

**GSO First Regular Business Meeting Minutes
28 September, 2011, 4:30 @Inn Complete**

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

VP Neary calls for a motion to accept attendance sheet sign in as roll
Motion is made; motion carries

III. Reading and Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes

VP Neary calls for amendments to previous meeting minutes; hearing none, he calls for a motion to accept previous meeting minutes based on senators' prior reading
Motion is made; motion carries

IV. Executive Report

a. Law School Relationship and SPIN fellowships: a historic disagreement prohibited us from associating with the Law School, but we are ready to move on and begin working together.

As we did last year, we will hold a Halloween Benefit in conjunction with the Law School, tentatively scheduled for the 28th of October @9pm.

President Welshans met with the head of the Syracuse Public Interest Network, a non-profit org that holds an auction each year to raise money for law school fellowships. 250, 500, or 1000 dollars would get our name and an advertisement in the program as well as some invitations to the auction, which will take place at the Gifford Zoo on November 11th, 2010.

President asks: would the GSO be interested in contributing?

Student President of College of Law takes the floor:

Ready to rekindle relationship with GSO; cosponsored the Halloween event; looking at ways to make the relationship more official on paper; going to write an appeal to the dean.

Last year, the SPIN auction raised almost \$45,000; helped about 10 law students.

VP Neary indicates that the Executive Board seeks senate discussion and approval on this issue. Questions from the senate and discussions ensue.

Motion to vote whether we will fund: motion carries.

Motion to give the law school \$500 dollars: motion carries.

b. NAGPS Conference (Melissa Welshans)

Email was sent regarding attending the national conference at the end of October. VP Neary will be the executive board member to attend. Conference registration deadline is in 3 weeks; paper proposal deadline is this Saturday.

c. Library Plans and Concerns

President Welshans will be contacting those who are going to be on the library committee.

She has met with Dean Thoren regarding the groundbreaking ceremony, to which the library committee has been invited. This groundbreaking and the arrangements made to keep materials at SU is in direct response to the protests by undergrads and grads several years ago.

The library is looking at ways to divide collections between libraries, tentatively: Bird (humanities) Law (social sciences) Carnegie (science and math); The GSO will be giving input into whether we think the division of resources is appropriate.

d. University Graduate Committee Concerns

Each month President Welshans meets with the grad committee, which is comprised of members from the grad school and deans. There were two proposals in particular she would like the GSO's input on:

1. When PhD students apply to graduate, they are required to upload their dissertations to ProQuest. The grad committee is thinking about relinquishing the option to never have one's dissertation published to the database. President Welshans wants to have a clear waiver process if they do decide to take the option away.

Numbers are requested as far as how many students wanted their dissertations never to be published.

2. Masters' theses are currently printed, bound and stored in the library. The grad committee wants this process to be entirely electronic, President Welshans wants to maintain that there be an opt-out for the process. No one in the GSO seems to object to this idea.

d. Riley Child Care Facility and Child Care Endowment

President Welshans met with the person who is in charge of endowment and advancement. The current issue with the Riley Center is that donated money is currently suspended.

No concrete blueprints for the new Riley Center have been made. 3.5 million has been pledged by the donor but more money needs to be donated for the center to come to fruition. Our endowment has not yet been touched; President Welshans is

working with the Child Care committee to figure out whether we want to present to the senate a different way to use our funds.

V. Special Committee Reports

No special committee reports

VI. Standing Committee Reports

a. Outreach Committee Report (Todd Metcalfe)

Fliers distributed; Grad Student Mixers on Oct 1 & Oct 8 @Inn Complete; Happy Hour on Oct 14 @Inn Complete.

VII. Old Business

a. Elections for At-Large Senators (2 needed) (Patrick Neary)

Candidates

Chris Bianchi – MPA Maxwell (MAXPAC)

Rob Hoffman – Masters International Relations Maxwell

Rebecca Wang – Sociology

Voting commences – senators are instructed to vote for no more than 2 candidates.

It is learned that Rob Hoffman is already a designated rep; the other two candidates are now Senators at Large

b. Committee Assignments

Everyone who sent their preferences email has been placed on a committee; emails have gone out with Doodles in order to organize meetings.

President and VP are ex-officio members of all committees.

VIII. New Business

a. Proposal: Website Special Committee (Jack Mayernik)

We need a committee to update the forms on the website. The main foci of the committee will be to work with other committees who use the forms and make them more web-based and useful. Will work with the webmaster to get the forms live; aiming for completion by the start of the Spring semester.

b. Proposal: Committee to Examine the Structure, Payment, Benefits, and Responsibilities of the E-board (Patrick Dawes)

This committee will examine how duties are currently divided constitutionally and will investigate whether we want to keep things the way they are and if there

is there room to make changes. Open to suggestions, such as splitting positions; adding or deleting positions; looking at pay structures; etc. Chair: Patrick Dawes.

IX. Remarks for the Record

X. Announcements

a. Empty Bowls:

11am-2pm The Warehouse Gallery Downtown : VPA Ceramics Department

b. Ride share plans (Melissa Kizina)

Sign up on the sheets provided to indicate whether you need a ride or can provide rides to meetings. Members can also email gso@syr.edu with the subject line Rideshare to coordinate rides.

c. Events Calendar on Website

We have a new Google calendar on our website. Please email syracusegso@gmail.com two weeks in advance of your event to have it added to the calendar.

XI. Adjournment