



**The Catholic University of  
America Student Government Association  
2021-2022 Senate Session 7-4**

November 8th, 2021  
8:15 p.m. – 10:15 p.m. EST

**ROLL CALL**

**Vice President** - Monica Wallace

Garrett Farrell   X  

**Secretary** – Nicole Campos and  
Jordan Gehrig

**Busch School of Business**

Isabel Buckley   X  

Raegan Lehman   X  

**Parliamentarian** - Mike McCabe

**School of Engineering**

Emily Bowman   X  

Margaret Bubel   X  

**Class of 2022**

Gerald Sharpe   X  

Alan Cunningham   X  

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

Kyle Holcomb   X  

Sophia Pelekasis   X  

**Class of 2023**

Matthew Drauschak   X  

Patricia Kwiatek       

**School of Nursing x**

Brooke Lackey   X  

Christina Hermann   X  

**Class of 2024**

Jamie Besendorfer   X  

Matthew Michels   X  

**School of Philosophy**

Michael Moore   X  

Tony Crnkovich   X  

**Class of 2025**

Maevis Fahey   X  

Ashley Martin   X  

**School of Social Service**

Grace Birth   X  

[Vacant]       

**School of Architecture**

Melissa Kazanci   X  

Jared Jagiello   X  

**School of Theology**

John Scott   X  

Andrea Suarez   X  

**School of Arts and Sciences**

Maura Schlee   X

X- Here, A- Absent

**Key:**

**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 Senator Drauschak leads the Senate in prayer with a Hail Mary.**

**Vice President Wallace reminds everyone that masks should be worn correctly.**

**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.

**Jacob McCarthy**, a freshman, wanted to raise a quick awareness of Spookappella. He was excited to go see it, yet was left disappointed by the various sexual jokes he deemed unnecessary. More than that, there was religious paraphernalia used inappropriately, sexual jokes about the bishop, and comments attacking the clergy. It was painful to see here at Catholic University.

**Vice President Wallace** thanks Jacob for his comment, but would also like to note that today's agenda has nothing to do with Spookappella and because today's senate would be packed, she asks future public comment to refrain from speaking on things not related to today's agenda.

**Micheal Dane**, a double major in politics and communication, voices his support for Senator Martin's resolution to extend the Eatery hours. He communicates how many students support this, especially athletes.

**Senator Sharpe** makes a point of personal privilege and states that he is not aware of any bylaws that prevent the public from speaking out about anything other than the contents of the agenda.

**Vice President Wallace** appreciates the comment Senator Sharpe brought up. She speaks on her ability to restrict public comment.

**Anthony Giordano**, a finance major, is here to talk about Senator Martin's resolution. His practice is from 6-10:30 and when he gets back the Eatery is closed. He has to spend a lot of money on top of what he is spending on the meal plan.

**A man** speaks in favor of Senator Jagiello's resolution. Christ needs to be king, and this is the right direction.

**Emily Thomas** is a freshman, and is speaking in support of Senator Jagiello's resolution. The crucifix should be first, as we are catholic.

**A senior nursing major** voices her support for Senator Lackey's resolution. COVID-19 exacerbated this problem.

**Fern Hernandez-Reyes** is a freshman psychology major and wants to lend his support to both Senator Martin and Lackey. Both of these resolutions are super important.

**Courtney Phol** is here to talk about the Pryz hours. Her practice ends late and many times her coach ends practice early to allow them to eat.

**Noah Slayter**, a freshman politics major, voices his support for Senator Martin's resolution. He brings up the point that people with an inflexible schedule do not have time to eat. Eating is a basic need and students should have more accessibility and , time for them to eat, basic need, especially hours, extending hours would be significant moo

**Kathleen Delate** is on the track and field team and it is hard to get dinner after 10 PM and spends a lot of money on groceries.

**Meghan Hughes** is a senior nursing major and asks all the senators to please vote for Senator Lackey's resolution for mental health days.

**Ashley Laine** is a senior nursing major with a psychology minor and she is here in support of Senator Lackey's resolution for mental health days.

**Nico** is a senior nursing major and supports both Senator Lackey's and Senator Martin's resolutions.

**President Agner** reminds everyone present that tomorrow is the SGA town hall with President Garvey at 8:00 PM. in Heritage Hall. This would be a great opportunity for senators and for everyone present in public comment.

**Pablo Massori** supports Senator Crnkovich. It is important to keep the identity of the mission at a catholic school.

**Esther** is a senior nursing major, and supports adding mental health days to the academic calendar.

**2. Adoption of Agenda 8:26 PM** Motion to adopt the Agenda by Senator Farrell and

seconded by Senator Moore Motion passes

Vote on adoption → Adoption has passed

### **3. Approval of Minutes 8:27 PM A. Session 7-3 (November 1, 2021)**

Motion to approve by Senator Farrell and second Senator Besendorfer

Motion passes

Vote on approval of minutes → Approval has passed

### **4. Committee Reports 8:28 PM A. Senator Sharpe, Rules and Administration**

**Senator Sharpe** has no updates. He mentions that a member of his committee, Senator Jagiello, is bringing a resolution to the floor that he supports and thinks it is great. There are some other resolutions in the works. There have been no major bylaw revisions, however if any senator had any suggestions, please go to him.

#### **B. Senator Schlee, Academic Affairs**

**Senator Schlee** thanks President Wallace and is so happy to see all the support tonight for the resolutions from the public. Her committee is bringing three resolutions to the floor today, one being her resolution on Academic Dishonesty, Senator Crncovich's resolution on requiring Ex Corde Ecclesiae to LCs, and Senator Lackey's resolution on mental health days. Senator Lackey put in a lot of work and she is excited to see the resolution on the floor tonight. Senator Schlee also reminds the senate of a future resolution coming to the next Senate meeting is the CACS resolution. She reminds everyone to fill out the advising survey. Dean Smith from the school of Art and Science sent out the survey today. She urges all the senators from the different schools to encourage their constituents to please fill out this survey. She wants as many responses as possible. If any senator wished to, she would appreciate edits and comments on the working draft of the resolution. She is also excited for a fruitful debate tonight.

#### **C. Senator Besendorfer, University Services**

**Senator Besendorfer** thanks Vice President Wallace. The committee was excited to meet and welcome their newest member, Senator Suarez, who is already working on her first resolution to improve lightning on campus. She is currently working on passing her next resolution for UPass. She plans to meet with DSA and the accountant of law school.

#### **D. Senator Farrell, Student Resources**

**Senator Farrell** thanks Vice President Wallace. The committee had a productive meeting last week, as they went over both of Senator Martin's resolutions, one hitting the floor tonight. The committee also discussed the other resolution she plans to bring to the floor next meeting. They also discuss Senator Hermann's resolution to utilize the infrastructure put in for COVID-19

#### **E. Senator Birth, Campus Life**

**Senator Birth** states that the committee did not meet in the past week, as this past week was not an off week for the senate, which is when they typically meet. However, at their last meeting, the committee talked about forthcoming resolutions, including meetings with DPS about the Rave Guardian app they have and evolving it a bit more for student usage. Senator Michels has a resolution in the works for Title IX as well.

#### 4. New Business

##### A. Senator Schlee, School of Arts and Sciences (Resolution 013) 8:32 PM i. A

###### Resolution to Better Outline the Academic Dishonesty Policy

**Senator Schlee** wants to explain the perspective from which this resolution came from. Not everyone is familiar with the entire process of the appeal. She has served on the academic dishonesty appeals committee of students accused of cheating. Her experiences serving made her concerned about a few issues about students not being protected. To start off, there were three professors, one grad student, and one undergraduate student. That is concerning because already it is favoring professors. She knew every student's name who appealed. She should not have. The professors knew the name as well. Everyone is innocent until proven guilty. If the professors have the student in their class they could be biased against them. Confidentiality is a huge issue. Last year there were several cases where the professor did not have a meeting with the student. That is the student's chance to defend themselves. You cannot defend yourself if you don't know what you are being accused of. Professors need to be made aware of the process of accusing a student. Academic dishonesty accusations were out of control last year, and there are still online classes. It is important to protect students and make the appeals process clearer for both students and professors.

**Senator Fahey** thanks her for bringing this to the floor. It is very comprehensive. She is wondering how Senator Schlee joined the committee.

**Senator Schlee** responds she did not join by choice. Dean Smith asked her to serve on the committee as a favor. The dean will ask a student they trust, someone who is invested. Hopefully this improves into something more protective of students of their future

**Senator Suarez** asks if this committee is per school or one committee for the university.

**Senator Schlee** says that it is per school. None of the appeals she saw were out of the School of Arts and Science.

**Senator Pelekasis** thanks Senator Schlee and can see her passion for this. She asks if students who file the appeal attend the committee?

**Senator Senator** responds that students do not appear in front of the committee. If you are accused of cheating the professor will set up a conference and discuss why they think you cheated. They will ask you questions and if they still believe you cheated, they send that information to the dean. If you didn't cheat, you can appeal in written form and provide evidence. It can be your

work, so for example a piece of paper with math questions worked out. Students don't appear for confidentiality reasons. There should be no identifying information. You shouldn't know who that person is, so there isn't any bias. You shouldn't make a decision based on who the person is. It can lead to a tainted view of them in the future.

**Senator Jagiello** appreciates the effort and believes it is a good resolution. However, professors should know if there were past instances where the students cheated and so should the committee.

**Senator Schlee** says there is a misunderstanding. It is not redacted if they have a history of cheating. If they are a repeated offender, they will have a more severe penalty. If they are appealing, you will see that. We are not letting students off the hook here, academic integrity is still extremely important. This is just making sure students are aware of their rights and professors are aware of the process they must follow.

Motion to vote by Senator Martin and seconded by Senator Michels → Motion passes

Vote on A Resolution to Better Outline the Academic Dishonesty Policy → Vote passes with 25 yay's and 0 nay's

## **B. Senator Jagiello, School of Architecture (Resolution 014) 8:49 PM i. A**

### Resolution to Place Crucifixes in the Crough Center

**Senator Jagiello** thanks Vice President Wallace. He wants to keep this short and simple. In the Arcitucheur building, there are no crucifixes other than in a corner in the printer lab. There are a lot of places to put a crucifix. When he was at the homecoming dance, he noticed that the Law School atrium did not have a crucifix either. Why do we not have the central thing we should be focusing on?

**Senator Kwiatek** thanks Senator Jagiello for bringing this to the floor. She is in full support, as it is imperative to have a crucifix. She wants to know where in Crough the crucifixes would be installed.

**Senator Jagiello** says there should be one when you first walk in in the main lobby. The auditorium used to have one, but it is gone now. There should also be crucifixes in the studio stations.

**Senator Schlee** thanks Senator Jagiello and congratulates him on bringing his first resolution to the floor. She appreciates what he is saying and agrees. She is curious why the law school was added. It is a separate section and we do not have control over this, as it is a separate entity. She asks if he has talked to anyone at the law school and if he would be open to an amendment.

**Senator Jagiello** says that the fact that the Columbus School of Law is a building on our campus is enough. It is owned and operated by CUA. Instead of an amendment to remove the law school, he would be open to an amendment to add it.

Motion to amend by Senator Schlee and seconded by Senator Sharpe

Motion passes

Motion to vote by Senator Schlee and seconded by Senator Farrell

The amendment passes

The title now reads A Resolution to Place Crucifixes in the Crough Center and Columbus School of Law

**Senator Kazanci** has lots of respect for Senator Jagiello but can no longer be in support. Over the past week, a lot of her constituents came to her and voiced their concerns about crucifixes in Crough. The architecture school is very old, and if students wanted this it would've happened already. This would be pushing beliefs on them that they don't agree with.

**Senator Moore** thanks her for her concern. This resolution is trying to bring Crough in line with the rest of the school. This is in line with our faith and does fall under our mission. The precedent of having crucifixes is already set all over campus.

**Senator Sharpe** says that the catholic mission requires us to welcome us of all faiths. 85% of the community is catholic. When students come here, they should expect to see symbols of our faith. He questions the concern, seeing as it is the Catholic University of America. He can't see why students are surprised or concerned. This is something that is fundamental to our faith.

**Senator Scott** says that the concern of people being uncomfortable is a good concern to have. At the same time, we are the Catholic University of America. The crucifix is a fundamental symbol of our faith. It is not forcing religion on people, because at the end it is an image. It is an image for those who do believe, and reminds them of their faith. If people are uncomfortable with crucifixes, then he doesn't believe this is the right university for them. There is a huge shrine on campus, not to mention the name of the university. There is a crucifix in this room, which you don't notice unless you look for it. What Senator Jagiello is asking for is not very intrusive at all. This is perfectly reasonable for a crucifix in a general area. It is very prevalent in our faith.

**Senator Jagiello** says that the gym used to be used for graduations and masses. He finds it appropriate to show some catholic faith. It is a nice reminder in the studio spaces that we are using our talents and gifts to serve Him. This is the Catholic University of America, and it is not away from the rest of the campus. It is a three floor building, yet there is only one crucifix in the whole place.

**Senator Birth** has no concerns with the resolution, but is deeply concerned over the languages some senators are using. We should be mindful in our languages about who should and shouldn't come to campus and we are elected officials and should act accordingly.

**Senator Scott** agrees with Senator Birth. We as senators must be careful of what we say. It seems to him that if someone has an intense discomfort with the symbol of the crucifix and comes here, there is a bit of disconnect. If you are afraid of bears, you don't say lemme go to the house of bears. I do not like lions, so I won't be walking into the lion's den.

**Senator Cunningham** comments that it is not our place to make comments on students and mock them about discomfort. He has a three part question. How many rooms do you want them in? What size, shape, and model will they be? And has he talked to anyone?

**Senator Jagiello** responds that there are ten rooms in the buildings, four studios, and a mezzanine. The size and model does not matter, there is not need for them to be crazy elaborate. The architecture students could even design it themselves. He apologizes for his comment. Everyone is welcome. We are the only school in the USA founded by the Bishops. We are the pinnacle of Catholic education. We welcome everyone, and should not be afraid to show our religion,

**Senator Besendorfer** thanks Senator Jagiello for bringing this to the floor and can see how passionate he is. She wants to know if he had met with someone from the law school. When she was working on her UPass resolution, she met with the law and grad school. She is not against the law school being put in, but wants to know if this is something that they are open to.

**Senator Sharpe** says that this body covers undergrad students, the law school is a grad school. So why are we addressing this out of our jurisdiction? For him, we have undergraduate professors in the law school, events, office hours, and more. This amounts to a recommendation. The executive can reach out to the law school. T

**Senator Surez** wants to express her full support because this is a part of our identity as a catholic university. It is something we should do, and something potentially for students, especially in times of stress. It is a wonderful idea.

**Senator Kazanci** says this may sound weird, but a lot of people don't go to the architecture school for catholic values, but architecture itself. While she will be voting no, she personally agrees with it. She has to represent her constituents, so she cannot fully support the resolution.

**Senator Sharpe** says it seems to him that if anyone here does not want to support crucifixes in one building, then why not take down all the other crucifixes? It doesn't make sense. Crucifixes should be everywhere. It is in our university mission to do so.

**Senator Moore** says that as an elected representative we should uphold the university mission. He doesn't see another resolution that upholds the university mission quite like this one. The crucifix is the central message of faith. This could bring the Crough to be fully integrated into the university as a whole.

**Senator Crnkovich** wants to address Senator Kazanci's point. It is a valid concern. The Architecture school is very prestigious, a true gem of Catholic. One aspect of it is to preserve the classical culture and you can see that throughout Crough. The presence of the crucifix can reinforce the faith. That same faith that went in hand with classical architecture.

**Senator Jagiello** thanks Senator Crn. When he first came to Catholic, he came in just for the architecture school. He could care less if it was Catholic or not. Regardless of how you feel, it is important to have crucifixes.

**Senator Cunningham** has a two part question and possible comment. He wants to know who Senator Jagiello asked to put up the crucifixes and if it was possible to amend or make sure to address the concerns of students.



**Senator Jagiello** says he talked to Dean Ferguson and they can coordinate getting the architecture students involved with the implementation of crucifixes. If they 3D print it or use the woodshop, the costs would be very minimal. There could even be a crucifix design competition where each student could design their own crucifix.

**Senator Farrell** is in full support, but for the third time needs to ask him if he has meet with anyone at the law school

**Senator Jagiello** says he has not, but as Senator Sharpe said, the undergraduate body has enough of a presence where it should be brought to attention.

**Senator Besendorfer** has one more question. There seems to be extensive planning for the Crough, but what about the law school? Will it be 3D printed? What is the size and cost? Would it be able to be put up?

**Senator Jagiello** says that there are no specifics about small details, just putting one up. There are plenty of places to put one up, but the bottom line is that one should be put up.

**Senator Moore** emphasizes that, like mentioned before, it would be a recommendation for the law school. Crough is more specific, and the law school gets more leeway.

**Senator Besendorfer** would like for this to go back to committee. She likes the idea of having the law school included, but would like to have a meeting with the law school first. There are lots of quirks, and it would be easier to implement if they talked beforehand. She brings up making a new resolution without the law school.

**Senator Jagiello** does not think this needs to be put in committee. This is as simple as putting a nail and piece of wood in the wall.

**Senator Sharpe** says that occasionally they have been asked to meet, but it is nor a requirement. He made a resolution about the university's endowment without meeting with them. A lot of big resolutions such a porn and allies were made without a meeting. There is no need to backlog over a small detail.

**Senator Schlee** thanks everyone for their concerns. She wants to clarify what Senator Sharpe said. It is a standard that senate likes to hold to try to meet when you can. Senator Sharpe knows the dean personally. it is a good norm to try to meet and makes it more legitimate. She is against having this go to committee. There are a lot of great ideas to keep it cost effective. In the future she suggests meeting with the administration.

**Senator Holcomb** still believes that it is our job to foster and meet with everyone. She thinks it is a great idea and the Rome school has crucifixes in the rehearsal halls and classrooms. It is important to meet with everyone and support sending this back to the committee. If not, he will be voting no.

**Senator Jagiello** says that there is a crucifix in the Pryz, and that it is not an academic building. There is no dean or administration for the Pryz. We do not need to take committee time to talk about something as simple as this. It is putting a crucifix on the wall. The committee has more

important things to worry about.

**Senator Holcomb** responds that when resolutions involve the Pryz, there are meetings with people. It is important to foster connections, and do not want to overstep.

**Senator Sharpe** says that tens and tens of resolutions were successfully passed that did not have meetings and were not perceived as overstepping. This is a recommendation. It is not a concern, as the law school will receive this very well. We are asking them to do something most fundamental to our faith.

Motion to vote by Senator Buckley and seconded by Senator Schlee → Motion passes

Vote on A Resolution to Place Crucifixes in the Crough Center → Vote passes with 19 yays and 6 nays

### **C. Senator Lackey, School of Nursing (Resolution 015) 9:33 PM** i. A Resolution to

Include Mental Health Days in the University Academic Calendar **Motion to extend meeting by Senator Moore and seconded by Senator Farrell Motion passes**

Vote on extending the meeting → passes

**Senator Lackey** started by thanking who supported this resolution, including the research committee. This is very close to her heart. Everyone who knew her in highschool, knew she studied hard and was a good student. She was very active in her parish. When she got to college, she kept up the same routine, sailing through the days. What everyone didn't see was that she had no other choice. There were voices in her head telling her she was going to fail. She spent every minute praying. She thought this was normal until she went to confession with Father Jude. She said forgive me father for I have not gone to confession in two days. He told her she had OCD and to go to the counseling center. Mental health days are only implemented only after an increase in student suicide. In Senate 6, Senator Hermann asked for these days and everyone agreed with her. Catholic has never had a suicide, but we should not wait until then to give students the support they need. There should be screenings and support as well as information as to what an intake session looks like. Mental health days allow students to get the help they need. It was an overwhelming feeling of relief and joy when she no longer had to keep living the way she was. Mental health days can help people who do not suffer help their friends recognize the day. This will not solve the mental health crisis in one motion, but it opens the door for the implementation for more. We are humans first and students second. She humbly implores everyone in the senate vote in favor.

**Senator Holcomb** thinks that it is very brave of Senator Lackey to share her experiences and appreciates it. She makes an excellent argument. We are all in the same boat here. At the beginning of the year, her dance professor told them to take a mental health day whenever they needed to. It is our professional responsibility to take care of ourselves, and not just in the performing arts. She hopes everyone has professors who do that too. It is a big thing and she urges everyone to vote in

favor.

**Senator Pelekasis** thanks her for bringing this resolution to the floor. It is evident that they are both very passionate about this issue. However, she has some questions about the mental health days. Will they be decided by the individual? How many days will they be? Will they be decided by the university as a whole or each school? Will professors receive mental health days? Will this affect the school days or breaks or snow days? How are other universities implementing this?

**Senator Lackey** says that right now it would be one day per semester, preferably after midterms. Midterms are very tough and the break is well deserved. It would not affect any breaks or snow days. Other universities get fall break after midterms and we don't. The break is not the solution, we need something more. It would be once per semester, half way through, and across all academic schools. Her original idea was each school would get to choose a day, but since students take classes in multiple schools, that wouldn't make sense. The best way for all students would for it to be on the academic calendar. This is the best way to start a conversation. She is excited to see how this can be implemented and about addressing burnout culture. Your esteem should not be about how stressed you are. You are allowed to take care of yourself and be a person. This is the time to start taking care of yourself and installing that in students.

**Senator Schlee** asks how many have heard from themselves or friends that they just need to make it to Thanksgiving or to Christmas. That says a lot. If we could all have a moment for ourselves and take a breath, it would be really beneficial. This will be a day for professors as well as students. We also have professors who are struggling as there is lots of stress for them as well. This will be for the greater good. If you yourself have not experienced a mental health crisis emergency, several of your friends have. It does not just impact the person, but everyone around them. We cannot let this happen. There has been a lot of research done and the research committee has been amazing. They figured out the best way to address this and it was the best version they could come to. She urges everyone to vote in support.

**Senator Hermann** says if anyone is on the fence there was lots of extensive research. This is not a new idea, they are just asking the school to better implement it. She urges everyone to vote in favor.

**Senator Suarez** thanks Senator Lackey for introducing this to the floor. This personally affects her and her peers. She asks how this would work around the counseling center being constantly packed.

**Senator Lackey** has a working theory in her brain. Like a snow day the university would be closed, but the counseling center can come and help. This would allow students to meet them and see that they are real people. Normal advocacy could resume the next day. This would allow wiggle room for advocacy to get it implemented.

**Senator Hermann** says that the counseling center has a lot of group sessions that most students don't know about and they could advertise that.

**Senator Birth** is thankful that there are a lot of mental health resources in DC. The first step is recognizing that you need help in the first place. As a Catholic, there is always that issue with faith and mental health cannot co-exist. If we took this step, all of the other universities could follow

suit. We also can grow the counseling center.

**Senator Martin** thanks Senator Lackey for bringing this to the floor. She is incredible for sharing this and it takes a lot of courage. She wants to know if she has spoken to anyone about how it would be implemented and it is not just an administrative day. It would be silly to have classes two days in a row, like Columbus Day.

**Senator Lackey** admits that she hasn't talked to the counseling center. She has reached out, but they are hard to get in touch with. She hasn't spoken with the administration either. This is already implemented, it would just be in a more structured way. It wouldn't be announced in the morning like a snow day, but it would be a day on the calendar. Just like the Immaculate Conception and Columbus day, it would be worked around and it is something that needs to be prioritized.

**Senator Schlee** asks if anyone has noticed that there wasn't a reading day this semester. It is usually on a Monday, but it was on a Sunday this year, which defeats the purpose of it. They have the ability to look at schedules ahead of time, and pick any day. It doesn't have to be a Monday, it could be a Friday or Thursday. They are leaving it open to accommodate for the best day to schedule it. They are going in the direction that makes the most sense. A snow day is not the same as a whole educational day where we can promote good healthy days on campus. This is something that is realistic and can stop the stigma around mental health.

**Senator Crnkovich** thanks Senator Lackey for bringing this to floor and addressing mental health before it is too late. He highlights a story about his cousin. She was a nursing student here and in ROTC. It was a very demanding workload. Her brother told him that his cousin was in a deep crisis and thought about taking her life at a metro station. Thank God she didn't. This is not to sour the mood, but to say that this is real. She dropped out, got the help she needed, and went somewhere else. He is fully in support of this.

**Senator Moore** thanks Senator Lackey for bringing this to the floor. There is a big relation between spiritual and mental health. It is time to reclaim that and get dignity and advocacy. We could get Father Jude and campus ministry involved to show that mental health is not a sin. He is in full support of this resolution.

**Senator Jagiello** loves this resolution and thanks Senator Lackey for bringing it to the floor. He personally resonates with the need to have a day off. As Senator Birth mentioned, the spital connection is so prevalent, especially with what we all just went through. It is All Saints Day, let's pass this resolution. Getting to pray has a positive impact. This could be a day where the entire university can celebrate themselves. Making campus ministry more available is important.

**Senator Lackey** thinks this is a really good idea. Her spiritual director is Father Lewis. For her, it is easier to talk to him. Priests are not counselors, but the two domains interact in many places. She is keeping a specific day open to be flexible.

Motion to vote by Senator Crn and seconded by Senator Kwiatek → Motion passes

Vote on A Resolution to Include Mental Health Days in the University Academic Calendar→  
Vote passes with 25 yays and 0 nays

**D. Senator Martin, Class of 2025 (Resolution 016) 9:50 PM** i. A Resolution to

Extend the Hours of the Eatery

**Senator Martin** thanks Vice President Wallace. She is so thankful to be introducing her first resolution. This is beneficial to all and almost everyone has been negatively impacted by the Eatery hours. Many students skip meals because of this. She spoke with over 25 people and all of them either skipped meals or ate other foods. All freshmen and sophomores have to get the most expensive meal plan. Over 144 athletes skip meals because they can't eat a lot before practice and by the time they are done, the Eatery is closed. They are paying a huge amount of money for something they are not even using. They are wasting over \$600 due to circumstances out of their control. Bill Jones, the director of events, did not realize this was such a big issue. Takeout was the best option, that way table clean up is not an issue. The hours before COVID-19 were until 10 PM. This could ensure that all Catholic students have access to proper resources to eat.

**Senator Sharpe** says that Senator Martin hits the idea on the head. Students are forced to pay for a meal plan. Freshman and sophomores have to buy the most expensive meal plan. If you are going to do that, you need to allow students adequate and sufficient time to let them eat.

**Senator Fahey** congratulates Senator Martin for presenting her first resolution. It is comprehensive and gives us the number and concern. She likes to address students' financial situations. We do not know how students are managing this. Adjusting the first semester is a big task, and students can get lost in studying and cannot get meals because of it. She thanks her for this resolution to the floor.

**Senator Martin** talked to a student on the track and field team. They have to buy groceries because their practice ends at 10 PM Monday through Thursday. They spend about \$100 every two weeks. That is about \$800 over four months on top of the \$1400 they are paying per semester for a meal plan. Luckily her parents can help her out, but lots cannot.

**Senator Crnkovich** says that Senator Martin really hit it on the head with athletics. We talk about creating a whole culture, a united culture. But the DuFour is almost a separate culture. Most, if not all, the athletes miss out on the opportunity to eat with other students.

**Senator Senator** thinks that the dining experience is a huge part of that transition into college. She came to college under unique circumstances, and wishes she had that experience last year. It is a great way to make friends, Extending the dining hours would mend and branch those other parts of campus together. This was the single biggest issue brought to her attention. There is an inaccessibility of not even food, but hot food.

Motion to vote by Senator Farrell and seconded by Senator Sharpe → Motion passes  
Vote on A Resolution to Extend the Hours of the Eatery → Vote passes with 25 yays and 0 nays

**Senator Hermann** makes a point of personal privilege to leave for an academic commitment in the morning

## **E. Senator Crnkovich, School of Philosophy (Resolution 017) 10:18 PM**

### **i. A Resolution to Implement Ex Corde Ecclesiae in the Theology Learning Community Class**

**Senator Crnkovich** thanks Vice President Wallace. This reading was established to create the best citizens in the republic and Catholic strives for that. We are somewhat of an anomaly, as we are the only catholic university to get Papal charter. By doing so, we have a unique relationship with Rome and the Catholic Church. This is why each student must take 3-4 theology classes. For some students, this may seem unwarranted and arbitrary. but every student should have the opportunity to read the document. it would unite students in personal growth. In brevity, it is a legal document within the Church that implements the outline of our faith. Making it mandatory in LCs would allow students the chance to understand and appreciate this university. Ex Corde Ecclesiae is not a long read and should be made mandatory in LCs. President Garvey asks all faculty to read this document, and so should students.

**Senator Scott** thanks Vice President Wallace and Senator Crnkovich. He apologizes for not reading this sooner, or he would have been a co-sponsor. He knows he was indelicate with his speech earlier and apologizes. He wants to address the main concern and point raised. Everyone who comes knows what they're getting themselves into. Personally, this university is perfect for anyone. He feels it is imperative to what a catholic university means to include this reading. As a theology senator, this work is not brought up and the ideas in it are only touched on. He feels that it is prevalent that everyone understands it, and the best way is through LCs. He is in firm support of this resolution.

**Senator Crnkovich** says we all saw tonight how this could be helpful. We disagree about our different beliefs, but something that he finds helpful is a practice used in medieval times in philosophy. When you were having a dispute, you always had to restate your opponent's argument back to them, so that you could really address what they were saying. This gives us all the same foundational document, so we can have these discussions. It is something that unites us and is a reference point for debates.

**Senator Jagiello** gives his 110% support. By golly, he should've co-sponsored this. He is all about getting young people into the church, especially freshmen. He thinks this is a wonderful idea.

**Senator Besendorfer** can see the passion Senator Crnkovich has. She has one question. When she took LCs, there were times where they did not even learn the same or cover the same material. Since all LC professors hold their classes in different ways, how will this be implemented?

**Senator Crnkovich** is so glad this point was brought up. There is so much variety between professors and graduate students. This would be mandatory. Just like Dei verbum, you would also have to read this. The professors can teach it as they want. For example, it could be assigned to read for the first week and you could discuss it in class.

**Vice President Wallace** rules all the motions to vote dilletory.

**Senator Suarez** says that this is an awesome resolution on an awesome day. This will help guide other freshmen and future freshmen within their theology LC. It will bring guidance and direction

and brighten their education in the terms of whatever they are studying.

Motion to vote by Senator Martin and seconded by Senator Pel → Motion passes

Vote on A Resolution to Implement Ex Corde Ecclesiae in the Theology Learning Community Class → Vote passes with 24 yays and 0 nays

## **5. Vice President, SGA Updates 10:37 PM**

**Vice President Wallace** apologizes for the repeated length of the meetings. To be transparent, there are nine possible resolutions for the next meeting. We only have one or two more meetings this semester, and she wants everyone to take that into consideration when communicating with her. She wants to gauge where everyone is at and everyone works so hard. Secondly, Senator Harris emailed her and President Anger and is stepping down as the senator from the School of Social Services. If you know anyone that would be interested, please let her know. There is a mandatory town hall meeting with President Garvey tomorrow. The CACS survey has been sent out. She asks all senators to email the survey to ten of their constituents and copy her on the email. They are trying to get to 1000 responses. Next Wednesday, November 17, the introduction to Sister Thea Bowman is happening. It is mandatory.

## **6. Open Floor 10:40 PM**

**Senator Jagiello** noticed that lots of people left the meeting, but if anyone wants to speak to him about Spookapella please reach out. He wants to hear everything and all concerns. He was distraught it happened and please email him or come to his office hours. He was not here last meeting as he was doing the liturgy for all saints day. The Cardinals for Life appeal did not go as planned. Treasury Board lobbied senators and the separation of powers was not there. He finds it very disheartening as a member of the senate and wants to bring a bill of censure against Curtis Bommer.

**Senator Schlee** says on a positive note, Mock Trial is having their knockout debate, it is up everyone's alley and you can practice your civil discourse. Moving on, once again CACS. Please shred it to pieces. She wants the resolution to be the strongest it can be. She wants to express some of her concerns over censoring and impeachment. She does not believe that would be a productive use of our time. We hashed it all out and taking things further would be a waste of our time. We need to refocus ourselves on some of these resolutions instead of redoing things. She reached out to Cardinals for life and wants to help build back relationships. She will do everything she can to help them. She wants everyone to really consider the potential of these actions that have been put out there and how that could negatively impact resolutions. More of our students want to see resolutions, instead of playing politics.

**Senator Moore** thanks the student who spoke up about Spookapella. Crude jokes were made and it sent out a message to the wider community. Himself and Senators Sharpe and Crnkovich created a resolution to address the problem. It was unfairly held off. Vice President Wallace has the authority to do so, however it will fade from people's minds. All of SGA needs to condone the behaviors and ensure something like this does not happen again.

**Vice President Wallace** wants to clarify why this resolution was not brought to the floor. She did not get a chance to meet, and the agenda was already full. She is not against the resolution and has no intention of restricting legislation.

**Senator Martin** was really glad her first resolution was passed. She wants to add on to Senator Schlee. Treasury Board had a freshman vote no, and they talked. She is not against Cardinals for Life and reached out to them to talk. She is going to speak about campus values for legislation about getting an entire day off for the march for life.

**Senator Suarez** thanks everyone again for another productive meeting. She is working on a resolution to improve the lighting around campus. If you are interested, please reach out to her. She is hopeful for the future.

**Senator Drauschak** is working on his first resolution to cancel classes for Veterans Day. Not this one, but the next one. If you want to be involved, please let him know.

**Senator Crnkovich** wants to speak along the lines of what Senator Moore said. He is not attacking anyone, just wants to make the university and SGA aware of the affected students. He was not at the event, but a constituent reached out to him and wished to express what happened. The event hosted by Redline was shameful and they had to leave after a few minutes due to discomfort over the hyper sexual jokes about the Catholic Church. When Gerogetown came up, there was a crude joke made about what they could do with their mouths. There were belittling remarks and jokes made about holy water. This is a public scandal. We had an opportunity to display our catholic faith, and failed to serve, because we actively belittled our school. The worst part of the event was the public scandal, as young children were in attendance. Steps need to be taken ,to not endorse this behavior. We cannot let this happen again.

**Senator Sharpe** joined Senators Moore and Crnkovich. He was disappointed about the blocking of the Spookapella resolution and the public comments. At least ten members of the public came to share their concerns with SGA leaders, and they were blocked. That is within Vice President Wallace's powers, but he is still disappointed. We had the opportunity to share our catholic values, yet what happened was antithetical. It was a shame that so many people were there to witness it. We cannot target the student emcees. We are called to respond with grace and forgiveness. As elected student leaders, we have the responsibility to publicly condemn these actions. He thanks Redline for their statement. This is the first he is hearing about censuring. It would have to go through his committee. We have a lot of resolutions to go over, and the VP has the power to add more meetings. He recommends that another meeting should be added to get through all of the resolutions.

**Senator Suarez** wants to comment on Spookapella. She was at the event, and does not have words for what occurred. This was the first public event she was at, and she was incredibly disappointed. This poorly displays the university and hopes something like this does not occur in the future.

**Senator Scott** feels the need to end on a positive note, but this is still a sore subject. He went to sidewalk prayer and there was such an outpouring of catholic community. He is proud of Senators



Martin and Schlee for reaching out to Treasury Board. There were five times as many people who showed up than usual. We need to think about the people who elected us with their values.

**7. Adjournment 10:55 PM** Motion to adjourn by Senator Jagiello and seconded by Senator

Michels → Motion passes Vote on motion to adjourn → Vote passes and meeting is

adjourned