



FALL 2015 SEMESTER REPORT

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Executive President



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Table of Contents

Introduction

Welcome Letter from Ashley & Nick

Subjects

Diversity Action Coalition..... 4

Student Concern..... 5

Student Interest..... 6-7

Club Collaboration..... 8

Committees..... 9

GSB Dean’s Council..... 10-11

FCRH Dean’s Council..... 12

Operations..... 13

Sustainability..... 14-15

Budget..... 16

House..... 17-18

Internal Affairs..... 19

Appendix:

Report on Sexual Misconduct and Assault Matters at Fordham University’s Rose Hill Campus.....20

United Student Government’s Provost Advisory Council.....21

USG Fall 2015 Budget.....22

Welcome

Happy New Year and Welcome to the Fall 2015 Semester Report!

This semester presented unique opportunities and challenges to the Fordham community. We, the United Student Government, worked to respond with initiatives, town halls, and self-studies. Our Senators and Executive Board members dedicated themselves to a variety of student concerns, from sustainability to midterm evaluations for courses, vigils and collaborative efforts on diversity and improving our avenues for representation within the administration. While there is still plenty of work to be done, we are proud to share our progress with you.

We seek to be a representative body that is striving for the betterment of the entire university community. If you have any questions or ideas for us, we encourage you to contact us at usgrh@fordham.edu, through our website usgrh.net, or by attending one of our weekly public meetings at 5:30 PM in Rose Hill Commons 237.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best,
Ashley Domagola & Nick Sawicki
Executive President & Executive Vice-President

Diversity Action Coalition

Structure and Creation

The Diversity Action Coalition, a USG organ dedicated to dealing with diversity issues on campus, was approved as an amendment to the USG Constitution this fall. The Coalition is composed of members of different student organizations on campus interested in the mission of creating a more inclusive campus and is led by two secretarial Co-Chairs. The current Co-Chairs are Sian-Ashleigh Edwards and Hayley Hague. The organizations currently involved include the United Student Government, Commuting Students Association, Residence Hall Association, ASILI, Jewish Student Organization, El Grito de Lares, Fordham University Philippine American Club, Commuter Student Services, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, and the Dorothy Day Center for Service and Justice.

Goals

The coalition was formed in reaction to the reported bias incidents on and off campus in the Fall semester. However, the Coalition's goal is to address the broader roots of hate on campus by fostering a more inclusive campus community. This will be accomplished by creating long term systemic changes to university policies. The current foci of the Coalition are the creation of a Diversity and Society Requirement in the Core Curriculum, the redesign of First Year Formation as a mandatory course about the history and culture of the Bronx, the creation of a PR campaign, and the launch of a USG-ASILI video that underscores the importance of collaboration to tackle community-wide issues.

Current Active Initiatives

Members of the coalition have met with members of the University Arts and Sciences Council, the Core Curriculum Committee, and the Faculty Senate to work on enacting the Diversity and Society Requirement. Currently a formal written proposal for the requirement has been drafted and will be submitted to University Administrators and Faculty Members for review. A preliminary draft of the structure of the re-designed First Year Formation course has been created and the Coalition will focus on working with all involved parties during the spring semester to receive feedback on it and work towards implementing it for the Fall 2017 semester. The USG-ASILI Video was worked on throughout the Fall semester by members of both organizations. It is currently in the editing stages and will be launched in the Spring Semester, addressing the backgrounds of the bias incidents, the response of the students to these incidents, and the actions that will be taken to create a more inclusive and welcoming community.

Student Concern

Midterm Evaluations: FCRH

Senator Kaela Palmiter (FCRH, 2018) undertook this initiative so that students can provide their professors with feedback during the middle of the semester to improve their classes as opposed to one evaluation at the conclusion of the course. For this initiative, a proposed form has been created and a preliminary discussion was held with the FCRH Faculty Council. Per the feedback of the faculty, changes will be considered as well as the manner in which the form will be distributed to the student body.

Midterm Evaluations: Gabelli

The Gabelli midterm course evaluation initiative has been mostly cleared to move forward for the spring. The idea was well received at a Town Hall meeting with Dean Rapaccioli, who offered support to help execute the plan. Senator Alexander Zamora (GSB, 2018) collaborated with Dean Rapaccioli and the Gabelli Dean's Council. The process will likely use Google forms to administer the questionnaire which would likely be easier for professors to use.

School Shooting Protection Initiative

Vice President of Health and Security Brianna Cali (FCRH, 2016) pursued an initiative which focused on protecting our campus in light of recent national events involving active shooter situations on college campuses and other public spaces. After several meetings with Mr. John Carroll, Vice President of Public Safety for Fordham University, and an examination of the classrooms in Dealy Hall, it was approved to add locks and window shades for all the classrooms in all the academic buildings. This will create a protection barrier if students cannot safely exit the building. Another aspect of this initiative is to increase student awareness of the safety protection, which included an email in the Fall semester about our active shooter protocols. Future emails about safety protocols and an on campus active shooter drill are also being worked on to be implemented by the end of the academic year.

Holiday Hosting Initiative

Senator Christine Phelan (GSB, 2018) began this initiative in order to foster relationships between International and Domestic students. She proposed a program in which resident and commuter students would volunteer to host an International Student for holidays that are often too short for international students to travel home, like Thanksgiving. Senator Phelan and Joe Rapp, a Commuter Assistant, have been working with the Office of International Students to work through details of the program, which they hope to establish before the 2016-17 academic year.

Fall 2015 Semester Report

President Ashley Domagola
Vice President Nicholas Sawicki

Student Interest

Unpaid Internship Fund

The Fordham University Unpaid Internship Fund is an initiative designed to provide students pursuing unpaid internships, especially within the public service and social service sectors, with grants and stipends so they can afford to intern at government agencies and nonprofit organizations that are designed to serve others. Former Senator Elizabeth Wetzler (FCRH, 2017) met with the Director of Career Services, Stefany Fattor, and the Director of Experiential Education, Bernard Stratford, and discussed the possible structure of the fund and the ways in which we could create funding for the program. The initiative is currently in the planning stages.

Residence Hall Walk-Throughs Initiative

Senator Phelan is coordinating with the Office of Residential Life to gather a collection of photos and more thorough descriptions of Residence Halls on campus. She hopes that these photos will be useful to prospective and incoming students. As such, the initiative will be completed by the end of the year.

Updated Chargers in the Ram Fit Center

This initiative aims to replace the outdated chargers on the cardio machines with an adapter for newer models of a charger. President Domagola and VP Cali are collaborating on this effort. Students would be able to borrow a charger during their gym session by trading their ID in for the time of use. It is still in progress to find a universal adapter to allow access to all students with varying phones that are compatible with the equipment. Meetings will start in January to determine if this is possible; if so, the chargers will be brought in as soon as possible.

A Grand Slam: Bronx Youth Outreach Day

This event is a Bronx Youth Outreach Program, where a committee, spearheaded by Vice President of Gabelli Salvatore Cocchiario (GSB, 2017), plans to invite middle school students from local Bronx schools onto our campus for team-building games and talks on how to stay happy, healthy, and exercise regularly. The format of the event would be to have students play "Minute to Win It" style games (sack race, four-legged race, cup stacking, etc.), going station to station around the gym for about an hour or so. After the fun and games portion, lunch would be provided and speakers would talk to the students about maintaining a positive lifestyle. The event is anticipated to take place in April, 2016.

Student Interest

Sustainability Consulting

Sustainability Consulting is about creating a framework to let department's claim to be sustainable if they fit a certain set of criteria. This involves going to every department and administering surveys. After collecting data, Senator Sanders Bennett (FCHR, 2019) will work with each department to find out how they can be more sustainable, and from there she will create an official level of criteria that a department must reach in order to be considered sustainable. The goal is to work with every department to help improve overall sustainability on campus.

Meal Plan Donation

Many students realize at the end of the semester that they have excess meal swipes. The current initiative stems from Former-Senator Troy D'Amico's (GSB, 2016) idea of implementing NYU's meal donation program. Though this is still in planning stages, Senator Sara Brown (GSB, 2019) contacted New York University's student council to get more information as they are one of Fordham's peer schools. After the Senator connects with NYU, she plans to reach out to multiple schools that have publicized meal plan donation programs like the University of California-Davis' Swipe Out Hunger Programs to see how they operate, as their donation programs trade swipes for money that can be directly given to a local food bank. Senator Brown is also in contact with Fordham's food-service provider, Sodexo, to examine possible ways to implement the program at Fordham and to assess its viability.

Day of Community Service in the Bronx

Last Fall, several concerned USG members organized a day of service to clean up trash-ridden areas of the neighborhood near Fordham. This event was cancelled due to scheduling and logistical conflicts, but the Senators are continuing to pursue the event for the Spring.

Diversity Conference

Senator Darcy McGuire (GSB, 2016) is currently planning the Diversity Conference with Maria Aponte from Career Services. This annual conference addresses issues of diversity in the workplace. The event will be on a Wednesday in March, and the Spring semester will focus on marketing the event.

Club Collaboration

#ClubLib

#ClubLib is an annual collaboration between USG, the Residence Halls Association, the Commuting Students Association, and the Campus Activities Board. The event took place at the end of Welcome Week on September 4th on the Walsh Library lawn. This year, food and beverages were provided by Achieving Change Together.

Co-Sponsorship

During the Fall semester, a variety of clubs sought co-sponsorship from USG as they continued club approval process.

Additionally, USG co-sponsored a series of events including the 9/11 Memorial with Campus ministry, and the Vigil in response to the bias incidents which was organized by Asili and the Jewish Students Organization.

USG Collaborated with the following organizations during the Fall 2015 semester:

- Commuting Students Association
- Gift of Life
- Campus Ministry
- College Mentors



Committees

Sexual Misconduct Task Force

The Sexual Misconduct Task Force, created in September 2015, is comprised of a number of students representing a wide and varied portion of the student body. The Task Force is charged with helping to create a culture of respect for the individual person within the Fordham community, in particular with respect to sexual misconduct and consent.

The Task Force released a report in October that both a.) assesses the campus climate in regards to sexual assault and b.) reviews the University's policies and practices relating to sexual misconduct, and c.) recommendations for the creation of a more inclusive and safer campus community. A broader synthesis of the report may be found in the Appendix.

The Provost's Council

In October 2016, the United Student Government moved to formally establish a body in conjunction with USGLC to normalize relations between the undergraduate student representatives and the offices of the Provost of the University. A full report and the resolution that explains the functions, powers, and responsibilities of this Council may be found in the Appendix.

USG External Committee on International Integration Chairperson Sen. Libby Wetzler (FCRH, 2017)

The USG External Committee on International Integration (CII) is in the planning stages of several initiatives to increase integration of international students on Fordham's campus and to increase Fordham students' participation in international programs at Fordham and in New York. The CII is planning to explore two initiatives for the Gabelli School of Business: First, the Committee is planning to pursue a possible change to Gabelli curriculum which would change Gabelli's International Business concentration to a primary concentration. The CII would also like to pursue expanding the language opportunities for Gabelli students and is also planning an initiative to increase awareness among Fordham students of the availability of internships with international organizations and agencies in New York City.

Gabelli School Dean's Council

Vice President of Gabelli Sal Cocchiaro (GSB, 2017)

Curriculum Changes: IP2 & IP3

Before the start of the Fall semester, the Dean's Council was an integral part of a faculty- and administration-led effort to make adjustments to the Gabelli School's integrated business core curriculum. Among the results were a shift to freshman year for the career development-focused Integrated Project 2, which had previously been delivered in sophomore year, and an expansion of Integrated Project 3 to include a multidisciplinary analytics project in addition to the existing financial modeling option. The change to IP2 was already piloted and has been accepted for all freshmen going forward, while the expansion of IP3 is being piloted in Spring 2016 and will be reviewed at the end of this term to determine whether to make it permanent.

GabelliVision

VP Cocchiaro saw an opportunity to improve communication between the students and the administration. In an age dictated by social media and multimedia presentation of information, the Dean's Council has spearheaded an initiative known as GabelliVision. GabelliVision will be a semiweekly video service to spread word about club events and Gabelli School sponsored events and opportunities. These videos will be shared on the Gabelli School Facebook and Twitter, as well as on the monitors throughout Hughes Hall. In addition to event promotion, the Dean's Council hopes to use it as a tool to host faculty Q&As, student polls, and other segments. GabelliVision is expected to launch early in the Spring semester.

Ramfeed

With the help of the Dean's Council, John Woeltje, co-chair, is creating the premier online hub for all things Fordham. Listening to student input, the Dean's Council realizes the need to leverage Fordham University's technology and create a stronger online community for Fordham students. The goal of Ramfeed is to construct and implement a comprehensive, easily navigable, mobile-friendly web page that serves as a student's unified source for Fordham news, campus events, and club activities. With the help of the administration and the FCRH Dean's Council, we hope to roll out Ramfeed during the middle of the Spring semester.

Volunteering

Dean's Council members have pitched in on a number of events, including the Town Hall meeting and Open House to help bolster the Gabelli School community. As per tradition, members wrote out Christmas postcards to potential Gabelli School students as a festive gesture and a sign of the camaraderie that soon awaits them at Fordham.



Gabelli School Dean's Council Continued

TEDx Event

Dean's Council members are hard at work planning a TEDx event here on Fordham's campus. In conjunction with the Management Society, the Dean's Council is exploring all options to create a series of talks pertinent to the Fordham University community and the academic community beyond. While the topics and speakers have yet to be named, our members are hard at work and will be aiming to host the event in late April or early May.

Town Hall

Dean Rapaccioli selected the Dean's Council as the students' representative for aiding the planning of her annual Town Hall meeting in October. Among things discussed were the future plans of the Gabelli School following its merger with the Graduate School of Business, funding for undergraduate clubs, mid-term evaluations for courses, potential for new major offerings, and areas for improvement with communication. Many of these were directly addressed by Dean Rapaccioli and added to the Dean's Council agenda for the remainder of the year.

Hughes Hall Building Improvements

Dean's Council members completed a thorough walk-through of Hughes Hall to document any damages and technological images. Room repairs took place over Winter Break. Many students complain about the lack of compatibility with their laptops in the meeting rooms, which use traditional VGA cables. We are working to create a system where students can take out converter cables for use in the meeting rooms. Most notably, we have heard a common complaint about the lack of available space for club meetings and student gatherings within Hughes Hall. As such, the former Global Center on the third floor, Hughes 300A, has been repurposed. During the day, 300A will be designated for use by administrators and faculty for meetings. During the evenings, 300A will be available for advance sign-out by student organizations for meetings, activities, or other organized club gatherings. The former Fourth Floor Conference Room is now the Global Center, managed by Assistant Dean Hanaa Fawzy and open to all students.

Meredith Vieira Show

Approximately 30 students were awarded the opportunity to attend a live taping of The Meredith Vieira Show at NBC Studios in Rockefeller Center back in November, thanks to connections established by Professor John Fortunato. These students entered into a raffle and won tickets, as well as the opportunity to network with show executives to discuss the business environment of media in the 21st Century.

Fall 2015 Semester Report

Fordham College at Rose Hill Dean's Council

Fall 2015 VP of FCRH: Garrison Groeschke
Incoming VP of FCRH: Matthew Santucci

With the advent of a new year, the FCRH Dean's Council looks forward to continuing with the proposed initiatives that were introduced in the preceding semester.

Town Hall

At the end of first semester, Dean Maura Mast held an open town hall session in which students were welcome to make any inquires regarding the affairs – present or future – of the university. With an attendance of around 50 people, it served as a beneficial way for the college to facilitate dialogue between students and administration. Given the positive feedback, it is the intention of the Dean's Council to schedule more sessions in the upcoming semester.

Monthly Meetings with Dean Mast

Given the success of the Town Hall Forum, the Dean's Council is in the rudimentary stages of establishing a monthly 'coffee hour' with Dean Mast, in which students will have the possibility of meeting with the Dean in a more intimate and personal environment.

First Year Formation

In order to assist students in acclimating themselves to living in the Bronx, the FCRH Dean's Council has looked at reforming the "First Year Formation". This would instill a comprehensive understanding of the Jesuit tenets upon which the university is conducted. This would augment the first year advising (which we hope to make available to transfer students as well).

Operations Committee

Vice President of Operations Federico Giustini (FCRH, 2016)

This semester, the Operations Committee restructured the manner in which the Committee approves clubs and constitution amendments. Previously, a club leader would email the Vice President of Operations directly to either submit a new club or constitution amendment proposal. Now, club leaders go directly to OrgSync and there is a respective form for each request. The form to submit a new club proposal allows club leaders to see real-time how far along their club is in the Club Approval Process. The forms are titled “Starting a New Club” and “Constitution Amendments”.

Vice President of Operations, Federico Giustini, has stated that this is a more efficient process, which is evident based on the ten clubs that have used the form to submit their new club ideas. There have been two constitutional amendments that have been approved by the Operations Committee by using the new OrgSync form. The forms also serve as an organizational tool that allows the documentation for these processes to be easily found in OrgSync. The form for clubs interested in becoming an official Fordham club has the feature that allows club leaders to see how far along the club approval process their club constitution is. One club so far has been approved through the new form. Two club constitutions have been amended through the new form.

Club Fair

Vice President Giustini began the Fall semester by organizing the Fall 2015 Club Fair with the Office for Student Involvement advisors, which occurred on Wednesday, September 2nd. The Club Fair was attended by 128 clubs and organizations and was held from 3-5PM.

Approved Clubs and Club of the Month

The United Student Government (USG) approved eight clubs this past semester, including: The Jewish Student Organization, Flash Magazine, French Club, Meditation Club, Special Olympics, Cryptocurrency, Smart Girls, and Chemistry Club. USG also awarded club of the month awards for the months of September, October, and November. ASILI-The Black Student Alliance and the Jewish Student Organization were joint recipients for month of September. F.U.E.M.S. was the recipient for the month of October. Deutscher Studenten Klub and French Club were joint recipients for the month of November.

Sustainability Committee

Chairperson: Senator Anisah Assim (FCRH, 2016)

Sustainability Week

The Committee, in partnership with Students for Environmental Awareness and Justice (SEAJ), hosted the second annual Sustainability Week from September 24th - October 1st as part of the official NYC Climate Week. The week was comprised of ten official events that touched on a variety of subjects. Urban Environmentalism was explored through an eco-paddle event on the Bronx River, a lecture on Urban Ecology was hosted, and our Social Justice and Sustainability panel provided great insights as to our duties and obligations to be a sustainable community.. The Committee addressed wildlife and nature issues through two film events and a Sustainability-themed hike hosted by the outdoors club. Food Sustainability was explored through Dirt, Plants and Food and Vegetable Vibes, an acoustic concert hosted by St. Rose's Garden. The events "How Many Earths" and "Republicans and the Environment" facilitated student understanding of the human relationship with the earth.

Recycling

The Committee's successful partnership with Campus Operations has yielded many improvements to campus recycling over the past semester. Recycling programs of Campus Operations and the Committee have been expanded so that there are recycling bins in every classroom and almost every res-hall room on campus. The University Plastic Bag Recycling Program, started by the Committee, also expanded significantly; there are currently plastic bag recycling bins in half of the residential trash rooms on campus. Additionally, based on the suggestion of the Sustainability Committee, Campus Operations has committed itself to changing all of the recycling signage on campus to the more accurate NYC signage by the end of the winter break. Anna Marshall, the recycling director, has worked with McGinley and Lombardi Campus Center Operations separately to expand their recycling programs. Ms. Marshall is also working with IT in the Spring Semester to better advertise and integrate their current E-waste program into campus life. Senator Jasnaam Grewal (FCRH, 2019), a recycling team member organized the committee's Second Annual Recycling Survey this fall. The survey is a comprehensive physical survey of recycling and trash bins on campus used by the Committee and Campus Operations to identify areas on campus where recycling can be improved. A report based on the results of the survey is scheduled to be released by the end of the winter break.

Composting

Catherine LaPerche and Taylor Price of the Committee led a campus push to increase composting on campus. Catherine conducted a site visit to St. John's program over the summer and both are currently collaborating with the University and Dining Services to implement a composting program for next Fall.

Fall 2015 Semester Report

Sustainability Committee Continued

Water

Working with the Ashoka Changemaker Program on campus, the Committee launched a ban-the-bottle campaign aimed at decreasing student water bottle use through advocacy and policy. To educate students about the high quality of New York City tap water, encourage reusable water bottle usage, and discourage wasteful water usage, Duncan Magidson, a Committee member, has created a semi-permanent in-bathroom poster series called H2O Poems. To increase water access, the Committee tested and assessed all water fountains on campus.

Energy

Rebecca McSween and Senator Sanders Bennett (FCRH, 2019) of the committee worked with Peter Bundock, the University Vice President of Energy and Conservation, to decrease the University's energy footprint by exploring the installation of automatic lights on campus and beginning the planning for an inter-res hall energy reduction competition. Rebecca, the Committee Director of Energy Sustainability, also designed an energy-saving vending machine miser program and is working with Facilities to address concerns over ACs left on in unoccupied res-halls in the summer.

Sustainability Structural Changes and Long-term Programs

The Committee is working towards creating a stronger campus sustainability organizational structure. The Committee took their first step towards this goal by making Sustainability a Vice President-level position on the Executive Board of the United Student Government. The next step in achieving this goal is creating an Eco-Reps program that would designate one student in each res-hall to coordinate sustainability in their respective res-hall. The Committee is also working on a proposal to create a University Director of Sustainability to improve the coordination of Sustainability improvements on campus. Corinne Logan, Katherine Sitler-Elbel, and Taylor Price are currently revising and creating the proposals for these initiatives. Additionally, Lily Hurley and Senator Sanders Bennett of the Committee are expanding sustainability across the university by creating a department consulting program. The program is focused on "green certifying" each department on campus.

Communications and Educational Outreach

Members of the committee, in collaboration with Facilities Management and Great Forest Consulting, revised and released the Sustainability Guide on the University's Sustainability webpage over the summer. The guide provides a comprehensive resource on how to live sustainably on campus. The Committee also worked in collaboration with Facilities Management to redesign and update the University's Sustainability Website overall during the summer. Sean Sullivan, the Committee's Outreach Coordinator, launched the educational outreach program this semester by giving presentations that encourage students to view small sustainable choices as contributions to a larger macro level impact.

Budget Committee

Vice President of Finance Daniel Stroie

The Budget Committee allocated \$52,071.72 to clubs during the fall semester, in addition to the \$433,570.86 allocated on budget day for the Fall 2015 semester. This adds up to \$485,642.58 in Student Activities Fee allocations to student clubs this past semester.

On the Budget Day for Spring 2015, the Committee allocated \$442,399.25 to clubs and organizations. The Budget Committee plans to allocate the remaining funds from Budget Day and the fall semester at the first meeting of the spring semester.

Increasing Club Resources

One of the main goals of the Committee for this academic year has been to increase the resources available to club treasurers for the budget process and provide a high level of support. The Committee has done this by offering consistent weekly office hours, where club leaders could drop in with any questions that they have. The individual committee members are all assigned clubs in order to provide more personal and timely support.

In addition to the support provided by committee members, there were five budget training sessions in the Fall 2015 semester. These sessions, during the club leader summit and leading up to Budget Day, served as a comprehensive introduction to the budgeting process. The Committee is also in the process of developing a written guide for club leaders new to the process.

Continuing with the work of last year's Budget Committee to increase transparency, all voting records, meeting times and locations, an up-to-date status of funds, and important documents are posted on the USG website, under the Budget page.

Referendum Adjustment

The Budget Committee, along with the Student Life Council, approved an adjustment to the referendum amounts for the United Student Government. Previously \$8,000 for each the Spring and Fall semesters, the amount was shifted to \$7,000 in the Spring semester and \$9,000 in the Fall semester.

This solution was determined to be mutually beneficial to both USG and clubs requesting funding on a non-referendum basis. USG typically spends less in the spring than in the fall, and the budget requests from non-referendum clubs is opposite of that. Moving the \$1,000 alleviates some of the budget strain on non-referendum clubs and on USG's fall spending, all while maintaining the same amount for the USG annual budget.

Fall 2015 Semester Report

House Committee

Vice President of Student Life Peter Vergara

Festivus Fordhamensis

The House Committee kicked off the year with our annual Festivus. The festival occurs during the week leading up to Fordham Football's Homecoming game and aims to boost school spirit across campus. USG designed and ordered Fest t-shirts featuring the iconic lyrics of the Fordham song: "Do or die." On Wednesday, September 16th, we hosted The Club Performance Showcase which took place on Keating Steps during sunset and featured five a cappella performances by the Mimes and Mummers, the Hot Notes, the B-Sides, the Satin Dolls and The Ramblers, and two dance performances by Sláinte and Fordham Flava. Approximately 250 students were in attendance. The next day, Athletics cooperated with USG to put on Maroon Zone – The Fest's annual pep-rally with Fest t-shirts, pizza, and a raffle of a Fordham gear. This year's Maroon Zone was hosted under the football stadium bleachers again and was attended by 307 students.

Gaudete Sunday

Gaudete Sunday, a day marked in the liturgical calendar of the Roman Catholic Church, is an annual event put on the third Sunday of Advent by a cooperation of USG and Campus Ministry. The event consists of a Mass presided by Father Joseph M. McShane, S.J., followed by a candle-lit procession outside for a Menorah-lighting and tree-lighting to kick off the holiday season. Then, everyone was invited to a reception in Bepler Commons with food and beverages. This year, more than ten USG members helped decorate the Christmas tree and Bepler Commons in preparation for the event. During the mass, fifteen USG members facilitated the lighting of candles and procession out of the church. On the way to the Bepler reception, USG members gave out Christmas themed shirts, which were a gift to the Fordham community from Father McShane. The Bepler Commons reception featured Christmas music by three a cappella groups: The Ramblers, The Satin Dolls, and the Hot Notes.

Club Suite Violations

The House Committee has had to respond to three violations of Club Suite Guidelines: Pershing Rifles, Fordham Experimental Theater, and Mimes and Mummers – all three regarding alcohol. Each case was heard and explored in detail as the House Committee made a point to be fair in any recommended sanctions. These recommendations were communicated to the Office for Student Involvement and Campus Center Operations, which helped the House Committee with curbing key privileges and/or space usage. The responses hinged on reinforcing knowledge of the Club Suite Guidelines among the clubs. Furthermore, these three violations have prompted the House Committee to put in place a formal response and appeal process for future violations, as well as amending the Club Suite Guidelines. These documents will be presented to various administrators, and ultimately the Student Life Council.

House Committee Continued

McGinley Center Art Gallery

Last year, the House Committee revived the art gallery on the second floor of McGinley. This year, the tradition continues with a “Humans of Fordham” theme – each work accompanied by a caption inspired by the Humans of New York project. The show consists of eleven works of art by Fordham students (two paintings and eight photographs). The Committee is looking forward to another show in February of the Spring 2016 semester.

Soccer Viewing Parties

Last year, USG looked into incorporating channels to the Fordham TV Network that broadcast soccer games – making professional soccer more available to the students. This called for a lot of back and forth with FordhamIT, however, there were no results. As a means to offer professional soccer to the Fordham community, USG’s Vice President of Student Life, Peter Vergara (FCRH, ‘18) has cooperated with Commuter Assistant Andrew Santis (GSB, ‘16) to host Soccer Viewing Parties – there have been two this year. These occur in in Dagger John’s, which has cable TV. Games are chosen based on the popularity of the teams playing and the convenience of game time. Attendance of these two events has ranged between 30 and 40 students. USG and Commuter Student Services are excited to carry the tradition into the Spring Term as playoffs begin – with better games there will be better attendance.

Internal Affairs

USG Reception Research Report

Throughout Fall 2015, Senator Darcy McGuire (GSB, 2016) worked to create a survey to send to student body in an effort to collect more information about USG's visibility and presence on campus. The survey will be released in early February and the results will be compiled prior to Spring Break.

USG Marketing Campaign

At the end of the 2015-16 academic year, USG began a campaign using online social media marketing. These efforts resulted in over 400 new Facebook likes, with the amount of followers on Instagram and Twitter doubling.

Meeting Time Change

In an effort to accommodate an increasing number of members who had required classes on Thursday nights, USG voted to move our weekly meeting time to 5:30 PM on Thursdays in McGinley 237.

Appendix

Report on Sexual Misconduct and Assault Matters at Fordham University's Rose Hill Campus

The United Student Government Sexual Misconduct Task Force's *Report on Sexual Misconduct and Assault Matters at Fordham University's Rose Hill Campus* was released on October 28th, 2015. This report, a collaborative effort among members and organizations represented in the Task Force, is the culmination of 13 months of review and analysis of sexual assault and related issues at Fordham. It highlights the strengths and weaknesses present throughout the Fordham community, both on an administrative level and on a student/student culture level.

At the end of March 2015, the Task Force surveyed 312 participants through *The Sexual Assault Safety Programming & Resources Survey*. Drawing on a wide range of students, the Survey highlighted several significant points, including student comfortability, understanding of University procedures regarding the handling of sexual assault cases, and their understanding of how the University defines consent.

The report highlights that the lack of understanding surrounding the reporting procedure for sexual assaults leads to confusion, and this confusion leads to mistrust. Mistrust further breaks down the University-wide dialogue that needs to be ongoing to help create cultures and structures that effectively combat sexual assault.

The Report also analyzes the Campus Assault and Relationship Education (CARE) brochure and materials—that is, the University's primary method of presenting information regarding sexual assault. The Subcommittee tasked with reviewing the materials worked closely with the Dean of Students, Mr. Christopher Rodgers, to make suggestions and find areas to improve clarity, inclusiveness, bystander intervention, and to reduce the use of victim-blaming language. A large number of these suggestions were implemented in the revision of the CARE brochure, each of which is noted in the Report.

It is the assessment of the Task Force's Committee that Fordham University more than sufficiently meets the legal requirements imposed by the State of New York and the federal government, as well as maintaining and expanding a number of programmatic aspects that seek to rid our community of sexual assault.

This Report should deepen the Fordham community's commitment to tackling the issue of sexual assault, and the Task Force will seek to use this commitment to foster both dialogue and structures that recognize and respect the dignity of the human person.

Appendix

United Student Government's Provost Advisory Council

In order to foster greater dialogue both between the undergraduate bodies of Fordham College at Rose Hill and the Gabelli School of Business at Rose Hill, as well as to strengthen a collaborative relationship with the United Student Government at Lincoln Center, the respective Government's created the Provost's Advisory Council to ensure regular meetings and discussions with Dr. Stephen Freedman, Provost and Chief Academic Officer of the University. This Council exists as a permanent structure of the United Student Government to ensure that future governments continue to meet regularly and offer input to the offices of the Provost.

Intent: To create a council comprised of the Provost of Fordham University, as well as staff, to foster a fruitful discourse and representatives of the United Student Government, as well as students at large, to discuss larger initiatives throughout the University and how students can provide guidance and assistance in creating and implementing new programs.

Structure: The Council will be jointly comprised of the Provost of Fordham University, appropriate staff from the Provost's Office as deemed pertinent to the needs of the Council, and members of the United Student Governments (1 representing each undergraduate college) to include the Vice-President of FCRH (or a delegate appointed by them), the Vice-President of GSB (or a delegate appointed by them), and a member of the executive board of the United Student Government at Lincoln Center. The Executive President's and Executive Vice-Presidents of the respective United Student Governments of FCRH and LC are ex officio members of the Council and may partake at their own discretion. A secretary will be appointed by the Council to keep track of initiatives and to provide follow-up with necessary parties.

Powers and responsibilities: The powers and responsibilities of the Provost's Council shall be manifold, including but not limited to: Engaging/fostering student interest on academic initiatives; providing feedback to University administrators on students response to academic initiatives; to advise on the development/redevelopment of new/current academic programming as overseen by the Provost's office; create opportunities for greater general collaboration between the Provost's Office and the students of FCRH, GSB, and LC.

Appendix: Budget

United Student Government – Fall 2015		
Total Referendum Amount		\$ 8,000.00
Sanctioned by the Operations Committee		\$ 240.00
Additional allocated by the Budget Committee		\$ 1,125.00
Starting Amount		\$ 8,885.00
Event	Item	Amount
Club Fair	Tables for the Club Fair	\$ 1,430.00
	Food for the Club Leader Social	\$ 500.00
Festivus Fordhamensis	Fest T-Shirts	\$ 998.75
Club Showcase	Light & Sound	\$ 1,575.00
Gaudete Sunday	Food for the Reception	\$ 1,000.00
Club Lib	Security	\$ 2,000.00
Sustainability Week	Popcorn	\$ 8.67
	Pizza - FCRH Alumni Lecture	\$ 58.00
	Assorted Pastries	\$ 9.60
	Food	\$ 110.00
	Pizza	\$ 40.92
	Tickets for Racing Extinction	\$ 200.00
	Ping Pong Balls	\$ 9.99
	Seed Pots	\$ 15.98
Fordham Student Holdings	Gift Card for a Prize	\$ 86.85
Sustainability Initiative	H2O Poems	\$ 51.24
Discretionary Spending	Renewing website	\$ 149.00
	Office Computer	\$ 612.00
	Thanks-Give-Away Movie Tickets	\$ 18.00
	Thanks-Give-Away Metro Cards	\$ 11.00
Total Spending		\$ 8,885.00
Remaining Funds		\$ 0.00

Fall 2015 Semester Report

President Ashley Domagola
Vice President Nicholas Sawicki