

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



**Agenda of the Senate
Hofstra University Student Government Association
November 12, 2024
Hofstra University**

Call to order

Meeting Called to order at 6:53pm EST

A. Quorum Call

- a. Quorum set to 32

B. New Business

- a. Senator Guenfoud moves to open the gallery

- i. Motion Seconded
- ii. Motion Passed

b. Welcome Vice President Paul Romano of Facilities

- i. VP Romano: Hi everyone; first off I want to compliment all of you for your work and your collaboration with all of us to keep campus beautiful and up to date. I am sure you are all very aware of the updates from the summer- Halal Shack, HofUSA, the library, etc. The next on the agenda is Freshens- it's popular and needs an update. We are going to be working on the 9th floor of the library, as well as renovating and creating an analytics lab. I am sure some of you have noticed we did some raised walkways; these were placed in high traffic areas, often where speeding occurred, to give pedestrians the power.

1. Comptroller Greenlaw: How are you going to help fix the fire alarms?

- a. VP Romano: The issue is we cannot change the sensitivity of the alarms. The alarm cannot distinguish between real smoke, a hot shower, hair spray, hair dryers, etc. Being on a campus, the fire alarms are working as they should, but often are triggered by vaping or something standing near the alarm as they do their hair or burn popcorn. We have to take every false alarm seriously because we don't want people to become desensitized to them.

2. Senator [...]: In the towers, there are some levels that have water fountains built in. Do we think we can update those to the hydration stations?
 - a. VP Romano: Little by little we have been updating them. We haven't done them in those halls because we cannot find a version that does not excessively protrude out into the halls. They are all on the lounge and main floor to make it more accessible, but ideally we need something more compact for those halls.
3. Senator Callahan: Can you tell me more about the campus beautification initiatives?
 - a. VP Romano: This has been a continuous effort. We are always fixing sidewalks, maintaining our arboretum, and see how we can keep it beautiful.
4. Chair Denson: Do you have any expectations for when we can expect 9th floor renovations to be done?
 - a. VP Romano: Now that we have come up with a final design, and are working on more of the designs and details, it should be ready by the end of the spring semester.
5. Senator Guenfoud: Can you briefly recap to the group how long you've been at Hofstra and [...]?
 - a. VP Romano: I have been at Hofstra for over 23 years. One of the biggest things that changes is the needs of the students. We have come to realize that we need students' input on these renovations. The 10th floor, for example, has been a tremendous success because we made it with the students' needs in mind.
6. Vice President Joyal: Are there any initiatives you would like to make in the near future regarding environmental friendliness?
 - a. VP Romano: Any time we renovate now, all of the renovations include LED lighting that is a lot more environmentally-friendly and easier on the eyes. It is also very cost-effective and uses less electricity, which is helpful for expanding other things like IT equipment.
7. Senator Singh: At any point has there ever been a point where there's an end goal that you have in mind, but it's not attainable?
 - a. VP Romano: We have thought about doing the solar panel to power the electric-vehicle charging station. But, we came to realize something that seemed to be efficient but it actually was super expensive to build it, and it would only charge 2 cars.

8. Senator Mosaed: It's getting colder and some rooms are not well-adjusted, is there any way that we can get the temperature better adjusted?
 - a. VP Romano: The towers and netherlands run on either heat or cold. We have gone back and forth between heat and air because of the changing weather patterns. You should have some ways to adjust it though, so if you don't reach out to plant.
9. Senator Black: I know last year there were a lot of problems with leaks, are there any preventative measures we're taking this year to make sure that doesn't happen again?
 - a. VP Romano: The last couple years we have been focusing on the towers, as that is where a majority of the problems were. We haven't had much rain recently, but since we started tracking the amount of leaks that occur have gone down significantly. We have made a good relationship with the contractor, and we are making sure we go to each building to aim to be 100% leak proof.
10. Senator Rades: One of the biggest issues I've seen on campus in regards to sustainability has been waste and our disposable containers, what has been done in regards to that? Could you elaborate on what you mean by environmentally friendly?
 - a. VP Romano: In our partnership meetings, we have been pushing towards getting more environment friendly options. They are still single use, as it allows for people to take it and go. They are corn based and allow for breakdown in or out of recycling. We are also looking into reusable to-go containers you can use and exchange for a new one.
 - i. President Anniballi: We have looked into this. The current set up we have is difficult to implement.
11. Comptroller Greenlaw: Going back to what Josh said about leaks, do you have any initiatives for Stuyvesant Hall. Especially last year, students had bubbles coming through their walls, etc.
 - a. VP Romano: The roof was redone. The issues we had last year were on the sidings. The issues from last year were actually internal. Anytime we get a call for a leak, we go right away, and if we can't handle it we get a contractor.
12. Chair Young: I know in the past couple of years, our facilities have extended the operation times of the gym and library, so how are you addressing these issues now, considering students still want hours extended for those areas?

- a. VP Romano: There is still some thought to make some areas in the library 24/7. There are some logistical issues, but it has not been
13. Secretary Egolf: Speaking of recycling and being sustainable, I've noticed especially in the forms, there's not a good receptacle for paper or batteries. I have also noticed that oftentimes when the trash is being collected, the recycling is dumped straight into the trash- do they not get recycled?
 - a. VP Romano: We've looked into it. The company we use Jamaica ash... they don't bring the materials directly, they get dumped in a conveyor belt, and they sort through the trash. That's one of the biggest problems with recycling, because people don't separate their trash a lot of times. Everything that leaves here does get separated.
14. Vice President Joyal: For the dining option, they have paper and cardboard, where at other locations you can only get plastic. Could we bring those into other locations?
 - a. VP Romano: This is giving us good material for our board meetings. We can definitely look into it.
15. President Annibali: When you're driving towards Hofstra...Do you have any plans to paint the towers or do anything aesthetically with the towers to make them look more appealing?
 - a. VP Romano: The first thing we do is the waterproofing, which is clear. The first thing is to get the buildings as watertight as possible, and then maybe looking into materials that could go over that. It would have to adhere to silicon.
 - b. Senator Callahan: Do you have a projected time frame for finding a solution to that?
 - i. Well, there's two more buildings left to treat.
16. Vice President Joyal: As far as I'm aware, there are two different systems for reporting problems that fall within facilities on campus. One falls within the dorms and then there's another one, I'm not sure if students know how to use those resources?
 - a. VP Romano: There are a couple forms. Any "non emergencies" often go through ResLife. They handle things like room painting, room furniture, etc. But, I advise anyone to call ext 6619, the Facilities front desk, for all emergencies. This is forwarded to PSafe when we are not in office.
 - i. VP Jewels: Going back to that, I know there's been a couple problems with that from the student perspective. We've heard students have been feeling left in the dark because they don't know what's

going on in real time. I think if there is a better way to communicate it could help eliminate any aggravation from students. Do you have any ideas for how to streamline that process?

1. The work order system is web based, and we have an administrator who monitors. They are working on finding a way to report back to people to communicate with them. We are also working to filter the notifications.

17. Senator Guenfoud: What brought you to budgeting in facilities?
 - a. Director of Budget and Administrative Services Michael Ogazon: I have been working on campus for quite some time, longer than Paul. I watch over the work order, commencement, dining services, and even teach a class in the school of business!
18. Chair Denson: What can we expect in the future for a better work order system?
 - a. VP Romano: That is something we are trying to work on. In any system, sometimes a change is as easy as flipping a switch, where some requires a whole new system. We want it to work better for everyone.
19. Senator Finklestein: There are limited options for Jewish students on campus. Is there any way we could have it open more hours or have other options for food?
 - a. VP Romano: We actually have to speak with the Rabbi who runs that program, to extend the hours we would have to talk to them. But we definitely can reach out.
20. Senator Mal: The sprinklers are always sprinkling everywhere but the grass. Is that something that is in the works?
 - a. VP Romano: That is something we can have our plumbers adjust to. You could report it to us, you can let Kyle know, and we'll make sure the areas are checked out.
 - b. Comptroller Greenlaw: Going off that, the big sprinkler by the intramural field is really inconvenient.
 - i. VP Romano: That's called a water canon, I want them to put it on the grass instead of the street. We're going to be a little more forceful about that.
21. Chair Young: I don't know if you have any knowledge about the cleaners in the towers, but they use the elevators to go to each floor, but that also means the floors never get cleaned. What should students do to report that?
 - a. VP Romano: I'll make sure the supervisors know to check out the stairwells.

22. Senator Finklestein: I was just wondering if there's any opportunity for us to meet, because I have a lot of questions that are a little more complicated.
 - a. VP Romano: You can get in touch with Kyle, and he can't set
23. Secretary Egolf: Speaking of toilet paper on the ground, I know when you go to a restaurant or any public space [...] On a lot of the academic side, the bathrooms don't seem very regularly maintained.
 - a. VP Romano: Obviously, it would be easier to do that on Mondays and Wednesdays because of the common hour. What happens usually is that overnight custodians are the ones that clean the bathrooms. Like they do in other places, you have to prop the door open.
24. Vice President Joyal: On the topic of bathrooms, some bathrooms that are administrative areas there are toilet covers, but not in student areas. Why is that?
 - a. VP Romano: I actually believe part of the reason they're not in more places is because a lot of products aren't as "flushable" as people believe they are. There are less and less locations where we have them because they are not good for the plumbing.
25. Senator Mosaed: Regarding all the, are you going to place any signage that instructs people to do the right thing? Or any events/program?
 - a. VP Romano: We try to make sure we have recycling bins around campus. Enforcing it is the hard part, and that is anywhere we go. That is part of the reason we use a company that sorts through the trash as a second shield. I can talk to Jess about a program.
26. Senator Singh: Would you ever consider holding any sort of program that showcases "adulting maintenance?" Would you consider implementing any resources in terms of education for something like that.
 - a. VP Romano: In order for us to do that, that would actually have to go through a different department. We aren't licensed to teach, but that is an interesting idea! I am a big advocate for learning life skills.
 - b. Senator Callahan: I think the university already offers an "adulting 101" seminar.
27. Vice President Joyal: You, Lincoln, Nimba and I are in the campus access committee. Would you like to enlighten the group on what is discussed in that committee and what we're working on?

- a. VP Romano: Hofstra has always been proud to be accessible; it was considered accessible before most. But, what was considered accessible in the day is no longer accessible now. The standards have been updated, and we want to make sure we are updating accordingly. The campus has made a commitment to investing money in this initiative year by year. We have a pretty diverse group on the committee, we're trying to get a diverse sampling of what's on people's minds.
28. Chair Denson: Do you have a list or map of ADA buttons on campus?
- a. VP Romano: I asked someone to look into that the other day. I am going to check in, because sometimes our list isn't exactly complete because we add and change.
 - b. Senator Mosaed: Do you check if they're working, or not?
 - i. VP Romano: That is Public Safety! They monitor and check the Blue Light System regularly.
29. Chair Young: During campus walkthrough, are there any concerns that you see?
- a. VP Romano: Well, I like to hear everything. One thing I'll note is that we have less ADA buttons not working. When you lock down a building, it turns the switches off. PSafe is being more mindful now to remember to turn the switches back on in the morning. But sometimes, there actually are issues with the buttons, but they are quite durable.
30. Senator Callahan: Regarding laundry rooms in the towers, there's two sets of doors in towers. That's a place where ADA buttons are often not working. I think a solution might just be to remove those doors.
- a. VP Romano: From a facilities perspective, I would like to remove the doors, but because of fire regulations, we would need removal from the state. We can ask the question, but it is a difficult ask.
31. Senator Garramore: In my building, the laundry machines are correlated to the CSC Go app. Does your office operate that?
- a. VP Romano: We are in the process of adding two more washers and dryers into each tower. It should be all complete by the time the spring semester starts.
32. Chair Young: Have you thought about stall doors on the showers? I think we should have doors instead of curtains.
- a. VP Romano: We can look into it. There may be a reason for curtains.

- i. Comptroller Greenlaw: It might be because of ADA, so that it might be more accessible.
 - 33. Vice President Joyal: On the topic of bathrooms, there are a lot I've been in that have really wide gaps.
 - a. VP Romano: Send me any locations. We will look into adjusting it.
 - 34. Chair Young: Also on bathrooms, there are windows in the bathrooms on Brower 1st & 2nd floor, and Roosevelt 1st floor. It's really scary.
 - a. VP Romano: They should have frosting and blinds on them. The blinds are more private, but you can't see through the frosting.
 - i. Senator : The bathrooms on the first floor of Stu, way back, those don't have frosting.
 - b. VP Romano: They don't have to since they are really high. But we could frost them anyway.
 - 35. Senator Finkelstein: I've noticed on the boy's bathroom door, there was no ADA button, why is that?
 - a. VP Romano: Some doors can be ADA compliant without an operator. We could add one, but a reason for why one door would have it and another wouldn't is because it may already be compliant.
- c. [SA.2024.89.009](#)
 - i. Senator Finkelstein moves to pass SA.2024.89.009
 - 1. Motion seconded
 - 2. Motion passed
 - d. [SA.2024.89.010](#)
 - i. Secretary Egolf: Can they definitely get them from Compass? I think they can only get them from Compass if they order food, and if so they can only provide it for the tables that will have food.
 - ii. Senator Guenfoud: Can you give more examples of what would qualify?
 - iii. Senator : I don't think we need policy for that. Any policy for a decorative detail might complicate it even more.
 - 1. I think a fourth of what we didn't fund was tablecloths. This is why I thought we could bring it into the policy series.
 - iv. Senator Callahan: So the purpose of the bill is to diffuse complaints from clubs?
 - 1. No, it is more so so we can have a valid reason for not funding it. We can refer them directly to the policy in question.
 - v. Senator Thani: How expensive is it to fund tablecloths?
 - 1. It has averaged around \$30. Which doesn't seem like a lot, but it can add up when there are multiple orgs.

- vi. Senator Finkelstein moves to open a debate
 - 1. Motion objected
 - 2. Motion rescinded
- vii. Secretary Egolf: Are we low in money? Is funding tablecloths really detrimental to all the money that we have?
 - 1. It depends on the year. It can be risky for weekly allocation meetings.
- viii. Senator Guenfoud moves to propose language for SA.2024.89.010 to change 25a. "The appropriations committee shall not fund tablecloths or table runners unless specific table coverings is necessary for the club's initiatives."
 - 1. Motion seconded
 - 2. Motion passed
- ix. Comptroller Greenlaw moves to change 25 to Miscellaneous
 - 1. Motion seconded
 - 2. Motion passed
- x. Chair Young moves to pass SA.2024.89.010
 - 1. Motion seconded
 - 2. Motion passed
- e. Discussion Regarding Attendance Policy
 - i. Senator Subramanian: Can you explain the way we can make up office hours?
 - 1. Right now, you are only allowed double
 - ii. Senator Peri: Not sure why 3 excused absences equals 1 unexcused. If there is an emergency, why should that be unexcused?
 - iii. Chair Danek: I think we should include a stipulation for lateness and how that can contribute to absences.
 - iv. Senator Guenfoud: I do not like the idea of limited supplemental hours. If I can do 5 hours one week, why shouldn't I be allowed to?
 - v. Senator Black: I think we should be able to make time up in advance to anticipate events that we cannot make later in the semester.
 - vi. Chair Young: I think we need to clarify what is excused or unexcused. 24 hours in advance does not mean it's a justified access. Also for office hours, it's to meet, help, and mingle with people. If I knock out my office hours in one day, then I could just not go the rest of the semester and what would be the point of the office?
 - vii. Senator Rades: I think there should be something clarifying tabling and where that falls in office hour policy.
 - 1. Secretary Egolf: Currently it says it is up to the discretion of the Eboard and Secretary.

- viii. Chair Danek: Could we include something that creates accountability for people to come to events? Not necessarily punish them, but to encourage them to come.
- ix. Senator Orellana: I think the policy should clarify who needs to be emailed.
- x. Senator Malele: Is it possible to explicitly state what happens if people have a certain amount of unexcused absences. It's not fair that some people come when they want and have no repercussions.
 - 1. I will just add, don't assume that there are no repercussions even if you don't know about them.
- xi. Senator Rades: It might be beneficial to include something about events, specifically events for the committee you belong to. We should have more Senators in attendance at our events.
- xii. Senator Miranda: I know people have very different schedules and availability, so maybe it should just be that senators have to attend a minimum amount of events per semester for their committees, instead of going on a case by case basis.
- xiii. President Annibali: I am happy to hear that we are all on the same page. A lot of what we discussed was already brought up already in our conversations so glad to take in all your ideas.

C. Approval of the Minutes

- a. Senator Guenfoud moves to close the gallery
 - i. Motion Seconded
 - ii. Motion Passed
- b. Senator Ahmad moves to pass the Senate minutes from 11/7
 - i. Motion Seconded
 - ii. Motion Passed
- c. Senator Iacobovici moves to pass the Cabinet minutes from 11/13
 - i. Motion Seconded
 - ii. Motion Passed

D. E-board Reports

- a. President
 - i. Great Work with SAW
 - ii. Keep Hofstra Beautiful
 - iii. Met with Poser
 - iv. Reminder this Saturday is Shake a Rake!
 - v. [Feedback Form](#)
 - 1. PPAW at 1pm to Discuss Tech Policy
- b. Vice President

- i. Attendance Policy Warnings
 - ii. Town Hall
 - iii. Attendance is also presence during meetings
 - iv. SGA Game Night!
- c. Comptroller
 - i. Looking at an all new digital budgeting platform!
- d. Secretary
 - i. You will have assigned seats next week- please do not switch your placards after I have placed them.
 - ii. Please be respectful when leaving the room. Try to avoid leaving the room when we have guests. Please plan to order food to be picked up before Senate begins, or if we motion for a recess.
 - iii. Office hour updates tomorrow- If you don't get an email from me, you're good! Keep up the good work! If you're behind I'll let you know what you need to make up :)

E. Committee Chair Reports

- a. Appropriations
 - i. [Minutes](#)
 - 1. We saw two clubs! Allocations are below.
 - ii. Spring 2025 budget notifications are going out Friday 11/15 (tomorrow!)
 - 1. Budget appeals will be open until Friday 12/6
 - 2. If you hear anyone having any questions or concerns about their budget, please ask them to email me at sga_appropriations@pride.hofstra.edu
 - iii. Miss you all!
- b. Club Resources
 - i. [Minutes](#)
 - ii. Continuing all our initiatives, no formal report!
- c. Communications
 - i. Reminder to Cab to please fill [this](#) out by night of 11/21 !
 - ii. Website, Linktree, and Letter Display Case have all been updated :)
- d. Programming
 - i. [11/12/24 Programming Minutes](#)
 - ii. SAW + Build-A-Friend
 - 1. You all did amazing! Thank you Programming and to all those who aided, the community really appreciated and enjoyed the event and I have heard so many good things. As well, great job for pushing the survey throughout the week :)
 - 2. SAW survey numbers: X surveys filled out!!!!
 - iii. Hofstra Celebrates the Holidays

1. Shift Sheets: [Hofstra Celebrates the Holidays '24](#)
 2. When:
 - a. Monday November 18: 9am-9pm (*Outline of design*)
 - b. Tuesday November 19: 9am-9pm (*Outline + background painting (i.e the blue back, red waves)*)
 - c. Wednesday November 20: 9am-9pm (*finishing background + adding main design objects (i.e the lanterns, dragon, fireworks)*)
 - d. Thursday November 21: 9am-9pm (*finishing details of design objects + lettering of “chinese new year” etc*)
 - e. Friday November 22: 9am-9pm (*last minute details added if needed, everything must be cleaned up and completed*)
 3. Where:
 - a. Student Center Main Dining room
 4. Supplies:
 - a. All paints and brushes will be supplied by OSLE and instructed to ONLY use the ones provided to us.
 5. Lighting Ceremony:
 - a. Thursday December 5th 5PM starting at Hofstra Hall.
- e. Academic Affairs
- i. [Minutes](#)
 - ii. Teacher of the Year Committee Meeting with Professor McFadden Today
 1. He is meeting with his subcommittee Monday, we will be meeting again soon, exchanged many ideas on future of award
 - iii. Proposed changes to FPS 9 and 48 postponed until next semester because UAAC has too much on agenda, still going to be working on them
- f. Equity & Inclusion
- i. [Minutes 11/14](#)
 - ii. Meeting with BLAC
 - iii. Campus walk through
 1. Collab with facilities YAY #facilitiesandequitybestcommittees
 - iv. Meeting with OEI
 - v. Equity council meeting
 1. I will put a form in the group chat for concerns
 - vi. #stayweird
- g. Facilities & Operations
- i. [Minutes](#)
 - ii. Accessibility Walkthrough
 1. November 22nd: 10am-11:30am
 - iii. Meeting w/ Lexis from Campus Dining

1. Ice Cream Vending Machine: 2-3 weeks out
 2. If you any dining concerns, you can text/scan QR codes around Student Center Cafe (or tell me)
 3. Late Night Breakfast: December 16th
 4. Next week is “Thankful” Week
- h. Wellness & Campus Safety
- i. Blankets are being finished by the Crochet and Knitting club
 - ii. Planning events for next semester!
- F. Approval of Committee Minutes**
- a. Senator Dzaveluri moves to pass the allocations from 11/12
 - i. Motion seconded
 - ii. Motion passed
 - b. Senator Miranda moves to pass the committee minutes from 11/11
 - i. Motion seconded
 - ii. Motion passed
- G. For Good of the Order**
- a. **Anything SGA related!**
- H. Announcements**
- a. Thanks and Giving
 - b. Adopt a Family
 - i. Venmo - Lincoln-Anniballi
- I. Snap Cup**
- J. Adjournment**
- a. Chair Guenfoud moves to adjourn this meeting
 - i. Motion seconded
 - ii. Motion passed
 1. Meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm EST 8

Club/Organization	Amount Requested	Amount Allocated	%
Intervarsity Christian Fellowship	\$99.94	\$99.94	100%
CIAO	\$286.40	\$286.40	100%