

MARIST COLLEGE

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING OF THE
MARIST STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION ON SEPTEMBER 25TH,
2024

On September 25th at 11:00 AM in Donnelly Room 225, a meeting of the Senate of the Marist College Student Government Association was held.

Order of Business:

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

- The meeting was called to order at (11:00 by Sheridan Speight)
- Members present:
 - Assembly:
 - Sheridan Speight- Student Body President
 - Evan Spillane- Executive Vice President
 - Karina Syrota - Vice President of Student of Life
 - Paschalyn Cama - Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
 - Justice Seymour- Vice President of Club Affairs
 - Amy Zarebczan- Vice President of Safety and Security
 - Ana Domenici- Vice President of Academic Affairs
 - Sarah Mazzella - President of Athletic Affairs
 - Molly O'Donoghue - Vice President of Student Well-Being
 - Emily Ligouri - Vice President of Sustainability
 - Hannah Tone - Chief Communications Officer
 - Oliver Dunn- Chief Financial Officer
 - Jumin Shrestha - Chief Information Officer
 - Conor Larkin - Director of Elections Commissions
 - Class Boards:
 - Glenn Halliday - Class of 2025 President
 - Ethan Solury - Class of 2026 President
 - Kyla Sevim- Class of 2027 President

- Judicial Board:
 - Noah Merrow - Chief Justice
 - Neil Palmieri - Parliamentarian
- Event Planning Chair
 - Suzie Kolmel - Event Planning Chair
- Representatives:
 - Ethan Deschamps - South End Representative
 - - South End Representative
 - Victor Rivera, Jr. - Distance Representative
- Assistants:
 - Tyler Mecca - Administrative Coordinator
 - Helena Reis - Administrative Coordinator

II. Reading of the Minutes

- A. Domenici moved to approve the minutes from the Marist Student Government Assembly of September 11th, 2024 without reading. V. Rivera Jr. seconded the motion.
- Minutes approved without reading upon voice vote in the affirmative.

III. Board Reports

- Advisor Reports
 - Robin Torres - SGA Advisor
 - Yielded time to the chair
 - Reporting for Bob. Bob has been working with Justice, Olver, and Molly, in discussion of philanthropics. Additionally, for everyone to enjoy a family weekend.
 - Robert Lynch - SGA Advisor
- Guest Reports
 - Assistance Provost for Student Success at Marist - Carol Rinke
 - Student Success center
 - 3rd floor of the library - rethinking the actual layout and the offices present on the 3rd floor.

- Discussion for a “centralized student success center” - An area for students, faculty, and staff to work. Offices on the outside
- Reminded the assembly that this is all up in the air. Still in lots of discussion
- Many of the offices that are already there will remain there with the possible addition of an IT office.
- When looking at other campuses we can grab concepts of these design changes. Collaborative rooms, small group workspaces, and public presentation rooms.
- Similar ideas to the furniture at Dyson Center, more modern and bright.
- Dr. Rink and Dean Albitz opened the presentation with questions:
 - (1) E. Spillane asked if there would still be classrooms on the floor. Dean Albitz responded with no. They are still determining where these classes are to go.
 - (2) A. Dominici asked if would it be less of a quieter floor. It would be the same as it is now.
 - (3) V. Rivera asked about having the office of accessibility to be on floor 3. And how will students be able to access it? Dean Albitz discussed that this will be elevator accessible. Conversation about upgrading the elevator, and increasing awareness if we would have the office of accessibility. Dr. Rinke also discussed the idea of having gender-neutral bathrooms.
 - (4) P. Cama asked about shared spaces and asked questions about prayer spaces for students with various religious backgrounds. Dean Albitz stated that there’s no plan for

these prayer-accessible places due to the chapel right next to the Library, which has these available.

(5) A. Dominici asked if the computer lab would stay there. Dean Albitz responded that they might reduce the amount of computers but keep the lab.

(6) S. Speight asked about the layout of the presentation room. Dean Albitz responded that they would talk to the media office about the best design for the room.

(7) V. Rivera discussed if there are any considerations for where the offices would go when the library is under construction. Dr. Rinke stated that she's not sure because it depends on budgeting. However, these places will still be accessible.

(8) K. Syrota asked when they were looking to implement it. Dean Albitz responded that this is just the planning phase so the plan is to implement it in the next 2 years.

- Dean of Marist College Library - Rebecca Albitz
 - When looking at the floor plan, it can be seen where the more open offices will be placed. Again, along with the concept of an open, accessible, common area in the library
 - Another thing to note is the temperature of the rooms. They are uneven (too hot and too cold), creating these open centralized areas helps with these issues and makes it more inviting for students
- Associate Director of Safety & Security - Brian Dolansky
 - Family weekend- no parking on the Maccan parking lot. There will be a lot of activities, so the parking is important to manage properly to maintain safety on and around campus.

- Last week we had a fire safety event. Additionally, there is one today under the tunnel on campus.
 - Just completed mandatory staff training. Focused on Narcan training, and mental health crisis support.
 - E. Deschamps asked if the parking situation would be made public. Brian Dolansky responded that the information about family weekend was being sent out.
 - A. Dominici asked about feedback on the 5k run for breast cancer awareness and tailgate. A. Dominici and M. O'Donoghue will email safety and security for more information on how to go about this event.
- Leadership Reports
 - S. Speight - Student Body President
 - Last week we had a very successful leadership conference. Met with Matt McMann to discuss dining issues and gourmet.
 - Plan on meeting with President Whineman on Friday.
 - Planning on hosting a Vice President Debate event.
 - E. Spillane - Executive Vice President
 - Trying to get people more valued into the value of the meal equivalency.
 - R. Torres stated that she has worked with student government for 30+ years. She stated that this administration has worked very hard to achieve the betterment of the students on campus. And proceeded to say "Thank You" for all the hard work this administration and executive board have been conducting.
 - Karina Syrota - Vice President of Student Life
 - Meet with Andrea about student life. Concern box and set up a table to get more student's concerns

- Cabinet and Senate Reports
 - P. Cama
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
 - J. Seymour
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
 - A. Zarebczan
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
 - A. Domenici
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
 - S. Mazzella
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
 - M. O'Donoghue
 - Working a lot with faculty trying to get a new and improved peer mentorship program for the next academic year. Additionally, they are very close to hosting a breast cancer awareness 5k. Bringing education and information to the student body as a whole through the whole event.
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
 - E. Ligouri
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
 - H. Tone
 - Met with Connor about the last materials for elections.
 - Also working with Saint Judes.
 - Yielded time to the chair.
 - O. Dunn
 - The budget looks good.
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
 - J. Shrestha
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
 - C. Larkin
 - Nothing new to report. Yielded time to the chair.
 - G. Halliday
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.

- E. Solury
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- K. Sevim
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- N. Merrow
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- N. Palmieri
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- Archivist
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- S. Kolmel
 - Working with Sheridan on the VP watch party event
 - Creating a calendar to make sure everyone is aware of everyone's events and for people to not schedule events at the same time/date.
 - A Halloween event for the SGA. Possibly a Halloween assembly.
 - Yielded time to the chair.
- E. Deschamps
 - Nothing new to report. Ethan is running for North End Representative.
 - Yielded time to the chair.
- S. Manandhar
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.
- V. Rivera Jr.
 - Referenced board report. Yielded time to the chair.

IV. Old Business

- There was no old business from the previous meeting.

V. New Business

- The Charter of Marist Car Club
 - T. Mecca asked what everyone's dream car is.

- G. Halliday asked if they were all seniors. The president responded that they have many juniors and sophomores members and they are open to new members.
 - E. Deschamps asked what major the board was and all were studying business administration.
 - R. Torres asked how large the group is. It was declared to be around 18-20 students
 - V. Rivera discussed how they plan to publicize the safety that comes with tire gauges. They stated that staying as an on-campus-only club helps keep the safety high within the club
 - The club's advisor discussed that the tire pressure in the winter can be dangerous. The club promotes car terminology literacy.
 - What kind of value does it bring? Is bringing people who are not involved so much on campus and a sense of community with people that share the same interests
- ___ motioned to move to an informal discussion. ___ seconded the motion
- K. Srytoa motioned to move from informal discussion to voting. V. Geraci seconded this motion
- The Marist Car Club was appointed with 0 affirmatives, 0 negatives, and 1 abstention. The bill passed and the club was chartered.
- The Charter of Girls in Media Club
 - G. Halliday asked about the separation with North Road Communications - NRC has a PR focus and helps focus on outside the Marist Community. GiM is more Marist Centered
 - R. Torres discussed the number of students who have shown interest. There have been over 35 girls who are interested in the club.
 - S. Speight what they bring to campus that others don't. Theft is looking to provide a space where women's voices are heard and where they can learn from each other. They

also want to provide a way for the members to expand their skill sets.

- R. Torres asked about the separation behind Girls vs Women in Media. Due to the club wanting to be focused more internally in Marist. Therefore they decided to stay as Women in Media.
- S. Speight asked how they delegate tasks. WiM said it's something they plan to delegate tasks to manage.
- O. Dunn motioned to move to an informal discussion. A. Zarebczan seconded the motion
- N. Palmieri motioned to amend the bill from "Girls in Media" to "Women in Media". A. Zarebczan seconded this motion
- V. Rivera motioned to move from informal discussion to voting. A. Zarebczan seconded this motion
- Girls in Media Club was appointed with 15 affirmatives, 0 negatives, and 2 abstentions. The bill passed and the club was chartered.

VI. Open Floor

- Student Concerns
 - Marist has an IA committee to make sure AI is being used in the right way.
 - AI being used in the classroom. Professors are requiring students to use AI in assignments. It is crossing the boundaries between plagiarism and AI being required to be used in a classroom environment. It is encouraged to place pressure on the administration to take action.
 - S. Speight stated that we do in fact have students on the board of the plagiarism committee. They are looking into adding policies to help the use of AI be more clear in when it should be used vs not.
 - There was a presentation in class the other day. And this student had to make an advertisement for a company. Required through the use of AI that isn't chatGBT or other popular AI chatbots.

- A. Zarebczan stated that at other universities, you can use it as a guide, but are required to state the fact of usage when submitting an assignment. She believes that leading towards that method might be the most beneficial for the college and plagiarism policies.
- A. Dominici states that this is all the academic administrators and staff talk about.
- N. Palemiri states that using AI is plagiarism. Therefore we require a deeper understanding of the plagiarism rules at Marist College.
- R. Lynch states that when you submit a paper, you cite the sources. Therefore, why are we not citing the usage of AI in your paper?
- E. Spillane stated that the AI itself is taking from sources and not citing them. Therefore AI is the issue of plagiarism.
- When you cite a source wrong, it's considered plagiarism. Therefore, AI, being the subject that lacks proper citing, is the issue that disrupts the plagiarism policies
- R. Torres states that we have to be in control of the policies and the fact that students can not be hurt because of AI.

VII. Announcements

- **PARENTS WEEKEND RECEPTION**
 - **SGA OFFICE 2-3:30 PM FRIDAY 9/27**
- **SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE**
 - **From Now to 6:00 PM**
- **ELECTION EVENTS**
 - **Speech night tomorrow (09/26)**
- **S. JUDES SIGN UP**
- **OPEN SGA POSITIONS**
- **FACULTY GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**
 - **Library Committee**
- **FILL OUT THE INTEREST FORM FOR THE CLUB BASEBALL EVENT**

- EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM STARTED THIS WEEK
- LUNCH LIST ADJUSTMENTS

VIII. Miracle of the Week

- Recognize the whole SGA. The faculty stated that the SGA has been doing great work

IX. Meeting Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at (1:04 PM)

Respectfully Submitted,

Tyler Mecca & Helena Reis

Administrative Coordinators