

Meeting started: 8:06

Senate chair gives insight into election provisions

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Recap of DEI training

- Special shoutouts

8:16: Vice president updates

- Upload booster
- Senator liaison for committees
  - Started by senators
- Updates on spring formal (April 22) and other events
- BUS bulletin board

Majariwitz: Is the event at the aquarium?

Vice-President: Yes.

Shamsi: Can the bus be rerouted to take us?

Vice-president: BU showed complications with this, most likely no.

Suggestion of giving stipend to people for busing to the event by Ilana Keusch.

8:21: Confirmation of Cassidy Balboa as Election Oversight Committee Chair

- Expertise on slides
- Voted in every election
- Committed to a fair and free election

8:23: Aznavoorian: Motion to enter voting procedure

Majariwitz: second

Passes with 29 votes.

8:24: Brumfield: Motion to vote on the confirmation of Cassidy Balboa

Passes with 28 votes.

8:25: Voting on the confirmation of Cassidy Balboa as Election Oversight Chair

Passes with 30 votes.

8:27: A presentation from the judicial branch.

- Justices of the judicial branch: who we are and what we do
- Presentation following the survey led by Senator Majariwitz last semester
- Funny memes

- Outlines the judicial branch and what they do; graphics and additional info can be found on the slide deck
- Student elections commission: runs the elections, policy planning, etc
- Judicial advisory commission: policy research team
- Run-downs on each individual justice and their office hours
  - Daniel Daponte: chief justice: office hrs 10-11 am
  - Sammie Casas: deputy chief justice: no office hrs but door is always open
  - Ethan Wong: Associate justice
  - Ilana Keusch: Associate justice
  - Declan Donachue: Associate justice

Senator Shamsi: Who is Myer?

Daponte: He made the slides

Casas: If you have any questions about how to do certain things (impeachment, constitutional opinions....

Majaritiwz: Is there a standard way to ask questions?

Daponte: email! Our job is to work with you through processes. If you have questions, we'll meet, deliberate, and have a hearing (if necessary). We are "not trying to gatekeep"; here to spread information and to work with senators

Chair: point of clarification on the impeachment stuff– in the senate bylaws, in order to bring forth letters of impeachment, it requires 2 senators

8:36: SEC confirmation

8:37: Regina Acosta: SEC chair confirmation

- From texas
- Passionate about SEC, happy to be working with a "collaborative, innovative, and amazing group of people"
- Working on advertising, emails (outreach)

8:38: 5 min q&a

Shamsi: Point of order: we can move her to the waiting room

8:40: Aznavoorian: Motion to enter voting procedure by unanimous consent

Shamsi: Second

8:41: 30 votes in the affirmative

8:42: Voting on the confirmation of Regina as SEC chair

8:43: With 29 votes in the affirmative, Regina is confirmed

8:44: Presentation on the upcoming election period from  $\frac{2}{3}$  SEC co-chairs

- Minji and Vanessa
- Introductions of the election team
- We write the rules (consider it a constitution) for elections
  - We prepare ballots, intent forms
  - Student representation is really important
  - Plan events, make sure nobody is breaking the rules
- Main source for elections: SEC election
  - Need to update finances, policies, docs, etc
- If you have a question: check the policies!
  - What does it mean to campaign?
    - Questions like this ^ are answered in there
- Resource in case you'd like to file a complaint
- Breakdown of the intent form
- Running for E-board: You need 4 members to run as a slate
- At-large party: Need at least 2 people
- Executive board tab: complaint, eligible to run candidates; confirmation; description of policies
  - If you want an image to represent your slate, upload it to this page
- Something you should note: you will need a logo or a photo of your eboard slate/at large party
- Intent form is due this sunday, february 6
- Upcoming events:
  - SEC will be at the GSU link tables 11-2 pm all week
  - EPC206 tomorrow at 7- info for running
- Come to these events and see whether you want to run. You do not have to be 100% sure in order to attend
- Election events after the candidates are finalized
  - Meet and greet March 1, GSU link
  - Town Hall on March 16 (candidates and at large parties)
    - Debate about some things, get student opinions
  - Debate (more formal than the town hall)
    - GSU Auditorium , March 22 6-8 PM
  - April 1, Announcement Dinner

8:54: 5 minute Q&A period

Senator Shamsi: When will campaigns officially start?

Vanessa: These start March 1. If you campaign before March 1, this is a complaint that can be made against a slate.

Vice-President: How many slates/parties have been filed so far?

Minji: That's confidential information

Majariwitz: Is there a scale of severity in terms of complaints?

Vanessa: Situational basis but there is a scale. This can be ranged from a black out to actually being disqualified

- We just want to "emphasize fairness"

Balboa: Is there a limit to how many slates can run?

Minji and Vanessa: No; The more the merrier

Majariwitz: Are complaints anonymous?

Minji: SEC will know, but this will not be submitted to the public. However, if there is a hearing, the result of the complaint will be public.

Vanessa: This is something we've taken from previous years to emphasize transparency

Minji: This is meant to keep the fairness of the election process as "intact as possible"

8:58: Q&A Period Elapses

8:58: JAC Report for Fall 2021

- Department within the judicial branch, acts with the archival body to work with past legislation
- Conduct research for not only the judicial branch, but also anyone in student government who seeks our assistance
- Report topics for the Fall semester:
  - Comparison of COVID policies between neighboring universities:
    - Northeastern advised faculty to make remote options available
    - Harvard and MIT had academic continuity reps who contacted students who tested positive
  - Textbook Affordability and Accessibility at BU
    - Textbooks are expensive and this is very taxing for students
    - Accessibility: it is hard to get a textbook that you want in terms of looking at new, renting/buying, etc
    - BU hasn't done a lot to address this. There isn't a lot of resources; only things there to "mitigate"
    - 3 different universities: Northeastern, Tufts, harvard
      - Northeastern and tufts both have exchange programs
      - Harvard reimburses students for some of the cost
  - International relation studies
    - Important for historical memory and understanding the future
    - Surveying the effects to BU's return to full in-person learning
    - Thank you to senate chair, expect more committee, mental health committee, communications, etc

- Gives details on each questions, can be found on the slides

9:09: time has elapsed

9:09: Brumfield: Motion to extend time by 5 minutes

9:09: Astimbay: Seconds

Passes with 24 votes

9:10: Resumes

- Asks senators why they think answers are the way they are
  - Responses from: Rahmani; Muwowo;
  - Present, current issues on what we can do for our constituents and understanding the implications of surveys like this
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- Report requests? Reach out to JAC!
    - See slides for their contact informations

9:15: Q&A opens

Vice-president: What is the sample size for the last survey?

Daniel Markovic: 60

Shamsi: Did someone inquire about these or did you do these on your own?

Rebecca Hyatt: We did these on our own.

Shamsi: How quick is your turn around?

Rebecca Hyatt: 2 weels

Shamsi: With the COVID report... is this something that was presented elsewhere? This seems untimely to show us now after all of the petitioning.

Rebecca Hyatt: This was published at the end of the fall semester. We don't traditionally present.

Shamsi: So do they go somewhere?

Rebecca Hyatt: It's just published to the general student body

Casas: Their policy does not follow senate's guidelines... They are an archival branch. If you want something imminent, you will have to request it. They are not a policy branch.

Shamsi: So then what is the hope with these reports?

Ben Klein: We are giving this information to give you. This way, we can help you.

Shamsi: So is the issue that senators aren't requesting in a timely enough manner?

Ben Klein: There is no issue. Our reports come out at the end of the semester.

Daniel Markovic : This isn't necessarily bound to the end of the semester, though. We can do whatever you request.

Shamsi: What are the current projects you are working on?

Rebecca Hyatt: report with Rich and ROC, and voting initiatives (connections between student government and students)

9:21: BU vs BC Blood drive competition

- Desperate need for blood: seen in the news
  - Exacerbated by COVID
- Looking for a diverse student population
- "We have the potential to save hundreds of lives right here on our campus"
- Feb 1, Feb 2, 2 Boston Red Cross blood drives on Feb 6 and 16, potential drive on Feb 22
- Incentives to donate: no expenses coming out of our pockets, cool prize/gift to those who are donating
- We want this to be an annual event
- Sign up with the link we are going to put into the slot
  - Volunteer to help out or donate blood
- Reshare our instagram post on your story!
- We have a great chance to meaningfully impact our mass community

9:26: Q&A period

Astimbay: How many slots are open per day?

Navya: 42, 43, and 50 or so. (This depends on the day)

Justice Daponte: Where can we go to sign up?

Vice President: There are links in the link tree on our instagram.

Justice Keusch: How can we check our eligibility?

Navya: There is a link on our link tree. They will check your blood pressure, iron, etc

Justice Wong: What are you using for metrics?

Vice President: Each person is a percent out of the sign ups. That's how the competition is being held.

Majaritiwz: Have you received any support from admin on this?

Vice-president: We had support from transportation services, student activities, and athletics

9:29: Open Forum

Chief of staff to the vice president: Please sign up for the blood drive!

Majariwitz: Mental Health Committee is tabling at the GSU this week and giving out mental health kits!

Stante: FEAST 7:30 on Wednesday over zoom!

Shamsi: ROC meetings are coming! Message adam

Gunn: I want to do something along the lines of Yoga Palooza. Reach out if you have an idea!

Casas: I work for the student activities office. Our office is really ugly and I am collecting student group stickers. Please give me your club stickers so we can emboss them

Vice-Chair: Involvement

Kapadia: I am working on an initiative for a senate committee addressing issues of race on campus. I am working with a lot of student unions and I have meetings this week, so if you're interested please reach out

\*Vice Chair and Chair notes\*

9:38: Aznavoorian: Motion to adjourn

Majariwitz: Seconds

Passes with 28 votes

Meeting adjourned: 9:39