



**The Catholic University of  
America Student Government  
Association 2023-2024 Senate Session  
9-1**

October 2, 2022  
8:15 p.m. – 10:15 p.m. EST

**ROLL CALL**

**Vice President** - Alex Harvey

**Secretaries**

Catherine Weatherwax and

Santiago Quiros

**Parliamentarian** - Matthew Cutrona

**Class of 2024**

Anthony Arreaga-Cacao   X  

Matthew Michels   X  

**Class of 2025**

Neil D'Attelo   X  

Jeffrey Lance   X  

**Class of 2026**

Bennett Bert   X  

Michael Kish   X  

**Class of 2027**

Jack Hermes   X  

Clare Tong   X  

**School of Architecture**

Elisabeth D'Albero   X  

**School of Arts and Sciences**

Correy Crawford   X  

Jordan Gehrig   X  

**School of Business**

David Fritz   X  

Max Morris   X  

**School of Engineering**

Allison Ewing   X  

Maria Hargrave   X  

**School of Music, Drama, and Art**

Anthony Graf   X  

Kyle Holcomb   X  

**School of Nursing**

Whitney Paulson   X  

Mary Grace Raddell   X  

**School of Philosophy**

Kolbe Tucker   X  

**School of Theology**

Ryan Corey   X  

Andrea Suarez   X  

**Key:** X- Here, A- Absent

**NOTE:** Below is an agenda of all items scheduled to be considered for the present meeting. Notification is hereby provided that items on the agenda may be taken out of the order presented, two or more agenda items may be combined for consideration, and an agenda item may be removed from the agenda or discussion relating to an item on the agenda may be delayed at any time at the discretion of the presiding officer.

Any legislation or business being presented has been provided to the Vice President at least 48 hours prior to tonight's meeting and to all other members of the Senate at least 24 hours prior to tonight's meeting. The Vice President reserves the right to postpone debate of legislation based on the time constraints of the Senate meeting

## **CALL TO ORDER -- ROLL CALL 8:15 PM PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE 8:16 PM**

**PRAYER 8:17 PM** Senator Suarez opens in prayer with St. Michael the Archangel's prayer.

### **1. Public Comment 8:20 PM**

A. Public comment will be taken at the start of the session. Comments will be limited to one minute per person. Persons making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record, and if applicable naming the college or organization they represent. In accordance with Senate bylaws, the Vice President may prohibit comment if the content of that comment is a topic that is not relevant to, or within the authority of this body, or if the content is willfully disruptive of the meeting, irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, inflammatory, irrational or amounting to personal attacks or interfering with the rights of other speakers.

1. **Vice-President Harvey** reads the bylaws for Senators to be able to speak during public comment.

**Franny Noory**, Sophomore majoring in Social Work, Executive Initiatives Director expresses her excitement for the first meeting and this year's Senate.

**Anthony Curioso**, Sophomore Music Major shares compelling ideas of DSS helping to reach out, adding support and accommodations, for disabilities services. He ends in support of Resolution 001, sponsored by Senator Kish.

**Sean Scully**, Junior Philosophy Major and SGA Treasurer stands in support of Alan Nicholas, Treasury Board Director from the Class of 2027. He welcomes all new senators and looks forward to working with them.

**Alan Nicholas**, Business Exploratory Major, is honored to be nominated to the Treasury Board, eager to represent the Class of 2027 and support the community. Appreciates all the support given to him.

**Michael Ellison**, Junior Philosophy Major and Co-Director of the Executive Wellness Initiative offers services, excited to work with the Senate in part of his initiative as an important resource.

**Matthew Blombord** pledges support for Alan Nicholas to carry on the freshman legacy as Treasury Board Director, and welcomes the new freshman class senators.

**Abby Dawe**, Sophomore Politics Major in representation of the Title IX Task Force shares her support for all students.

**Cameron Williams**, Junior and Director of Environmental Executive Initiative, introduces himself offering support to the new Senate.

**Ann Laurent**, Director of Executive Diversity and Inclusion Initiative, presents herself in support of her cause.

**Joe Sypal**, Research Director, shares support for all members of the Senate, stating that the Research team is available for assistance.

**Anthony Ozog**, Research Associate, rises to express his excitement about the upcoming year.

**Gary Van Pelt**, Sophomore Politics Major from the Research Committee presents himself and shares his support for the Senate.

**Luke Bubel**, Assistant Director of Catholic Values Executive Initiative talks about faith life on campus. If anyone has any questions they can reach out.

**Tim Nigro**, Director of Catholic Values Executive Initiative rises to say The Catholic Values Initiative is here to help out, collaborate with the Senate, and listen to ideas.

**Kathleen Polking**, SGA Secretary, states her openness for any cause the Senate wants to advertise.

**SGA President Maevis Fahey** shares excitement and is proud of Vice President Harvey as well as Alan Nicolas. She thanks all SGA members for coming to Orientation. She looks to appoint the remaining seats needed to the Senate. She invites all on October 23rd to come to a talk to be given by an FBI Agent. Those are all the updates for now as soon will be given later. She wishes the Senate good luck!

**2. Swearing in of Senators 8:25 PM Vice President Harvey swears in all Senators.**

All Senators stand up and say the pledge:

“I (state your name) do solemnly swear to execute the duties of the office of the Senate, and I will abide by the governing documents of the Student Government Association in order to promote the interests and welfare of the undergraduate students of the Catholic University of America.”

All Senators are now officially sworn in for the 2023-2024 academic year.

**3. Adoption of Agenda 8:27 PM**

Motion to Adopt by **Senator Kish**, seconded by **Senator Suarez**.

Voice vote is carried out. Result is unanimous to pass. The agenda is adopted.

**4. Vice Presidential Address 8:28 PM Vice President Harvey delivers the Vice Presidential Address.**

“Good evening everyone and welcome to Senate 9. A warm welcome to our fourteen new senators, and a welcome back to our returning senators as well.

I was reflecting on what I should say in my address, and my thoughts ultimately boiled down to this. If there is one thing I request of each and every one of you it is this: every time you step into this room, remember your mission and purpose as a senator at this school. It is easy for each of us to get wrapped up in the grandeur of an elected position or even the internal politics of our own campus- I’m a politics major like many of you- the temptation is very easy. But I believe that the majority of us in this room believe that our role is meaningful and purposeful. And there is a lot of good to be accomplished this year.

There has been a lot of positive change across our campus over the past couple of years. Over the past two years, our university has welcomed a new President, a new Chaplain in Campus Ministry, and most recently, a new Athletics Director. With new leadership, the campus has seen many fabulous developments with multiple building projects underway, a newly completed dining facility, the redesigning of the Pryzbyla Center, and the development of a Nursing Building which will hopefully be completed in a matter of months. In addition to these positive developments, the campus has also undergone recent struggles with a tragic incident occurring on our campus this summer. Despite these incidents, DPS under the leadership of Major McClean has taken active steps to ensure the safety of our students is a top priority.

And as our campus continues to grow and change this year and the next, it becomes our responsibility to keep our ear to the student body. Whether you see a need in our residence halls, transportation, academics, dining, or athletics, this is an opportunity for you all to be proactive in developing solutions to better the lives of our students.

And finally, I encourage you to work alongside your fellow senators to accomplish these goals- there are few life skills more important than the ability to compromise, dialogue, and serve alongside others. I encourage you to set realistic expectations for yourselves this year- do not think you have to develop the resolution of the year. Often, the best of resolutions are not earth-shattering ideas but are simple, creative solutions that will benefit our campus community even if others do not take notice. Yesterday, it was the feast day of St. Therese of Lisieux, the Little Flower. She reminds each of us that, "Nothing is insignificant in the eyes of God." And this remains true for each of us, so remain focused on the tasks at hand. So work hard, treat others with respect, seek feedback, and serve with humility at all times. There is little else I could emphasize.

Now, a few practical things that will affect you all:

Note passing is an acceptable practice, but I ask that you keep it to only essential communication. There will be opportunities to hear from administrative officials throughout the semester ahead- this was a practice instituted by President Fahey last year, and one that I plan to continue this year. We will have our first senate speaker at the following meeting on October 23rd. Please feel free to communicate with me on any matter- I encourage senators to be honest and upfront with me about anything related to legislation, meetings, and procedure.

To close, I look forward to getting to know many of you better, and I hope to encourage you in your various pursuits throughout this year. Thank you and welcome again!"

## 5. New Business

### A. Confirmation of Treasury Board Appointment 8:34 PM

#### I. Alan Nicolas, Freshman Director

Vice President Harvey gives a short introduction.

Motion to vote from Senator Holcomb, seconded by Senator Corey.

Vote passes with 22 yays to confirm Alan Nicolas as new Treasury Board Director.

Sean Scully, SGA Treasurer, is recognized and congratulates the new appointee.

### B. Committee Chair Nominations and Elections 8:45 PM

#### i. President pro tempore, Committee on Rules and Administration

Senator Kish nominates Senator Michels, describing his school spirit and participation in the Admissions Team and encouraging his election.

Motion to vote by Senator Gehrig and seconded by Senator Holcomb

Vote on the election→ vote passes with 22 yay's

Senator Michels is officially elected as the President Pro Tempore

Yay's: Arreaga-Cacao, Michels, D'Attelo, Lance, Bert, Kish, Hermes, Tong, D'Albero, Crawford, Gehrig, Fritz, Morris, Ewing, Hargrave, Graf, Holcomb, Paulson, Raddell, Tucker, Corey, Suarez

#### ii. Chair of the Committee on Academic Affairs

Senator Ewing nominates Senator Gehrig, citing her leadership, organization, and communication skills as seen in her role in the Senate last year.

Motion to vote by Senator Michels and seconded by Senator Corey

Vote on the election→ vote passes with 22 yay's

Senator Gehrig is officially elected as the Chair of the Committee on Academic Affairs

Yay's: Arreaga-Cacao, Michels, D'Attelo, Lance, Bert, Kish, Hermes, Tong, D'Albero, Crawford, Gehrig, Fritz, Morris, Ewing, Hargrave, Graf, Holcomb, Paulson, Raddell, Tucker, Corey, Suarez

### iii. Chair of the Committee on University Services

**Senator Michels** nominates **Senator Kish**, saying he has a fiery passion for problem solving.

Motion to vote by **Senator Suarez** and seconded by **Senator Raddell**

Vote on the election→ vote passes with 22 yay's

**Senator Kish** is officially elected as the Chair of the Committee on University Services

Yay's: Arreaga-Cacao, Michels, D'Attelo, Lance, Bert, Kish, Hermes, Tong, D'Albero, Crawford, Gehrig, Fritz, Morris, Ewing, Hargrave, Graf, Holcomb, Paulson, Raddell, Tucker, Corey, Suarez

### iv. Chair of the Committee on Student Resources

**Senator Gehrig** nominates **Senator Ewing**, saying she has witnessed her growth over the past year as Senator Ewing has improved her time management skills as well as worked to improve dining services. She says that Senator Ewing is a determined, well loved student leader.

Motion to vote by **Senator Michels** and seconded by **Senator Paulson**

Vote on the election→ vote passes with 22 yay's

Senator Ewing is officially elected as the Chair of the Committee on Student Resources

Yay's: Arreaga-Cacao, Michels, D'Attelo, Lance, Bert, Kish, Hermes, Tong, D'Albero, Crawford, Gehrig, Fritz, Morris, Ewing, Hargrave, Graf, Holcomb, Paulson, Raddell, Tucker, Corey, Suarez

### v. Chair of the Committee on Campus Life

**Senator Michels** nominates Senator Holcomb, citing his passionate work to get new furniture on the Pryzbyla Center patio.

**Senator Lance** nominates Senator Corey, describing his dedication to campus life through his participation in activities.

Motion to debate by **Senator Michels** and seconded by **Senator Ewing**

Vote on debate→ vote passes with 21 yay's and 1 nay

Yay's: Arreaga-Cacao, Michels, D'Attelo, Lance, Bert, Kish, Hermes, Tong, D'Albero, Crawford, Gehrig, Fritz, Ewing, Hargrave, Graf, Holcomb, Paulson, Raddell, Tucker, Corey, Suarez

Nay's: Morris

**Senator Gehrig** rises to endorse Senator Holcomb, saying he is the ideal choice due to his passion and dedication.

**Senator Suarez** rises to endorse Senator Corey, saying he is active on campus and involved with campus ministry, and he is an amazing communicator.

**Senator Crawford** rises to endorse Senator Holcomb due to his dedication to campus life.

**Senator Paulson** rises to endorse Senator Holcomb saying he is very dedicated and would do a great job in the position.

**Senator Kish** rises to endorse Senator Corey saying he is an excellent representative of campus life and that he is very passionate.

**Senator Michels** rises to endorse Senator Holcomb, citing his seniority as a senator despite his recent semester abroad.

Motion to vote by **Senator Ewing** and seconded by **Senator Suarez**

Vote on election→

**Holcomb: 9**

Michels, D'Albero, Gerhig, Crawford, Ewing, Hargrave, Graf, Holcomb, Paulson

**Corey: 13**

Arreaga-Cacao, Lance, D'Attelo, Kish, Bert, Tong, Hermes, Morris, Fritz, Raddell, Tucker, Corey, Suarez

**Senator Corey** is officially elected as the Chair of the Committee on Campus Life.

**C. Senator Michael Kish, Class of 2026 (Resolution 001) 8:54 PM**

i. A Resolution to Show Support for Traditional Liturgy

**Vice President Harvey** reads Resolution 001.

**Senator Kish** is recognized to go to the podium and give his speech.

“President Harvey, esteemed Senators, and honored members of the gallery, I’d like to begin by thanking all of you for being here tonight. It is no light undertaking to make posters, give speeches, shake down strangers for votes, and work for an uncertain undertaking, which carries with it two possible consequences: either you are fortunate, and you are not elected, which means you have free Monday nights and carry neither shame nor burden of expectation, or you are elected, which is both sentence and reward.



If you are sitting as a Senator tonight, you are subject to grave expectations: You are expected to collaborate, expected to produce beneficial legislation; and you are *required* to retain the virtue of humility. This is an element of leadership that is as critical as it is exceptionally difficult. Now, I know what you're thinking: Senator Kish, *you* struggle with humility? I know this will shock many of you, but the answer is, well, yes. Before I continue to the action, I would just like to ask everyone in this room to keep all of SGA in their prayers, that they may undertake their duties with the courage and cunning of St. Joan of Arc, but with the humility, fidelity, and good humor of the Little Flower, St. Therese of Lisieux.

On to the real deal- thank you for indulging me. The legislation you have before you is one particularly close to my heart for many reasons, but mostly because I took Latin in high school and I don't want to forget it. As noted in my second 'whereas' clause, President Kilpatrick expressed an interest for the Latin Novus Ordo to appear on campus. I, along with many others, have long desired to have an available Mass in this fashion on Campus. There are three major reasons why I advocate for this now.

First, because it is a beautiful form of the Mass. We Catholics attend the Novus Ordo every Sunday, and are often familiar with its rhythm, style, and structure. The fact that many Catholics on this campus have been doing this for so long means in some ways we've gotten too used to it. This is a traditional, historical, and reverent way to celebrate a familiar Mass in the same language that it has been celebrated in for millennia.

Second, because Pope Leo XIII told us to. When the Catholic University was established in 1887, he asked us to retain and propagate the sound doctrine of the Church. The Latin Novus Ordo is fully approved by Pope Francis, as well as Cardinal Gregory on behalf of the Archdiocese of Washington.

Third, because it bridges a gap. Not everybody is fully comfortable going to a Tridentine Latin Mass, in the same way that not everybody is fully comfortable going to an English Novus Ordo Mass. We want to create a middle ground between these two options so that all will be able to become comfortable with the language's usage in the Mass, supplemented by familiar forms and faces celebrating it.

I have met with Fr. Bernard, and corresponded with Fr. Aquinas. Both have approved this Mass on campus. Since SGA has literally no power over Campus Ministry... among other things... I have structured this resolution to be simply 'in support' of this addition. While no official date or frequency has been set, Campus Ministry is happy to involve a Latin Novus Ordo on campus, alongside student support, which I hope to provide.

Thank you for considering this resolution, and I hope you all will support this wonderful exercise of our first amendment rights."

- End of **Senator Kish's** speech

**Senator Paulson** rises to ask about the lack of clarity. She asks what the resolution is supporting and suggests an amendment, claiming the interpretation is interesting.

**Senator Kish** says that the Novus Ordo is complicated and the resolution does not need to be specific. He emphasizes that the intention of the resolution is to support what the students want, which is to preserve tradition.

**Senator Paulson** says it's interesting that he left out specific language.

**Senator Kish** claims it is not pertinent and that it has to do with those in administration.

**Senator Suarez** says thank you for bringing this resolution to the table. She offers her full support and asks if the intention is to offer traditional Latin Mass, why not full Latin Mass? She also asks why not other languages, and if there will be language guidance for students during the Mass.

**Senator Kish** points out that the Archbishop has called for more inclusive liturgy, an issue that is beyond the committee. He proposes that we could practice other languages as well having an Italian, Spanish, or Universal Mass. We should use the same missiles because they contain the same prayers of Novus Ordo, making it easier to follow the full latin mass in this way.

**Senator Michels** exclaims that all masses are a little different. He reminds the committee that the Domicans on campus speak latin. Who better to give latin mass? The Senator ends by asking how many masses would be like this, what are the divisions?

**Senator Kish** says that it is up to the acting preacher to decide the different elements and divisions of a latin mass. He explains how it is really not that different, just different ways of preserving language, tradition, and emotion in mass. Not every mass on campus would now be a latin mass, and masses in English would not be taken away as well. Finally, Campus Ministry has asked for flexibility on the issue.

**Senator Graf** asks if this latin mass would replace English mass or if additional masses would be offered.

**Senator Kish** explains he is not sure, but thinks English masses would not be replaced. In doubt, we could ask Fr. Bernard who is in charge of the coordination.

**Senator D'Albero** asks how the resolution would affect latin used in English masses.

**Senator Kish** does not know.

Motion to vote by **Senator Gehrig** seconded by **Senator D'Attelo**.

Ayes: 19

Arreaga-Cacao, D'Attelo, Lance, Bert, Kish, Hermes, Tong, D'Albero, Crawford, Gehrig, Fritz, Morris, Ewing, Hargrave, Graf, Raddell, Tucker, Germain, Corey, Suarez

Nays: 1  
Michels

Abstentions: 2  
Paulson, Holcomb

With 19 Yays, **Resolution 001: A Resolution to Show Support for Traditional Liturgy**, passes.

**6. Vice President, SGA Updates 9:13 PM Vice President Harvey** reads the Vice Presidential Updates.

“At this moment, we will move to Vice Presidential Updates. First of all, thank you for a first successful senate meeting.

For any senator who passes legislation, please see Kathleen, who will be filming a brief senate recap video. Basically, Kathleen will record a brief testimonial about the specific resolution or bill passed that evening to be posted on Instagram for our student body to see.

If you have not done so already, please fill out the senate directory which is located in the senate virtual binder. If you are not serving as a committee chair for the year, please fill out the committee preference sheet which is located on the senate directory sheet.

Additionally, there will be no committee meeting next week due to Columbus Day weekend, but you should expect a committee meeting on the following Monday, October 16th. This is valuable time to begin researching and brainstorming potential resolution ideas.

Finally, please gather for a photo after the meeting has been officially adjourned in front of the back wall here.”

**7. Open Floor 9:15 PM**

**Vice President Harvey** initiates an open floor.

**Senator Michels** congratulates all the senators for a great first meeting. He states his uncertainty over the implementations of Resolution 101. Encourages everyone to come to Oktoberfest.

**Senator Gehrig** congratulates fellow senators for being here today, asking them to remember why that is. She ends by giving a shout out to the Senate Secretaries Quiros and Weatherwax and Parliamentarian Cutrona, appreciating the hard work that comes with the jobs.

#### **8. Adjournment 9:17 PM**

Motion to adjourn by **Senator Gehrig** and seconded by **Senator Suarez**.

Vote on meeting adjournment → Passes

Meeting adjourned