

BOD holds 2nd meeting

USG CORRESPONDENT



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The Bernard M. Baruch College Association, otherwise known as the board of directors, met for the second time this semester on Oct. 12. Often unheard of by the average student, the board holds open-door meetings during club hours on the second Thursday of every month. Board members are tasked with reviewing and approving various allocations for undergraduate programs in Baruch College that are funded by the voluntary \$125 Student Activity Fee for full-time students and \$85 fee for part-time students.

The 13-member board holds five undergraduate student members, with four having run specifically for a board seat. The fifth seat is reserved for the president of USG. The four elected members are Laura Martinez, Anthony Odie, Ryan Powers and Andrea Soto.

The other eight members include the president of the Graduate Student Assembly, three college administrators, two faculty members and two independent board members.

The board is currently chaired by Art King, vice president of student affairs, though he is better known as the dean of students. In an email to *The Ticker*, King urged students to speak up, saying, "I am open and available, as are my team members in the Office of Student Life to hear, listen to student

ideas for forming a club or suggesting any ideas they believe will improve the college experience for them and their peers." King bases the board's success on seeing students "become the impressionable leaders we endeavor for them to develop into," adding that that is when he believes they are effective in supporting students.

Of the four elected members, only Martinez declined to comment. When asked what the board's purpose is and what his duties are, Powers replied with a photo of the board's by-laws, but added that his goal for BOD this year is "to be transparent, fiscally responsible, and be a bridge for students who want to know more about where their money goes." As for his own work to benefit Baruch's student population, Powers said that he hopes his experience in USG on the executive board level can be used as an advantage.

Odie, on the other hand, wishes to "increase allocations that will improve the college's reputation and student experience," declaring that he will stand as a sole vote in opposition to the board if that sole vote is acting in the student population's best interests. Odie hopes to attend student events on campus to listen to students' wants and needs in order to allocate better as a representative of students and their views.

Soto stressed the importance of the Student Activity Fee, saying she wants to, "effectively aid in making the most out of the money coming out of this fee to provide students with one of the best college experiences they can have, especially at a commuter school," adding that the allocations should "benefit the overall Baruch student body."

The next board of directors meeting will be on Nov. 9 during club hours.