

04/16/24 Sixth General Session (Final for School Year)

Agenda & Notes

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUqfuyvrj8uHNHDsbJFJ5q9Ojeze4xUu1CQ>

1. Announcements & upcoming events
 - a. Clean Slate Day 4/20
 - b. PILA 4/19
2. Candidate Forum
 - a. Question on how we can improve relationship/ efficiency with Student Affairs
3. Vote for: Co-Sponsor and donate \$50 for food costs for a panel on “The Weaponization of Counterterrorism Against Liberation Movements”
 - a. Will be put up to a whatsapp poll
4. Celebrating our Seniors
5. Superlatives
6. Fixing TV's in the pantry - No cable
 - a. No remotes either
 - b. More places to sleep

4/3/24: Fifth General Session

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMrdOyvqzwoGNchhb3efGJXgcWHY7j8AhHK>

Agenda & Notes:

1. Announcements & upcoming events
 - a. SG Reps Election
 - i. Now until Sun. 4/7 – nominations open
 - ii. Mon. 4/8 until Wed. 4/10 – nominees accept / decline nominations
 - iii. Mon. 4/15 – 24-25 Reps Candidate Forum! + 6th and final General Session (1:30 PM)
 1. Celebration! 📋 Superlatives Student Government 2024
 - iv. Mon. 4/15 until Fri. 4/19 – students vote via emailed ballots
 - b. 4/11 – SG monthly check-in with Dean of Student Affairs Dr. Hyppolite on zoom (3 PM)
 - i. Open to SG to attend
 - c. 4/12 – SG pre-finals check-in with Academic Dean Baluarte on zoom (3 PM)

- i. Talking about academic issues for finals and next semester
- d. 4/20 – CUNITY + Anti-Racist Task Force “Clean Slate Day” (9:30 AM to 4 PM)
 - i. Clean Slate Day will provide students with training from the Legal Aid Society in order to help formerly incarcerated people at the Fortune Society here at LIC. Community room and auditorium
- e. CPR / first aid and narcan trainings
 - i. These trainings are planned to be every semester. First training will not be certified, but free to attend
- 2. SG Proposal: Similar open letter?

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/harvard-law-school-body-labels-israel-war-gaza-genocide>

 - a. We can do something similar here at CUNY Law
- 3. SG constitutional amendment to remove references to inapplicable NY State Open Meetings Law
 - a. Yes: 16 - No: 0 - Abstain: 0 - Not Voting: 0
- 4. Online voting rules update
 - a. Taken off the agenda and moved to an online vote
 - i. Amended SG Online Voting Proposal
 - ii. Differences -- Amended SG Online Voting Proposal
- 5. Printing money “bank”
 - a. Taking graduating students’ remaining printing money and putting it in a bank to give students
- 6. Brief committee updates
 - a. Academic Standing Committee - Meeting going over grade appeals and reentry. They denied basically everything with gray area
 - b. Materials Fee Committee - Met for the first time and had a spreadsheet overview of the fiscal budget since 2020, and the budgets for the next four years. Talked about bar readiness. Future discussion about charging higher material fee for either all students or students using bar prep service. Seeking student feedback. Next meeting will be sometime in the Fall. Graduation, travel fees, . Raising material fees discussion because it is projected that we will be in the negative for our budget soon. There was rollover, but now there is not. Commencement is almost double to cost, so some was taken out of the materials fee.
 - c. Law Student Association - Budgets are passed and given out. We plan to meet one more time before fall in order to have our plans for next semester. Question about getting the budget before the upcoming semester. Our student activity fees are the lowest, which is why our budgets are extremely low. We can raise student activity fees if the school votes for it. Wonder if there are other avenues to raise our budget without putting the burden on students.
 - d. Graduation Committee- Met with admin and next meeting is scheduled for next week. Concerns around student speaker election. Student affairs was not transparent about the nomination process. Speaker was selected, but not notified of their

- e. University Student Senate - They have met at Albany to lobby for tuition and other resources.
 - f. Foundation Board - Has not met, meeting is next month
- 7. Community agreements between SG and boards
- 8. Transition planning
 - a. Consider running for re-election

2/23/24: Fourth General Session

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqc-mrrz4tH9X54xcKihm1lcplo1M5ac-w>

Agenda & Notes:

1. Committee updates
 - a. Nothing from Materials Fee Committee or Admissions Committee
 - b. ART "Clean Slate Day" + CUNY
 - c. LSA Committee Update - Meeting next week to go over forms
 - d. Graduation Committee has not met, but it was brought to admins attention to do the student speaker nomination. Nominations have been pushed back two weeks. New graduation venue is potentially secured. Sharing news 100 days before graduation - it has passed 100 days before graduation already.
 - e. Foundation has not met
 - f. No update on Academic Standing Committee
2. Narcan / Naloxone training update
 - a. Date solidified for the training. OASIS is willing to come and train 150 folks. Going to be on a Wednesday at 2 PM. A future date for evening students.
3. Student Gov update at Faculty Meeting
 - a. Meeting coming up this Wednesday 2/28. Requested to put student government on the agenda.
 - i. Asking about the flyering policy
 - ii. Things are not being approved that student organizations are asking for. Events with speakers are being canceled. - Policies are being discussed in private meetings, instead of public policy.
 - iii. Admin is working on an updated bulletin guideline. Asking what the update on that is.
 - iv. A discussion on what is causing the delays on student affairs. Are they understaffed or is it out of retaliation? What is going on behind the scenes?
4. "March in March" for CUNY funding
 - a. University Student Senate hosting the March on March. Demonstration for more funding for CUNY from across the city.
 - b. USS also has a free metrocard survey that is found in the SG WhatsApp Chat


2/5/24: Third General Session

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/9687810000?pwd=ZUJkdjRlYkFMcE9lMmVldDZkdz09>

Agenda & Notes:

1. Nominations & votes for internal committee chairs
 - a. Elections & Polling
 - i. Moved to a future meeting
 - b. Academic Affairs
 - i. Jimmy nominates themselves for this position
 - ii. 19 in favor, 0 opposed/ abstained. Approved
2. Nominations & votes for school committee reps
 - a. Foundation Board
 - i. Noreli nominated themselves to this board.
 - b. USS alternate
 - i. Sam nominates themselves to be an alternate.
 - c. Faculty Meeting alternate
 - i. Sarah nominates themselves to be an alternate.
 - d. Vote held to elect all three people at once
 - i. 19 in favor - 0 against - 0 abstain. They are elected
3. Approval vote for appointment of non-SG rep alternates to school committees
 - a. Curriculum committee nominations
 - i. 18 in favor/ approved
 - b. Academic standing committee nomination (3L/4L Requirement)
 - i. Noreli nominates themselves for this committee
 1. Signed up/ approved
4. Announcements
 - a. Working on securing trainers for first aid/cpr + Narcan trainings
 - b. Met w/ new Academic Dean Baluarte and discussed a lot of issues, notes in the Public Drive – 2 more meetings this semester being scheduled
 - i. Covered many topics and got a lot of information. Notes are available.
 - c. Meeting w/ new Dean of Student Affairs Hyppolite **immediately after this meeting, in-person**
 - d. Sent out notes from Faculty Meeting
 - e. Upcoming events
 - i. End of the year preliminary event (party/ spring fling) dates 3/20, 4/27, or 4/20!!!
 - ii. BLSA Gala 2/29 at Black Spectrum Theater tickets 50% off
5. Con't discussion about changing SG's quorum requirement
 - a. Question of lowering quorum
 - b. Question on proxy voting
 - i. We do not currently have a process on proxy voting

- c. We are going to keep quorum the same, and get rid of Open Meetings Law language
- 6. Discussion of student transportation costs
 - a. NJ, Long Island, upstate, parking fees
 - i. Taking on researching what we can do to help make transportation more accessible/ affordable
 - ii. Potentially an ad hoc committee
 - iii. Idea for CUNY to partnership with a parking lots by schools
 - iv. Question on the number of people living outside boroughs to see how prevalent this issue is. Information gather first.
 - 1. Angela will take on researching this issue. 33 Long Island students verified at CUNY Law.
 - v. Transportation in general even looking at folks in the borough.
- 7. Printing money "bank"
 - a. One can transfer their printing fees from one person to another.
 - b. Establishing a tradition of people donating their remaining printing money. Donating the printing money if one does not use it.
 - c. SG would serve as a facilitator to redistribute the printing fees for students.
 - d. Idea to create a PaperCut Donation Day before the last day of classes.
 - e. Idea to start with the graduating class.
 - f. Start a list on excel to see who would want to give their printing money.
 - g. Question on if PaperCut money can be used to fund other SG events/ materials.
- 8. BRIEF committee updates  Committee Seats 23-24
 - a. Majesty Curriculum Committee
 - i. Meets often and there are subcommittees with SG and non-SG members.
 - ii. Sees how the curriculum is going to change over time.
 - iii. Votes on classes that professors want. Met with new Academic Dean.
 - b. Lillian Graduation Committee
 - i. Met once where they discussed timeline for nominations of student speakers. Was not informed of the venue change for graduation.
 - ii. Asked for a follow-up meeting and there has not been an update since.
 - c. Sam Appointments Committee
 - i. Has not met this semester. Going to follow-up and met through last semester. A couple of faculty candidates were approved by the Dean.
 - ii. Search was successful, got candidates for most of the positions.
 - d. Materials Fee Committee
 - i. Still has not had a single meeting.
 - e. Josiah/ Catherine Law School Association
 - i. \$300 advancement was approved for each club
 - 1. Clubs do not have to request more if enough from
 - ii. Budget request form is coming soon, should be today.
 - f. Jimmy Anti-Racist Task Force
 - i. We are planning a survey for student/ faculty/ staff climate


- ii. We have a \$35K budget. Can not be used for fellowships, has to be used for Community Day
- iii. Idea of co-sponsorship with the event

11/27/23: Second General Session

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86171415433?pwd=WmR2NXFRNXpmclNqUUI4NDQ5eVduZz09>

Agenda & Notes: Reached quorum at 5:32 PM

1. Announcements
 - a. Sing Out for A New Deal for CUNY - 12/2
 - b. LALSA + MOCC Study Session - 12/1 4 PM - 6 PM
 - c. Career Planning is having a panel Diversity Summer Fellowships & Big Law Wed., Nov. 29 at 5:00 p.m. RSVP via Symplicity > Events
 - d. BLSA last General Body Meeting this Thursday 11/30 , 4pm-5pm room 3/301
2. BRIEF Committee Updates  23-24 Committee Seats
 - a.
3. Announcements in final classes Student Survey
 - a. Discussion of priorities pushed to next meeting
4. Proposals for SG Events in Spring 2024
 - a. Narcan / First Aid / CPR trainings
 - i. Need contacts for local trainers
 - b. Spring Fling / Spirit Week
 - i. Happening next semester and can include a talent show, anything that will boost our morale and build more community. Open to more ideas for spring fling/ spirit week.
 1. Multicultural day where we do performances from our culture
 - c. Racial & Social Justice Orientation (RSJO)
 - i. There used to be an optional student-run orientation. Bringing back RSJO
 - d. Cross-NY Law School Mixer - NYLS
 - i. Dates:
 1. Thurs 1/11/24
 2. Thurs 1/18/24
 3. Thurs 1/25/24
 4. Alternate dates?
 - a. Fridays and Saturdays
 - ii. Paying:
 1. SG buys \$2572 worth of tickets
 2. SG buys some lesser amount + students buy some for \$28/ticket
 3. Students buy all tickets for \$28/ticket (can sell up to 92 tix)
5. Proposing lowering quorum from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$

- a. Discussion on the logistics of lowering quorum and how it would be done + the impact it will have potentially
 - b. Bring a proposal to our next meeting
- 6. Vote to Promote the All-Student Slack Workspace
 - a. Slack is a messaging platform that has multiple topics. The purpose of this Slack is to try to cut down on the number of chats created. We will remind people that this Slack exists and we'll be trying to move our communication there.
 - b. Potential issues around liability?
 - c. Promoting vs. endorsing the Slack
 - d. 14 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstain
- 7. Vote to Promote the Student-Run Email Group
 - a. The email group that students run
 - b. 15 votes in favor, 0 against, 1 abstain
- 8. Nominations & Votes for Internal Committee Chairs
 - a. Elections & Polling
 - i. 13 in favor of tabling this vote to a future meeting, 5 against, 1 abstain
motion passes
 - b. Academic Affairs
 - i. 13 in favor of tabling this vote to a future meeting, 5 against, 1 abstain
motion passes
 - c. CUNITY
 - i. Lillian Perez all in favor, they become chair


11/13/23: First General Session


Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81564577708?pwd=SytMRDdldTkxZmY3b2JuUkhRbHlyZz09>

Agenda & Notes:

- 1. Announcements
 - a. Special Election Next Spring
 - i. Wanted to try this semester to fill the six vacancies because we are struggling to get enough votes in WhatsApps chats and in-person meetings. Timeline didn't work out, it would take three weeks, so we are going to host elections in the Spring.
 - b. Open Meetings Law Update
- 2. Co-President's Meetings with the Dean
 - a. Topics have been what is generally going on at school. Asked about commencement, the Dean is not budging. Invited to the Open Forum, but she did not show up. Also talked about bar results.
 - b. 2 so far

- c. Next one 11/27 PM, pre-General Session
- 3. Committee Updates from Members  Committee Seats 23-24
 - a. Quick run through of committee updates
 - i. Academic Standing - had the first meeting last week or two weeks ago. Reviewing various cases and appeals about reentry into the school about things like academic probation. Weren't many decisions made. Next meeting in January. There is a vacancy.
 - ii. Admissions - Sent introduction email, but no meeting yet. Follow up email was sent. Main folks were out of office.
 - iii. Appointments - Great, no distinction between voting or non-voting members. Dean wants two candidates for each open position. Search is going to come up short. People they have met so far are great. We keep losing candidates to other schools. Urges another rep to join the board.
 - iv. Auxiliary Board - Has not met yet
 - v. Campus Risk Management - Meeting this week sometime after 2 PM
 - vi. Committees on Committees - Doesn't meet until summer
 - vii. Committee on Academic Technology - Hasn't met yet
 - viii. Faculty-Student Disciplinary/ Appeals - Hasn't met yet
 - ix. Faculty Meeting - Main topics were the bar passage and how it was at 55%. Numbers subject to change. Talked about protests, NYPD in building
 - x. Law Students Association - Meeting this Wednesday 4:00 - 5:30 PM
 - xi. Personnel & Budget -
 - xii. Student Fellowships - Met twice last week. Talked about application process and doing information sessions
 - xiii. Student Technology Fee - Working on date to meet sometime this week
 - xiv. Space, Community, Art, & Sustainability Council - Met for the first time last week. Sam brought up ways to make there be more effective ways to build community in the school. Student lounge, not a nice room and a staff lounge, not a nice room. Suggested making a poll for feedback on what a lounge can look like.
 - xv. Anti-Racist Task Force - ARTF has met a few times, talked about a few of the problems: NYPD being in and around the building, statements made by Chancellor, discussed Community Day instead use budget for \$35k for student fellowships, creating a survey to gauge experience at CUNY Law, giving the results to the Dean
 - xvi. Materials Fee Committee- Had some communication, but no meeting yet. Arpita tells historical info - student travel, certain trips e.g. Mississippi Project, bar prep
 - xvii. Main Street Legal Board - Has not met yet, but finally got on email list
 - xviii. Foundation Board - Met a couple weeks ago and they didn't vote AV on to be a member of the board, supposed to vote AV on sometime during next meeting, primarily they talked about strategic planning and funding
 - xix. Student Graduation Committee - Implementing graduation,


- xx. University Student Senate - SG for the entire CUNY system, did elections for Steering Committee Chairs, members are choosing committees
- b. Committee Confirmation Vote
 - i. Motion to confirm the new reps, motion is seconded
 - ii. Motion passes 18-0-1
- 4. Student Organizing / Activism Discussion
 - a. Open Community Forum Report-Back
 - i. Taking feedback from the Open Community Forum
 - ii. Appreciates everyone for their work during midterms
 - iii. Really useful tool
 - b. "Council of Presidents"  Council of Presidents Statement Draft & Request to Meet Chancellor
 - i. Group chat with all the CUNY SGA Presidents.
- 5. Open Discussion + Pitches for SG Activities
 - a. Laura: Open Community Forum once a semester
 - b. Catherine: in addition to big forum, have smaller circle spaces for difficult conversations



10/6/23: "Emergency" Session


Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85010949799?pwd=aWIMZ1UzNlBmNmhQNkpEZC9aaWFmdz09>

Agenda:

- 1. Brief introductions around the room
 - a. Name
 - b. Year & program
 - c. Pronouns (optional)
 - d. Favorite type of weather (optional)
- 2. Process discussion
 - a. Voting procedures
 - i. Authorizing validity of online polls (such as whatsapp and email polls)
 - 1. Limited to certain types of actions or topics (policy to be set out by SG later)
 - 2. Votes only count if enough reps to meet quorum participate in the vote
 - 3. Have votes open for at least 5 business days
 - ii. **28 - 0 - 0**
- 3. Officer review, nominations, & votes
 - a.  Student Government Constitution (2023-24).pdf
 - i. Daytime Co-President
 - 1. Sarah Smith 1L self-nominates

- a. Seconded by Ian Oduro
 - b. Thirded by Andrew Daniel
 - ii. Evening Co-President
 - 1. Murat Akaydin nominates Flynn Ezra Beckman
 - a. Seconded by Sarah Smith
 - iii. Day Secretary
 - 1. Josiah Ramesar self-nominates
 - 2. Arpita Vora self-nominates
 - a. Arpita later withdraws her candidacy to stand for SDDI
 - iv. Evening Secretary
 - 1. Arpita Vora nominates Robert Stevens
 - a. He accepts
 - v. Evening Whip
 - 1. Jimmy Suzuki self-nominates
 - a. Seconded by Flynn Ezra Beckman
 - vi. Treasurer
 - 1. Antonio Lima nominates Laura Reyes
 - a. She accepts
 - vii. Student Director of Disability Issues
 - 1. Flynn Ezra Beckman goofs
 - 2. Arpita Vora self-nominates
 - b. Murat Akaydin asks for concerns about voting together
 - i. Calls the vote to elect all nominees to
 - 1. **27 - 0 - 1**
- 4. Committee review & sign-ups
 - a. [2023-24 Committee List and Charges \(Updated 9-5\)](#)
 -  2023-24 Committee List and Charges (Updated 9-5)
 - b.  Committee Seats 23-24
 - c. Committee on Committees vote - unanimous consent
 - d. Faculty Meeting votes (1L, 2L, and 3L) - 3x unanimous consent
 - e. University Senate votes (senator, alternate) - unanimous consent
 - f. Foundation Board votes - unanimous consent
 - g. Ratification vote for all other committee roles - unanimous consent
- 5. Deans Forums, Student Forums & office hours
- 6. Moved to asynchronous discussion:
 - a. Other process stuff
 - i. Running meetings
 - 1. Scheduling: 6 General Sessions - evening program- or day program-only Sessions are constitutional
 - a. General: <https://www.when2meet.com/?21472694-ov2Ec>
 - b. Evening-only: <https://www.when2meet.com/?21662549-gycuy>
 - ii. Communications
 - 1. Internal

- a. Whatsapp?
 - b. Email?
- 2. External
 - a. Emails to the student body
 - b. Potential endorsement of the all-student Slack workspace (
 -  CUNY School of Law Student Slack)
 - c. Potential endorsement of the Student-Run Email Group (studentorgs@live.law.cuny.edu)
- b. Open agenda-setting discussion
 - i. Organizing around freedom of expression and the comment for the ABA https://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/notice_and_comment/
 - ii. Admin canceling the student speaker at graduation

Notes:

1. Introductions: name, pronouns, class year + program, favorite weather!
2. Community norms
 - a. 1 speaker at a time (use mics!)
 - b. Step up, step back
 - c. Say your name when you speak
 - d. No other additions at this time
3. Process
 - a. Voting procedures
 - i. Everyone in person raises hands, everyone on Zoom uses raise hand function
 - ii. FB joins MA to help run meeting
 - iii. SG has power to enact legislation to enable us to pursue our mission, e.g. voting via email or in our WhatsApp chat
 1. This could help us do some of the routine work of SG without all having to meet
 2. FB proposes authorizing online votes via poll/email
 - a. AV: q about limitations of online voting and discussion
 - b. FB: can create limitations and requirements around voting and discussion etc (like deadlines and time for discussion)
 - c. MA: enough students to meet quorum, holding open for 5 business days
 - d. FB: vote called, caveat: enough people who vote in general so that the votes meet quorum, open for 5 days
 - i. 29 in favor
 - ii. None against
 - iii. We'll work out kinks online
4. Officer elections
 - a. Positions open are:

- i. Co-prezs (day + evening): scheduling sessions, setting agendas with steering committee and any chairs, presiding over meeting, student liaison to admin, presiding at + setting agenda for dean's forums, sitting on auxiliary committee (funding goes to student support) – co-prez's work
 - 1. Day: Sarah nominates self, Ian seconds
 - 2. Evening: MA nominates Flynn, Sarah seconds
 - ii. Secretary (day + evening): distribute agenda, take minutes, compile records, take VP place, chair office + records management committee if needed – have both
 - 1. Day
 - a. Josiah Ramesar nominates self
 - b. Arpita Vora nominates self
 - 2. Evening
 - a. AV nominates Robert Stevens (accepts)
 - iii. Treasurer: budget proposal, finalizing budget, keeping track of budget
 - 1. Antonio Lima nominates Laura Reyes (accepts)
 - iv. Whip (evening): attendance, session reminders, following up on absences, compiling reports on meetings around school, member education
 - 1. Jimmy nominates self, Flynn seconds
 - v. Student director of disability issues: updates on all issues of student disabilities, maintain privacy of students, rep students at discussions with admin re: disability accommodations
 - 1. Flynn nominates Leora Johnson (she's there as a student not a rep so can't accept)
 - 2. Arpita nominates self and withdraws from Secretary
 - b. MA proposes voting on all together
 - c. Vote on slate of nominees
 - i. 27 in favor
 - ii. 0 opposed
5. Other process stuff
- a. FB suggests moving discussion about availability and other process stuff to WhatsApp and online
 - b. MA suggests discussing communications standards
6. Committees
- a. Some seats require particular students (class year or something)
 - b. FB suggests everyone sign up for at least 2
 - c. Questions:
 - i. Why are there some non-SG reps already in seats
 - 1. Because committees had to start meeting and students needed to get signed on
 - 2. Committee on committees
 - 3. How to sign up for committees that you are interested in if there are other people who want to be in those committees

- d. Voting on seats – unanimous consent
 - i. Committee on committees: Ludy Thenor (no objections)
 - ii. Faculty meetings: Lilly Perez (no objections), Miles Evans (no objections), Flynn Ezra Beckman (no objections)
 - iii. Foundation Board: Arpita Vora (no objections)
 - iv. USS: Murat Akaydin, Ludy Thenor
 - 1. Ludy: history with working with gov't, connection of working with students, undergrad and masters did SG, types of arguments that have to be presented
 - 2. Murat: withdraws
 - 3. Ludy Thenor (no objections)
 - 4. Josiah Ramesar as alternate (no objections)
 - e. Ratification vote for all other committee sign-ups done today
 - f. Many meetings are under open meetings law so people can listen in, can also appoint alternates
 - g. Actual ratification of committee seats (no objections)
- 7. MD proposes Townhall who have agreed to give updates on what they're doing and whatever questions (IT, Fin Aid, Registrar, Library, BO, SG, Student Affairs, Dean's Office, Security, Clinics, IA)
 - a. Nov. 2 – 3-5pm
 - b. FB says also hold Dean's Forum separately
 - c. Recorded for evening students? Can ask about that, but they likely wouldn't have option to ask questions – scheduling second one for evening students?)
 - d. MD trying to get departments before they leave
 - e. Sarah: All 1Ls in class during that time
 - f. MD suggests Nov. 8 – FB says we'll talk about it via chat
- 8. All other agenda meetings tabled until next meeting or to be discussed via chat