

GSO Constitutional Amendment Special Meeting

April 24th, 2013

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
 - a. Formal Roll Call – 29 in Attendance, see 2012-2013 Attendance sheet
 - b. 29 voting Senators in attendance
- III. Resolution 13.11 – Changing Term Limits for Officers
 - a. Motion #1: adopt committee’s recommendation to change the language of this resolution
 - b. Motion #1: carries unanimously
 - c. Motion #2: adopt Resolution 13.11
 - d. Motion #2: carries 27-0
- IV. Resolution 13.12 – Changing SBA Representation
 - a. Question: does this prevent us from creating a non-voting seat for the SBA in the future?
 - i. No.
 - b. Motion #3: adopt Resolution 13.12
 - c. Motion #3: carries 26-0
- V. Resolution 13.13 – Changing Senate Representation
 - a. Comment: makes easier for us to calculate departmental allocations as it will reflect the numbers we receive from the university
 - b. Will still get \$1 per student in the program so long as one senator from your program is in attendance
 - c. Motion #4: adopt Resolution 13.13
 - d. Motion #4: motion fails (23-1)
- VI. Adjournment

GSO Special Budget Meeting

April 24th, 2013

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
 - a. Motion #1: accept the previous roll call
 - b. Motion #1: carries unanimously
- III. Annual Budget
 - a. Motion #2: balanced budget motion – for the remainder of the meeting any proposed increase will have to include a proposal to decrease one or more lines in an equal amount

- i. Question: why propose this motion?
 - 1. Fiscally responsible, would be a disciplining mechanism
- ii. Melissa K: we are currently spending into our rollover, which we have been asked to do, but will keep us from challenging our baseline
- iii. Pat D: budget represents what we can spend without cutting into our emergency fund
 - 1. We receive our money each year as our fees our paid – emergency fund allows us to pay service providers while we are waiting for graduate student fees to come in
- iv. Question: will special programming still be available?
 - 1. Yes, it will actually increase slightly from last year
- v. Question: this motion effectively says we can't debate budget?
 - 1. No, just that any proposal to increase be balanced by appropriate decreases
- vi. Motion #3: end debate
- vii. Motion #3: motion carries
- b. Motion #2: carries 25-2
- c. **Motion #4:** we adopt the budget as recommended by the finance committee as a whole
 - i. Question: is it possible to propose new budget line items?
 - 1. Yes, but given Motion #2 the same amount would have to be cut from somewhere else
 - ii. Question: can departments still apply for additional money?
 - 1. Yes.
 - iii. Melissa: Drumlins changes include Empire Park passes and outdoor golf; the indoor golf option has been eliminated but can move to reintroduce this and could be taken from additional funds available to purchase more rounds of outdoor golf & Empire Park passes
 - iv. Question: why are the Empire Park passes & golf included in a single line?
 - 1. Because these funds have gone to Drumlins in the past and this reflects the fact that Empire State Park Passes and outdoor golf are intended as Drumlins alternatives
 - 2. Given positive response to park passes decided to set aside additional funds if the 400 we have budgeted run out
 - v. Question: what does “excessive food costs” mean? Need to go through SU catering?
 - 1. Pat D: next year plan to centralize food orders through campus catering, which will give organizations access to a 20% discount
 - vi. Question: Outdoor Ed – is there a previous budget for this?

1. No, it is a new program, and this will be their budget for the full year
- vii. Question: Webmaster position is being eliminated – who will be in charge of maintaining our website next year?
 1. Patrick N: plans to take over most of this himself and, if necessary, looking for volunteers or spreading around to the rest of the Eboard
- viii. Question: NGSO – can they still apply for special programming?
 1. Yes. All organizations are always allowed to apply for this.
- ix. Question: why does the president have salary and also a large benefits package?
 1. As our only full time position the president does not have other funding from the university, and this allows them access to health insurance
 2. As a non-employee the president is not allowed to purchase SU health insurance – this benefits package is meant to be comparable to the employer paid portion of the SU health plan
 3. Melissa: the president still pays a significant amount of out of pocket expense for health insurance, this does not cover in full
 4. SU TAs only pay about 22% of the total cost of their health care
- x. Motion #5: combine travel grant subsidy and research travel grant into one line and reduce budget to \$80,000 total
- xi. Motion #5: no second, motion dies
- xii. Question: if we cut money is it on the table to be used for later increases?
 1. Patrick N: no
- xiii. Motion #6: cut \$1,000 chair/senator appreciation/grad school (line C1) from \$3000 to \$2000 (cut chair appreciation dinner), and add divide this amount evenly amongst organizations already receiving money (\$34/organization).
 1. Pat D: better way to redirect funds would be to add money to the special programming pool – every organization you would like to distribute evenly to may not need the money
 2. Melissa K: dinner was a compromise between Melissa’s idea of paying chairs a stipend and doing nothing at all; depends on how the senate views chairs and liaisons; agrees with Pat’s suggestion not to distribute the money evenly if motion is accepted
 3. Question: how many hours a week/month to chairs and liaisons usually spend working?
 - a. Travel grant 8-10 hours per month but a lot of variation

- b. Most chairs do not work that much more than committee members
 - 4. Question: how was money for this year's dinner spent?
 - a. Dinner and sweatshirts
 - b. Not that many people attended
 - 5. Motion #7: cut the appreciation line by \$750 instead of \$1000 and add that \$750 to special programming rather than dispersing evenly to organizations
 - 6. Motion #7: carries unanimously
 - 7. Motion #8: move the question
 - 8. Motion #8: carries unanimously
 - xiv. Motion #6 (amended by Motion #7): carries unanimously (Special Programming increased to \$37,050 and Senator/chair/appreciation decreased to \$2,750)
 - xv. Question: can propose a line item that would go to an organization outside of the university?
 - 1. No, in violation of our fiscal policy.
 - xvi. Motion #9: move to end debate on the annual budget
 - xvii. Motion #9: carries
 - d. **Motion #4: carries unanimously**
- IV. Adjournment

GSO Elections Special Meeting

April 24th, 2013

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
 - a. Motion #1: accept the sign in sheet as roll call
 - b. Motion #1: carries
- III. Executive Board Elections
 - a. President
 - i. Patrick Neary
 - ii. Motion #2: end debate and vote for the president
 - iii. Motion #2: carries
 - iv. Vote (President): no opposition, Patrick Neary elected as President
 - b. Vice President of Internal Affairs
 - i. Todd Metcalfe
 - ii. Vote (Vice President of Internal Affairs): no opposition, Todd Metalfe elected Vice President of Internal Affairs)

- c. Vice President of External Affairs
 - i. Judith Ricks
 - ii. Vote (Vice President of External Affairs): no opposition, Judith Ricks elected Vice President of External Affairs
 - d. Comptroller
 - i. Pat Dawes
 - ii. Vote (Comptroller): no opposition, Pat Dawes elected as Comptroller
 - e. Secretaries (Recording & Financial) will be elected in August
- IV. University Senator Elections
- a. Electing 5 now, 5 in the fall, dual GSO & University Senators
 - b. Expected to sit on at least one committee for each
 - c. Department senators can also run
 - i. Amanda Lashua – alashua@syr.edu
 - ii. Lindsay Burt – lburt@syr.edu
 - iii. Dan Moseson – djmoseso@syr.edu
 - iv. Joonsik Yoon - joyoon@syr.edu
 - v. Vote (all four nominees): no opposition, all four nominees elected
- V. Senator-At-Large-Elections
- a. Courtney O’Dell-Chaib – ceodell@syr.edu
 - b. Evan Andrews – evandrew@syr.edu
 - c. Vote (both nominees): no opposition, both nominees elected
- VI. Adjournment