



Graduate Student Senate

University of Connecticut

Graduate Student Senate Minutes **March 20, 2006**

I. Call to Order

Vice President Sopcak called the meeting to order at 7:45 pm.

II. Approval of Minutes – February 27, 2006

The minutes were approved without objection.

III. Recognition of Senators

IV. Executive Committee Reports

a. President – James Bourbeau

- Trustee Election

This year there is an election for the graduate student trustee. With this position comes a voting seat on the Board of Trustees. It would be nice to have a student from the Storrs campus running instead of someone from the law school.

- No bylaw change for administrative assistant

There had been previous discussion about changing senate documentation so that the administrative assistant would receive a $\frac{1}{2}$ assistantship instead of the current $\frac{3}{4}$ assistantship. Upon further review, it was found that the Senate Bylaws state “at least one-half assistantship”, so nothing needs to be changed.

- GAIN change in executive budget

No need to make a change in GSS documents, since this is a line item in the GSS executive budget. James is in the process of asking the grad school cover most costs.

- Enforce rollover policies

Instead of making changes to the Finance Policies and Procedures in regard to organization budgets, the current problems may go away if current regulations are enforced.

b. Vice President – Amy Sopcak

- Nominations

Nominations will begin tonight and remain open until the next meeting.

c. Secretary – Andrea Knorr

- Quorum

Secretary Knorr asked all senators present to attend the next meeting. If not enough people attend, elections cannot be held and bylaws cannot be amended.

d. Treasurer – Matt Jura

- Budget informational meeting

There will be a meeting on Monday March 27 at 7pm in the grad student lounge (Student Union 110, next to the information desk). Matt will discuss how to submit a budget. A full budget is not required, but it is a good idea of what will be requested.

- Student Fee Advisory Committee

A recommendation will be given to the grad school that they pay for all of GAIN.

e. Activities Director – Anuthep Pasura

- Bar Night

Ted's Wednesday 6-8pm. Free drinks & food with grad ID.

- Semi-formal

Saturday March 25, 6pm-midnight. Tickets can be picked up from the GSS office.

- Suggestions for new activities

They asked for ideas for new activities for the following year, as he is in the process of creating the Activities Budget.

V. Standing Committee Reports

VI. External Committee Reports

a. Mansfield Downtown Partnership – Julie Richmond

Julie announced that the GSS's membership needs to be renewed. The fee will be either \$50 or \$10, depending on whether the GSS is considered a business or student. The GSS could choose to not pay fee and therefore not have voting rights.

b. Scholastic Standards – Pete Chidester

Academic misconduct is still a major focus of this committee. An academic integrity panel has been made of students and faculty to discuss issues such as arbitration between instructors and students. If student is cleared of any wrongdoing, he/she may still receive a failing grade since prerogative of grading still remains with the instructor. Another topic of discussion is oversight of interdepartmental course offerings.

VII. Issues Forum (5 minute limit)

No issues were brought to the floor.

VIII. Old Business

IX. New Business

a. Appointment of graduate student to Textbook Committee (Brooke Morrill)

b. Bylaw change :

Section VI Stipends:

D. Treasurer

~~i.) Up to \$500 awarded at the last Senate meeting of the Fall Semester~~

~~ii.) Up to \$500 awarded at the last Senate meeting of the Spring Semester~~

~~iii.) Up to \$200 awarded for the Summer at the first meeting of the Fall Semester~~

i.) Up to \$1000 awarded at the last Senate meeting of the Fall Semester

ii.) Up to \$1000 awarded at the last Senate meeting of the Spring Semester

iii.) Up to \$400 awarded for the Summer at the first meeting of the Fall Semester

Tabled for two weeks until next meeting.

c. Nominations for President

President is the only position that requires the nominated individual to be part of the senate *a priori*. Senator Morrill nominated James, who accepted.

d. Nominations for Vice President

e. Nominations for Secretary

f. Nominations for Treasurer

President Bourbeau nominated the current Treasurer, Matt Jura. Senator Theiss seconded. Matt accepted.

g. Nominations for Parliamentarian

h. Nominations for Activities Director

X. Other Business

XI. Adjournment

Senator Chidester motioned. Mr. Todd seconded. Motion adjourned at 8:23pm.

ATTENDANCE

James Bourbeau	President
Amy Sopcak	Vice President
Andrea Knorr	Secretary
Matt Jura	Treasurer
Anuthep Pasura	Activities Director
Brooke Morrill	English
Pete Chidester	English
Fulvio Orsitto	MCL
Julie Richmond	Animal Science
Carrie Fyler	EEB
Kathryn Theiss	EEB
Mindy Weidman	History
Steven Todd	Philosophy
Blake Shily	Art
Emily Noonan	MCB
Zinnia Mukherjee	Economics