



# The Catholic University of America Student Government Association 2021-2022 Senate Session 7-8

February 7th, 2022  
8:15 p.m. – 10:15 p.m. EST

## ROLL CALL

**Vice President** - Monica Wallace

**Secretary** – Nicole Campos and  
Jordan Gehrig

**Parliamentarian** - Mike McCabe

### **Class of 2022**

Gerald Sharpe   X    
Alan Cunningham   X  

### **Class of 2023**

Matthew Drauschak   X    
Patricia Kwiatek   A  

### **Class of 2024**

Jamie Besendorfer   X    
Matthew Michels   X  

### **Class of 2025**

Maevis Fahey   X    
Ashley Martin   X  

### **School of Architecture**

Melissa Kazanci   X    
Jared Jagiello   A  

### **School of Arts and Sciences**

Maura Schlee   X    
Garrett Farrell   X  

### **Busch School of Business**

Isabel Buckley   X    
Raegan Lehman   X  

### **School of Engineering**

Emily Bowman   X    
Margaret Bubel   X  

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

Kyle Holcomb   X    
Sophia Pelekasis   A  

### **School of Nursing**

Brooke Lackey   X    
Christina Hermann   X  

### **School of Philosophy**

Michael Moore   X    
Tony Crnkovich   X  

### **School of Social Service**

Grace Birth   X    
Vacant       

### **School of Theology**

John Scott   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** **8:18 PM**

**Senator Birth** opens Senate 7-8 with a 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.

**Karla Martinez**, a junior accounting major with a minor in Spanish. Tonight, the senators will vote for her appointment as a Treasury Board Director. She also urges the senators to vote in favor of the bylaw revision.

**Rob Nero**, the Treasury Board Pro Tempore, urges the senators to vote for the bylaw revisions. The treasury board worked tirelessly to create and amend certain bylaws. This is to ensure that there is enough funds for the entire school year. He also notes that the senators will be voting for Karla and notes that she has been a pleasure to work with. Finally, he urges the senators to vote in favor of Senator Michel's resolution on the washing machines. He is a proud member of Opus Hall but found it unacceptable for only 5-8 washers working at any one time.

**Molly**, a sophomore nursing major, urges the senators to vote in favor of Senator Michel's resolution.

**Chloe Van Syckel**, a senior politics major, and president of CUA Dems, voices her opposition to the new treasury board bylaw revisions. It should not be up to the treasury board to tell student organizations what they are worth. Smaller organizations will struggle the most with these

revisions.

**Catriona Fee** also opposes the bylaw revisions. She believes that they will be restricting the ability of smaller clubs to fund their events.

**Jordan Farrell** is representing the Treasury Board. She urges the senators to urge in favor of the revisions. The rules will apply to everyone and there is a clear expectation of what is happening. These revisions will allow every club to be treated equally, big or small.

**Mike Staresinic** is representing the Treasury Board. He is asking the senators for help on reforming the bylaws so that the student activity fee can last the whole year. These revisions will allow for the big events to happen.

## **2. Adoption of Agenda**

**8:25 PM**

Adoption of the agenda by Senator Farrell, seconded by Senator Schlee.

Motion to adopt the agenda→ Motion Passes.

Voting on adoption of the agenda→ Vote passes.

## **3. Approval of Minutes**

**8:25 PM**

### **A. Session 7-7 (January 24, 2022)**

Adoption of the 7-7 Minutes by Senator Moore, seconded by Senator Birth.

Motion to approve of the minutes→ Motion Passes.

Vote on the approval of the minutes→ Vote Passes.

## **4. Committee Reports**

**8:26 PM**

### **A. Senator Sharpe, Rules and Administration**

**Senator Sharpe** mentions that the committee on Rules and Administration met last Tuesday and had a number of discussions on different Senate Bylaw revision, particularly on policy and clarifying long standing practices. There will be more meetings to come about these revisions.

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

**Senator Schlee** notes that the committee on Academic Affairs had a wonderful meeting, where they discussed lots of issues, including raising wages for the Writing Center tutors. Tonight, a resolution will come from this committee about joint programs. She is chairing the academic calendar special committee. They spent an hour on hashing out a bunch of different issues. A great proposal came out of that for the executive board. She is hopefully it will be completed by the end of the week.

### C. Senator Besendorfer, University Services

**Senator Besendorfer's** committee met last Monday. They had a great discussion about different resolutions coming soon. Senator Suarez is creating a resolution on lighting on campus. There is also a resolution in the works about more transparency and communication for seniors and graduates about graduation and senior events. Please reach out to either her or Senator Lehman. She is also excited for her resolution regarding move in and move out to hit the floor tonight.

### D. Senator Farrell, Student Resources

**Senator Farrell** notes that there are two major updates within the committee of Student Resources. Senator Cunningham is bringing forward a resolution on raising the minimum wage on campus. If a senator would like to help, please reach out to him. Secondly, Senator Hermann is no longer leading the resolution on using technology in the classroom that was used during the height of the pandemic. However, the committee will still be working on the resolution together.

### E. Senator Birth, Campus Life

**Senator Birth** notes that her committee had a productive meeting last Monday. There are a couple of resolutions that are in the works, including website auditing, to keep the website up to date. Senator Michel will be presenting his resolution on washing machines in Opus Hall. She has seen him work diligently on this resolution. The committee also discussed the difficulties of AP and transfer credits. Senator Birth is still working on her resolution about times of crisis. She is waiting for a meeting to happen before bringing it to the floor. There is also a resolution revolving around the counseling center and the lack of an athletic specialist counselor for athletes.

## 4. New Business

### A. Confirmation of Treasury Board Appointment

**8:30 PM**

- i. Karla Martinez-Victoria, Director

Motion to vote on the confirmation by Senator Sharpe and seconded by Senator Besendorfer.

Motion to vote on confirmation → Motion Passes

Vote on confirmation → With 22 in favor, 0 against, Karla Martinez is confirmed as a Treasury Board *Director*.

**Vice President Wallace** makes a note to the senators to not trip when crossing the stage over a computer cord.

### B. Senator Michels, Class of 2024 (Resolution 032)

**8:34 PM**

- i. A Resolution to Update Housing Services' Laundry Facilities Policies

**Senator Michels** is happy to be back with another resolution. He has a story about living in Opus this past fall semester. There were some tremendous casualties. At a given time, 8 out of the 13

washing machines were broken. The issue was so great, that someone even came to his office hours. He met with Joe Dunkin who talked about the current process of what to do when something like this happens. A diagnostics code is shown and a student should call Caldwell and Gregory to tell them. It turns out that the code displayed was a code never before seen by the company and other universities have since been notified. Also, there have been supply chain shortages and it has been difficult for Caldwell and Gregory to send over a technician. More machines were being overused and broken more often. The current policy does not make sense and a burning smell should not have to wait for a technician from another company. Most of the time, the issue is that the machine needs to be taken out and plugged back in. We do not always have the manufacturer to come and fix it when we have technicians who can handle this. The manufacture should be a last resort.

**Senator Schlee** thanks senator Michels for his resolution and sees the passion in it. She has a question about the last be and enacted clause. There are three different offices within campus that are to be notified here. Why is he choosing several instead of one centralized office? Where is he coming from that?

**Senator Michels** answers by saying that each of these offices overlap each other in this issue. Resident life oversees the laundry, while facilities maintenance helps with issues. Housing services is the intermediary between the university and Caldwell and Gregory. RA's also have some training for these issues and are more equipped than the average student.

**Senator Besendorfer** thanks Senator Michels but agrees with Senator Schlee in the confusion of the three different offices. Would he be willing to amend the resolution to allow for a more central office to take charge of these issues. This could turn into a game of telephone and issues may become forgotten.

**Senator Michels** does not think amendment is necessary as it is not confusing as to which group you would need to go to. This would allow for more accessibility to every student. The RHO is pretty active and all these offices communicate with each other.

**Senator Drauschak** agrees with Senator Michels 100% on having more points of contact.

**Senator Sharpe** likes the resolution and supports it. He notes that if we keep the language of the resident life staff on the resolution, this would have to be communication to resident life, which will trickle down to RAs.

**Senator Michels** notes that this point will be earmarked for RAs, to ensure they are aware of this change.

Motion to vote by Senator Herman, seconded by Senator Bowman.

Motion to vote→ Motion Passes

Vote on the resolution itself→ With 22 yays, 0 against, the vote passes.

### **C. Senator Schlee, School of Arts and Sciences (Resolution 033)**

**8:47 PM**

- i. A Resolution to Strengthen the Joint Academic Programs

**Senator Schlee** states some background and insight as to why she is bringing this resolution tonight. She has known people who have successfully done a 4+1 program while also knowing people who had a very difficult time. Here at CUA, there are very unclear guidelines with how to complete the program and allow students to be guided in a correct manner. She knows of a constituent who was given unclear guidance and then was not accepted into the graduate program that she had done everything right to qualify for. There is no agreement during their junior year where students can get, in writing, a promise that if they had done all the necessary qualifications for the program, they would be accepted into the program. Their programs are well advertised yet are greatly underutilized at this university.

**Senator Martin** thanks Senator Schlee for her work. She is only a freshman but understands that this is extremely important and affects the entire student body. Her first advisor could give her no information she needed about these programs. They just told her they could deal with it later when really, this is a decision that should be made by their second semester, so they can strategize the classes they wish to take.

Motion to vote on Resolution 033 by Senator Hermann, seconded by Senator Besendorfer.

Motion to vote→ Motion Passes.

Vote on Resolution 033→ With 22 yays, 0 against, the vote passes.

#### **D. Senator Besendorfer, Class of 2024 (Resolution 034)**

**8:56 PM**

##### **i. A Resolution to Better Facilitate the Move In and Out Process**

**Senator Besendorfer** has another housing services resolution and story. When she moved back to campus after Christmas break, her mini-fridge was missing. She was confused that many of her items were moved around and this is the third out of four times this had happened. In trying to get her mini-fridge back, she realized that housing services were not open and would not be open on the weekend. All the food she bought would be wasted. She has heard similar stories from many of her constituents. She thinks that if housing services could be opened during its busiest weekends, it could only help the students who come across different issues when moving in and out.

Motion to Amend Resolution 034 by Senator Farrell. The contents of the amendment are: Changing in the fourth whereas to exponentially.

A vote to motion to amend→ Vote Passes

Motion to vote on amendment by Senator Cunningham, seconded by Senator Suarez.

Vote on amendment itself→ Vote Passes and the amendment has been approved. The senators return to a period of debate on the resolution itself.

**Senator Fahey** has just one question. She wants to know more about the last clause, on the donation idea. She thinks it a great one and wants Senator Besendorfer to elaborate.

**Senator Besendorfer** is open to many suggestions and is currently working on the details. When discussed in committee meetings, it was suggested that it could be on the main floor lounge. In previous years, it had been discussed and partially executed, just not to the caliber she wished it

would. She thinks it would be similar to the co-op library from last semester.

**Senator Birth** thanks Senator Besendorfer for the resolution. She has two concerns. She would like to give an example of where they would like to see a greater effort of examples of what they should and should not bring. She believes that the email that housing services send is detailed. Also, for advocacy's sake, perhaps it should be worded in a way that carts should be allowed for students who have an early move in date as well.

**Senator Schlee** gives the example of a time where a lack of communication affected many students. When students got new Cardinal Cards, there was uncertainty if the old cards had to be brought or not. The office of transportation was overwhelmed. There should have been more communication.

**Senator Besendorfer** also makes a point that she lost her cardinal card and paid forty dollars for a new one, just to find out that three days later, her card would be useless and needed a new one. She also makes a note that not everyone can attend the RA floor meetings. It is worth mentioning what you will and will not need in an email.

**Senator Drauschak** has a question about how much it will cost between renting and buying additional carts and the cost of extending the hours of Housing Service.

**Senator Besendorfer** responds by saying that she does not have an exact quote on the carts but knows that housing services are not concerned about the price. Opening on those 8 extra days would also not be a concern financially. For the carts, she believes they are about 100\$ per cart. She left her resolution more open ended so the university can make the final decision.

**Senator Michels** has a question about moving out and not enough communication. During finals week, he does not think student concern will be focused on moving out and not everyone will pay attention to an email from their RA. How will we navigate that?

**Senator Besendorfer** is hoping that if students miss all the RA meetings, then perhaps sending three emails during different times. Emails from different offices should also help get the point across.

**Senator Crnkovich** notes that he had a lot of issues with moving in and out. He suggests an amendment to the third Be and Enacted clause, that in addition to housing services, to also add in the office of Transportation.

**Senator Besendorfer** is willing to make that amendment because of possible lock outs and people being denied food over a long weekend.

Motion to amend by Senator Schlee. The nature of the amendment: The third be and enacted clause, to include "Housing Services and Office of Transportation Parking Services extend their hours of operation temporarily during move in."

**Vice President Wallace** makes note of the amendment and says it out loud for all to hear.

Vote on the motion to amend → Vote passes. A period of debate has opened on amendment.

Motion to vote ruled dillatory.

**Senator Sharpe** wants to know why the office of transportation is needed for move-out weekend. Also, he has thought that previously, the office of transportation has been open for move-in and other weekends.

**Senator Besendorfer** notes that to move out, it is not always necessary but a good back up. However, to move in, it is orientation and targets freshmen. Moving back in for spring semester does not encompass orientation and like Senator Crncovich said, does not include that weekend.

**Senator Sharpe** notes that the office of transportation has pop in hours but are very limited and inconvenient, especially with time slots for moving in. He also notes that if you do not have your cardinal card, you cannot eat. He hopes the new hours can help with those issues.

**Senator Besendorfer** notes that for moving out, knows that there are issues with keys and for advocacy sake, to push for residence life to stay open to combat those key issues.

Motion to vote on the amendment by Senator Cunningham, seconded by Senator Fahey

Vote on the amendment itself→ 21 in favor, 1 against, amendment passes.

**Senator Holcomb** thanks Senator Besendorfer for this resolution. He thinks these are great ideas but is curious as to why there is just one big resolution instead of smaller resolutions? It feels messy.

**Senator Schlee** speaks out that it was her idea for this. She believes that this resolution is all encompassing and could all fit under the same umbrella. She also did not want to waste the time of other senators, as time is precious in the Senate.

**Senator Sharpe** asks for a point of personal privilege to leave the room for a second.

Motion to vote by Senator Lackey, seconded by Senator Buckley.

Motion to vote→ Motion Passes

Vote on Resolution 034 itself→ 21 in favor, 0 against, Resolution 034 passes.

**Senator Bubel** asks for a point of personal privilege to use the restroom.

## **E. Treasury Board Bylaw Revisions**

**9:30 PM**

### **i. Treasurer Curtis Bommer**

Motion to suspend the rules to allow Treasurer Bommer to speak by Senator Moore, second by Senator Cunningham

Motion to suspend the rules→ Motion Passes.

Voting on the suspension itself→ Vote passes.

**Treasurer Bommer** thanks everyone for rearranging the agenda for him and for the flexibility. He is here to answer the questions and concerns for the treasury bylaw reforms. He wants to note that the entire treasury board unanimously voted in favor of these bylaws. These revisions are to



control the spending habits of student organization and to preserve the Student Activity Fee. He knows some of the revisions are heavy hitter topics and controversial, like the speaker fee cap. He notes that the student activity fee is based on enrollment and that enrollment numbers have been declining since the pandemic. These revisions can be removed and amended when enrollment numbers increase again. These bylaws are a precautionary measure for the student activity fee.

**Senator Moore** seeks for more clarification on the bonding clause. It could be implied that almost any event by a student organization is a bonding event. Bonding is a broad term.

**Treasurer Bommer** notes that throughout his history in the treasury board, bonding events are events with no marketing and closed to the general student population.

**Senator Drauschak** followed up with what Senator Moore asked for more clarification on bonding, specifically for Habitat for Humanity. He considers it a bonding event, as it is a small group that can go.

**Treasurer Bommer** notes that Habitat for Humanity is a special case. It is the single largest requester of funds. However, because the entire student body can attend this event, it is not a bonding event.

**Senator Besendorfer** makes a note for other senators that just as the Senate has a few nuisances and terms used within the Senate, so does the Treasury board. Our definition of bonding is different than their definition of bonding. Her question is about the \$500.01 fund and the change from \$500 to \$500.01.

**Treasurer Bommer** says that it is because sometimes there are transaction fees, especially when it comes to external coaching.

**Senator Moore** makes a note that he understands what bonding is now but that it could be unclear for student organization and in the bylaws, it is not explicitly stated.

**Treasurer Bommer** notes that the more nice issues are found in their handbook and that more specifications are stated in it. Also, each student organization has a treasury board liaison to reach out to if they have questions or need mentorship to ask for funds. Each liaison is trained by the treasurer themselves.

**Senator Schlee** is thankful for all the hard work that the treasury board has put into these revisions and knows they put in long hours. She thanks and respects them. However, she has concerns. She wants to know why the \$2 limit for give outs changed to \$1.50. And she also wants to know why clubs need to change their undergraduate participation from 50% to 60%? Is this an issue that the treasury board is facing? Her biggest issue is with the speaker fee. She wants to know the reasoning behind this and feels like the treasury board is limiting their own power by doing this. She gives a Taylor Swift example. She believes organizations without national backing will struggle to raise enough funds to support a speaker and that ultimately, this is putting those organizations at a disadvantage.

**Treasurer Bommer** begins to respond to Senator Schlee. The change from \$2 to \$1.50 is because the majority of handouts rarely go above the \$1.50 threshold, even much less the \$2.00 threshold. Also, it is commonly known that the more of something you buy in bulk, the less expensive it is.

This could help clubs buy more and extras could be placed in OCA for next year. Next, the 50% to 60% requirement is put in place because some clubs have more graduate involvement but very little undergraduate involvement. The undergraduate students are paying the student activity fee and it should be them who mostly benefit from it. In regards to the speaker fee, he asks Senator Schlee to repeat her question.

**Senator Schlee** notes the Treasurer Bommer wants to eat up her speaking times. Her concern is that it is limiting the power of the Treasury Board to limit their funding to \$15000. She wants to know how this is not disadvantageous to those small, non-nationally backed organizations. Her third question is if the treasury board does not value having speakers come to campus. What about funding for those big banquets who spend more than \$15000? Why not with a speaker.

**Treasurer Bommer** responds to Senator Schlee. To address the enrollment issue, it is true that the university is seeing a significant decline in enrollment, which has been seen by the treasury board in different administrations. The student activity fee has suffered each year for funding. To address the Taylor Swift example, if a student organization was aware of its need to fundraise, it could prepare ahead of time. For overall worry over smaller organizations, most of those organizations can actually find speakers for almost free. It is the big popular speakers that charge for the fees. Last year, the CUA Intelligence Club was able to get all but one of their speakers for free. He also does not see the \$15,000 cap hindering super large organizations not nationally backed. A student organization will get funded for up to \$15,000 for a speaker fee. The treasury board's job is to protect the longevity of the student activity fee and feels like this amendment is necessary.

Motion to extend the meeting until the completion of the agenda by Senator Moore, seconded by Senator Besendorfer.

Motion to extend the meeting→ Motion Passes.

Voting on the extension of the meeting→ Vote Passes.

**Senator Besendorfer** has a bunch of comments. Her general thoughts on this is that the treasury board knows what is best for them and for the Student Activity Fee. She also makes a note on what Senator Schlee said. She sees that whatever Seniors pay for the student activity fee and is not used for that year but pushed to the next year, goes to the freshman for the next year. She notes that when the seniors were freshman, they also got the leftovers from the seniors and it is a cycle. Also, the bylaws are a living document and changes can be made in the future. She believes that it is rational to have a speaker fee cap for right now, when enrollment is decreased and the student activity fee is low. While she sees the value of speakers, there are limits and that issue has been fallen onto the student organizations. She imagines that two years ago, no one imagined the situation we are currently in and we cannot possibly imagine the next two years. This bylaw revision is protecting the student activity fee and the future of it. She also notes about hoping that the declining enrollment rates are temporary. These are unprecedented times and we should not wait for big portions of money to roll in.

**Treasurer Bommer** thanks Senator Besendorfer for her comments and support.

**Senator Drauschak** thanks Treasurer Bommer and will be voting in support of these amendments. He has two questions. Are bands considered speakers and will need funding for a speaker fee or something else? His second question is what is the average cost of speakers and how often do they

exceed the \$15000 threshold.

**Treasurer Bommer** bands have rarely been presented to the treasury board, unless for a gala. Then they would fall under the entertainment scope. For the second question, as far as he is aware, typically medium to high profile speakers have cost around \$15,000.

**Senator Lehman** appreciates all the hard work but has a few comments to make. She was once a student organization leader and knows how long it takes for events to get funded, especially for the speaker portion. These changes will limit the student organization and without these events, it would be up to the Program Board to really host all these speakers and other events.

**Treasurer Bommer** makes a note that the speaker fee in these revisions is only considering how much it costs for a figure to come speak. This does not include speaker travel cost and such. She also notes that anyone is allowed to come to the treasury board meetings for the most part. The discussion with the Treasury Board after the presentations are private.

**Senator Martin** thanks Treasurer Bommer for his hard work. She does have some concerns. If we do not allow for high profile speakers to come, does this aid the declining enrollment rate, thus declining the student activity fee further? These speakers are great future connections and networking opportunities. Having these high profile speakers will help increase enrollment. She is also hoping that the covid pandemic is ending soon. She is also concerned for the non-nationally backed organizations, like so many of her fellow senators.

**Treasurer Bommer** notes that in the last two fiscal years, the treasury board has had significant difficulty maintaining a healthy student activity fee, especially when funding these high profile speakers. Nearly two years ago, College Republicans quite literally broke the bank and the Treasury Board had to go in front of the Senate to ask for more funds. These revisions prevent this from happening again. Those non-nationally banked organizations typically get speakers who are under the \$15,000 threshold. Also, as this cap would be stated and known early on, those organizations can fundraise much earlier. They could also seek funding from Campus Ministry, who help host CUA on Tap.

**Senator Fahey** thanks Treasurer Bomme and for sharing his perspective of these bylaws. She is hoping to learn more about the Treasury Board. She thinks it is good to warn these student organizations about this cap so they can prepare ahead of time. She wants to know if there are other avenues around campus that could help increase the money of the student activity fee

**Treasurer Bommer** responds that the value of the student activity fee is audited by an external firm who makes conservative assumptions and gives them a price. He also notes that student organizations get training twice a year at the beginning of the semester to help them with funding. The Treasury Board has concerns that the student activity fee has very low funding right now and they cannot discourse from the current figures, which is confidential.

**Senator Sharpe** outlines a situation about stickers. If there is a problem in funding these stickers, it is within the Treasury Boards right to deny funding. He does not think that if the university is in a tough spot financially, it is up to the Treasury Board to make those tough decisions. This would be forcing the treasury board into tough spots and limiting their powers for future years. He does not see it as a good time spender to create a bylaw for a very particular circumstance, like the current pandemic that is ongoing. He also notes he is concerned that a speaker fee cap is just

unreasonable, especially with inflation. The 50% to 60% bump makes sense but seems to be arbitrary and not traceable. Also, he notes that as senators, it is their responsibility to reject this package because the student organizations, which they have been elected to represent, do not like it.

**Treasurer Bommer** thanks Senator Sharpe for his concerns. In terms of bylaw revisions, it took well over a month to get this spot in the agenda. If he had another month, assuming there was time in the senate, then the Treasury Board would be shackled into these current bylaws they have now. He notes that there are certain things he does not agree with in the bylaws but notes that they were put in place for a reason.

**Vice President Wallace** makes a response to Senator Sharpe's previous comment about not having the bylaws in front of him, which he has incorrectly assumed he would have. The bylaws are 17 pages long and would have to be printed about thirty times. That is over 500 pages that would be mostly overlooked and this is just a waste of paper.

**Senator Besendorfer** comments on the rationale of limits in Bylaws. She notes that Madam President Wallace, of the senate, has the power to limit public comment on the basis if the comments are not relative to the agenda. This is similar to why we cap the speaker fee. She thinks it is not wise to give \$40,000 for someone to talk for 90 minutes. She trusts the Treasury Board and thinks they are making the best discal decision for the student body. We cannot guarantee that the current pandemic situation will not change.

**Vice President Wallace** makes a comment to the senators to be respectful of each other's times. The Senators of the nursing students cannot stay in the Senate past 10:15 p.m. on Monday nights, as they have clinicals the next morning. She would like to ask the senators to be concise and to not repeat what other senators have said already. She also notes that Senators do not have permission to use technology during the senate and that has always been the case.

**Senator Scott** will try to be brief. First he notes that there are good things that have been brought up in these bylaws. He recommends that we think of it as a whole. On the whole, he does not think this a good change for the Treasury Board. The treasury board can limit what they choose to fund or not. He will be voting no.

**Treasurer Bommer** thanks Senator Scott for his comments. A few concerns and comments. Despite enrollment being lower, it is projected that activity in the students organization will increase as COVID restrictions ease up and students want to get back out there.

**Senator Moore** thanks Treasury Bommer for his work. He has a question about the speaker clause. He wants to know why if there is a \$15,000 cap, there could be provisions for it to be fully funded in other ways. Is this for high profile speakers?

**Treasurer Bommer** explains this in another angle. He notes that if a speaker fee is less than \$15,000, it can be fully funded. If the fee is \$15,000, it can also be fully funded. If it is over \$15,000, it will be funded for up to \$15,000, but the remainder needs to be funded by the organization.

**Senator Schlee** wants to state a few facts of what, in the past couple of years, the speaker fees have cost. One speaker cost up to \$36,000 and was completely funded. When Ted Cruz visited, it

cost \$44,000, with treasury board funding half that amount. She notes that we need to stay competitive with other DC schools. This will help increase enrollment.

**Treasurer Bommer** notes that he cannot address the specifications of these events because of the NDA Treasury Board signs. The \$36,000 speaker was fully funded because of how much money was left over from that year in the student activity fee. However, it will most likely never be that case again. Under Treasury Wallace's regime, there was a bit left over from the previous year that could roll over into that fiscal year to fund such big speakers. This year and the most previous years have had several weeks where the treasury board could not meet because of lacking funds. The Treasury Board does not have a venmo for fundraising the student activity fee. It is also not the job of the student organizations to make CUA a competitive school with grandiose speakers. That is the job of the university administration. The student organizations' job is to foster community.

Motion to vote on the treasury board bylaws by Senator Crnkovich, seconded by Senator Farrell.

Motion to vote ruled dillatory

Motion to reinstate the rules by Senator Farrell, seconded by Senator Sharpe.

Rules have been reinstated.

Motion to vote on the amendment of the bylaws→ Motion Passes

Vote on the amendment of the bylaws→ with 10 in favor and 10 against, Vice President Wallace breaks the tie by voting against the bylaw amendments. The amendment does not pass.

## **5. Vice President, SGA Updates**

**10:50 PM**

**Vice President Wallace** explains her decision as to why she voted against the bylaws. She served the treasury board for two years and does not feel comfortable voting for something that will affect the entire student body on a tie breaker. She proposes that more discussions are made for a more unified university. Secondly, she is also apologizing for a delayed response on her part. She has been busy academically but her final interview is this Friday. Afterwards, she will be working full steam ahead and her office hours are being reinstated. Next, she discusses the resolution Senator Besendorfer put out a few weeks ago. Housing services came back and replied that the current capacity of beds on campus is enough for next year. She also discusses that SEEK is this weekend, which she will be attending. She also makes a note on respecting the time of other senators. She believes that it is detrimental for the future if Senate meetings keep ending at 11 p.m. on Monday nights. She makes a comment that Secretary Phill has asked since the beginning of the year for several senators to finalize their office hours, including the senators for the class of 2022 and the school of arts and sciences. Also, if you passed a resolution tonight, please see him.

## **6. Open Floor**

**10:55 PM**

**Senator Besendorfer** asks for any seniors to please help her with a resolution about Graduation

transparency and communication.

**Senator Fahey** is still working on her epi-pen in the eatery resolution. She is also working on a resolution on auditing for the schools website. Please go to her for any questions or if you wish to co-sponsor.

**Senator Suarez** thanks the senators for a long and productive meeting. A shameless plug: The Theology club will be hosting a faculty discussion night in Aquinas on Wednesday.

## **7. Adjournment**

**10:57 PM**

Motion to adjourn by Senator Lehman, seconded by Senator Besendorfer

Motion to adjourn→ Motion Passes

Vote on adjournment itself→ Vote passes, Senate 7-8 has adjourned.