

# The Catholic University of America Student Government Association 2022-2023 Senate Session 8-1

October 3, 2022 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\_\_** 

<u>Class of 2024</u> Jamie Besendorfer <u>X</u> Matthew Michels <u>X</u>

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 Daniel Campbell X\_\_\_\_ Anthony Curioso X\_\_\_\_

<u>School of Nursing</u> Cristian Henriquez X\_ Olivia Musick X\_

School of Philosophy Liam Foley X

Charlie Tamayo X

<u>School of Social Service</u> Michael McCarthy <u>X</u>

Ash Samuels 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 proved 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 |

Vice President Fahey opens up in prayer with the "Hail Mary".

#### 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.

**Treasurer Karla Martinez-Victoria** opens up public comment by welcoming everyone and congratulating all of the Senate for a successful campaign. She introduces her newly hired secretary freshman Ava Rieger. She voices her support for Matthew Blomgren as the Freshman Director.

**Clare Delmore**, Senior Director of Executive Initiatives, is excited to have 6 Executive Initiatives this year and the Title IX Task Force. She welcomes the eight directors for the Executive Initiatives and the Title IX Task Force director. Joseph Giessuebel, Director of Environment Executive Initiative, could not be present.

**James Dolley** introduces himself as the Co-Director of Campus Wellness Executive Initiative, he looks forward to working with the Board this year.

**Destiny Mosley** introduces herself as the Director of Diversity and Inclusion Executive Initiative, she thanks everyone for their hard work.

**Rhea Roxy** introduces herself as the Director of Commuter and Transfer Students Executive Initiative, she is excited to represent this group of students.

**Correy Crawford** introduces himself as Director of the Disability Support Services Executive Initiative, he is looking forward to bringing accessibility to the university.

**Clare Marsh** introduces herself as the Co-Director of Campus Wellness Executive Initiative, she is looking forward to this year.

**Rita Rogers** introduces herself as the Co-Director of Catholic Values Executive Initiative, she is excited for this year and grateful for the opportunity.

**Javier Mazariegos** introduces himself as the Co-Director of Catholic Values Executive Initiative, he is excited for this year and grateful for the opportunity.

**Nastasja Santrac** introduces herself as the Director of the Title IX Task Force, she encourages everyone to support the task force and survivors on campus.

**Mariah Solis**, Director of the Research Committee, invites the research committee to introduce themselves.

Breda Brosey, a freshman politics major, is excited to be a research associate.

**Benjamin Abood**, a sophomore economics major, is excited about this opportunity on the research committee.

Aidan Malvey, a freshman politics major, is looking forward to being a research associate.

**Sarah Dunford**, President of Graduate Students, encourages graduate students to reach out with any concerns and looks forward to providing their perspective on issues that affect all of The University.

Joseph Accardi, Chief of Staff, voices all not hesitate to reach out with any comments or concerns.

Maria Duffy, Junior Director of the Treasury Board, voices her support for Treasurer Karla Martinez-Victoria.

**President Anthony Crnkovich** welcomes everyone and thanks all for being present at the meeting. He extends an invitation to two events: October 24th, 6:30pm-8:00pm is the SGA Town Hall meeting with the University President Kilpatrick, and November 2nd, 6:00pm-8:00pm is Meet Your SGA Day. He encourages everyone to interact with the Senators and Executive Initiative Directors.

**Sean Scully**, Sophomore Director of the Treasury Board, voices his support for Treasurer Karla Martinez-Victoria and all of the Treasury Board.

**Mariah Solis**, Director of the Research Committee, additionally introduces Bridget, a freshman politics major, as a research associate.

Nastasja Santrac, Title IX Task Force Director, introduces her associates.

Phoebe Farris, a junior nursing major, introduces herself as the team lead for the task force. She

**Laura James**, a sophomore theology major, introduces herself and is excited to be an associate.

**Emma Murray**, a freshman politics major, introduces herself and is excited for this opportunity.

Abigail Dawe, a freshman politics major, introduces herself and is excited to be an associate.

Madeline Bartol, a freshman politics major, introduces herself and is excited for this year.

# 2. Swearing in of Senators

All the senator-elects stand up and say their 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."

The Senators have now officially been sworn in for the 2021-2022 Academic year.

# 3. Adoption of Agenda

Motion to adopt agenda by Senator Besendorfer and seconded by Senator Michels.

Motion passes.

Vote on adoption  $\rightarrow$  Adoption has passed.

## 4. Vice Presidential Address

Vice President Fahev officially welcomes everyone to Senate 8, and thanks everyone for coming to public comment. She states those at The Catholic University should pride themselves on the welcoming spirit present. She says the Senators are called to serve the community and asks them to think about how they will spend this year. She argues the best resolutions are products of conservation with fellow students, not just the Senators. She invites them to be an open door to the campus, to listen closely to their peers, and deliver to them. She challenges them to lead with that welcoming spirit. She is honored to act as Vice President, and is excited for the 21 new Senators, and encourages them to start writing legislation. She concludes with procedural reminders for Senate meetings.

## 5. New Business

## A. Confirmation of Treasury Board Appointment

i. Matthew Blomgren, Freshman Director

Vice President Fahey reads Matthew's summary of what he has done and how he is a needed

voice.

Motion to vote by Senator Bommer and seconded by Senator Besendorfer  $\rightarrow$  Motion to vote passes.

Vote on the appointment  $\rightarrow$  Passes with 26 yay's. Matthew Blomgren is officially appointed as the

Freshman Director in the Treasury Board.

## 8:25 PM

8:30 PM

8:28 PM

8:35 PM

Yay's: Senator Bommer, Senator Drauschak, Senator Besendorfer, Senator Michels, Senator D'Attelo, Senator Martin, Senator Kish, Senator Bert, Senator Djilioni, Senator Zayas, Senator Gehrig, Senator Kruger, Senator Downing, Senator Phillips, Senator Bubel, Senator Ewing, Senator Campbell, Senator Curioso, Senator Herniquez, Senator Musick, Senator Foley, Senator Tamayo, Senator McCarthy, Senator Samuels, Senator Corey, Senator Suarez.

## B. Committee Chair Nominations and Elections 8:40 PM

i. President pro tempore, Committee on Rules and Administration

Senator Michels nominates Senator Besendorfer for President Pro Tempore. He says she has seniority in the SGA, has sponsored great legislation, and was Committee Chair of University Services. He says she is the only one who has previous experience, with an impressive track record of fighting for what she believes in. He says she understands the laws more than anyone, and she is the best person for the position.

Motion to vote by Senator Suarez and seconded by Senator Corey  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes.

Vote on nomination  $\rightarrow$  Nomination passes.

Senator Besendorfer is confirmed as the President Pro Tempore.

ii. Chair of the Committee on Academic Affairs

Senator Martin nominates Senator Gehrig for Chair of the Committee on Academic Affairs. She says that Senator Gehrig has great experience. She says no one is more qualified than Senator Gehrig for this role.

Motion to vote by Senator Martin and seconded by Senator Besendorfer  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes.

Vote on nomination  $\rightarrow$  Nomination passes.

Senator Gehrig is confirmed as the Chair of the Committee on Academic Affairs.

iii. Chair of the Committee on University Services

Senator Besendorfer nominates Senator Martin for Chair of the Committee on University Services. She says that Senator Martin has brought a lot of resolutions to the floor. Senator Besendorfer says that she was the chair of this committee herself and believes Senator Martins is the most qualified candidate, citing her friendly personality.

Motion to vote by Senator Michels and seconded by Senator Besendorfer  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes.

Vote on nomination  $\rightarrow$  Nomination passes.

Senator Martin is confirmed as the Chair of the Committee on University Services.

iv. Chair of the Committee on Student Resources

Senator Drauschak nominates Senator Michels for Chair of the Committee on Student Resources. He says he will do a great job, bringing extensive experience and a great personality to the position.

Motion to vote by Senator D'Atello and seconded by Senator Besendorfer  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes.

Vote on nomination  $\rightarrow$  Nomination passes.

Senator Michels is confirmed as Chair of the Committee on Student Resources.

v. Chair of the Committee on Campus Life

Senator Michels nominates Senator Drauschak for Chair of the Committee on Campus Life. Senator Michels says he was on this committee last year and is confident that Senator Drauschak has the expertise for it. He says he cares about the community and will stand up for the interests of CUA.

Motion to vote by Senator Suarez and seconded by Senator Michels  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes.

Vote on nomination  $\rightarrow$  Nomination passes.

Senator Drauschak is confirmed as Chair of the Committee on Campus Life.

## B. Senator Martin, Class of 2025 (Resolution 001) 8:50 PM

i. A Resolution to Extend the Mailroom Hours

Vice President Fahey offers guidelines for debate procedures and discusses the addition of a clock to keep the discussion on task. Debate will open when the clock starts and will end when the clock runs out, additional time can be added with a motion.

**Senator Martin** thanks Vice President Fahey. She welcomes everyone and is excited to bring the first resolution to the floor this year. She explains the expansion of the mailroom hours will be extremely beneficial for students, as the current hours negatively affect students. Students have little time to receive packages and ship them because of the shorter hours post-COVID-19, and the mailroom's website incorrectly reflects the current hours. The resolution aims at expanding the hours, specifically opening on Saturday, reducing confusion for Saturday delivery services, and correctly reflecting the hours of operation on the website. Senator Martin has spoken with the mailroom manager, and he believes these changes are possible and beneficial.

**Senator Bommer** thanked Senator Martin for the resolution and sympathizes with the student's grievances. He asks why Saturday was specifically chosen for expanded hours and how overtime pay will be applied to workers.

**Senator Martin** responds that Saturday is a more convenient time for students and the mailroom manager is open to having hours of operation on Saturday. She is proposing the adjusted hours based on her constituents, who believe Saturday is the best day when there are no classes or internships.

**Senator Besendorfer** speaks about package security, where she has received calls from delivery services stating her packages have not been delivered due to confusion over delivery locations on Saturday. She further states since the mailroom is not open on Saturday, packages can be left

outside for two days and there is an influx of packages on Monday. She says by opening Saturday, more packages can be sorted and none are left sitting outside.

**Senator Michels** thanks Senator Martin and explains his issues with the mailroom hours. He says more students are on campus leading to longer lines for pick-up. He says he will be voting in favor of the resolution.

**Senator Musick** thanks Senator Martin and expresses her support for the resolution. She asks to clarify the whereas clause because Amazon and express packages do deliver on Sunday. She asks for an explanation as to where these deliveries are dropped-off on Sunday.

Senator Besendorfer proposes an amendment to clarify where to drop off packages on Sunday.

Motion to amend and add a Whereas Clause by Senator Besendorfer  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes.

The new Whereas Clause now reads: The University creates a designated drop-off location for packages on Sundays at McMahon Hall.

**Senator Corey** thanks Senator Martin and says the resolution is well researched and he too has experienced long lines. He asks why the post-COVID-19 hours are being changed in the first place.

**Senator Martin** says the hours originally began at 7:00 am, but most students are not out this early. The proposed hours target the afternoon more, which is the busiest time.

**Senator Kish** thanks Senator Martin and says the current hours are a hot mess. He asks how quickly the website can be updated to reflect the current hours.

**Senator Martin** responds that the hours will be updated assuming the mailroom tells The University of the miscommunication. She says this would be the easiest fix on the resolution, so it should be fixed quickly.

**Senator McCarthy** thanks Senator Martin and asks if the mailroom workers are aware of the possible extension of hours and how they would be being paid.

**Senator Martin** says the mailroom manager would speak with the workers. She says the pay differs among the workers but believes any additional cost for The University budget is possible.

**Senator Bubel** thanks Senator Martin and says it is a good resolution. He says the new amendment is great because he works in the Pryz, and packages are often brought there. The amendment more clearly defines a drop-off location.

Senator Samuels questioned how workers would be paid for additional hours.

Senator Martin says the workers will be paid by the hour for the additional time.

Motion to extend the debate by 3 minutes  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes

**Senator Drauschak** asks what it is like when you receive a notification about package pickup, he asks how the process works.

**Senator Martin** says the notifications can occur when the mailroom is not open; therefore, people must be working at this time. She says you receive an email when the package arrives and

a worker scans it.

Senator Kruger asks if weekend hours are still necessary.

**Senator Martin** responds they are still important, students are very busy and the weekend is the most convenient time. She adds that packages arriving Friday night can be picked up on Saturday with the new hours, and not wait until Monday.

Motion to vote by Senator Besendorfer and seconded by Senator Suarez  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes

Vote on Resolution  $001 \rightarrow$  vote passes with 26 yay's

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

#### C. Senator Besendorfer, Class of 2024 (Resolution 002) 9:10 PM

i. A Resolution to Improve the Safety and Efficiency of Walking Routes Near the Construction of the Conway School of Nursing Building

**Senator Besendorfer** thanks Vice President Fahey and is excited to be back and present her first resolution of the year. She is a Busch School of Business Cardinal Ambassador and they have made a huge change in the tour route due to the construction of the Conway School of Nursing. The tour now ends near the construction, and most families are tired at this point, and listening to the construction is not ideal. They then have a 10-minute walk back to the admissions building and most people's feet are hurting; this is an ignorant way to end the tour with construction. She further explains this area of campus is isolated and the weather is getting colder. Senator Besendorfer says the sidewalk on Michigan Ave. has recently closed, further isolating this area and creating safety issues as people walk under the caution signs. Her resolution will create a safe walking route through a small portion of the construction.

Senator D'Attelo says the construction creates an inconvenience to walk to the metro.

**Senator Drauschak** thanks Senator Besendorfer and asks if she has spoken with school officials about the resolution and how this would affect the current sidewalk.

**Senator Besendorfer** responds that the sidewalk is closed because of the construction, not because it is being worked on. She says she has not spoken with the administration because this is not a resolution based on policy, but instead logistics.

**Senator Curioso** thanks Senator Besendorfer and agrees on how inconvenient the construction has been for him, as he is in a wheelchair. He proposes an amendment to the resolution to add himself as a Co-Sponsor.

Motion to amend and add Senator Curioso as a Co-Sponsor by Senator Curioso → Motion passes

The Co-Sponsored by now reads: Senator Martin, Senator Curioso

**Senator Musick** is excited about this resolution. She asks if Senator Besendorfer has spoken with the construction company and if the sidewalk is a part of The University or city.

**Senator Besendorfer** responds she has not spoken with anyone, this resolution is a student concern, not an opinion on policy. She further says meeting with the administration is applicable, but not needed. This type of resolution was attempted last year and passed, but the issue has worsened and needs to be addressed. She says she believes the sidewalk is The University's property.

Senator Drauschak motions to amend and remove one period from the first To Be Enacted clause.

Motion to amend the first To Be Enacted Clause by Senator Drauschak → Motion passes

The first To Be Enacted clause now reads: The University creates a cut-through path alongside the fencing shown where the red line is drawn on Exhibit 1 for students to travel across, connecting both sides of campus without forcing students to take a detour around the Edward C. Crough Center for Architectural Studies building.

**Senator Zayas** thanks Senator Besendorfer and asks about the whereas clause defining the safety of architecture students. She asks if Senator Besendorfer has thought of the logistics of the new walking route because the drawn red line on the attached image passes through a steep hill.

**Senator Besendorfer** responds that they would make the walking path accessible. She says the drawn red line is a broad idea, it will be fair to both the construction company and students.

**Senator Ewing** thanks Senator Besendorfer and asks why a similar resolution was not passed last year.

**Senator Besendorfer** responds that the resolution was passed, but towards the end of the year and during a period of transition. The construction was lighter last year, but it has grown and become more inconvenient; therefore, new issues have been brought to life.

**Senator Samuels** asks who will pass the resolution since Senator Besendorfer has not spoken with the administration. Will it go to the construction company?

**Senator Besendorfer** responds that once a resolution is passed, it is handed over to the executives, who then bring it to administration. She says there are different paths where the resolution could go, but felt no need to meet with any administration beforehand.

Motion to extend the debate by 4 minutes  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes

Senator Musick asks what alternative routes there are if the walking path is unattainable.

**Senator Besendorfer** responds she chose that drawn red line because the grass space in front of Crough is not currently being used. She says the red line is not exact but is open to making a new red line if necessary. She says they will cross that bridge when they get there.

**Senator D'Attelo** says the largest concern for the construction company is liability and that is probably why the fencing perimeter in front of Crough is larger than the actual construction site. He says to make sure the construction company and administration understand the Senate is aware of liability issues.

**Senator Besendorfer** responds that the bigger liability is students going under the construction on the sidewalk. The resolution provides a safe and actual walkway.

**Senator Downing** thanks Senator Besendorfer and agrees with the resolution. He was personally late picking up a package because of the construction.

Motion to vote by Senator Michels and seconded by Senator Besendorfer  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes.

Vote on Resolution  $002 \rightarrow$  vote passes with 26 yay's.

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

## D. Senator Suarez, School of Theology (Resolution 003) 9:30 PM

i. A Resolution to Advocate for Pornography Addiction Resources on Campus

**Senator Suarez** thanks Maevis, and states that everyone at Catholic University is called to respect the human person. She says it is devastating that some suffer from this addiction, but wants to make clear that there are resources available. She says this issue needs to be addressed from the root, rather than the measures we have already taken. She says spiritual help through campus ministry is what she believes to be the most effective route. She ends by saying she is looking forward to helping many people.

**Senator Curioso** states that CUA is pro-life. He says pornography is not pro-life, citing the many victims who have been violated and coerced into making this content. He says this resolution will help the many students who suffer from addiction to pornography and will uphold the mission of CUA.

**Senator Tamayo** states that this is an opportunity for Catholic University to grow the access to the support that is already in place. This support will give those who suffer interior freedom and will help them have more intimate relationships with their partners.

**Senator Bommer** thanks the sponsors, stating that CUA is all things Catholic. He says he has a question about the resources in the resolution, saying they are all ministry based. He asks if the Counseling Center or the Dean of Students will also provide resources, or if this will be solely Campus Ministry based.

**Senator Suarez** says at this time, it is unfeasible to go through the Dean of Students or the Counseling Center, and Campus Ministry is the best route.

**Senator Besendorfer** says that she has multiple questions. She asks if the sponsors have spoken to Campus Ministry about the feasibility of these events, lectures, and resources that the resolution outlines. She asks who will be running these events, and asks about the details of them. She states that the Campus Ministry already puts on these events, so this resolution would add more. Lastly, she asks what the sponsors have in mind for the events to help students with pornography addiction, and asks for clarification regarding faculty resources.

**Senator Suarez** says that the events will be more engaging for the students. She says she is willing to talk to Emjolee Mendoza-Waters about the details of this. She says she hopes to allow the faculty to engage in these resources as well.

**Senator Michels** stands and thanks the sponsors. He says he thinks this is a good start, but more work could be done with the Catholic Values Initiative. He states that the resolution as it stands is too vague, and he would not be comfortable voting yes in its current form.

Motion to vote to send Resolution 8-003 back to committee by Senator Michels and seconded by Senator Kruger  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes.

Debate on the vote itself opens.

**Senator Besendorfer** quickly stands and takes this opportunity to explain the voting process and Robert's Rules to the new senators. She states that this is an issue Senator Suarez is passionate about, and it would be best to vote to send it back to committee to perfect the resolution.

**Senator Musick** stands and asks which committee this resolution will go to. Vice President Fahey says we are not sure at this time.

**Senator Kruger** says he agrees with other senators, saying he supports this resolution but it needs more clarification.

**Senator Besendorfer** reminds everyone that the committee should be printed on the resolution itself.

**Senator Gehrig** states that she believes this resolution has potential, but it is not ready in its current form. She will vote to send it back to committee.

**Senator McCarthy** rises and says people with pornography addictions are ashamed, and the resources listed in this Resolution are inadequate.

**Senator Tamayo** responds by saying the resources do not have to be limited to just what is written on the resolution. Rather, the resources on the resolution are examples of the many resources that could be provided.

**Senator Drauschak** stands and says he will support the vote to send the resolution back to committee.

**Senator Besendorfer** asks for 5 more minutes of debate, and Vice President Fahey rules this dilatory. The motion itself to send Resolution 003 back to the committee from Senator Michels. Seconded by Senator Besendorfer.

Motion to vote to send Resolution 003 back to committee by Senator Michels and seconded by Senator Besendorfer  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes.

Vote to send Resolution 003 back to committee  $\rightarrow$  vote passes with 16 yay's, 4 nay's, and 6 abstains.

Yay's: Senator Bommer, Senator Drauschak, Senator Besendorfer, Senator Michels, Senator D'Atello, Senator Kish, Senator Djilioni, Senator Zayas, Senator Kruger, Senator Gehrig, Senator Phillips, Senator Bubel, Senator Ewing, Senator Campbell, Senator Henriquez, Senator

McCarthy.

Nay's: Senator Bert, Senator Downing, Senator Curioso, Senator Tamayo.

Abstains: Senator Martin, Senator Musick, Senator Foley, Senator Samuels, Senator Corey, Senator Suarez.

Debate on Resolution 003 continues.

**Senator Besenforder** stands and asks the chair why the Senate is still debating the resolution since it was already voted to go back to committee. Vice President Fahey, realizing the mistake, looks favorably upon a motion to close debate.

Motion to close debate by Senator Besendorfer and seconded by Senator Gehrig  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes.

Debate is now closed.

#### E. Senator Michels, Class of 2024 (Bill 001)

#### 9:50 PM

i. A Bill to Require the Attendance and Votes of All Senators to be Reflected in the Senate Minutes

**Senator Michels** says he is thrilled to sponsor this bill. He says over his time at Catholic he has heard that there needs to be more accountability in the Senate. He says this bill will give the students easier access to see what their senators' votes are. He says the students deserve to see this information.

**Senator Gehrig** says that when she was Senate secretary last year, she was confused as to why the senators' votes were not made public, she'll support the bill.

Senator Martin says she will support the bill.

Senator Michels thanks Senator Martin.

**Senator Samuels** says that the senators are not politicians, and says they merely make suggestions to the administration. She says the bill is unnecessary and could lead to students being targeted, saying senators do not have protection like politicians do. She says this bill could affect whether or not senators vote with their conscience, and could skew voting. She says she will vote against it.

Motion to extend the debate to  $10:30 \text{ pm} \rightarrow \text{Motion passes}$ .

**Senator Michels** thanks Senator Samuels for her concerns. He says the meetings are public, so senators' votes are not secretive. He says that even if the votes were not written in the minutes, the speeches given by the senators can give readers an idea of their opinions.

**Senator Besendorfer** says that while we are not real politicians, the SGA has made immense changes over the years, and what they do matters. She also says that received criticism from fellow students in the past because of her votes, so criticism from students, if this bill is passed, will not be new. She says the senators' votes still get out to the students. She also makes a point

that all the meetings last year were recorded, and this Bill will simply make them more accessible to students.

**Senator Bommer** says that he has also been on the receiving end of criticism in the past for his votes. He will still support the Bill.

**Senator Martin** agrees. She says she has also received these messages, but they've led to great conversations and debates with her constituents. She encourages senators to continue voting with their conscience.

Senator Curioso thanks the sponsors. He understands the concerns of senators being targeted.

Motion to extend the debate by 5 minutes  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes.

**Senator Downing** agrees with the other senators that transparency is important and that the votes are already open for students to see.

**Senator Musick** says she can understand both sides of the argument. She says she will welcome students who want to speak with her about her votes.

**Senator Michels** reminds the senators that the votes are already available for the students to see. This bill will simply make it more accessible. He tells the senators that if they do not agree with this bill, they can vote no.

Motion to vote from Senator D'Atello and seconded by Senator Besendorfer  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes.

Vote on Bill  $001 \rightarrow$  vote passes with 19 yay's, 6 nay's, and 1 abstain.

Yay's: Senator Bommer, Senator Drauschak, Senator Besendorfer, Senator Michels, Senator D'Atello, Senator Martin, Senator Bert, Senator Kish, Senator Djilioni, Senator Zayas, Senator Kruger, Senator Gehrig, Senator Phillips, Senator Ewing, Senator Campbell, Senator Henriquez, Senator Foley, Senator Tamayo, Senator Corey.

Nay's: Senator Downing, Senator Bubel, Senator Curioso, Senator McCarthy, Senator Samuels, Senator Suarez.

Abstains: Senator Musick.

### 6. Vice President, SGA Updates

**Vice President Fahey** says she is grateful in advance for any suggestions students may have. She is open to talking with anybody about anything. She says she is excited about Senate tabling and encourages the senators to attend treasury board meetings and other SGA events. She also encourages everyone to collaborate with the Title IX task force. Lastly, she explains the process of making Senate recap videos, and invites the senators to meet for a group photo after the meeting.

### 7. Open Floor

Vice President Fahey explains the process of open floor, inviting senators to share anything they wish to.

### 10:18 PM

### 10:23 PM

**Senator Besendorfer** rises and thanks everyone for a great first meeting. She is working on a resolution to expand parking access and pay-to-park access for students. She says to reach out if anybody is interested in working on this resolution with her. She says she is also working on a resolution to establish a women's hour, hopefully in the gym. She again says to reach out if anybody is interested in working on this resolution with her. Lastly, she reminds senators that abstentions are only typically used when a senator feels biased or feels that the topic of the vote is odd. She tells senators that they are encouraged to vote yay or nay on most resolutions and bills.

**Senator Martin** thanks everyone, and says she is excited that her first resolution has passed. She says she looks forward to working with the SGA and the Senate. She says she is working on a resolution to include pots and pans in the student lounge kitchens of the residence halls. She encourages anyone interested in this to reach out to her.

**Senator Curioso** says he is working on a resolution to improve wheelchair accessibility on campus. He announces that it is Senator Martin's birthday, and asks if the senate could sing happy birthday. The chair approves, and the Senate sings happy birthday.

**Senator Kish** says he is working on a resolution to increase ventilation in residence halls amid concerns about black mold. He encourages his fellow senators to reach out and help if they are interested and encourages anybody with personal accounts of this problem to reach out to him.

**Senator Musick** stands to let everyone know that she is a Resident Hall Assistant, and anyone with resolutions or concerns about dorms can always reach out to her to ask questions.

#### 8. Adjournment

#### 10:29 PM

Motion to vote to adjourn by Senator Gehrig and seconded by Senator Bommer  $\rightarrow$  Motion passes.

Vote on motion to adjourn  $\rightarrow$  Vote passes and the meeting is adjourned.