

University Student Senate 555 West 57th Street, 1420 New York, NY 10019 Tel: (646) 664-8844 Fax: (646) 664-8863

MINUTES OF THE PLENARY MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK HELD SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023 AT THE JOHN JAY COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

I. ROLL CALL

Upon a roll call the attendance recorded was as follows:

2022-2023 Delegates & Alternates:

Delegates Present:

Yin, Zhuo (Graduate Alternate, CUNY Graduate Center); Snail, Gretchen (Graduate Delegate, CUNY School of Journalism); Mitchell, Asantee (Delegate, CUNY School of Professional Studies); Ali, Zaire (Graduate Delegate, CUNY School of Public Health); Hernandez, Joseph (Delegate, Baruch College); Malachowski, Avorhom (Delegate, Baruch College); Grama, Aharon (Delegate, Brooklyn College); Shyti, Flavia (First Alternate, Brooklyn College); Mohiuddin, Abdullah (Delegate, City College of New York); Payano, Bragye (Second Alternate, City College of New York); Brown, Kevin (Graduate Delegate, City College of New York); Kalb, Arveh (Delegate, Lehman College); Thompson, Andre (First Alternate, Lehman College); Soto, John (Graduate Delegate, Lehman College); Dorsey, Joanna (Delegate, Medgar Evers College); Onkeaba, Boris (First Alternate, Medgar Evers College); Doumbouya, Salmatou (Delegate, New York City College of Technology); Akent, Jannett (Second Alternate, New York City College of Technology); Castro, Brandon (Delegate, Queens College); Headley, Riyahauna (Second Alternate, Queens College); Pena Oropeza, Enrique (Graduate Delegate, Queens College); Gregory, Petra (Delegate, College of Staten Island); Ramdeen, Justin (Delegate, York College); Ehidom, Divine (Delegate, York College); Moncayo, Sierra (Delegate, Bronx Community College); Williams, Trai (Delegate, Bronx Community College); Gonzalez, Jose (Delegate, Hostos Community College); Soto, Elizabeth (Delegate, Hostos Community College); Tam, Nikki (Delegate, Kingborough Community College); Johnson, Javere (Firdst Alternate, Kingborough Community College); Chavira, Lucia (Delegate, LaGuardia Community College).

Delegates Absent:

Jiang, Xiaole (Graduate Delegate, CUNY Graduate Center); Provost, Cory (Graduate Delegate, CUNY School of Law); Zareian, Ramin (Graduate Alternate, CUNY School of Law); John, Asar (Graduate Alternate, CUNY School of Journalism); Sayani, Daniel (Delegate, CUNY School of Professional Studies); Ambrose, Janelle (First Alternate, CUNY School of Professional Studies); Juarez Subastic, Joselly (Second Alternate, CUNY School of Professional Studies); Pierre, Bonaparte (Graduate Alternate, CUNY School of Professional Studies); Francis, Cara (Graduate Alternate, CUNY School of Public Health); Caldwell, Tania (Graduate Delegate, CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies); Wilson, Kevin (Graduate Alternate, CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies); Nasef, Marina (First Alternate, Baruch College); Aaron, Kayla (Second Alternate, Baruch College); Jian, Yehuda (Graduate Delegate, Brooklyn College); Arias, Miguel (Delegate, City College of New York); Sattar, Asif (First Alternate, City College of New York);



Darwish, Rania (Delegate, Hunter College); Tagaev, Daniil (Delegate, Hunter College); Gad, Laila (First Alternate, Hunter College); Rodriguez, Fernando (Second Alternate, Hunter College); Khaled, Yusuf (Delegate, John Jay College of Criminal Justice); , (Delegate, John Jay College of Criminal Justice); Mighty, Kenya (Delegate, Lehman College); Weinberg, Alexa Rebecca (Second Alternate, Lehman College); Baldini, Giulia (Graduate Alternate, Lehman College); Davis, Michelle (Delegate, Medgar Evers College); Clarke, Akilah (Second Alternate, Medgar Evers College); Villa, Adrian Steven (Delegate, New York City College of Technology); Khan, Daniel (First Alternate, Queens College); Mercedes, Janyah (Delegate, College of Staten Island); Cisse, Zainab (First Alternate, College of Staten Island); Peralta, Lenora (Second Alternate, College of Staten Island); Johnson, Savol (First Alternate, York College); Bala, Zoule (Second Alternate, York College); Hunte-Nelson, Carlene (Delegate, Borough of Manhattan Community College); Aquina, Irvin (Delegate, Borough of Manhattan Community College); Aung, Naing (First Alternate, Borough of Manhattan Community College); Sara, Nohin (Second Alternate, Borough of Manhattan Community College); Mensah, Jeithy Jason (First Alternate, Bronx Community College); Clarke, Candise (Second Alternate, Bronx Community College); Diallo, Thierno (Delegate, Guttman Community College); Moreno, Selina (Delegate, Guttman Community College); Carter, Brian (First Alternate, Hostos Community College); Buckle, Teyanna (Second Alternate, Hostos Community College); Latiff, Hanan (Delegate, Kingborough Community College); Diaz, Gabriella (Second Alternate, Kingborough Community College); Minaya, Dany (Delegate, LaGuardia Community College); Brazal, Marcus Ezekiel (First Alternate, LaGuardia Community College); , (Second Alternate, LaGuardia Community College); Li, Jerry (Delegate, Queensborough Community College); Tariq, Hafiz (Delegate, Queensborough Community College); Prince, Kezia (First Alternate, Queensborough Community College); Frampton Clark, Aisha (Second Alternate, Queensborough Community College).

University Student Senate Staff:

Daniel Flores, Executive Director Jamell Henderson, Legislative Director Fernando Araujo, Project Coordinator

CUNY Central Office of Student Affairs:

Joseph Awadjie, Director for External Relations and Compliance; University Liaison to the University Student Senate

CUNY University Faculty Senate:

Professor Hugo Fernandez, CUNY University Faculty Senate (UFS)

With 29 voting members, the present quorum was established. The Chairperson noted that the meeting was called to order at 12:30 PM and the meeting was not able to proceed because a quorum met. The Chairperson encouraged members to get to the meeting on time.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM.

II. <u>APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA</u>

AGENDA

- I. ROLL CALL
- II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
- III. AMENDMENT TO THE RULES
- IV. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT
 - A. Steering Committee Updates
 - B. Events Updates
- V. SPECIAL ELECTIONS
 - A. Vice Chair for Legislative Affairs Elections
 - B. Vice Chair for Community College Affairs
 - C. Vice Chair for Tech Fee Elections
- VI. ETHICS COMMITTEE ELECTIONS
- VII. AUDIT COMMITTEE ELECTIONS
- VIII. VOTING ITEMS
 - A. USS Resolution for International and Undocumented Students
 - B. USS Plenary Meeting Date for May 2023
 - C. Amendment to ARTICLE VI of the USS Constitution: Committees of the University Student Senate
 - I. Section 6.3 Ethics Committee
 - II. Section 6.4 Audit Committee
 - D. USS Co-Sponsorship Form
- IX. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF FEBRUAY 26, 2023
- X. OLD BUSINESS
- XI. NEW BUSINESS
- XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS
- XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Sen. Kalb motioned to amend the agenda so that the elections happen first. Those items should be moved to right after the approval of the minutes. The motion failed 28 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention.

Sen. Grama motioned to approve the agenda with

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 26, 2023

Chairperson Doumbouya ask the body is there are any objections to approving the minutes as presented. Sen. Kalb indicated that there were several issues with the minutes. Particularly on the attendance and the election nominees. It seems that there were typos.

IV. AMENDMENT TO THE ELECTION RULES

Sen. Kalb motioned to amend the election rules so that the ballot can happen via paper ballot instead of ElectionBuddy.

Sen. Grama motioned to amend the motioned to change the election manner to the preferred method to paper ballots. The motion was carried unanimously.

Sen. Kalb's motion carried unanimously shortly thereafter. The special election will take place via paper ballors.

V. SPECIAL ELECTIONS FOR STEERING COMMITTEE

Prof. Fernandez announced that the election will take place through a paper ballot. The election was overseen by the members of USSERC present.

Chairperson Doumbouya announced that Sen. Caldwell withdrew her nomination for the position of Vice Chair for Legislative Affairs. Sen. Dorsey announced that she is withdrawing her nomination for the position of Vice Chair for Legislative Affairs.

After 34 voted member voted through ElectionBuddy, the results are as follows:

Electi	ion	for	Vice	Chair for	Community College Affairs:
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Votes for Sen. Aryeh Kalb	- 26 Votes	
No Votes	2 No Votes	
Abstentions	1 Vote	

Election for Vice Chair for Community College Affairs:

Votes for Sen. Lucia Chavira	-	9 Votes
Votes for Sen. Sierra Moncaya	-	19 Votes
Abstentions		1 Vote

Election for Vice Chair for Technology Fee Affairs:

Votes for Sen. Kayla Aaron	-	25 Votes
Votes for Sen. Adrian Villa	-	3 Votes
Abstentions		1 Vote

No members received 29 votes, therefore, no new officers were elected.

VI. <u>ETHICS COMMITTEE ELECTION</u>

Before opening the floor for nominations, Chairperson Doumbouya begins by reading the relevant section of the USS Constitution:

Section 6.3 Ethics Committee

a. The members of the Ethics Committee shall be elected to said committee by the Senate at the meeting following the completion of the election of officers to the Steering Committee of USS. No member of the Steering Committee or the Audit Committee may serve on the Ethics Committee.

b. The Ethics Committee shall hear and investigate all complaints of misconduct it receives from any Delegate, Alternate or Officer of USS.

c. Upon full investigation, the Ethics Committee shall implement either disciplinary or impeachment procedures in accordance with Article VII and Article VIII, respectively.d. The Ethics Committee shall also perform periodic reviews of the USS Bylaws in light of possible abuses or misuses of authority and examinations for conformance with Board policy.e. The Ethics Committee shall also assume such other duties as USS may, from time to time, direct.

f. Membership of the Ethics Committee shall be limited to seven (7) including the Chair.

The floor is then opened for nominations.

Nominations:		
Sen. Ali	Nominated	Sen. Avorhom Malachowski
Sen. Mohiuddin	Nominated	Sen. Brandon Castro
Sen. Tam	Nominated	Jonathan Hanon (CUNY Graduate Center)
Sen. Hernandez	Nominated	Karina Ordonez (Baruch College)
Sen. Kalb	Nominated	Sen. Asantee Mitchell

Sen. Kalb	Nominated	Sen. Joanna Do	orsey	
	Sen. Dorsey declines th	e nomination.		
Sen. Onkeyaba	Nominated	Sen. Kevin Bro	wn	
•	Sen. Brown declines the	e nomination.		
Sen. Onkeyaba	Nominated	Sen. Bragye Pa	yano	
•	Sen. Payano declines th	e nomination.	-	
Sen. Castro	Nominated	Nariah Greene	(Queens College)	
Sen. Grama	Nominated	Flavia Shyti	-	
Sen. Moncayo	Nominated	Sen. Trai Willia	ams	
-				
Election for Ethics Committee:				
Votes for	Sen. Avorhom Malacho	owski	26 votes	
Votes for	Sen. Brandon Castro		26 Votes	
Votes for	Jonathan Hanon (Graduate Center)		27 Votes	
Votes for	Karina Ordonez (Baruch College)		30 Votes (Congratulations!)	
Votes for	Sen. Asantee Mitchell		28 Votes	
Votes for	Nariah Greene (Queens College)		25 Votes	
Votes for	Flavia Shyti		27 Votes	
Votes for	Sen. Trai Williams		17 Votes	

Professor Fernandez announced the results. Only Karina Ordonez received sufficient votes. Sen. Williams will be dropped from the ballot because he received the least number of votes.

Sen. Motioned for unanimous consent to confirm the remaining six candidates to the ethics committee. The motion carried unanimously. The members of the audit committee are now:

Ethics Committee Elected members:

Sen. Avorhom Malachowski Sen. Brandon Castro Sen. Flavia Shyti Sen. Asantee Mitchell Jonathan Hanon (Graduate Center) Karina Ordonez (Baruch College) Nariah Greene (Queens College)

VII. <u>AUDIT COMMITTEE ELECTION</u>

Before opening the floor for nominations, Chairperson Doumbouya begins by reading the relevant section of the USS Constitution:

Section 6.4 Audit Committee

a. The members of the Audit Committee shall be elected to said committee by the Senate at the meeting following the completion of the election of officers to the Steering Committee of USS. No member of the Steering committee or the Ethics Committee may serve on the Audit Committee.

b. The Audit Committee shall receive a full financial report form the Vice Chair of Fiscal Affairs upon request.

c. The Audit Committee shall also entertain requests from any Delegate/Officer of USS to receive a full financial report and shall obtain said financial report from the Vice Chair of Fiscal Affairs for said Delegate/Officer.

d. The Audit Committee shall also assume such other duties as USS may, from time to time, direct.

e. The Audit Committee shall be limited to seven (7), including the Chair.

The floor is then opened for nominations.

Nominations:			
Sen. Kalb	Nominated	Sen. Joseph Hernandez	
Sen. Grama	Nominated	Sen. Enrique Pena Oropeza	
Sen. Castro	Nominated	Sen. Abdullah Mohiuddin	
	Sen. declines the nomin	nation.	
Sen. Onkeyaba	Nominated	Sen. Trai Williams	
	Sen. Williams declines	the nomination.	
Sen. Moncayo	Nominated	Charlotte (BCC)	
	Charlotte declines the n	nomination.	
Sen. Onkeyaba	Nominated	Stephan Duviella (John Jay College)	
Sen. Kalb	Nominated	Sen. Petra Gregory	
Sen. Gregory declines the nomination.			
Sen. Kalb	Nominated	Se. Nikki Tam	
Sen. Ali	Nominated	Sen. Andre Thompson	
Charlotte declines the nomination.			
Sen. Chavira	Nominated	John Fletcher (LGCC)	
Sen. Ali	Nomiated	Sen. Javere Johnson	

Sen. Grama motions to approve all six members unanimously. The motion carried unanimously.

<u>Audit Committee members:</u> Sen. Joseph Hernandez Sen. Enrique Pena Oropeza Sen. Javere Johnson Sen. Nikki Tam Stephan Duviella (John Jay College) John Fletcher (LGCC)

VIII. <u>VOTING ITEMS</u>

<u>A.USS Resolution for International and Undocumented Students</u> Sen. Yin introduced the resolution and spoke on the importance of supporting undocumented students.

Resolution to Increase Enrollment

by Establishing CUNY Internal Scholarship Funds and Further Training Staff at CUNY Career Services Offices for CUNY International and Undocumented

Students

Adopted by the University Student Senate (USS) of the City University of New York (CUNY) on March 26th, 2023

Co-sponsored by Lehman College Student Government Association, The City College of New York Undergraduate Student Government, CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy Graduate Student Government Association, Medgar Evers College Student Government Association, Brooklyn College Undergraduate Student Government, the Doctoral and Graduate Students' Council at CUNY Graduate Center, Undergraduate Student Government at Baruch College,

To the attention of:

CUNY Board of Trustees CUNY Board of Trustees Finance and Administration Committee CUNY Board of Trustees Enrollment Subcommittee CUNY Chancellor, Félix V. Matos Rodríguez CUNY University Provost, Wendy F. Hensel CUNY Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Denise B. Maybank CUNY University Associate Provost for Careers and Industry Partnerships, Lauren Andersen CUNY University Director for International Student and Scholar Services, Ruth Kamona CUNY University Director for Undocumented and Immigrant Student Programs, Cynthia Carvajal

WHEREAS, The City University of New York (hereinafter "CUNY") is home to approximately 6,000 international students from over 100 countries in F-1 and J-1 immigration status who always pay out-of-state tuition no matter how long they reside in the New York State, and

WHEREAS, an estimated 5,000 CUNY undocumented students can face severe obstacles in accessing basic resources such as financial aid, in-state tuition, scholarships, governmental resources and other forms of public assistance, and

WHEREAS, neither international students nor undocumented students fall into the category of US citizens and permanent residents, and

WHEREAS, most grants, scholarships, and loans from public and private sources are restricted to US citizens and permanent residents, and

WHEREAS, international students must present financial evidence to show that they or a sponsor has sufficient funds to cover tuition and living expenses during the period of intended study using family bank statements or scholarship letters, and

WHEREAS, any international students' family bank statement could change on account of financial emergencies such as Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022 and Turkey–Syria earthquake in 2023, and

WHEREAS, CUNY does not have any internal scholarships earmarked for *all* international students in F-1 and J-1 immigration status, and

WHEREAS, CUNY does not have any internal scholarships geared specifically for *all* undocumented students, and

WHEREAS, CUNY Career Launch 2023 allowed CUNY international students with social security number (hereinafter "SSN") to apply but excluded graduate students, undocumented students, and international students without SSN at the time of application, and

WHEREAS, CUNY Career Launch 2023 required CUNY international students to have a SSN to apply, but international students can only apply for a SSN using either on-campus or off-campus job offer letter at Social Security Administration, and

WHEREAS, staff at CUNY *Career Services Offices* might not have adequate knowledge about career challenges for international and undocumented students due to their immigration status, for example, CUNY Career Launch 2023 asked international students to fill out SSN in the application form, and

WHEREAS, staff at CUNY *Career Services Offices* must comprehend the unique career hurdles that international and undocumented students face as a result of their immigration status to effectively support them, and

WHEREAS, *International Students Offices* at CUNY Central and local CUNY campuses might apprehend career barriers of international students owing to F-1 and J-1 immigration status, and

WHEREAS, *Undocumented and Immigrant Student Programs* at CUNY Central and *Immigrant Success Liaisons* at local CUNY campuses might understand career obstacles of undocumented students as a consequence of immigration status, and

WHEREAS, CUNY enrollment dropped roughly 30% since 2018, and

WHEREAS, University Student Senate (hereinafter "USS") is the official representative organization of all 500,000 students of the 25 CUNY campuses including international and undocumented students at CUNY Central;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the USS of the CUNY

1. demands that CUNY establish 2 types of internal scholarships designated for international and undocumented students to boost recruitment, retention, and enrollment of CUNY students:

a. *merit-based scholarships* for international and undocumented students with either (i) outstanding GPA or research experience or (ii) leadership positions in any CUNY student government

b. *need-based scholarships* for international and undocumented students with financial emergencies

2. demands that CUNY obey the below rules for CUNY internal scholarships for international and undocumented students:

a. do *not* increase tuition or fees for *all* students including international and undocumented students

b. allocate (i) one percent (1%) of each international student's current tuition per semester or (ii) equal amount of private fund to start a CUNY internal scholarship fund for international students

c. allocate (i) one percent (1%) of each undocumented student's current tuition per semester or (ii) equal amount of private fund to start a CUNY internal scholarship fund for undocumented students

d. authorize *International Students Offices* at CUNY Central and local CUNY campuses to jointly (i) supervise or (ii) provide clear criteria that would govern the award or disbursement of the CUNY internal scholarship fund for international students

e. authorize *Undocumented and Immigrant Student Programs* at CUNY Central and *Immigrant Success Liaisons* at local CUNY campuses to jointly (i) supervise or (ii) provide clear criteria that would govern the award or disbursement of the CUNY internal scholarship fund for undocumented students

f. restrict the CUNY internal scholarship fund for international students to be *only* paid to CUNY international students

g. restrict the CUNY internal scholarship fund for undocumented students to be *only* paid to CUNY undocumented students

h. forbid CUNY internal scholarship funds made exclusively for international and undocumented students from being required to pay any CUNY administration expenses

3. further demands that CUNY take the below actions to train staff at CUNY Career Services Offices to better support career of international and undocumented students:

a. modify the application procedures including the application form of CUNY Career Launch after consulting *International Students Offices*, *Undocumented and Immigrant Student Programs*, and *Immigrant Success Liaisons* at CUNY Central and local CUNY campuses

b. mandate training for all staff at CUNY *Career Services Offices* to learn domain knowledge from *International Students Offices* and *Undocumented and Immigrant Student Programs* at CUNY Central

c. provide tailored service at CUNY *Career Services Offices* for international students and undocumented students after fully grasping their career blockages caused by immigration status

Addendum

Proposed Strategic Plans for USS Resolution for International and Undocumented Students

- 1. The USS Plenary adopted the resolution at the USS Plenary Meeting on Sunday, March 26th, 2023.
- 2. Ask for co-sponsorship from each local student government between March 26th, 2023 to Sunday, April 16th, 2023
- 3. Jonathan Colon requested the resolution to be included into the agenda of the Board of Trustee Finance and Administration Committee on Tuesday, April 18th, 2023.
- 4. USS Chairperson might send the resolution to CUNY Chancellor *after the New York State finalizes its budget.*

Please follow the below three (3) steps for co-sponsorship:

- 1. bring the aforementioned USS resolution for international and undocumented students to your local student government
- 2. ask for vote on co-sponsorship of the USS resolution at your local student government plenary meeting

after your local student government votes to co-sponsor the USS resolution, ask the contact person in your local student government to fill out <u>the Google Form</u> to confirm co-sponsorship ASAP

Sen. Ali motioned to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Sen. Grama.

Sen. Grama noted that the Brooklyn SGA has approved the delegation.

Sen. Ali spoke about the additional challenges that students with undocumented students with disabilities have an additional intersectional challenge. Sen. Alli will be introducing this his SGA for approval.

Sen. Pena Oropeza stated that undocumented students contribute to the CUNY community in many ways, and they are excluded from many resources that are available to other students. Undocumented students are not even allowed to collect a stipend.

The motion carried unanimously.

Sen. Yin encouraged members to adopt this resolution at their local campus because the more support this resolution receives the stronger it will be.

B. USS Plenary Meeting Date for May 2023

Sen. Yin noted that the current plenary meeting date for May is May 21st, 2023. This date falls during finals.

Sen. Hernandez motioned to move the meeting to May 28, 2023 instead of May 21st, 2023. Sen Yin seconds the motion. The motion carries unanimously.

C. Amendment to ARTICLE VI of the USS Constitution: Committees of the University Student Senate

Ethics/Audit Amendment ARTICLE VI: Committees of University Student Senate

Section 6.3 Ethics Committee

a. The members of the Ethics Committee shall be elected to said committee by the Senate at the meeting following the **election** completion of **any** the election of officers to the Steering Committee of USS. No member of the Steering Committee or the Audit Committee may serve on the Ethics Committee

Section 6.4 Audit Committee

a. The members of the Audit Committee shall be elected to said committee by the Senate at the meeting following the **election** completion of **any** the election of officers to the Steering Committee of USS. No member of the Steering Committee or the Ethics Committee may serve on the Audit Committee.

Sen. Kalb noted that the USS bylaws require that amendments to the constitution be presented for a first reading and then a vote take place at the following meeting. The proposed changes are introduced to the body. Sen. Kalb noted that the Ethics and Audit Committees are able to be happen after a Steering member is elected.

Sen. Grama notes that this is not changing the language, per say, because he interprets the USS constitution to mean exactly what Sen. Kalb is proposing. These changes are aimed at decreasing any confusion.

Sen. Gregory mentioned that we should perhaps consider waiting until USS elects a functioning Steering Committee to promote the election of a functioning executive.

Sen. Ali echoed those comments and said that a functioning Steering committee makes sense because the committees make recommendations to the Steering Committee and without a Steering Committee how would these committees make recommendations?

D. USS Co-Sponsorship Form

Chairperson Doumbouya noted that the form is being presented for the review of the plenary. Any recommendations will be appreciated. The Vice Chair for Fiscal Affairsbe responsible for monitoring the form and informing the Steering Committee of co-sponsorship request.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeGJpcJRI_O5JGzsgB9MiFhYlSyAmeDmAnu7sP 3qQLuPIorxQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0

The USS co-sponsorship form is designed to help student organizations

IX. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 26, 2023

Sen. Kalb moved to approve the minutes of February 26, 2023. With minor corrections, the motion was approved with one abstention.

X. <u>NEW BUSINESS</u>

Sen. Grama proposed as a reading that the total number of Steering members be interpreted as the total number of elected Steering members. Sen. Grama would like a quorum of the Steering to be easier to attain. Sen. Grama would like to define a full USS steering committee as at least seven members.

Sen. Yin likes stated that the idea sounds good an is well intended. But there are some unintended consequences. This may encourage students to deadlock the Steering and not encourage members to be elected to their roles.

Sen. Ali noted that this proposal did not go through the bylaws committee and therefore should not be considered at this meeting because it does not follow proper protocol and could have some inherent issues.

Sen Grama proposed that the plenary elect the Vice Chair positions via hand vote. According to Sen. Grama, this will be a faster approach to election and would ensure that members are held accountable for their vote.

Sen. Grama motioned to have the election of Vice Chair for Legislative Affairs by unanimous consent. The motion was seconded.

Jonathan Hanon read the USS constitution and stated that this directly contradicts the letter and intent of the constitution.

Sen. Kalb stated, as the sole candidate for the Vice Chair position in question, that this procedure would not be best for the body.

Sen. Ali motioned to table this motion. The motion failed by a hand vote.

Sen. Grama amended the motion to elect all three Vice Chairs. That motion failed by hand vote.

The motion to have election for the Vice Chair for Legislative Affairs failed: 22 Yes, 4 No.

At this time, a quorum was not present.

XI. <u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>

Sen. Dorsey announced that Medgar Evers has moved their festival to the fall. They were fortunate to receive additional funding. They would like USS and other schools to be part of the

promotion and would like those who are interested to participate. Sen. Dorsey thanked members for expressing support last meeting. Chairperson Doumbouya noted that the co-sponsorship if live and encouraged the Medgar SGA to submit a request.

Sen. Gregory noted the LGBTQ Task force is hoping to increase participation. Sen. Gregory noted that a prominent member of the community has passed recently. Sen. Gregory is hoping that the task force will take this matter and adopt a gesture of support.

Chairperson Doumbouya announced that the new Vice Chancellor for University Relations will be joining USS for one of our meetings. The Secretary of the Board of Trustees will also be joining USS members for one of our meetings.

There are some job opportunities available to students through internships. Look out for more information.

We started the planning for the USS retreat. Please be on the lookout for more information.

Please see the Chairperson for a full account of March in March, Somos el Futuro, and other legislative initiatives.

On March 30th, USS will be joining a coalition of organizations for a rally in Ablany. We are looking for volunteers.

Sen. Ali made the following announcemt.

We would like to start the formally start the impeachment process to impeach the Cive Chair for international student affairs.

Article 1: Neglect of duty

The accused has neglected their duty to attend meetings and neglected their responsibility to fulfill their responsibility of Vice Chair for International Student Affairs. Specifically, the accused has failed to attend four Steering Committee meetings and three unexcused meetings without valid excuse, which has hindered the ability of the Steering Committee of USS to conduct its business.

Article II: Failure to uphold their oath of office.

The accused has neglected to uphold their oath of office by neglecting to attend meetings. Article III: Dereliction of responsibility

The accused has shown dereliction of responsibility by refusing to attend numerous meetings and not having any communication with the Chair.

Note: There was no quorum during the announcement part of the meeting.

XII. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

Sen. Grama motion to suspend the agenda and adjourn the meeting. Motion passes unanimously. The meeting is adjourned at 4:45 PM.