Agenda of the Senate
Hofstra University Student Government Association
November 07, 2024
Hofstra University

Call to order

Meeting Called to order at 7:00pm EST

A. Quorum Call

a. Quorum set to 33

B. New Business

a. Senator Callahan moves to open the gallery
   i. Motion Seconded
   ii. Motion Passed

b. Welcome Provost Riordan

i. Provost Riordan: We have 4 priority areas regarding our Strategic Plan. The first is of course, and always, the success of our students. We want you to be leaders, productive members of society, and we want to focus on the skills that will get you your first jobs post graduation, and ultimately your career. This even involves looking into Generative AI, and how that may be used in your future in the workforce. Some other aspects of the plan are interdisciplinary concepts and learning how to work in integrative teams. There is so much more I could talk about, but I really want to hear about you, your concerns, and your aspirations.

ii. Senator Callahan: You spoke about how it is important that modernization, including the incorporation of Canvas, is improved. How do you plan to enforce this?

1. Provost Riordan: To talk about canvas specifically, when President Poser started at Hofstra she allotted a certain amount of money each year to make sure classrooms themselves are up to date with equipment and technology. We have plans for the theaters and lecture halls as well; these are spaces used frequently and will benefit from these upgrades. This is our second year of Canvas, and we are continuing to encourage professors to use, and use

regularly, this resource for themselves and students. Canvas is testing an AI aspect with Khan Academy; this will be a resource through Canvas for studying and learning that will be available by spring. We want all faculty to be using Canvas at minimum for grading.

iii. Senator Rades: Does the administration have any way to monitor teachers' use of Canvas?
    1. Provost Riordan: We have been training our faculty. Sometimes when faculty aren't using it is because they are reluctant to learning and use a new platform. When we become aware of faculty not using it, we make sure they attend an Ed-Tech program to learn how to use it. Once they learn, they eventually end up enjoying it!

iv. Senator Mosaed: What are your thoughts on students bypassing critical thinking through cheating with AI resources?
    1. Provost Riordan: We are never going to condone cheating, and cheating takes different forms especially with technology. Personally, I think this is a technological advance that is immensely going to change higher education, and I encourage people to lean into it and find its benefits. But, faculty are allowed to make their own model. There are three main models: one that fully encourages AI to effectively use it, one that prohibits generative AI completely, and one that is intermediate that allows it for some, but not all, assignments. This is where faculty communication is so important. It is important to find the balance of using this technology. We know that it can be difficult for a student to navigate what they can and can't use. As far as the honor code goes, we do not currently have access to AI detection tools on websites like Turn It In due to errors in the diagnostic software. That could change in the future, but right now that is not a way students can get 'caught' using AI.

v. Senator Scott: What is the school doing to make sure they keep up with emerging fields / innovations in fields of study?
    1. Provost Riordan: We want to ensure Hofstra encourages the right balance of education and research opportunities. We are leaning into these aspects within our strategic plan. Experiential learning is at the core of that. Hiring faculty that are experts in their fields is a key aspect of that. We are always looking into adopting new majors thanks to faculty advising boards that meet with professionals in the field to integrate our academic programs to

include the skills the workforce needs. Robust research provides great learning for our students.

vi. Senator Yari: I love everything you said in your presentation! As someone in a science major, is there anything you guys are going to do for pre-med majors, specifically?
    1. Provost Riordan: Through HCLAS, but the Biology department specifically, now has a Pre-Med advisor specifically. There has been a lot of growth in the science curriculum. We have brought in Health Science majors, nursing majors, many of who are taking these overlapping courses. As we are hiring new faculty, specifically in the sciences, we need to make sure we have more lab courses. We need to look at the space we have so we can include more spaces not only for undergraduate labs, but for research as well.

vii. Chair Danek: As Academic Affairs Chair, a couple things I've looked at are the potential to make syllabi available for course registration and allowing comments in CTRs (for students to get some ideas of what their professors are like before they register). What are the logistics for that?
    1. Provost Riordan: In terms of students' comments in the CTR, the University Senate is indeed the way to go. This would require policy change within the U Senate. It would go to a small committee, then University Senate, then to the faculty, and then to myself and Dr. Poser. It is an ongoing conversation, for sure, about the benefits and detriments to having those available. By our current rules, professors need to have their syllabus submitted to their department heads by the start of the semester. Someone in my office is working on a repository to get these widely available. There are some concerns about professors not being able to update or finish their syllabi by the time of registration, but students could still get a good idea based on syllabi from the past year or two.
        a. Chair Danek: It might be most helpful to make the most previous version available. So it might be a good idea to have a previous version available.

viii. Senator Hernandez: How will we make our advising system more efficient? How will we be sure we reach the best / most equipped advisors for our students?
    1. Provost Riordan: One way is we relaunched an update to navigate that makes sure each student can find their advisors that are clearly located within the website. We have been doing a lot of professional development for both CUA and faculty advisors.

Faculty are encouraged to learn how to use Navigate in the same way that they use Canvas. I believe we have some of the best advisors. But, for the freshman in particular, most of their advising comes directly from CUA before faculty. That is where their continued training is necessary to stay the most up to date for our policies. We are also working on the "hand-off" process; first years usually start with CUA advisors, but eventually 'transfer' over to their faculty advisors as they continue in their major. We're working on recognizing good advisors to make sure there's an incentive to keep learning and reward systems.

ix. Senator Ahmad: How is Hofstra utilizing interdisciplinary teams to ensure academic success?
    1. Provost Riordan: The secret about being Provost is that many of the things I do are in collaboration with others. There are a lot of smart people on campus, and I know that I need to 'practice what I preach' and bring others in for interdisciplinary teamwork. Integrative teams can solve the most complex problems, and we want to make sure we practice this idea. We are trying to pilot ways to make connections between faculty across campus easier for collaboration.

x. Senator Callahan: Because students are mainly testing through canvas, do you see that as a complete replacement for scantron / blue book exams.
    1. Provost Riordan: That is a good question, and I honestly don't know! I can imagine scenarios where students write themselves in a blue book as a valuable exercise. That might change, but, not sure- we'll see!

xi. Senator Jacob: What is HU doing to make sure students are career ready?
    1. Provost Riordan: On a regular basis, we are looking across classrooms to make sure student outcomes are aligned with our goals to prepare them. This is where CTRs / student comments can come in. This is to continue to improve coursework as well as teaching methods. We want to encourage more assessments earlier in the semester, not just at the end of the semester. One professor made his own google form a few weeks into the semester to help shift gears if needed.

xii. Senator Rades: I'm just wondering what you guys are doing in regards to students wanting to add a major or minor? I know many students like myself are discouraged from pursuing their ideal courses of study. What are you doing to address that and make sure students are able to pursue their passions?

1. Provost Riordan: First, I am sorry to hear that people are being discouraged with the caveat that there may be academic reasons behind that. We want to encourage the exploration of other majors and minors and areas of studies in a way where students can still graduate in 4 years. For a number of students, they are double majors or triple minors to string together their own major, often because a major that doesn't quite exist. That is why we want to forge pathways for students to make their own major that incorporates aspects of various interests

xiii. Secretary Egolf: Talking about career readiness, a part of that is that you have to go through an interview process first. I just found out the career center has a VR interview lab. How do you think your office & advisors can promote that more to students, because it's such a valuable resource?
    1. Provost Riordan: The career services are very valuable. Career services should not be a resource students are exposed to in their junior and senior year. It should start during, or before, your first year here. I know other universities sit down with their first years and ask what they want their resume to look like by graduation, and backtrack how to make that happen. It is all about very intentional planning with an advisor. I think making sure our advisors are promoting this is a good start.

xiv. Senator Yari: I've heard many stories about students having to change their majors because they didn't have to correct credits, often due to long waitlists. What can be done so that this can not happen again next year?
    1. Provost Riordan: For a large number of examples, specially for chem and bio courses, there are students on waitlists despite having sections that are open. Most waitlists are based on preference of time, not true availability. As far as the advising, though, it is very individualized. I agree that students with packed majors should be taking greater than the minimum credits. I encourage students to continue having these conversations with advisors, faculty, and peers.

xv. Senator Finkelstein: So I'm an engineering major, there are quite literally no open courses for a class required for my major, and I'm on a waitlist right now, is there anything that can be done about that?
    1. Provost Riordan: We have improved the waitlist system over the years. I know being on the waitlist, especially for a major required course, can be stressful. But, we have been doing this for so long and know how sign ups change. You should feel very confident about getting into your required classes by the start of the semester.

xvi. Senator Mosaed: Is there any way we can not have the new majors [...] ?
    1. Provost Riordan: As soon as a class is approved, it is immediately added into the bulletin. Once a new major/degree plan is approved at Hofstra, it also has to get approved by the State Board of Education. One thing we could do is while we wait for state approval, we can try to communicate the new courses in advance.

xvii. Senator Favour: I met with you last semester to talk about integrating the syllabi into course registration. In terms of updating the course descriptions by course registration day, what's the progress on that?
    1. Provost Riordan: When I talk to faculty and department heads, I often hear that what is listed is the most updated description. I think we need to highlight specific courses that are of most concern, and address those directly.

xviii. Senator Mosaed: What can a student do if they want to change something at the university?
    1. Provost Riordan: We have to direct that request to the direct office on campus. It could be a number of offices. One way is to follow up with your SGA leadership who can bring it to the right person.

xix. VP Joyal: Thank you Provost Riordan!

xx. Senator Finkelstein moves to remove decorum
    1. Motion Failed

xxi. Senator Callahan moves to strike snap cup
    1. Motion Objected
    2. Motion Rescinded

c. SA.2024.89.006 Presented by Senator Harish Subramanian

i. Senator Callahan: This SA says that with a guest, electronics is up to the discretion of the chair. Shouldn't it be banned?
    1. Senator Subramanian: I agree. I write it as up to the discretion to leave room for interpretation. Most of these things we already do- no electronics, no eating, and so on.

ii. Senator Scott: The purpose of this is to allow us to use technology [...] for research purposes?
    1. Yes. It is a mechanism to have the ability to have access to up to date facts and be able to read the minutes if needed. If we are having a discussion clause by clause, it would be beneficial to have it available in real time.

iii. Senator Miranda: Can you clarify how you would expect a chair to discipline one of their members during a senate meeting?
    1. The way I was thinking about it would be that our President can walk around and watch to ensure we are using our technology well. It is a system to say whether our usage is effective.

iv. Chair Mahlati: Would you like to motion to hold a straw poll to see how the senate feels about this amendment?

v. Senator Subramanian moves to hold a straw poll regarding passing the proposed Senatorial Action.
    1. Motion seconded
    2. Motion passed

vi. Senator Callahan moves to hold a 5-minute moderated caucus.
    1. Motion Seconded
    2. Motion Objected
    3. Objection rescind
    4. Motion Failed

vii. Secretary Egolf moves to not pass SA.2024.89.006
    1. Motion Seconded
    2. Motion Objected
        a. For, Secretary Egolf: When I started in SGA 4 years ago at the start of our term, we did have electronics available and there was online shopping… and texting…you *will* be tempted to open a notification if you see it. It's distracting. It should not be Lincoln's job to walk around. Whenever we're going through a document or debate, Eboard usually lets you have your electronics out. You can have scratch paper or a notebook.
        b. Against, Senator Subramanian: I think a previous speaker brought up a lot of good points, but at the same time this position is a prestigious thing. We are all adults and should be able to manage ourselves. If we can't be trusted to look at our devices, what does that say about our organization. This bill has very strict stipulations on what could happen to prevent distraction. It is to encourage informed discussions. We should be the most prepared to discuss these ideas.
        c. For, Comptroller Greenlaw: It's distracting. It's life. We can go back to using paper and pens. At the end of the day, we need to be present, being present causes involvement, and involvement causes growth. You don't need your computer. Research beforehand. We have experience with computers, and it was not nearly as productive.
            i. Chair Mahalti: When you hold a straw poll and most people are not in support, it is disrespectful to continue with it. There are no conditions where computers are needed. It is impractical to highly enforce all the stipulations.
        d. Against, Senator Finkelstein: It would be nice to be able to see what is being talked about. It is hard, even when it is displayed for us.

i. Senator Callahan: There are ways to ensure that people are using it appropriately, and we can call people out if not. We are all adults, and we should have the self control to close our electronics when needed. We should be able to make that decision.

3. Motion passed

d. SA.2024.89.007
   i. Chair Young moves to pass SA.2024.89.007
e. SA.2024.89.008
   i. Chair Skeldon moves to pass SA.2024.89.008
f. SA.2024.89.009
   i. Senator Callahan moves to pass SA.2024.89.009
g. Constitutional Review Results
h. Secretary Egolf moves to amend the Spring 2025 Semesterly Budget allocations for Student Voices for Palestine line item 5 to $28.99.
   i. Motion Seconded
   ii. Motion Passed

C. Approval of the Minutes

a. Chair Daneck moves to pass the Senate minutes from 10/31
   i. Motion Seconded
   ii. Motion Passed
b. Senator Callahan moves to pass the Cabinet minutes from 11/6
   i. Motion Seconded
   ii. Motion Passed

D. E-board Reports

a. President
   i. Note on SA.006
      1. Great job with Roberts Rules
   ii. Feedback Form
   iii. Nice work with SAW! Not over yet!
   iv. Shake-a-Rake Nov 16th (9am, 12pm sessions)
      1. Possible Team Leads: Celeste, Abigail, Rachel, Tom, Michelle, Tara, Josh, Jack (all can participate, will update!)
   v. Meeting with President Poser Next Week
   vi. Meeting with University Senate Next Week
   vii. Note on the Election
b. Vice President
   i. Don't be scared to debate.
   ii. Remember to always let Sophia know when you will be leaving the room, so that she is able to keep quorum.

iii. Remaining non-partial since we represent the student body.
iv. Revising the attendance policy with Secretary Mak, making it more clear within policy.

c. Comptroller
   i. Received new population estimates (thanks Sev!)
      1. Increased our budget by several thousand dollars
   ii. S25 Accounting File is done (yay Approps!)
      1. Blue, Gold, Pride Allocations
   iii. Making a better framework for subcommittee (yay Julia and Prahlad!)

d. Secretary
   i. Reminders:
      1. If you leave early without letting me know 24 hours prior that you would be leaving early, that is an UNEXCUSED absence per policy series
      2. Leaving the room, tell Sophia (only tell me if she is not here!)
      3. Attendance at an event does not count as office hours. That is an expectation of your role. Tabling in the atrium can count as office hours as long as I (Eboard) approves prior.
      4. If you are NOT ATTENDING A MEETING, whether senate or committee, you are REQUIRED to email me, sga_ethics, Jewels, and your chair 24 hours in advance.
   ii. Expect an SA from me revising attendance to make expectations and repercussions more clear.
   iii. Going through attendance records and may be emailing you to set up a meeting to discuss.

E. Committee Chair Reports

a. Appropriations
   i. Budgets are done!!
      1. Huge shoutout to the Appropriations Committee for all of their hard work!
   ii. Minutes
   iii. Spring 2025 Semesterly Budgets

b. Club Resources
   i. Minutes
   ii. Turning attention to getting club offices in shape and starting walkthroughs
   iii. Met with 3 clubs this week
   iv. Constitutional benchmark
      1. Average score a 16.78/23! Yay!

2. Most missed questions
    a. What score does a treasurer need to pass treasurer training?
        i. 60!
    b. How many votes against can prevent a constitutional convention from opening?
        i. 2! Meaning if 2 people vote against it, it cannot open. 1 vote against and it can still open!
    c. How many votes does the Appropriations Committee need to overturn the Student Government Association Policy Series during the allocations process?
        i. Unanimous!
        ii. It is super important that everyone understands the basic appropriations policies, even if it seems unrelated!
    d. How many students does every senator represent?
        i. 150!
    e. Who chairs senate if the VP cannot?
        i. I do!

c. Communications
    i. No Formal Report
d. Programming
    i. BUILD A FRIEND!!! Tomorrow at 7pm.
e. Academic Affairs
    i. Minutes
    ii. Comparative schools research for writing classes sheet
    iii. Writing Center Hours Update- starting next week offering hours Monday night from 7-10 and later on Friday and asynchronously
    iv. Met with Dr. Blue last Friday- changing MSA marks from “N/A” to “S” in the works
f. Equity & Inclusion
    i. No Formal Report
g. Facilities & Operations
    i. Minutes
    ii. Committee members - please take a look at the minutes!
    iii. Accessibility walkthrough is almost fully planned
        1. Friday, November 22nd - Time: TBD
        2. Focus on functionality of ADA Doors
        3. Me, DaeJa, Caitlin (SAS), and 2 members from each of our committees
    iv. Facility Concerns Update from VP Romano: Updates

h. Wellness & Campus Safety
    i. Minutes - My committee **MUST** read this please
    ii. No formal report <3

F. Approval of Committee Minutes

a. Comptroller Greenlaw moves to pass the allocations from 11/5
    i. Motion seconded
    ii. Motion passed
b. Chair Denson moves to pass the committee minutes from 11/4
    i. Motion seconded
    ii. Motion passed
c. Senator Ahmad moves to pass the Spring 2025 budgets
    i. Motion seconded
    ii. Motion passed
d. Senator Hernandez moved to close the gallery
    i. Motion seconded
    ii. Motion passed

G. For Good of the Order

a. What political stuff does SGA support, and how do we determine that? —Lincoln explains in video form
b. Hofstra Family Vibes Podcast —with Lincoln
c. SGA GAME NIGHT!!! November 15th 6-8pm, Stu142

H. Announcements 3

a. Anything non-SGA related!

I. Snap Cup

J. Adjournment

a. Secretary Egolf moves to adjourn this meeting
    i. Motion seconded
    ii. Motion passed
        1. Meeting adjourned at 9:25pm EST

Club/Organization	Amount Requested	Amount Allocated	%
DECA	$237.50	$237.50	100%

Spring 2025 Semesterly Budgets

Cabinet Agenda

PPAW Conference Room
November 6, 2024, 6:45pm

Quorum:

Present President L. Anniballi, Vice President J. Joyal, Comptroller S. Greenlaw, Secretary M. Egolf, Chair J. Danek, Chair M. Skeldon, Chair E. Quail, Chair A. DiSanto, Chair K. Denson, Chair D. Young, Chair N. Mahlati, Chair L. Vickers
Absent:

Agenda:

I. Meeting called to order: 6:49pm
II. Icebreaker
III. Collaborative Business:
    A. Chair Denson moves to open the gallery
        1. Motion seconded
        2. Motion passed
    B. Chief Justice Bowles: We are excited to finally have a full group of justices. With that, we want to get more involved and help SGA as a whole. I want to know your processes so we can be there to help regulate and assist best we can. We have decided to meet every Tuesday at 6:00, and that would be open to anyone to stop by, sit in, or work through any documents.
        1. President Anniballi: What are you going to focus on during these meetings?
            a) Chief Justice Bowles: From now until the end of the semester, we are going to focus on how we can better understand and digest the policy series so we can help be a resource for SGA policy changes as well as certain club processes, like elections.
        2. President Anniballi: I think in the sense of club presence, J-Panel can be a huge help there. General audits and such to help take the load off of CR to help them keep organized.
            a) Chief Justice Bowles: That is exactly where we want to start. If there is anything we can do before they come to you- maybe they have to come to us to give us the names of their new

elected offices before they meet with CR. We also want to be available if something happens in Senate if there are any issues once something is passed. It is mine and 5 others' job to solely know the policy series for any and all issues that may arise.

3. Chief Justice Bowles: How can we make ourselves known to the greater SGA? A message in the important chat? Our meeting time in the next email?
    a) Chair Danek: I would say J-Panel could volunteer with events and programming to make them an active and seen part of this organization.
    b) Comptroller Greenlaw: Maybe you guys could come to Senate?
        (1) Maybe we can do a rotating basis so you guys can get a sense of our process and how we debate and so on.
4. VP Joyal: Are you guys looking at the policies purely to understand it, or are you looking for troublespots/gaps?
    a) Chief Justice Bowles: That is another question. I want us to first understand it, while also finding out what contradicts each other. How would we approach that?
    b) Secretary Egolf: Just a question, can J-Panel write legislation? If they found errors could they just write a solution themselves?
        (1) President Anniballi: Yes. It has never happened before, so it is slightly unclear. I think it would be a good idea to compile a list of issues and possible solutions.
        (2) Chair Quail: Unfortunately, J-Panel can't write legislation themselves, but they can make suggestions and provide input.

C. Reslife/Fire Marshall
    1. General guidance:
        a) Get a notice that they 1) took something 2) were there in the first place 3) not told how to receive items that were taken
        b) Knowing what member of ResLife is present.
        c) Fire marshall can and has been throwing things out, not even confiscating them
        d) Consistency (safety/wellness checks v. fire marshall checks)

e) Not having any warning/updates – scary to have an unknown person, regardless of job, to randomly come into your room without you knowing

IV. Updates

A. President

1. Upcoming Meetings
    a) University Senate
    b) Meeting with Poser
2. SAW going well! Push a bit harder!

B. Vice President

1. Taking a look at internal requirements for senators

C. Comptroller

1. New population estimates!
    a) Budget increased by a few thousand dollars!!
2. S25 Accounting File is all set
3. Vouchers allocated
4. Working on actually using my subcommittee

D. Secretary

1. Sizes for Cab
2. Room Request Form
3. Catering Form
4. Committee Attendance Form

E. Academic Affairs

1. Comparative schools research for writing classes sheet
2. Met with Dr. Blue Friday
    a) Making previous syllabi available for course registration
        (1) Some faculty work on their syllabi until their first day of class
        (2) Working on obtaining a platform for syllabi
    b) She is working with Board of Trustees on changing MSA marks from “N/A” to “S”
    c) Discussed much more!!
3. Planning on getting proposed changes to FPS 9 and 48 to 11/15 UAAC meeting

F. Appropriations

1. Budgets are done!!

        a) Huge shoutout to the Appropriations Committee for all of their hard work!
    2. Minutes
    3. Spring 2025 Semesterly Budgets
G. Club Resources
    1. Minutes
    2. Turning attention to getting club offices in shape and starting walkthroughs
    3. Met with 3 clubs this week
    4. Constitutional benchmark
        a) Average score a 16.78/23
        b) Will go over the most missed questions on Thursday!
H. Communications
    1. Shirley chaired committee for me yesterday
    2. Doing Build-A Friend Promotion on the Instagram
    3. Portal Box & Linktree were updated
    4. Updating Website
I. Equity and Inclusion
    1. Minutes 11/7
    2. Brainstorming spring events
    3. Meeting with Cornell to discuss student support after the election
    4. Thank you for coming to RFD
J. Facilities and Operations
    1. Minutes
    2. Still waiting to reschedule meeting w/ Lexis (Campus Dining)
    3. ADA Door Walkthrough in the works!
        a) Facilities and Equity
            (1) Kyle, DaeJa, Caitlin (SAS), 4 committee members (2 and 2)
            (2) South side of campus - focussing on functionality of doors
            (3) 9-10:30
K. Programming
    1. SAW/B.A.F
        a) 642 Surveys! Yay! We are doing very well and definitely will reach 1,000+ by Friday.

b) Got bears to the Arena earlier today!
(1) Build-a-Friend: Fall 24 Logistics
c) Announcement during first timeout "*Calling all students and CYO attendees! At halftime in the Pride Patio on the concourse we will be hosting our annual Build-A-Friend. Come build your friend at halftime, courtesy of our Student Government Association!*"
d) Will need SGA aid for the CYO table and keeping the lines in check.

2. Sal (11/6-15)/Tatyanna (11/18-12/6) are the interim chairs for the rest of November
a) Will be sharing Cabinet/Senate agendas with them, let me know if you have any questions
3. Getting started on getting Hofstra Hunt Winners together
a) Working on a sheet to make choosing the winners easier. Need to work on adding participants etc.
b) Hofstra Hunts Winners

L. Wellness and Campus Safety
a) Positivi-Tree incoming
b) Blanket offloading

V. For Good of the Order
A. Shake a Rake!
1. Session 2 - Sydney Greenlaw
B. Question

VI. Announcements

VII. Chair Skeldon moves to close the gallery
A. Motion Seconded
B. Motion Passed

VIII. Chair Skeldon moves to adjourn the meeting.
A. Motion Seconded
B. Motion Passes

IX. Meeting adjourned: 7:45

Respectfully submitted,

President Lincoln Anniballi