

GSO Senate First Business Meeting
September 18, 2013
Began at 5:35pm

Accepted sign in sheet as roll call

Executive reports:

- a. Patrick Neary reports on following issues-
 1. Contract timing negotiations- write policy to require departments to notify students if they have a TA contract.
 2. Trustees' update- Choice was well decided upon new chancellor. New chancellor wants to be very transparent with students. This will be very beneficial for the GSO, as well as other programs
 3. NAGPS- National association whose members are GSO's. 75 members from various schools across the country. Benefits from joining, as well as conference offerings to GSO members. NAGPS recently spent 3 days on Capitol Hill lobbying for Graduate students.

National conference Nov 7-10 in Michigan; these are very beneficial conferences to attend. We will be sending Patrick Neary and one other representative from GSO.

4. Budget Issue- We became aware that the number of Grad students previously assumed was not the actual number of this year. The GSO earns its revenue based off the graduate student number.

This creates a \$74,300 drop in GSO revenue from last year's budget. \$56,000 was the supposed deficit roll over from last year. 3 years ago decision was made to spend down the roll over; \$159,000 was the carry over start for this year.

Various avenues explored: If nothing done this year we will need to make large cuts next year, or institute a student fee for next year; student fee for next year is close to impossible (2015-2016 academic year is the intent now).

We will be presenting the idea of budget cuts to be made to this year's academic budget and next year's budget as well. Carry-over of \$20,000-\$30,000 from this year and next year will be in the budget.

Due to there being 900 less students, we will be programming 900 less students than anticipated, so budget cut will not be as detrimental.

Comptroller's Report:

- a. Pat Dawes reports the following issues- Finance committee met (6 members plus Patrick and Todd)
 1. The limitations of cuts we are making this year are due to the fact we are unable to cut from certain aspects of the budget; certain parts are paid out already for this year. The places chosen are where the available cuts were at this point in time. GSO members will be able to make recommendations based on a vote.
 2. No special programming to report at this meeting
 3. Grant programs were a significant cut. We are trying to keep the cut level at 45,000. Cut from section C of the budget. Section A and B were areas which would be too difficult to cut from at this point. (Member questions discussed about deficit and area of community outreach)

Motion from Patrick Neary to move to New Business

New Business:

At Large senator election (4)

- Fletcher Montzingo- **Yes**
- Craig Lee- **Yes**
- Maria Junttila Carson
- Jeanelle Hope- **Yes**
- Hema Maharaj
- Zaid Jilani- **Yes**
- Yoshina Hurgobin

Special Committee reports: None

Standing committee report:

Budget committee budget resolution:

1. Vote to not touch sections A and B leaving section C for discussion. Travel grant was originally made because there was extra money at one point, which allowed for a cut from this line. (see budget cut break down sheet) *discussion about grant program*
 - a. Motion to debate the amount of cuts need to equal \$45,350- debate ended- (Passed)
 - b. Resume debate of where cuts will come from
 - Motion to cut \$5,000 from Special Programming and deposit back into Travel Grant Programming-move to debate- debate ended- objection to end debate- vote to end debate 16-7- (16-7 vote passed)- \$5,000 will be moved to Travel Grant programming
 - Motion to move \$2,500 from Travel Grant to Research Grant- vote to pass (passed unanimously)
 - Motion to move 2,000 from Outreach, moving \$1,000 into Travel Grant and \$1,000 to Research Grant- move to debate-debate ended- vote to pass- objection to vote- (9-16 not passed)

- Motion to end debate on above areas- objected- vote to pass end of overall debate (20-4)- vote to pass discussed areas of cuts (22-1 passed)

Old Business:

Constitutional Amendment:

- Need 2/3 vote; need 26 people and we only have 25. Moved to next meeting.

Remarks for the Record:

Committee and Liaison Assignments:

- Patrick Neary asked for people to sign up to Family Relation committee, Graduate Council, Student Legal Services due to open seats

Announcements:

Events

African American studies department symposium, 9/20, Rm 219, 9am-6pm

“Let’s Talk About Water” film 9/20 @ Watson Theatre 4:45 PM-7 PM

Beer tasting 9/26 @ Inn Complete 7:30 PM

Ceramics fundraiser 9/27 @ Warehouse downtown; 20 dollar tickets

Student Outreach

LGBT committee is looking to know how they can better serve the grad student community
Diversity Committee would like to know how they can create more diversity on campus with graduate students

Other

We will be reviewing the budget towards the end of the year, so keep up with any questions

Adjourned @ 7:22 pm