

Good evening council,

Senate met on November 23rd. President Alaa started off by discussing the new residence that was announced a couple weeks ago. He explained that discussion with the government is still ongoing, so once things are more set-in-stone, he will provide more information to Senate. The plan is to add a residence that has 260 beds, but there is still a lot of talk on what type of rooms it will have (e.g. family friendly, for couples, single rooms, etc). The location of the new residence is also still being discussed. After talking about the initial announcement, we had a lengthy discussion about the lack of affordable housing and how that is impacting current students and how it is hurting recruitment.

There was discussion around who should sign the parchments of graduate students because there is now a Dean of Graduate Studies. A motion was carried to add the signature of the Dean of Graduate Studies. We were also informed that 118 students have applied to graduate in January.

There was a lot of discussion on several Academic Planning and Curriculum Committee recommendations, particularly concerning the wording of the policy around the Masters of Global Affairs. Additionally, we had a lengthy discussion around a fall Reading Week. The committee will look into this and weigh-out the pros/cons and do some research. Many people (both professors and students) voiced their support, but some had concerns around snow days, or semester going too far into December.

Senate will meet again on January 11th. I wish you all good luck on your exams and happy holidays.

Thank you,

Kali Ross Senate  
Representative