



MARIST
UNIVERSITY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING OF THE MARIST
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ON FEBRUARY 4TH, 2026 IN SC3101

Order of Business:

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

- The meeting was called to order at 11:07 by K. Syrota

Members present:

■ Assembly:

- Karina Syrota - Student Body President
- Matt Fox - Executive Vice President
- Chella Calcagni - Vice President of Student of Life
- Itati Serrano - Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Alex Murphy - Deputy Vice President of Club Affairs
- Brianna Perez-Quiroz - Vice President of Safety and Security
- John Genoni Deputy Vice President of Academic Affairs
- Amanda Gracia - Vice President of Student Well-Being
- Megan Connor - Vice President of Sustainability
- Noelle Stamm - Chief Communications Officer
- Griffin Carey - Chief Financial Officer
- Jared Kerin - Chief Information Officer
- Brady Merrow - Director of Elections Commissions

■ Class Boards:

Syrota - Fox Administration

- Vi Geraci - Class of 2026 President
- Kyla Sevim - Class of 2027 President
- Noah Yurasko - Class of 2028 President
- Judicial Board:
 - Lillian Spoon - Chief Justice
- Associate Members
 - Neil Palmieri - Parliamentarian
- Representatives:
 - Joseph McCormack - North End Representative
 - Clifton Wise - South End Representative
 - Natalie DiLena - Distance Representative
 - Janel Sarpong - International Representative
 - Lauryn Trader - Commuter Representative
- Assistants:
 - Grace Mintel - Administrative Coordinator
 - Katie Marrin - Administrative Coordinator

II. Reading of the Minutes

- There were no minutes to be approved from the last meeting.

III. Open Floor

- Student Concerns
 - Meal plan
 - K. Sevim noted that there have been students who brought up concerns about the new meal plans to her since coming back from abroad.
 - Parking & snow
 - N. Stamm explained how she received a submission from students concerning snow in Beck. The student's concern was having to park in a faculty lot, almost being involved in an accident, and how campus security was not helping. The student also felt the town hall was not productive. D. Gough noted that parking has been available,

and Beck has been full during the peak hours between 10 am and 2 pm, especially on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Parking also exists for commuters at 51 Fulton Street, and the same is for Upper West Cedar. N. Stamm explained that commuters feel that they don't have time to walk all the way to Fulton when Beck is full to make it to class on time. D. Gough noted that there is a shuttle running every 6 minutes from commuter lots. Beck and 51 Fulton are designated commuter lots with shuttle services for them. He understands that parking was difficult this past week with the snowstorm

- J. Genoni motioned to recognize A. Darossa to the meeting.
- B. Perez asked if the snow was the reason for the parking difficulties. N. Stamm said that she was not sure. She mentioned she noticed that there are two Marist University vehicles that are covered in snow and have not been moved. J. Genoni explained that there was an issue with snow and parking because of students digging out their cars, and the plows would come through and bury the cars further. He explained that he still sees spots that are still taken up by snow due to plowing. M. Connor notes that the cars in the Beck lot are School of Science vans that don't necessarily move.
- R. Torres expressed that students who commute are entitled to beautiful services, but students should also allow time for finding parking when arriving on campus. She explained that students who rely on instant parking should not, as it is not realistic.

- J. McCormack explained that he received a complaint about a student who relies on a golf cart and had it buried by the plow. He explained that the student had to have people come help shovel and asked if there was any way to accommodate this student in the future. D. Gough noted that Marist safety got shovels in advance of the snowstorm. They cannot help every student shovel out their vehicles because they do not have the staff for that. They were going out and delivering these shovels to students to help them out. He said it is a liability if any university staffing is to shovel out a student's car. B. Perez asked where the student lives. J. McCormack responded that they live in Ward and that the snow was pushed into the area where the golf cart was. B. Perez asked if there was a cover on the golf cart and if the student parked the golf cart near the Amazon lockers. J. McCormack explained that there was a cover going over the cart and that the issue was that it was buried.
- J. Genoni noted that next time, there should be more information regarding the shovels. The only reason he was able to have a shovel was that he was an RA, and he knew security had them available. D. Gough agreed that more advertising with the shovels would be beneficial. He also explained that being plowed in is common in many places, as there are only so many solutions to where the snow can go.
- Student Center Availability
 - N. Palmieri noted that Fox Pride is not able to book a room in the student center for the next two

weeks because the sororities are booking the rooms in the student center for recruitment

- N. Stamm explained that in her experience, the same rooms are always used in recruitment. She explained that the snow days are important as rush has to happen. K. Sevim agreed and noted that the rooms are booked for sororities before winter break.

IV. Announcements

- **Welcome back, everyone!**
- **Thank you to everyone for everyone's hard work on the Leadership Conference!**
- **Polar Plunge is on 02/27**
 - B. Lynch noted that people used to do a polar plunge in Fishkill, but there will be a giant tank brought to campus, and it is available for students to do a polar plunge. This is a fundraiser for the Special Olympics of New York. Gretchen Murphy and the North Road Communications group are taking the lead on this event.
- **Marist Wellness Survey**
 - A. Gracia said that she has been working with health services for the National College Health Survey. She asks students to please fill out the survey because it helps our university collect important data that can be used to improve current systems on campus.
 - J. Genoni announced that the first food for thought with faculty is happening this week, and the Academic Affairs board has been doing St. Baldrick's tabling.

V. Board Reports

- Advisor Reports
 - Robin Torres - SGA Advisor

- R. Torres explained that they are in the process of hiring for orientation leaders and peer mentor positions. She asked assembly members if they are interested or know someone who may be interested in going to the website and applying.
- Robert Lynch - SGA Advisor
 - Thanked SGA for the success of the Activity Fair. He is working with the class of 20206 for senior year programming. April 15th is Fox Fest.
- Guest Reports
 - Safety & Security Report
 - D. Gough explained that last week they sent out a mass emergency notification that was the culmination of a year's worth of work. He explained that in the past, it was only an email that students could choose to opt in for notification on text/cell phone. Previously, only 18% were signed up for the opt-in feature. Now there is 95% opt in rate for campus community members. He is relieved as now safety notifications can spread much faster and make community members aware. The Marist Safe app is the best way to access this. He also announced that there is now a shopping shuttle that runs from Monday-Friday, doing three loops every hour and stopping at Mid-Hudson Plaza. He also mentioned how he agrees he wants students to have accessible parking all the time and how he has seen an increase in students parking on campus who do not qualify for parking. He explained that this is not fair to students who do pay for parking. Last week, they found 97 vehicles in parking lots that were not registered to park on campus. He explained that this compounds the

parking issues on campus. He asked assembly members if they knew anyone who was not actually registered to park on campus.

- R. Torres added that it is not fair for those of you who have paid for your parking spot.
- D. Gough added that there are students who don't meet the requirement who are using spaces reserved for students who do meet the requirements to park in lots.
- N. Stamm brought up how in Fox Run, there is now a parking requirement. D. Gough explained that he is aware of this and how next year students will have to upload their registration to prevent students from using others' credits.

○ Leadership Reports

■ K. Syrota - Student Body President

- K. Syrota explained that she has been doing a lot of organizational work. She already had a priority point meeting with C. Calaganci, M. Fox, and the senior legacy committee. There will also be news about the Day of Giving coming out. She recently had a board of trustees meeting about current and plans for the semester

■ M. Fox - Executive Vice President

- M. Fox explained that over the past few weeks, he has been meeting with Marist SPARK and how he will be announcing the projects shortly.

■ Chella Calcagni - Vice President of Student Life

- Concern boxes are back to being disbursed around the semester. There will be a student concern town hall on February 11th, 1-2 in Dyson 1002, including Gourmet.

○ Cabinet and Senate Reports

- I. Serano
 - Wanted to make a note of the projects that are being put together for Black History Month.
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- A. Murphy
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- B. Perez-Quiroz
 - Wanted to note that she will incorporate feedback from the parking town hall, and she encouraged students to reach out if they had safety and security concerns. She and her board are working on three upcoming events for the semester.
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- J. Genoni
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- A. Gracia
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- M. Connor
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- N. Stamm
 - Noted that she has been working with the other teams, and she hopes the first newsletter will come out this Friday.
- G. Carey
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- J. Kerin

- Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- B. Merrow
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- V. Geraci
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- K. Sevim
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- N. Yurasko
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- A. Darosa
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- L. Spoon
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- N. Palmieri
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- R. Harvey
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- J. McCormack
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- C. Wise
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- N. DiLena

- Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- J. Sarpong
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- L. Trader
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.

VI. Old Business

- There was no old business from the previous meeting.

VII. New Business

- **Elections Calendar Presentation**
- B. Merrow explained that petitioning began today and that access to the form is available on the website and will be open until February 11th at 5 pm. He explained that the 15th is the first date that campaigning can begin and that if there are any materials before that, it is not allowed. Voting opens on March 2nd, and campaigning ends the day before. Election results will come out on that Friday.
- B. Perez asked if there was a reason that informational sessions were right before the activity fair happening on Friday. B. Merrow explained that due to past semesters' elections, they wanted to have plenty of time to hold a runoff election if necessary. Therefore, the informational nights had to be in the second week of school.
- **The Appointment of Grace Vrato as the Deputy Director of the Elections Commission**
- G. Vrato asked the assembly if there were any questions that the assembly had for her.
- G. Carey asked what song she would describe herself as. G. Vrato answered that she likes the song “Watch That Girl's

Gonna Say it” and she thinks that aligns with her values and how she treats her role on the elections commission.

- C. Calcagni asked what one thing would be to get more students to vote in person rather than online. G. Vrato said she worked the most in-person shifts last semester, and she would work on creating a scheduling system for the elections to use time more effectively. She is on the communications board, so she can work on getting the word out there about writing with N. Stamm.
- K. Sevim asked about the in-person voting station and if they would make it more visually appealing, and if they would put a voting location in Dyson, as there is more foot traffic in that building compared to the student center. G. Vrato noted that last year there were decorations and cupcakes for in-person voters, and she noted that it was the first year they did it, so they are very open to feedback. She said when she did it by herself last year, it was difficult to get the word out there and encourage people to vote. She wants to change the mindset with elections, and that everything is fair and everyone is encouraged to vote.
- N. Stamm motioned to move to an informal discussion. J. Genoni seconded the motion
- N. Palmieri motioned to make each speaker's time no more than one minute. G. Carey seconded the motion.
- A. Darosa motioned to move from informal discussion to voting. I. Serrano seconded this motion.
- G. Vrato was appointed with 17 affirmatives, 0 negatives, and 1 abstention. The Bill passes.
- N. Stamm motioned to move the appointment of Academic Affairs before the appointment of the Deputy Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
- **The Appointment of Ana Domenici as the Vice President of Academic Affairs**

- A. Domenici introduced herself to the assembly and noted her previous experience on the Academic Affairs board.
- G. Carey asked what song she would pick to represent herself and why.
- A. Domenici said she likes a Brazilian song about conquering the world, she says it speaks to her personality as being a driven student.
- B. Perez asked if there were any new events she had in mind for this semester. A. Domenici says the board is focused on improving the events that they already have, just because they are so demanding. For now, there are no plans for new initiatives; however, individual boards are encouraged to host their own smaller events.
- N. Stamm motioned to move to an informal discussion. V. Geraci seconded the motion
- N. Stamm motioned to move from informal discussion to voting. R. Harvey seconded this motion
- A. Domenici was appointed with 17 affirmatives, 0 negatives, and 1 abstention. The Bill passes.
- **The Appointment of CJ Foreshaw as the Deputy Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**
- C. Foreshaw introduced herself to the assembly and asked the assembly if they had any questions for her.
- G. Carey asked if there are any ideas she has concerning people who may feel threatened by ICE and what she will do to comfort them. C. Foreshaw said that belonging spaces is one of the projects they have been working on for different communities on campus. She said that she would love to have a session where people could attend if they feel threatened by the ICE raids.
- N. Palmieri asked what song she would describe herself as. C. Foreshaw said the song she would choose is “My Love” by Justin Timberlake because it came out on her birthday.

- R. Torres asked what gave her the energy to take that first step in getting involved on campus as a first-year student. C. Foreshaw said that the first event she went to was the faculty networking event that happened in the quiet dining hall, and that it was inspiring to hear stories from faculty.
- N. Stamm motioned to move to an informal discussion. J. Sarpong seconded the motion.
- G. Carey motioned to recognize A. McPadden to the meeting.
- R. Harvey motioned to move from informal discussion to voting. C. Calcagni seconded this motion
- C. Foreshaw was appointed with 18 affirmatives, 0 negatives, and 1 abstention. The Bill passes.
- **The Appointment of Alexander Murphy as Vice President of Club Affairs**
- A. Murphy introduced himself again to the assembly and said that he has also been on the club affairs board for almost two years, and he served as the interim vice president last semester. He thinks that he has a lot of relevant experience.
- N. Stamm asked what the plans are for next year and who would be taking over the role. A. Murphy noted that there are a lot of people on the board who are underclassmen and do a great job, so he has a few people in mind already for who will take over.
- N. Stamm motioned to move to an informal discussion. I. Serrano seconded the motion
- G. Carey motioned to move from informal discussion to voting. B. Perez seconded this motion
- A. Murphy was appointed with 20 affirmatives, 0 negatives, and 0 abstentions. The Bill passes.
- **The Appointment of Ethan Solury as the Vice President of Athletic Affairs**
- E. Solury introduced himself to the assembly and noted that he would be excited to step into this role. He has experience with the events planning side of it, but he is looking to take

more of a leadership role on the board. He noted some improvements in terms of communication that could be implemented for the relationship between athletics and administration.

- G. Carey asked what ideas he would have for new events, and also what his plan is for athletes and how to represent their voices. E. Solury noted that last semester, parking passes were given to athletes that needed to park in McCann. He said he heard from S. Mazzella that athletes were disappointed in the lack of communication. There is little communication between different clubs and groups, and it always ends up being a last-minute text from coaches. Having a calendar and focusing on clear communication could remove some of the frustration. There is so much going on, and there are people who aren't talking to each other. Looking forward, it's important to give athletes enough time and outline their responsibilities in terms of commitments outside of their own sport.
- G. Carey explained that he wants to know if there are plans to allow athletes to voice their concerns, similar to the clubs and the club affairs board. E. Solury said last semester, there was a link sent out to athletes for them to voice student concerns. He noted it worked, but they did not receive as many responses as they hoped. In the future, he notes this could be a weekly form sent out or a box in McCann. He also thinks that being visible is really important, so that athletes feel more included to go up to them and he can be a familiar face to this community.
- G. Vrato asked if he was planning on doing a more structured meeting time for the athletics board meetings. E. Solury noted that he plans to have more scheduled and frequent meetings. He would love to have more in-person meetings with a structured agenda as well.
- J. Kerin explained that club athletes have had issues with leadership, and asked if E. Solury has plans to help these club athletes communicate more effectively. E. Solury said in the

Boosters club that he experiences this lack of communication, and that having these events pop up last-minute is preventing people from going to other events that they have already been planning. He notes that for club athletes, there have been frustrations with equipment and finding space in gyms. He notes that finding a schedule and figuring out how to space out club meetings, so they are not all meeting at the same time, would help relieve some of this stress.

- G. Carey asked if E. Solury had the time to take on this role, as his bio is very large and he has many different commitments. E. Solury notes that a lot of his clubs meet once a week. He is also aware of his own schedule and feels confident taking on more responsibilities.
- N. Stamm motioned to move to an informal discussion. A. Domenici seconded the motion
- N. Stamm motioned to move from informal discussion to voting. N. Yurasko seconded this motion
- E. Solury was appointed with 20 affirmatives, 0 negatives, and 0 abstentions. The Bill passes.
- **The Appointment of Sophia Pechenko as the South End Representative**
- S. Pechenko introduced herself to the assembly and opened the floor for questions
- C. Calcagni asked one thing she would suggest to freshmen coming in next year. S. Pechenko said that she would like to see students using the common areas more because it's an area where you can learn about other things going on around campus.
- I. Serrano asked if she has any projects or ideas that she plans on pursuing. S. Pechenko said that she does not have any ideas right now.
- J. Sarpong asked what's one lesson she has learned in her leadership roles in high school, and how this would help her in this role. S. Pechenko said that she learned that it's better to

reach out and ask for help; the worst that someone could say is no.

- A. Gracia asked what her favorite part of living in South End. S. Pechenko said her favorite part is the common rooms because everyone hangs out there and watches TV.
- R. Harvey motioned to move to an informal discussion. J. Kerin seconded the motion
- G. Carey motioned to move from informal discussion to voting. M. Connor seconded this motion
- S. Pechenko was appointed with 18 affirmatives, 0 negatives, and 0 abstentions. The Bill passes.
- **The Appointment of Devvani Choudhury as the Transfer Representative**
- D. Choudhury introduced herself to the assembly and noted that she transferred to Marist last semester.
- N. Palimeri asked what she has done with Marist theatre so far. She said she is in the musical that is in the musical happening this semester.
- N. Dilena asked her where she is from and where she went to school previously. She notes she is from Idaho, and she is coming from NSCNA.
- A. Darosa explained that she has met transfer students who want more support, and if D. Choudhury has some ideas for these students who may be struggling. D. Choudhury notes that last semester, she was part of the transfer seminar class. She says she has an open line of communication with the professor, and she thinks that having specific times where transfers can meet outside of that class is important.
- A. Garcia asked what the one issue would be that she would want to solve for transfer students. D. Choudhury said a lot of the transfer activities are just with other first-year students, and she is not a first-year student. She notes that it was hard to meet other people her age.

- R. Torres asked if she had had any interactions with Avery Simmons and if she was in the Transfer Honors Council. D. Choudhury said she has talked with her about the honorary council, and she is not yet part of it.
- A. Darossa asked what was the best thing that helped her in the transfer process. D. Choudhury said the best thing to help with transferring is pushing yourself out of your comfort zone and meeting other people to feel part of a community.
- N. Yurasko motioned to move to an informal discussion. B. Perez seconded the motion
- B. Perez motioned to move from informal discussion to voting. I. Serrano seconded this motion
- D. Choudhury was appointed with 19 affirmatives, 0 negatives, and 0 abstentions. The Bill passes.

VIII. Miracle of the Week

- **The long assembly is done!**
- **We have a full student life board!**
- **Thank you, elections board and senior class board!**
- **Yay, everyone is back!**
- **Expect some new chairs in the office.**

IX. Meeting Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Grace Mintel & Katie Marrin

Administrative Coordinators