



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF BARUCH COLLEGE  
SUITE 3-275, 55 LEXINGTON AVE. NEW YORK NY 10010

Undergraduate Student Government of Baruch College  
Senate Meeting No. 13  
Tuesday, November 25, 2014

The meeting of the Undergraduate Student Government Senate Meeting No. 13 was called to order at 5:33 p.m. on Tuesday, November 25, 2014 at Bernard M. Baruch College in Room NVC 3-270.

Present were:

Connor Levens	President
Michael Harris	Executive Vice President
Jane Ha	Treasurer
Veronica Gavryushenko	Executive Secretary
Samuel Rubinstein	Vice-Presidential Senator for Academic Affairs
Nardine Salama	Vice-Presidential Senator for Campus Affairs
Abraham Albarracin	Vice-Presidential Senator for Legislative Affairs
Gabriella Vishnevskaya	Vice-Presidential Senator for Student Services
Christopher Eubanks	Representative Senator (Chair—Appeals)
Kevin Damri	Representative Senator (Chair—Finance)
Steven Haung	Representative Senator (Chair—Community Outreach)
Vivian Lau	Representative Senator (Chair—Marketing)
Daniel Dornbaum	Representative Senator
(vacant)	Representative Senator
Sean Liu	Representative Senator
Alvin Daniel	Representative Senator
Alisa Rudy	Representative Senator
Nora Salama	Representative Senator
Benjamin Chatham	Representative Senator
Cherry Aung	Representative Senator

Absent were:

Ana Belen Gomez Flor Representative Senator (Chair—Inter-Club Affairs)

Executive Vice President Michael Harris requested that all Senators please be seated and that all other members please be quiet as they approach the rear of the

Conference Room for refreshments. The meeting was called to order with fifteen (15) Senators present which constituted a quorum to conduct business.

The first order of business was to review and pass minutes from the Undergraduate Student Government of Baruch College Senate Meeting No. 12 held on Tuesday, November 18, 2014. Several corrections were recommended after which Representative Senator Kevin Damri motioned to pass the Minutes, was seconded by Vice-Presidential Senator Abraham Albarracin, and was adopted unanimously.

**RESOLVED** that the Undergraduate Student Government of Baruch College Senate accept the corrected minutes for Senate Meeting No. 12 held Tuesday, November 18, 2014.

The second order of business was the reports.

**The first report** was given by President Connor Levens. In the report he talked about the significance of the decisions that comes across this table. It comes in lieu of the Board of Directors (BOD) meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup>. The BOD's message to the Undergraduate Student Government was that the club allocations they made during the October 28th, November 4th and November 11<sup>th</sup> meetings were financially irresponsible. This affects all the allocations that were voted on during those meetings, and they recommend a total allocation \$30, 800.99 with the provision that President makes every effort to decrease the size of the appeals allocation before the February 2015 BOD meeting. President Connor Levens also outlined the appeals process and urged the Senate to be more physically responsible during future allocations in Fall 2015, noting that funding conferences are a big part of the debate.

Dr. Aaron urges the Senate to be financially responsible, and to allocate funds in the best way possible. As an outsider, with \$50k passed in just 3 Appeal meetings, he says that it appears that "everyone gets just by asking." He also addresses big-ticket items, such as Conferences. Conferences have value to those who attend them but they do not necessarily have value for the perpetuation of the organization, especially if the attendees are soon-to-be graduates. Dr. Aaron makes a point that the BOD encourages the senate to find savings in the allocations and to budget for a full academic year.

**The second report** was given by Representative Senator Daniel Dornbaum. He detailed the outcome of the first Constitutional Review Committee meeting. The top things they discussed were grammatical errors, and working to create specific roles in Student Government while allowing proceeding USGs some wiggle room to grow into them. He emphasized that participation from the senate during these meetings is vital.

**The third report** was given Chair of Community Outreach Senator Steven Huang and Chief of Staff Matthew Cohen. Matthew wanted to thank everyone for the success of their event, Frozen in Time, and hope to make a viral video about it. Steven also informed the table about the Student Art Gallery event taking place on Monday, December 8th, 6:00pm - 9:00pm. They asked for art

submissions, ideas for supplies that may be needed, and feedback on a charity contest idea. Stepping away from the Art Gallery Event, the Arts Committee is also planning a quilt-making event in two weeks on December 4<sup>th</sup> during club hours.

The third order of business was Unfinished Business.

- Nardine Salama reported that December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:30am-11:30am is the Library Master Plan workshop. Essentially students will be working and creating what the Library will look like and they need attendees. The time is 9:30am - 11:30am. She reminded the table about “Snow Much Fun!” It’s USG's end of the year holiday party that will be taking place on Thursday, December 11th in the multipurpose room, 6:00pm - 9:00pm. She also mentioned a graphic design job opportunity with Arthur Downing.
- Kevin Damri and Vivian Lau reported the success of their Ex-Stress Workshops. They served a lot of students, and had great reactions from students as well as feedback. They are also working to make 1,000 goody bags to give out to students. As a side note, their next event on Wednesday may be postponed due to an upcoming storm.
- Gabriella Vishnevskaya reported the status of the mental health cards, booking Rockefeller Center, the USG Party, and reserving comedians for the Spring 2015 comedy show. She also wants to work with Planned Parenthood in the future regarding sexual assault.
- Abraham Albaraccin thanked the senators who helped in interviewing students for the Albany Caucus.
- Christopher Eubanks asked Dean Art King regarding the status of the report sent to President Wallerstein.
  - Dean Art King spoke about the report itself. In the report he looked at campuses across the country and CUNs that have similar setups. The report talked about which way we should lean. Either we would be abolishing the Greeks as an existing entity on the campus or we’re going to continue with them. We’re leaning more towards keeping them but it can’t be in the same way. As soon as he knows more he will inform USG’s leadership. Currently the report is in the hands of President Wallerstein. We have to wait for him to do his checks and balances to make a decision, then we will release the report. President Connor Levens emphasizes that USG should have a role in this and should align with administration on that task.
- Danny Acosta reported how the Board of Trustees meeting went regarding preserving students’ right to remain silent without the presumption of guilt. Many accounts were made by students, some more powerful than others.

The fourth order of business was New Business.

- Samuel Rubinstein reported Student Evaluation Meeting and the importance of students submitting their Student Evaluations. During the meeting they discussed incentives on how to get students to complete them now that they have become available online.
- Nardine Salama spoke about infrastructure issues in the old cafeteria space (behind the escalators) as well as finding a buyer for the existing furniture there.
- Gabriella Vishnevskaya spoke about Midnight Breakfast which will take place 7:00pm-9:00pm on Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> in the cafeteria area. Faculty will be serving us.
- Hanna from the outside audience spoke about starting a nonprofit cooperative for CUNY students. This is an alternative housing solution. She will send out an email for further details.
- Representative Senator Christopher Eubanks motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. and was seconded by Representative Senator Kevin Damri. The motion passed 14-2-0.
- Abraham Albaraccin spoke about possibly having an anti-hazing event with video submissions. This may be postponed until after a decision has been made about Greek Life.
- Connor Levens asked for project leads for Welcome Week Spring 2015. Alvin Daniel, Nardine Salama and Cherry Aung were chosen.
- Michael Harris informs the table that the Office of Student Life is having interviews for the Assistant Director position. USG reps have been invited to sit at the interviews.

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Representative Senator Christopher Eubanks motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. and was seconded by Representative Senator Kevin Damri. The motion passed 14-2-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Veronica Gavryushenko

Executive Secretary