said they wanted to bring Dave Matthews to Cua and had worked on the idea for three weeks. Mr. Jonas quickly told him there was no way that would be possible. He says that if the president came earlier to him, he would have known this was not feasible. The administrators have learned a great deal and know if something is going to work or not. He says that even when they say no, that doesn't mean they want the answer to be a no, but that is just how it works. Also, they can't always explain why they can't, so he can understand their frustrations sometimes. He commends the senate on being very professional and moving away from the past when SGA used to compete with Program Board. He says what they are doing is great and everyone is learning a lot.

Next, he says the Pryz is going to be in disarray for the next couple of years. They will be working on changing the previous The Eatery into offices, also adding the post office and bookstore to the first level. They want to further activate the east side of the Pryz by adding benches and chairs on the sidewalk, as more traffic will be coming from Garvey Hall past the Pryz. He says he has talked to Tony and Maevis about tabling at Garvey Hall and how that can work. Also, he says one idea he hopes to see eventually is to add a stage on the west side of the Pryz on the grass.

Senator Curioso asks how will navigation be impacted by the construction in the Pryz.

Mr. Jonas responds that this is a great question. He says the upper floor will mostly just be noise and no walking issues. He says the bookstore and post office will be done in phases, so the market, stairs, and elevator will always be accessible. On the second level, they will be moving OCA, CCE, DSS, and Housing Services there, and are considering moving the Info Desk up front by the railing and stairs.

Senator Foley asks what his biggest hope for the future of the Pryz is.

Mr. Jonas jokes that he wanted a bridge from the Pryz to Garvey, but that didn't happen. He says that if they achieve the goals President Kilpatrick wants, then they may need new spaces and the future recreation center will help with this. He says they could have foldable glass doors by the Pryz food court, so people can walk in and out. He says they haven't thought much beyond the current projects, but says there is a plan somewhere to remove the Caldwell parking lot, which will give them new space and ideas.

Senator Martin asks if they make the parking lot a green space, where will people park.

Mr. Jonas responds the parking garage underneath the lawn has 500 spaces and has never been full. He says the District of Columbia wants the university to show how they are going to reduce their carbon footprint, so the district does not want them creating new parking spaces and even

getting rid of the ones they have now. He says at the DuFour Center they want to elevate the tennis courts and add an underground parking garage. Mr. Jonas says that above ground lots are bad for the district, so parking is a challenge.

Senator Kish asks what the timeline is for building The Nest.

Mr. Jonas responds The Nest will hopefully open next year in July or in August before school starts. He says it could switch to the spring semester of the following year. He concludes by thanking everyone for having him and says his door is always open and everyone is welcome.

5. Senate Bylaws - Treasurer Martinez-Victoria

8:35 PM

- A. Table of Contents: Retroactive Funding
- B. Article I: General Provisions, Section 3
- C. Article III: Annual Allocations, Section 2
- D. Article IV: Allocation Process, Section 2
- E. Article V: Guidelines for Use of the Student Activity Fee, Sections 4, 7, 12, 14, 15, 16
- F. Article VII: Amendments, Section 1

Vice President Fahey thanks Karla and the Treasury Board for their hard work. She says Karla will be upfront to answer any questions that may arise.

Executive Treasurer Karla Martinez-Victoria apologizes for her voice and asks for patience in dealing with it. She thanks all the senators for looking over the bylaws and letting her join different committees to discuss them.

Motion to above the Treasury Board Bylaws by Senator Gehrig and seconded by Senator Besendorfer

Vote on approval of Bylaws itself → Approval passes with 24 yay's

Yay's: Bommer, Drauschak, Besendorfer, Michels, D'Attelo, Martin, Kish, Bert, Djilioni, Zayas, Gehrig, Kruger, Downing, Phillips, Bubel, Ewing, Curioso, Henriquez, Musick, Foley, Tamayo, McCarthy, Noory, Corey

Motion to restore the rules by Senator Kish and seconded by Senator Corey

Vote on restoring the rules → Passes

6. New Business

A. Committee Chair Updates

8:40 PM

- i. Senator Besendorfer, Rules and Administration

Senator Besendorfer thanks Vice President Fahey and says her committee has no major updates.

She thanks Karla and the Treasury Board for their hard work.

ii. Senator Gehrig, Academic Affairs

Senator Gehrig thanks Vice President Fahey and says she has no major updates. Senator Noory and Senator McCarthy are working on a resolution to count ASL for the language requirement. Senator Downing is working on extending the hours at the Kane Center. She is working on pamphlets for DSS. Senator Djilioni is working on a laundry resolution.

iii. Senator Martin, University Services

Senator Martin thanks Vice President Fahey and says there are no big updates. Senator McCarthy is working on an ASL resolution. Senator Zayas is working on her theology resolution. She thanks everyone who sent in a statement for those double majoring in the school of arts and sciences, Dean Smith is having a meeting tomorrow about this.

iv. Senator Michels, Student Resources

Senator Michels thanks Vice President Fahey and thanks Karla for stopping by at their committee meeting to go over the new bylaws. He says he is excited to have Senator Bommer's resolution on tracking sheets, and thanks their research assistant for an excellent report on it.

v. Senator Drauschak, Campus Life

Senator Drauschak thanks Vice President Fahey and says his committee has no major updates. He says Res 030 is hitting the floor tonight, previously it was sent back to committee and is now back with changes.

B. Senator Bommer, Class of 2023 (Resolution 029)

8:50 PM

i. A Resolution to Encourage the Use of Tracking Sheets for Academic Planning

Senator Bommer begins by thanking Maevis and his co-sponsors. He says he wants all to imagine being a senior and looking forward to graduation. You apply for graduation and see that you did not take a required class, the AP classes did not transfer. With no time left, you realize you can't graduate.

He says they're voting on an ancient form of technology to make sure this does not happen, it'll provide swift and easy access to make sure you're staying on track. Today's tracking sheet system is outdated and his advisor uses an old tracking sheet, many students had a CACS advisor who gave them wrong information. He says these sheets are the resolution to this problem. It will allow students to see everything planned out at once. He says courses won't be falsely recommended if this system is replanned and revamped. He says we need to let departments know how and why they should update their sheets. Many departments and schools including liberal arts schools does not use these. He envisions advisors to reemphasize grandfathering policies when things are added or removed.

Senator Drauschack says this happened to him; he feels very strongly about it and it is easily avoidable but prevalent to many students.

Senator Curioso thanks them and says he has a question, he says they'll be ending many majors here in the future like music. What impact will this have on majors that will be ending?

Senator Bommer says there will be tracking sheets on all majors, all majors will be advocated for, but they won't be used when the major is phased out

Senator Michels says he is in support and says the deans are responsive to this and they are doing a lot of work after being sidetracked by covid. He says German majors will be the last 4 here.

Senator Martin says she is in full support, the whereas clause says many other schools have these, will you copy those, which one will you use as format?

Senator Bommer says the Busch schools is replicated from many universities that he was able to see from the research assistant Breda Brosey, he says something along those lines would be much better

Senator Musick says Senator Bommer has worked on this for a very very long time, she is fully in support and there's no reason they shouldn't vote for this. She says the nursing school was just given these and it's very helpful, she'd be lost without it, she said she encourages everyone to use them.

Senator Bubel says he is in full support, in the school of engineering, it is very helpful to have this. He supports it.

Senator Foley says there's not much more to be said. He asks what a dual-tracking sheet is.

Senator Bommer says it is a two-part sheet where one shows major requirements and the other shows liberal arts requirements.

Senator Besendorfer says she is in support of this, and she asks if they have thought about tracking sheets for students who will have two majors in two schools.

Senator Bommer says this did come up with Dean Mayer. The two tracking sheets would be warped and they would figure out a path for the student to take.

Motion to vote by Senator D'Attelo and seconded by Senator Corey

Vote on Resolution 029 → vote passes with 24 yay's

Yay's: Bommer, Drauschak, Besendorfer, Michels, D'Attelo, Martin, Kish, Bert, Djilioni, Zayas, Gehrig, Kruger, Downing, Phillips, Bubel, Ewing, Curioso, Henriquez, Musick, Foley, Tamayo, McCarthy, Noory, Corey

C. Senator Drauschak, Class of 2023 (Resolution 030)

9:02 PM

i. A Resolution to Expand Epi-Pen Access

Senator Drauschak says this simplifies the past resolution 22 and he met with Kirk Mclean and DPS is very open to training and carrying it, they just have to be certified. If that training is able to be completed, they will do that, which is what this resolution will call for. He says this could

be life saving

Senator Musick says she was very vocal about her distaste for this resolution last year, she believes this is the perfect halfway point between carrying the drug while staying safe, happy and healthy. She says once they are certified, hopefully they can save some lives. She says she feels this is now, in its format, a very good idea. She says it has the nursing school's stamp of approval.

Senator Curioso says Senator Drauschack is presenting now because his original resolution was very ambitious. He says after Drauschack met with Kirk Mclean and he met with Maevis he felt this would be best.

Senator Kish says it is good to see this come back. He asks when DPS officers will be certified, if they have a timeline. Will it be this year or next year?

Senator Drauschack says he is unsure, and it just comes down to advocacy. He hopes for it to be implemented in the fall.

Senator Musick says it is a very quick training that takes a couple hours.

Motion to vote by Senator Zayas and seconded by Senator Kish

Vote on Resolution 030 → vote passes with 24 yay's

Yay's: Bommer, Drauschak, Besendorfer, Michels, D'Attelo, Martin, Kish, Bert, Djilioni, Zayas, Gehrig, Kruger, Downing, Phillips, Bubel, Ewing, Curioso, Henriquez, Musick, Foley, Tamayo, McCarthy, Noory, Corey

7. Vice President, SGA Updates

9:10 PM

Vice President Fahey hopes all are doing well before spring break and during midterms. She thanks treasurer Karla Martinez-Victoria and she is thankful to see the swift passage of the bylaws tonight. She thanks them for all their hard work. Committee meetings will happen on non senate Mondays in McGivney auditorium and that will be used for the three remaining committee meetings. The Monday they come back from spring break will be the next one. She says she hopes all have a great spring break, and she encourages all to continue reaching out to her.

8. Open Floor

9:12 PM

Senator Musick says she sent out a bill that many people have thoughts about, she says if anyone has any thoughts, she encourages all to reach out and is looking for feedback.

Senator Zayas says for her theology resolution, she wants to explain that it is an extension of opportunity. If students are only required to take two theologies, please reach out

Senator Drauschack says Brookland Arts Project will be March 13th, anyone who wants to volunteer please reach out. He says he will provide a timeline, and thanks all in advance

9. Adjournment

9:15 PM

Motion to adjourn by Senator Martin and seconded by Senator D'Attelo

Vote on meeting adjournment → Passes

Meeting adjourned