



ASUSF Senate Minutes

Wednesday, October 6, 2021 | McLaren 250 | 5:00 – 7:08pm PST

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call** [5:00pm]
 - a. Lovepreet, Cecilia, Nick, Bas, Myra, Zuri, Akhnoor, Esha, Liz, Berkeleye, Marisol, Idea, Jasleen, Nam, Miles, Lauren, Bianca, Fiza, Angelo, Tanya, Annie
2. **Headshots [Closed Session]** [5:00-5:50pm]
 - a. Professional Headshots at Gleeson Plaza
3. **Discussion: Sports Illustrated Article [Closed Session]** [5:50-5:52pm]
 - a. Fiza motions to table the discussion for next week
 - b. Jasleen seconds
 - i. Unanimous approval
 - ii. Motion passed
4. **Open Forum** [5:52-5:53pm]
5. **Break** [5:53-5:59pm]
 - a. Myra motions to go into break
 - b. Bas seconds
 - i. Unanimous approval
 - ii. Motion passed
6. **Guest Speaker: Father Fitzgerald** [5:59-7:03pm]
 - a. Father Fitzgerald introduces himself to the audience
 - i. Father Fitzgerald thanks the students for the time and space
 - ii. He also requests students to keep the injured student from Lone Mountain East in your prayers/thoughts
 - iii. Addresses the Sports Illustrated article and ensures students that the University does its best to ensure the safety of students and provide an environment where students feel comfortable



1. There is a lot of training requirements in order to prevent these circumstances
 2. The survivor does have the option to prosecute the perpetrator, but if they choose not to prosecute then there are resources available to support the survivor
- iv. Appreciates how students are caring for each other by abiding to the Covid guidelines
1. Nursing students were allowed to perform their skills labs and clinicals are now available for nursing students
 2. Many students are finding ways to support each other through this time
- v. There are new developments across campus to create more spaces for students
- vi. The first-year class has the highest high school GPA a
- b. Q&A Space
- i. If you were to answer this question in 6 years how would you answer it: what are your thoughts regarding sexual assault and violence within the community?
 1. This situation should never occur and every member of the community should feel safe to be on campus. We have preventative measures in place and resources available should this crime occur.
 - ii. Follow up: How would you describe the culture at USF now?
 1. The culture is imperfect but we strive for a better community and for students to become future leaders.
 - iii. How are you involved in the disciplinary process of sexual assault allegations?



1. Father Fitzgerald does not participate in the process. There are dedicated people that are very qualified to address these situations
- iv. How do perpetrators of sexual assault properly given punishment?
 1. It is important to give dramatic actions and it must apply everywhere. There is only one standard and everyone is held to the same standards.
- v. What does it mean for a new coach to trigger a new culture?
 1. A new coach instilled the idea of exemplary performance. Athletics department must have exemplary performance every day as an athlete and as students. Some experiences were not reported, but there is not a statute of limitations. Investigations will occur when there is a report.
- vi. What can be done now so that this does not happen with any other organization on campus?
 1. The current team does not have any complaints filed against them. We are trying to incorporate another exemplary unit and trust within this group again because students should feel safe.
- vii. The senior class does not feel safe to go to resources, since they don't find it supportive enough. What more can be done to reestablish trust?
 1. Services are there, but students must send the message to trust administration, staff, and faculty. We are trying to build that trust every day.
- viii. How is faculty prepared for sexual assault?
 1. Faculty are required to go through sexual violence training.
 2. Title IX is a resource and students must trust that there is help available.



- ix. How can you ensure that the reports for students are accurate when there are reports that happen decades later?
 - 1. There is a team that investigates the stories. During 6 months of the investigation, there have been stories that surfaced and those stories opened new investigations.
- x. Comment: Athletes should be held at a higher standard than other students. Student leaders are held to a higher standard and athletes should also be held to this standard. It reflects poorly on the University that athletes are not held accountable and faculty allowed for these situations to continue.
 - 1. Father Fitzgerald agrees that the athletes should be held to this standard and held accountable for their actions.
- xi. What is happening in the locker rooms to instill a new culture and what is administration doing to positively impact culture?
 - 1. There is a Deputy Title IX coordinator that works directly with the teams and the coaches to create a positive environment and place higher expectations.
- xii. In regards to resources for students, what is an emergency contact for students?
 - 1. There is an emergency number for students to get in contact with PSAFE
 - 2. First-year students should take a first year seminar or the USF 101 course so they know what resources are available to them
- xiii. There are no allegations against the current soccer team, but how do we (senate and administration) reestablish trust with this team?
 - 1. Father Fitzgerald will meet with this team.
 - 2. The community must be open to restorative justice



- xiv. How do we as students trust the team?
 - 1. Every student needs to trust to the extent that they can so that this new team can regain the trust the former team broke.
- xv. Is the University creating safe/trusting spaces for students to attend in order for organizations to facilitate conversations about this topic?
 - 1. Spaces are being made, but attendance is low
- xvi. What is the investigation process?
 - 1. Investigators are a third party that is separate from the University and the report is published without edits. It allows for survivors to be brutally honest about their experience and expect that there will not be any alterations in the report.
- xvii. Why do survivors not feel that the private report does not accurately reflect their experience?
 - 1. Each survivor has a different experience
- xviii. What is the University doing in response to the Sports Illustrated article?
 - 1. There is no current way to contact those who spoke with the reporters. The University would like to reach out to those people in order to apologize to them, but the University does not have a method of contact.
 - 2. The University hopes that survivors are willing to approach the University because the alumni are still part of the USF community.
- xix. Comment: Many students feel that the consequences the perpetrators face were insufficient.
 - 1. The current team does not have any allegations against them. Students should feel comfortable to report sexual assault.



- a. Open Position Update: Title IX REPS Representative
 - i. Myra Cruz
 - 1. Collaborating with Title IX on any projects or initiatives
 - 2. There is a committee for the REPS Representative to attend
 - 3. There are events and workshops that will need to be organized
 - b. DECO Student Conversation
 - i. Tuesday, October 12th, 11:45-12:45 pm
 - ii. Senators are strongly encouraged to attend
- 8. Adjournment** [7:08 pm]
- a. Angelo motions to adjourn the meeting
 - b. Tanya seconds
 - i. Unanimous approval
 - ii. Motion passed