Student Senators Council Meeting Agenda
October 15, 2015

Michael Hengerer, Chair
Victoria Ettorre, Vice-Chair

1. Welcome
2. Housekeeping
   a. Approval of Minutes - Chairperson Hengerer requests approval of minutes, motion is made, seconded, and meeting begins.
3. Update on Coles/Athletic Facilities
   a. Chairperson Hengerer introduces Christopher Bledsoe (Assistant VP for Student Affairs & Director of Athletics, NYU) to speak about Coles and the plans for Athletic Facilities
      i. Mr. Bledsoe explains that some of this information will make reference to the memo by Allison Leary (Senior VP of Operations)
      ii. Mr. Bledsoe shows his presentation (PowerPoint)
      iii. Mr. Bledsoe emphasizes that Coles will not close until the interim facilities are set up
         1. Expected that Coles will remain open through the Fall semester and J-term; Coles will close for the Spring semester
         iv. Mr. Bledsoe elaborates on the interim plan
            1. Principal replacement for Coles will be 404 Lafayette Street
               a. Allows for more strength and cardio training than Coles; real estate insufficient to reproduce pool and court space, racquet sport space, and rooftop track
                  i. For swimmers - accommodations will be made at local YMCA centers
            2. Palladium hours and facilities will be extended
               a. Shall serve as the new "hub" for student athletes
               b. Shall house wrestling and fencing practice areas
            3. Space to play basketball and volleyball games may be located at Baruch
            4. Student employees will still be engaged
      v. Mr. Bledsoe invites students to submit questions and concerns through the online form
         b. Senator (Alternate) Thibault asks what the extended hours will be for Palladium
            i. Mr. Bledsoe responds that the new hours will be from 5:30 AM to 12 AM
         c. Senator (Alternate) Thibault asks if the lifeguard employment will shift due to the decrease in pool space
i. Mr. Bledsoe responds that the number of pool hours is decreasing, so there will be a smaller need for lifeguards
d. Senator (Nursing) Cunningham asks for clarification on the number of pools that will be open through NYU
   i. Mr. Bledsoe restates that one pool will be open through NYU, and that the YMCA pools can be used but will not be reimbursed
e. Senator (SPS UG) Nachmany asks if there will be an increase in the transportation to Brooklyn or Palladium
   i. Mr. Bledsoe answers that money has been allocated to increase transportation from the main campus to the various sites that host athletic facilities (including Chelsea Piers)
f. Senator (LS) Regalado asks if accommodations will be made for the Coles lobby space, which is currently used for stretching
   i. Mr. Bledsoe answers that the lobby was not supposed to be used for stretching, and going forward there will not be extra allocated space for a larger lobby
g. Senator (LS) Regalado asks if there will be more locker space at Palladium
   i. Mr. Bledsoe responds by saying that it is currently unknown how traffic will flow out of Coles (which facilities will be used more); one level of lockers in Palladium will be provided for varsity athletes, and the remainder of the lockers are sufficient to account for what is currently being used by students
h. Senator (Tisch UG) Ehrenkranz asks when renovations to Palladium will happen
   i. Mr. Bledsoe responds by saying that the renovations are 95% done and should be complete by November 1st
i. Senator (SPS UG) Nachmany asks when the new facility will be completed and if 404 Lafayette will be developed
   i. Mr. Bledsoe answers that the timeline for the new building is unclear but suggests that facilities will begin to be completed in 5 years; he asserts that 404 Lafayette will not be expanded, to his knowledge
j. Senator (Medicine) Steinberg asks if large University events that take place in Coles will be addressed
   i. Chairperson Hengerer responds that NYU has made a commitment to find space for all events that would occur in Coles
k. Senator (Gallatin) Jablons asks if Crunch Gyms will offer an NYU student discount
   i. Mr. Bledsoe responds that he is not aware of the system in place for Crunch Gyms

4. Executive Committee Update
   a. Vice Chair Ettorre describes the Global Summit, which will be a video conference between NY, AD, SH, and the entire global network, that is taking place at the end of October
      i. She requests that all questions be sent to Global Vice Chair Dacey-Ariani
   b. Vice Chair Ettorre requests that Senators respond to requests from Committee Chairs
5. Updates from SSC/UCSL Committees
   a. Senator (LS) Regalado presents the Mass Voter Registration Event taking place on October 26 at the Katzell Lounge
      i. Shall serve as an introduction to the Mock Election week, which will encourage voter participation and advertise for All-University Elections
      ii. Senator (Gallatin) Jablons asks how this event is being publicized
          1. Senator (LS) Regalado responds by explaining the vision of the Public Relations Committee, including the posters and the banner
      iii. Senator (AD) Gardener asks if students from outside of NY will be invited to participate
          1. Senator (LS) Regalado asks for consult later
   b. Chairperson Hengerer presents Alumni and Parents Day on behalf of Senator (SH) Mayes
   c. Senator Thomas presents an increased budget for Conference Funding, from $30,000 to $60,000
      i. Senator (AD) Gardener asks if funds are available to all NYU students
         1. Senator Thomas responds that all degree-seeking students are eligible for funding

6. Updates from University Senate Committees
   a. Academic Affairs
      i. Global Vice Chair Dacey-Ariani explains that the committee processed honorary degree recipients
   b. Financial Affairs
      i. Senator (CAS) Ezechi does not present updates
   c. Judicial Board
      i. No updates
   d. Organization and Governance
      i. Chairperson Hengerer explains that the committee discussed if it was appropriate to make changes to the Senate this year; he predicts there will not be progress on this issue
   e. Public Affairs
      i. Senator Thomas explains that the committee discussed using Yankee Stadium for All-University Graduation
   f. Other Committees
      i. Vice Chair Sakai-Kawada presents on the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee (UAAC); he explains the charge of the committee is to focus on the Global Network and its impact on student life; he elaborates that the committee will also discuss teaching methods
      ii. Senator (Tandon UG) presents the Faculty Technology Enhance Education Success Committee; he explains that the university plans to stop hosting open online committees, and that they will be hosted within the schools
7. Chairperson Hengerer presents the new Senator (Law) S

8. Old Business
   a. NYU Divest
      i. Chairperson Hengerer explains that the committee met on this issue recently to discuss the Board of Trustees meeting
         1. Senator (Gallatin) Jablons asks if NYU Divest has been looped into the discussion
            a. Chairperson Hengerer responds in the affirmative
      ii. Senator (Medicine) Steinberg asks if the wage problem presented in SH is also present in AD
         1. Senator (AD) Gardener applies in the negative
   b. On-Campus Jobs
      i. Chairperson Hengerer explains that student workers in SH are being paid comparatively less than students at NY
         1. Chairperson Hengerer charges Senator (SH) Mayes with further investigation
      ii. Chairperson Hengerer explains that
         1. Senator (AD) Gardener explains that a consequence of studying abroad is the idea of not being able to work
            a. Global Vice Chair Dacey-Ariani explains that some sites work better with work-study than others; she elaborates that students can also apply for the Wasserman grant
         2. Senator Mba-Kalu asks how student employment applies to international students, and asks if he can be included in the discussion
            a. Chairperson Hengerer poses the question broadly
         3. Senator (Gallatin) Jablons explains that orientation leaders are paid differently by schools
            a. Chairperson Hengerer congratulates her on an interesting point
            b. Senator (Tisch UG) Ehrenkranz explains that the workload of Arts Reps
         4. Senator (SPS UG) Nachmany expresses concern with setting a floor for wages in the fear that jobs will become unavailable
         5. Senator (Tandon G) Alhuwalia expresses concern that Undergraduate students tend to command more jobs than Graduate students
         6. Senator (Wagner) Rosenthal explains that career services in Wagner do not adequately serve their students
         7. Senator (Silver UG) Chakravarty explains that schools with set work requirements, such as Silver or Steinhardt, do not give students compensation for this work, whereas other city universities do
            a. Senator (SPS UG) Nachmany expands on this and proposes that the solution be applicable to all students
b. Senator Thomas presents that the UAAC has been reviewing the academic compensation of co-curricular work environments
c. Senator (Steinhardt G) Elias explains that her program allows for up to 270 hours of an internship for up to 6 credits

8. Senator (SPS G) Mateos explains that international students are not adequately prepared to enter the U.S. workforce
   a. Senator (SPS UG) Nachmany proposes that international students are given preference for on-campus jobs to aid them in entering the U.S. workforce
   b. Senator Mba-Kalu explains that Stern has a summer program that gives international students access to internships
   iii. Chairperson Hengerer charges the SSC to consult with their schools about specific issues regarding employment

9. New Business
   a. Agenda-Setting for Taskforces
      i. Chairperson Hengerer asks the SSC to specify issues for each task-force
      1. Affordability
         a. Senator (Nursing) Cunningham expresses concern on the constantly rising tuition
            i. Global Vice Chair Dacey-Ariani explains that President Sexton proposed a freeze on tuition would not work
            ii. Chairperson Hengerer explains that NYU endowment is very low ($25,000 per student) compared to other universities
            iii. Vice Chair Sakai-Kawada explains that tuition money helps contribute to financial aid
         b. Senator (SPS UG) explains that NYU is a private university and it is known that it costs a good amount of money; he proposes that each school publishes mean/median career salaries and outcomes to distribute to students
            i. Senator (Medicine) Steinberg agrees emphatically
            ii. Advisor McTyson explains that Wasserman houses some of this information
         c. Senator (CAS) Ezechi proposes that information on costs be transparent so students understand the expenditures; she also charges the SSC to discuss more tangibles for the sake of time
         d. Senator (AD) Gardener asks if we can possibly shift from capital expenditures to investments in order to gradually lower tuition
            i. Chairperson Hengerer explains that it would be a give-and-take, especially if capital expenditure decreased
e. Senator Mba-Kalu explains that students do not know how much they will be paying at the end of their education when they begin at NYU
f. Senator (Medicine) Steinberg proposes that NYU be more transparent with where money is allocated
   i. Senator (Gallatin) Jablons agrees and emphasizes that international student aid is publicly lower
g. Senator (Steinhardt UG) Ramdilal presents a tuition-stable program that is offered to some international students, but the regress is not publicized
   i. Senator Thomas describes that there are several types of tuition freezes
h. Senator Slotsve explains that there is no way to quantify private loans that students take on, which misrepresents the amount of debt students graduate with
i. Senator (Wagner) Rosenthal proposes that the university works to make textbooks more affordable; she proposes that NYU buys e-books online and offers them to students for free
j. Senator (CAS) Ezechi proposes that the Affordability Task Force works with the Financial Affairs committee to discuss monies that are not being used so it can be reallocated
k. Vice Chair Sakai-Kawada moves to close the floor, motion is seconded and conversation moves on to the next item

2. Sustainability
   a. Vice Chair Sakai-Kawada asks if it would be useful to create competitions between Councils
      i. Senator (CAS) Ezechi asks if data exists from when there was a competition between Halls; Chairperson Hengerer responds in the affirmative
   b. Senator (CAS) Ezechi explains that water-bottle refill stations are being installed at various locations around campus; she proposes we change signage of stations to encourage students to use them
   c. Chairperson Hengerer discusses proposal to ban plastic water bottles and provide all entering first-years getting refillable water bottles
   d. Senator (Gallatin) Jablons indicated that a competition to decrease energy use
   e. Senator (Nursing) Cunningham mentions that recycle bins are confusing to use, and suggests a new marketing strategy to clarify how to properly use recycling containers
f. Senator (Steinhardt UG) Ramdial and Senator (Stern) Jamal inquire as to how we can maintain long-term sustainability

g. Senator (AD) Gardener mentions that NYU Abu Dhabi held a capstone seminar where students measured behavior changed when students believed their water intake was being monitored and the project was effective

h. Senator (CAS) Ezechi has mentioned the work she has done in Student Services to address some of the issues inquired about at this meeting.

i. Senator (SPS UG) Nachamany indicates that it should not only be residence hall-focused to include commuter students

j. Senator (Tisch UG) Ehrenkranz addresses that it may be difficult to make this a school-based issue because different schools and programs have different energy uses

3. Senator (Alternate) Thibault introduces the Task Force on Gender Understanding and Inclusivity

   a. Senator (Gallatin) Jablons mentions an increase in the number of gender-neutral bathrooms and the activities of Queer Union

   b. Chairperson Hengerer mentions that the task force has been asked to focus on gender and expand in the future

   c. Senator (AD) Gardener mentions the need to address laws in local areas and countries

   d. Senator (Alternate) Thibault clarifies differences in private bathrooms and gender-neutral bathrooms

b. Mental Health at NYU

   i. Chairperson Hengerer has asked that members reach out to Senator Slotsve, Chair of Student Health Advisory Board, with questions or comments about mental health at NYU

c. Talking Points for NYU Student Government

   i. Senator Thomas provides an overview of the Talking Points provided to each member of the SSC and asks that questions or comments be sent to him at ryan.thomas@nyu.edu

      1. Chairperson Hengerer mentions that every member of student government should be able to discuss the structure and role of student government as well as the purpose of Project 49

d. Motions from the Floor

   i. Vice Chair Sakai-Kawada discusses Engagement Sessions and the need for Senators to participate. UCSL Chief of Staff Asri will be leading this, questions can be sent to him

   ii. Senator (AD) Gardner inquires whether or not Muslim or Jewish Students are required to pay additional for their meals
1. Chairperson Hengerer clarifies that Halal food is not an additional charge, but grab-and-go Kosher food is marketed at a surcharge.

2. Vice Chair Sakai-Kawada mentions that ASSBAC allocates additional funds to student-led organizations who require different dietary needs.

3. Senator (Alternate) Tsai and Senator (Tisch UG) Ehrenkranz mentioned that he would like to address the lack of food options at various dining halls.
   a. Advisor McTyson mentions that students may be interested in a rotation of different types of food in dining halls to accommodate different students’ dietary need.

4. Senator (Tisch UG) Ehrenkranz has mentioned that the Kosher Cafe is also Halal.

10. Save the Dates
   a. Next Student Senators Council Meeting
      i. Thursday, October 29th, 4:00 to 5:30 PM