

Undergraduate Student Government

Newman Vertical Campus 3-270
55 Lexington Ave, New York, NY 10010

✉ senate@usgbaruch.com

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Nov 21, 2023 | 📅 SENATE MEETING

Attendees: Senate

Meeting Date:	November 21st, 2023	Meeting Time:	5:30 PM - 6:09 PM
Location:	USG Conference Room	Recorder:	Adriana Cuca

— Attendees —

[ABSENT] Jessica Yauri President	Abdullah Mahdi Executive Vice President
Karen Guanga Executive Treasurer	Adriana Cuca Executive Secretary
Adelaide Ilyasov Vice President of Academic Affairs	Dave Olajide Vice President of Campus Affairs
Khairun 'Khair' Nisa Vice President of Legislative Affairs	Skyla Chan Vice President of Student Affairs
[ABSENT] Asher Gonzalez Chair of Appeals	Amrutha Thirumalesh Chair of Clubs & Organizations
[ABSENT] Bricen Fisher Chair of Finance	[ABSENT] Aliyah Jara Chair of Graphic Design
Jessica Angamarca Chair of Marketing	Victor Martinez Representative Senator
[LATE - 5:51PM] Brianna Augustin Representative Senator	Emile Barhumi Representative Senator
JiaQi Wu Representative Senator	Jason Martinez Representative Senator
Kayla Hualpa Representative Senator	Shazia Hussain Representative Senator
Zena Ally Representative Senator	Christian Reyes Representative Senator
Geovani Pelaez Representative Senator	

Passing of the Minutes

- Motion to Pass Senate Meeting #11 Minutes
 - 15-0-0

Reports

I. Abdullah Mahdi | Executive Vice President

- Welcome to our newest table member, Geovani! We are so excited to have you join our team! Thanksgiving is coming up, the EVP asked some table and audience members to share one thing that they are thankful for.

II. Kayla Aaron | University of Student Senate Alternate Delegate

- I'm Kayla Aaron, a member of Baruch's USS Delegate team of four representatives, two delegates and two alternates. I was elected last plenary to be the Vice Chair of Senior Colleges. Senior colleges are any four-year college in the CUNY system. Mainly, I am working with students and student leaders at those colleges and their USS teams to talk about issues they are experiencing. At our last meeting, our team from Baruch got appointed to a few committees between the Board of Trustees and USS committees. Work is done in those groups in committee and then voted on at the plenary. For our

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team, Avrohom was appointed to the Board of Trustees Committee for Diversity and Inclusion, Joseph was appointed for Advancement and External Affairs, and I was appointed for Governance. The Board of Trustees is made up of many city and state stakeholders, appointed by either the governor or the mayor. Students get one seat on that board and they get a vote, while faculty have a seat but do not get a vote. As for the USS Committees, Avrohom got appointed to Student Voter Awareness, Joseph got appointed to Events, Legislative Affairs, and Undocumented and International Students, and I got elected to steering and Academic Affairs, the Scholarship Committee and Student Voter Awareness. Lastly, a new initiative that I am bringing to USS to the larger CUNY system is an Events Rescuebook, so any events that you have hosted successfully or something that you think other colleges will benefit from, you could outline the event and tools needed to host it. Working with Brooklyn College representatives, we were thinking of hosting events with other senior colleges and targeting issues that student governments at different CUNYs have been facing. The next plenary is scheduled for December 10th, most likely at John Jay from 12pm-5pm. Next meeting is likely December 17th at the USS Office from 2pm-4pm. Feel free to contact me with any questions!

III. Amrutha Thirumalesh | Chair of Clubs & Organizations

- Due to the network outage this semester, we were unable to begin chartering new clubs for the Spring semester. I have been working with our USG Advisor, Stephen Palencia, to develop a new club chartering plan. Today, I presented with Zena, Stephen, and another one of my vice chairs, Samia, a New Club GIM to students interested in starting their own club on campus. The timeline for this process is between November to May 2024, the New Club GIM in November, Interview with OSL over winter break, a mandatory New Club Showcase in February, and pitches to USG from Feb-May. We explained the new requirements that students must meet to create a new club: attend the New Club Showcase in February, host a GIM, host a co-sponsored event with a club or organization that is not USG, and a Special Event (i.e. social, speaker, professional development event, etc.). Once club chartering begins during Senate meetings, students will pitch their club proposals to USG in a 5-10 minute presentation discussing their attendance growth and planned events. The Senate will then proceed to discuss and vote during an Executive Session, the new clubs will learn if they have received approval in May 2024 so that they can begin planning for Fall 2024 as they would be unable to attain any budget for Spring 2024. This is to ensure the Senate makes sound decisions without pressure for voting 'Yes' on a club and is going to be a worthwhile addition. When voting comes around, we ask that you all be as unbiased as possible. If you are close to a club please abstain from voting, just keep general voting and Executive Session etiquette in mind. The New Club Form has been released this week so make sure to share it and encourage other students to propose their ideas for a new addition to Baruch's club life!

IV. Kayla Hualpa & Khairun Nisa | Representative Senator & Vice President of Legislative Affairs

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- Kayla: This resolution is part of the Moon Project, an initiative to make menstrual products accessible on campus. The goal is for this resolution to reach as many people as possible, students, faculty, the Deans. Providing menstrual products is just as important as providing education and other hygiene products.
- Khai: In terms of action that we hope to see after this resolution, we want the school to fund free menstrual products and make them accessible in the bathrooms. We did investigations and found that while there are places on campus to get menstrual products from, they are not always the most reliable places. The Food Pantry doesn't always have such products in stock and we visited the Health and Wellness Center today, but it was closed. We just want it to be accessible and sustainable for students.
- Abdullah Mahdi | EVP: Before moving on to voting, I just want to level with everyone. With resolutions it can be kind of confusing, this resolution is more of an indication of agreement, that you all as representatives of the student body agree with the goals of this resolution, what it stands for, and a shared desire for reasonable action to be taken towards this issue. For next steps, we have seen through our senate meetings, BOD meetings, and speaking with administrators, that our campus leaders don't really know what is going on with this issue. There's been a lot of discourse with the VP of Operations and Administration and the Dean of Students, but many don't know the origin of the current dispensers of products and what is or is not available for students. The current system of dispensers was brought in by someone from Albany and only lasted for a short time period, it wasn't sustainable. When this resolution is passed, with your committee, Khai, on the Albany trip you really have to break this resolution down to a 1-2 minute pitch to elected officials to express the concern for this issue and the need for additional funding to make it sustainable. At the current level, the student activity fee and tax levy budget is not enough to support this project. Right now, nothing will feasibly be done as these processes take very long, so advocate with other students to address this issue at the state level.
- Adelaide Ilyasov | VP of Academic Affairs: A question for Stephen, the Student vs. Faculty event has permission to do a fundraiser, especially for the Food Pantry. I was wondering if it's allowed to use the money raised for the Food Pantry to purchase menstrual products.
 - Stephen Palencia | OSL: It really depends on the Food Pantry to decide what they want to do with the money, but it is possible to give a suggestion as to what you think the money should be used towards. It would have to be discussed, but it's possible.
- The VP of Legislative Affairs and Representative Senator Hualpa authored and read aloud the Menstrual Hygiene Resolution to the Senate. A motion was made to pass the resolution and the Senate was reminded that all members must sign off on the document after it passes.

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Main Motions

- I. Motion to pass the Menstrual Hygiene Resolution.
 - 16-0-0

New Business

- I. Christian Reyes | Representative Senator
 - A. Christian showed the Senate a project to commemorate the work of our USG this year as proposed by Jessica Yauri.
- II. Karen Guanga | Executive Treasurer
 - A. Please submit your requests for reimbursement before the semester ends. Reimbursements should be made within a week of purchase and you should expect to get your check within two weeks of submitting a request. Start planning for Spring events so I can begin figuring out how much to allocate for your budgets. A reminder to stay within the budget you are given, you will not be reimbursed for any purchases made that exceed the budget.
- III. Happy Birthday to our Vice President of Legislative Affairs, Khai!

Adjournment

- I. Motion to Adjourn Senate Meeting #12 at 6:09 pm.
 - 16-0-0