

Meeting start: 8:04

Chair: Opening address

8:10: Roll call

37 present, 3 by proxy

8:15: President's Address

- Check in
- Advertising BU Radio
- Coffee Chats
- Alumni Volunteering
 - Networking event for senators
- Time commitment for student government is what you make of it

8:19: Confirmation for BIG Reps

8:19: Alex Theon

- Coalition of 14 schools the boston area to discuss happenings of each campus
- Most involved in governmental affairs
 - Working with different organizations around the area
- "It serves as a conduit between different schools to have reps come together and figure out solutions that are bigger than our respective campuses"
- Had senators come out and speak
 - "Shows BIG has a sense of legitimacy"
- Have members attend BIG meetings and get closer with the organization
- "Bigger than just 2 representatives...requires collaboration between everyone to make it work"

8:23: Katherine Sabideo

- Vice-Chair of BIG
 - Oversee committees
- Harvard partnering with the boston globe with a mayoral debate
 - 2 reps will be able to attend the debate in person and one big moderator
- If anyone is interested, reach out to her for weekly meetings
- "I will lead as many projects as I can"
- "I think it's important to keep the same people in there throughout the year"

8:26: Entering into a 10 min Q&A

Q: How often will we be updated?

A: Senate updates will be monthly.

8:27: Motion to enter voting procedure, many seconds

8:28: Passes

8:28: Motion to vote on Alex

8:30: Passes

8:30 Motion to vote on Alex

8:31: 35, passes

8:31: Motion to vote on Katherine

8:32: 36, passes

8:33: Confirmation of Adel Sabiyeva, ROC Co- Chair

- Exchange student from Kazakhstan
- “The issues we didn’t pay attention to last year became so clear”
- “ROC focuses on issues that are not really urgent, but are also important to be resolved in the future”
- Experience in the executive board

8:35: 10 minute Q&A

Q: What initiatives do you want to do this year?

A: Adam gave me insight. The one that stood out to me was the student job employment rate issue. Students should be represented and their opinions are heard within the employment administration and faculties.

Q: What’s something you are looking forward to accomplishing this year?

A: I don’t know all of the projects yet. But my primary goal within this school year is to get into the issues. I will look over the stuff there and look into the issues

Q: I was wondering if you had any new initiatives?

A: Since I am new to Boston University, I haven’t had the full experience. I look forward to speaking with people and finding out issues that I can work to resolve.

Q: How did you find out about this position and what made you apply?

A: SPLASH. I was interested in being a student government member, and I found out about the committee and I wanted to put some influence into it.

8:38: Floor closes to questions

8:38: Motion to go into voting procedure, many seconds

8:39: Passes

8:39: Motion to vote

8:41: Passes

8:41: Motion to vote on Adel

8:43: 25 in the affirmative, passes

SR. 003

- Senator Kapadia and Expect More Committee Head, Richard Seagleman DHRUV
- BU had no accommodations in place for students with COVID in isolation
 - 10 days in isolation and missing in person classes
 - Admin is aware of the threat of COVID 19... but they’re doing very little about it
- The University is strongly discouraging faculty members from posting recordings of lectures virtually
- Provost Morrison said friends should just give each other notes
 - “Do what you’ve always done” -- PM
 - COVID is not the normal illness that college students get
- They provided us with one concrete piece of evidence

- Poll of the academic coordinator (every person in the room has no idea who there coordinator is)
- What is our solution?
 - Calling upon admin to allow faculty to post recorded lectures
 - For the sake of students and faculty who could test positive

8:50: Time elapses

8:50: Motion to extend the presentation by 10 min, many seconds

8:51: Passes

Resumes

RICH

- Tuesday sep 21-- Expect more survey
- The means of promotion were from instagram pages and the various class facebook groups
- 711 responses (4.5% of the undergrad student population)
- 6 questions long
- Open from wednesday to sunday
- "Ample sample size... very well representative of the actual student population"
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QUESTIONS

- 97.6% of students found that current isolation accommodations are not fair
 - Students believe that something needs to be done
- 99.58% of students said that zoom recordings and virtual classes should be an option for quarantined students
- A couple of testimonies to share (over 300, 3 chosen)

DHRUV

- Next steps: Pass this resolution
- Everyone met with Dean Elmore today at 5pm
 - Discussion regarding the initiative, received some good feedback
 - A lot of things happen in senate and die right out
 - Admin is not blind; they are open to working on it
- Sending out a faculty survey by tomorrow or the day after
- A lot of student orgs have been contacting; Releasing a formal petition
- "Other institutions are instituting things like this, and for some reason, BU is posing as an exception"
- "It's time for us to say fuck it won't cut it"

8:57: 10 min Q&A

Q: What timeline do you see in place?

A: Hoping to have a follow-up with faculty data next week

Q: What is the difference between the petition and the survey?

A: The survey is for our own internal use. Data matters the most. That serves as an actual way to gauge the full student body... more likely to send a petition rather than a survey.

Q: Would there be extensions for students who are sick?

A: It's hard for them to mandate extensions across every single department. They're going to be reluctant.

Q: You had a meeting already. Were there any faculty present at the meeting?

A: No. It was a preliminary meeting. We are going to send out the faculty survey but we have been in contact with "fairly influential faculty members"

Q: Will faculty have to record every single lecture? Or is it their discretion?

A: It's hard for an institution to mandate these things. It will be at their discretion... It encourages them. Right now, admin is discouraging them from doing it

Q: Grades do matter. Is there any way we can come up with a plan where, if it is a specific type of disease/doctor's note, we come up with an extension period? How do you excuse that absence even if there is no doctor's note?

9:07: Time elapses

9:07: Motion to extend my 5 min, many seconds

9:08: Passes

Resumes

Q: Grades do matter. Is there any way we can come up with a plan where, if it is a specific type of disease/doctor's note, we come up with an extension period? How do you excuse that absence even if there is no doctor's note?

A1: We're all willing to amend for a formal extension. It's hard to mandate this though

Clarifying: Not a mandate... but holding them accountable. We can talk about it later

A1: I don't want to spread ourselves too quick

A2: We don't really account for it and I don't know the process. It sounds like an issue that needs to be addressed, but just not in this bill. We're already pushing and asking for a lot.

Q: How do you plan to get the survey out to faculty?

A: Yield to Vice President

A: We are gonna send out the email via the student government emails. Most of them are through the websites and we have personal emails for the college deans

Q: What did Dean Elmore discuss in the meeting?

A: To keep it general... We got them saying that they are open to it. It's a matter of when and how many people. But they are aware of it and there's an upcoming meeting with the provost

Q: How does being bureaucratic work with admin?

A: Coming in and being democratic "level headed" is the best way. Grassroots is getting student support. Going in with the intention of compromise will allow for us to work together

Q: If you have a doctor's note, and you go through disabilities. Did Dean Elmore shed light on punishment for faculty who record?

A: There is none. It goes by department. Some chairs of individual departments do prohibit

Follow ups: Are there measures there?

A: There are none. If there are, we can flush that out in the faculty survey.

Q: Would you be open to an amendment where the academic counselor will act as a source if a professor doesn't record?

A: The current coordinators are influential people who are already busy. I have no idea what their roles are... it's all very vague. We only have one ACC for the whole department. I would love to look into it and work with you on it.

9:19: Q&A Ends

9:19: Motion to enter voting procedure

9:20: Passes

9:20: Motion to vote on SR.003

9:21: Passes

9:22: Voting on SR.003

9:23: 32 votes in the affirmative, passes

9:24: Cabinet Directors Update

Academic Affairs:

- HUB student advisory council, SIS
 - Student Link Redesign
- If you have any needs, I can assist you
- Individual school or college initiatives

City Affairs:

- Voter registration drives
 - Getting students registered
- Looking to collab through Boston Public Schools
- Food Festival (Pay them to come... small businesses)
- Student Government Service Saturdays
 - Working with the community service center to give back

Communications:

- Missed training? Reach out so we can get headshots and blurbs
- Instagram Takeovers
- Senate Agendas every week
 - Policy briefings as well
- Our instagram has over 3,000 followers. However, we want to expand on this to Tiktok and LinkedIN
- If you have something to promote, please contact me

Environmental Affairs:

- Table with the FEAST committee
- BU is divesting from fossil fuels
- We are promoting direct to act opportunities on campus
 - One concern: no composting centers
 - Working with admin on this
- We want to volunteer with climate groups

Chair of events:

- Wellness: poll
- In 4 hours, we have out 200 succulents and 500 people came
- Thank you to the senate mental health committee
- Some sort of party in the Metcalf ballroom
 - Giveaways and costume content
- Therapy dog event !!

Recruitment:

- Senate committee and executive staffers
 - Only one branch at a time
- GSU tabling -- first one last week
 - A lot of people were interested
 - Send an email to be tabling
- We have been communicating with Questrom stugov to get senators

Social Advocacy:

- Town Halls
 - Once a month, October 27 (Student Issues with SHS)
- Drop in app for seeing other students (have been trained to talk on matters of mental health care)
- Ongoing collabs with groups in boston

Vice President:

- Collab with Wheelock community care pantry
- Reached out to the Newbury center for First Gen Students

Spring Concert Chair:

- We started discussions w SAO in May
 - Outline of how we're planning the concert
- Pitched ideas to college presidents and res halls

9:40: 10 min Q&A Period

Q: How are you going to advocate for voting and increase awareness? (Spec. for mail in ballots for people outside of mass)

A: Last year, we created a guide for every state. We will update it for everyone to use. We also use BU turbo vote

Q: Can you talk more about the peer mentor programs?

A: Researched into existing peer mentorship programs on campus and differentiating options on campus.

- "Finding what gaps are there and what needs to be filled in"

Q: What's stugov's twitter?

A: It's the same as our insta handle (@bustugov)

Q: Are you working on getting recycling bins?

A: We are getting recycling accessible to everyone along with the composting

Q: Have you thought about having a clothing bin permanently?

A: We are donating to homeless shelters every now and then. If we need one more often, we can definitely push for it

9:45: Floor closes for questions

9:45: Open forum

9:45: Sen. Kapadia

Advocacy is working on initiative to facilitate fundraisers or donation drives to call upon the undergrad body to donate household items. I will send a link to the doc. October 1-October 12 . Bins will be in most major residence life halls

9:47: Sammy

Nonprofit offering paid positions for minorities on campus. Esp for the underclassman
Program managing, development, data, etc

9:49: October 8, 6pm Second floor of Photonics

Movie night

9:49: Chairman

Hindu student council launched tickets for “basically, a really big party”. Go to their instagram or facebook for pre-sale tickets

9:50: Motion to adjourn, many seconds

9:50: Motion Passes

9:51: Senate is adjourned