

Graduate Student Senate Minutes

April 14, 2004

I. Call to Order

Vice-President Tracy called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. in Room 200 of the Whetten Graduate Center.

II. Approval of Minutes (March 31, 2004)

The minutes from March 31, 2004, were approved without objection.

III. Recognition of New Senators

Ken Moffitt from Molecular and Cellular Biology, Alternate
Martyn Smith, At-Large from Geography
At-Large Senator approved by voice vote

IV. Executive Committee Reports

a. President – Adam N. Rabinowitz

- **Student Trustee Election**

Debate: Tuesday, April 20, 2004 – 8pm
Biology/Physics Building Room 130

2 candidates from Law School and 1 from Storrs Campus

A map will be posted on the website for people to find the location of the debate

- **Travel Fund**

As known, the travel fund had been depleted and is no longer available.

It is changing to be \$1000 per person after the student is ABD. The access to this money is via signatures from student, advisor and department head.

At what point have you reached the dissertation stage?

The answer was not known but Adam said he would find out.

- **GA Health Insurance – COBRA**

It is available for all graduate assistants; it is not available if you are only on a fellowship. It allows you to keep your insurance for a period of time at a higher cost after you are no longer a graduate assistant at UConn.

- **Graduate Student Garden Plots**

It is very possible that it could become available in the summer. There were a few senators that expressed interest.

- Student Union Space

Adam showed pictures of the new Graduate Student Senate Office and the Graduate Lounge that will be in the newly completed student union in the Fall 2004 semester.

- Resource Fair

- Graduate Appreciation and Information Night (GAIN)

- We changed the name and the format. The information fair will be for the first couple of hours with some workshops, followed by a dinner and music that would begin with an appreciation of department recognized students. Invitations would be going out to all students including current students.

- Graduate Student Handbook

- The Ultimate Guide to Graduate Life @ UConn

- This is an information handbook that was last printed a few years back and will be published again this summer in an expanded format with a new name.

b. Vice President – Kisha Tracy

- Graduate Student Senate Lecture Series

- The last lecture was last week and there were 15 people in attendance. Monday, April 19, 2004 @ 4pm in Whetten RM 200

c. Secretary – Natasha M. Rabinowitz

d. Treasurer – Craig Calvert

Next week on Wednesday, April 21, 2004 @ 7pm will be the budget hearing. If you want a budget for next year you will need to see Craig and submit it for review at the meeting.

e. Parliamentarian – Jeffrey Arbogast

There are lots of changes to the Constitution and Bylaws up for amendment tonight.

f. Activities Director – Andrea Knorr

- Activities Update

1. Semi-Formal

- There were about 200 people in attendance, even some who stayed until the end of the event at midnight.

2. Trivial Pursuit

Thursday, April 22, 2004 @ 5pm with light refreshments

3. Senator Appreciation Night
April 30, 2004 in the Nutmeg Grill

V. Committee Reports – See Attachment #117

- a. Kisha Tracy and Andrea Knorr – University Senate for April 12, 2004
- b. Kisha Tracy – Provost’s Library Advisory Committee for April 14, 2004
- c. Jill McGee - GEOC for April 14, 2004 (get from Adam)

VI. Old Business

- a. GSS-23: An Act to Amend the Constitution and Bylaws with Miscellaneous Revisions.

Kate motioned to close debate
Proposal passed 21-2-5 (See attachment #118)

- b. GSS-24: An Act to Amend Article V of the Constitution.

Kate motioned to close debate
Proposal passed 22-0-6 (See attachment #119)

- c. GSS-25: An Act to Amend Article IV of the Constitution.

Kate motioned to close debate
Proposal passed 23-2-3 (See attachment #120)

- d. GSS-26: An Act to Amend Bylaw II.

Kate motioned to close debate
Proposal passed 23-1-4 (See attachment #121)

- e. GSS-27: An Act to Amend the Constitution and Bylaws to Clarify Recall Procedures.

Section 2A: change accused to individual charged
Section 3B: change accused to individual charged

Jeff made a friendly amendment in 3A strike the repetitive sentence.

Kate motioned to close debate
Proposal passed 22-1-5 (See attachment #122) as amended.

- f. GSS-28: An Act to Amend the Bylaws to Govern Senator Roles and Responsibilities.

Jill made a motion to change in Section 1: the “views and opinions” to “interest.”
Amendment passed by a voice vote.

Marius motioned to close debate
Proposal failed 13-9-6 (See attachment #123) as amended.

- g. GSS-29: An Act to Amend the Bylaws Governing Standing Committees.

Laura motioned to close debate
Proposal passed 26-0-2 (See attachment #124)

- h. GSS-30: An Act to Amend the Bylaws to Define External Committee Representative Responsibilities.

Section 1: Change “views and opinions” to “interest”
Section 4: Having it to produce a written report within 7 days would be burdensome.

Kate amended to add after “each meeting” “, unless otherwise agreed upon by the Executive Committee and the External Committee Representative.”

Kate motioned to approve amendment

Motion to pass amendment

Motion passed with a voice vote for the amendment as stated above.

Kate motioned to close debate

Proposal passed 26-0-2 (See attachment #125)

- i. GSS-31: An Act to Amend the Bylaws to Define the Responsibilities of the Administrative Assistant.

Section3: Should that include the duration of the assistantship

Hannah motioned to add to the end of Section 3. “during the fall and spring semesters.”

Kate motioned to end debate on Section 3

The amendment passed with a voice vote.

Andrea moved to strike “or a Senator” from Section 1B

Matt motioned to close debate on the amendment

The amendment failed with a voice vote.

Marius would like to add to Section C “The Senate shall then approve the chosen Administrative Assistant.”

Scott motioned to close debate

The amendment passed with a voice vote.

Kate motioned to close debate

Proposal passed 24-1-3 (See attachment #126) as amended.

- j. GSS-32: An Act to Amend the Constitution and Bylaws to Change Stipend Limits.

Section3: instead of “individual” it should read “graduate student.”
The amendment passed.

Laura motioned to close debate
Proposal passed 23-1-3 (See attachment #127) as amended.

- k. GSS-33: An Act to Amend the Constitution to Include an Alcoholic Beverage Policy.

Kate moved to amend Section 11 to “two” drink tickets.
Marius moved to end debate.
The amendment passed with a voice vote.

Frank moved to strike all but 1, 2, 5, 6, and 10.
Laura moved to end debate.
The amendment failed.

Matt moved to strike 3, 4, 6, and 7.
The amendment failed.

James B moved to strike all but 2.
The amendment passed.

Kate motioned to close debate
Proposal passed 17-7-4 (See attachment #128) as amended.

- l. Amendments to the Graduate Student Senate Finance Policies and Procedures (FS1, FS2, and RS1) as proposed by Laura Sabadini and Barbara Campbell.

FS1
Laura motioned to separate the 3 into separate amendments.
The motion passed.

Andrea motion to close debate
Proposal passed 24-0-4 (See attachment #129)

FS2
Laura motioned to close debate
Motion to close debate
Amendments passed 20-0-4 (See attachment #130)

Kate motioned to extend meeting for 30 minutes to 9:37.
The motion passed with a voice vote.

RS1
James proposed to add the word “solely” after provisions.
The amendment passed with a voice vote.

Laura motioned to close debate.

Proposal passed 16-1-8 (See attachment #131) as amended.

VII. New Business

- a. GSS-34: That the Graduate Student Senate allocate no more than \$740 for a Bar Night sponsored by the Graduate Student Senate and \$100 for the advertising of this event.

See attachment #132. The event will take place on April 26, 2004 at Ted's.

Laura motioned to end debate.

Proposal passed with a voice vote.

- b. GSS-35: Executive Committee Budget for 2004-2005

See attachment #133

Jill motioned to end debate.

Proposal passed with a voice vote.

- c. GSS-36: Activities Budget for Summer 2004

See attachment #134

Jill motioned to end debate.

Proposal passed with a voice vote.

- d. GSS-37: Activities Budget for Fall 2004

See attachment #135

At 9:37 a motion was made to extend the meeting for another 5 minutes.

The motion passed

Frank motioned to end debate.

Proposal passed with a voice vote.

VIII. Other Business

Steve made a brief announcement about his bid for the trustee position.

IX. Announcements

- a. **Friday, April, 16, 2004: The Department of Linguistics** is hosting a Colloquium Series in Linguistics at 4:30 pm, Arjona Building, Room 311. Ken Safir, Rutgers Ex(x)tension and Insularity Check <http://vm.uconn.edu/~wwwling/COLLOFF.HTML> for more information and event updates. Co-sponsored by the Graduate Student Senate.

- b. **Friday, April 16, 2004: The School of Family Studies Graduate Student Association** is hosting a movie night at 7pm at 40A Mount Vernon Drive. Contact Marisa Sotolongo <marisa.sotolongo@uconn.edu> for more information. Sponsored by the Graduate Student Senate.
 - c. **Friday, April 16, 2004: OGSA** general meeting 4:15 Bousfield Building, Room 109 All grads are welcome. Refreshments will be served. Co-sponsored through the Graduate Student Senate. Contact: Laura Sabadini lsabadini@yahoo.com OGSA co-president
 - d. **Monday, April 19, 2004: Spring 2004 Graduate Lecture Series** sponsored by the Graduate Student Senate. Dr. Nancy Humphreys, Professor of Policy and Planning Director of the Institute for the Advancement of Political Social Work Practice. "How to Involve Social Work into Life after Graduate School" 4:00pm in Whetten Graduate Center, Room 200
 - e. **Tuesday, April 20, 2004: Graduate Student Trustee Debate.** Meet the candidates for the graduate student position on the Board of Trustees. Take this chance to ask them questions and discuss various issues before the election. 8:00pm in the Biology/Physics building room 130.
 - f. **Tuesday, April 20, 2004: The Department of Chemistry** will be hosting a seminar at 4 pm in A203 of the New Chemistry Building with refreshments served at 3:45 pm in the 2nd floor atrium. Anne Gaffney, Rohm & Haas Co. - Model Mo-V-Te-O Catalysts for Propane Oxidation to Acrylic Acid: New Fundamental Insights from Studies of Surface Active Sites. Coordinator: robert.bohn@uconn.edu Co-Sponsored by the Graduate Student Senate.
 - g. **Thursday, April 22, 2004: There will be a Trivial Pursuit Tournament** sponsored by the Graduate Student Senate in Student Union room 378 from 5-9pm. Prizes will be awarded to the top teams. Teams (a) must have 4 people (b) do not have to be organized by department (c) cannot have more than one non-grad student. Submit a roster and team name to andrea.knorr@engr.uconn.edu by April 18...no exceptions!!
 - h. **Thursday, April 22, 2004 – Friday, April 23, 2004:** The Department of Chemistry Program for the Spring 2004 Randolph T. Major Lectureship. Symposium Theme: Clinical Proteomics. Contact: robert.bohn@uconn.edu Co-Sponsored by the Graduate Student Senate.
 - i. **Monday, April 26, 2004 – Wednesday, April 28, 2004: Graduate Student Trustee Election.** <http://www.uvote.uconn.edu>
ALL GRADUATE STUDENTS ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE!!!
 - j. **Wednesday, April 28, 2004: Senate Meeting** 7pm in Room 200 of the Whetten Graduate Center.
- Recurring Events:
- k. **Friday, April 16 and 23** from 7pm – 12am and **Sunday, April 18 and 25** from 2pm – 5pm: **Badminton Club** in the UConn Gym. Contact Luo Jianhui jianhui.luo@uconn.edu for more information. Co-Sponsored by the Graduate Student Senate.
 - l. **Friday, April 16 and 23** from 8pm – 11:45pm: **The UConn Graduate Student Volleyball Club** is cordially welcoming every graduate student to join for volleyball games in the field house.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Natasha M. Rabinowitz, Secretary

Attendance for April 14, 2004:

Executive Committee

Adam N. Rabinowitz, President
Kisha Tracy, Vice-President
Natasha M. Rabinowitz, Secretary
Craig Calvert, Treasurer
Jeffrey Arbogast, Parliamentarian
Andrea Knorr, Activities Director

Senators

Hannah Monahan from Molecular and Cell Biology
Ken Moffitt from Molecular and Cell Biology – Alternate
Daniela Sovea from English – At-Large
Jill Magee from Linguistics
Barbara Campbell from English – At-Large
Laura Sabadini from Psychology
Andrea Fuhrel from Psychology
Xin Tong from Molecular and Cell Biology – At-Large
Scott Creamer from Political Science
James Bourbeau from Political Science
Franklin Scott from Philosophy
Carrie Fyler from Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Marius Jurgilas from Economics
Karen Mounsey from History
James Irwin from Civil and Environmental Engineering
Karl Mordhorst from Political Science
Linda Robinson from NEAG
Kim Petrovic from Family Studies
Matt Mutchler from Family Studies
Peter Nemeč from Geography – At-Large
Srivatsan Narasimhan from Mechanical Engineering
Martyn Smith from Geography – At-Large
Dan Grossman from Geography – At-Large
Dave Humphreys from Geography
Kate O’Sullivan from Medieval Studies