

GSO Senate sixth Meeting  
Feb 19, 2014

Began at 5:34

- I. Sign In sheet accepted for roll /call
- II. Minutes approved from last meeting

I. President's Reports

a. Child Care and Family Leave Policies

- A new committee has been set up to look at these issues.
- The committee is being created because of a lack of other entities doing this
- Grad students were mentioned as a major constituent to be heard regarding this issue
- Anyone interested in being on the committee let Patrick Neary know

b. Dean Searches

- New Deans are going to be selected for the Arts and Sciences, Education, and library
- Grad students will be represented on the selection committees. GSO is hoping to have some senators on these boards

c. New SA Partnerships

- Patrick Neary is working to improve our relationship with the Undergraduate student body.
- SA runs weekend busses on Sunday's out to Wegaman's and Target that we are able to take advantage of
- The buses will run on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, April 6<sup>th</sup>, and April 27<sup>th</sup>
- The busses will leave on the hour starting at NOON at College Place.
- The SA pays for them and are under currently underutilized, so it is ok that we use them. Make sure to have your SU ID on you

d. Parking Transit Board

- Additional bussing for Nob Hill and James Street routes has been discussed with Ale, but there hasn't been much movement.
- We, the GSO, are interested in collecting data about this issue. In the past Parking Transit has done test programs, but didn't have much of a turn out.
- Week day bussing is currently sufficient in Ale's eyes, so movement on that issue is stalled at the moment
- When the bus passes you at either of these stops, take a video and send the video to **Gso.syr.edu**

e. Chancellors Inauguration

- Friday, April 11th
- There will be different activities happening
- Patrick Neary would like a student speaker to talk at this, maybe a couple, to speak upon their reflections of the university thus far and where it can go

II. Comptroller Report

a. Finance committee had met and is reporting on possible fee increase.

- After looking at the lines of where we are actually spending out funds, our current level is sustainable, and the committee is not recommending that we follow through with a fee increase for next year
- Finance recommendation passed by senate

b. Special Programming

- SUPRA- asked for funding due to fee increases of where their meeting place is. \$1,230 requested- recommend to fund in full. – passed

- History- asked for funding to finish covering some leftover expenses- \$200 requested- recommend to fund in full- passed

- SPIC MACAY- asked for funding for their spring event- \$2030 requested- recommend to fund in full- passed

- Turkish Student Association- asked for funding for graduation picnic event- asked for \$351- recommend to not fund event because it didn't fall in line of the view of the GSO- it is an off campus event and not educational, nor is it stated to be open to the entire campus- Representatives from the association were present to talk- the association is open to the SU community, is mainly graduate students- reviewed application as a senate- deliberation between senators and association members- call to question- passed- in favor of accepting finance recommendation-passed.

- Turkish Student Association- asked for funding for TSA talk series- \$184.48 requested- recommend to fund in full- passed

III. Standing committee reports

a. Travel Grant Committee

- Have met with the finance committee about budgeting for grants. Some amendments have been made to clarify the language of the rubric, and the policy of the grants has been updated online
- This semester there are 4 deadlines- February 1st, March 1st, April 1st, and

April 15th

- received 69 travel 18 research for the Feb deadline

- **See attached for numbers pertaining to accepted applications and money given**

- Travel grants mostly are to conferences- geared towards conference activities

- Judy brings about issue if students should be able to get both travel and research- in favor of ending debate- passed-motion to refer this issue to the grant/agenda committee- failed- motion that an applicant can only receive one grant a year- move to end debate- passed- in favor of having only one grant being awarded per applicant per academic year- passed

b. Amanda Lashua- Women's Concerns

- 2 big things they are working on- family and child care issues- grad students on campus are having issues getting the proper care needed regarding their families- It has been brought to the attention that the term Graduate Students has never been put into the language regarding this

- Creation of a program called Omni-buds- allows for people to have a third party individual to speak with about issues concerning student problems in regards to professors, program directors, personal problems, etc. – requests go to the chancellor's office

c. Dan Moseson- LGBTQA

- working on changes in the university athletics statement- Would like to change the dress code policy to not have gender based clothes required when working out, and when coaches should be in the locker room, among other areas.

IV. Old business  
None

V. New Business

VI. Remarks for the record

VII. History Grad Student conference March 21st

Extra:

1. March 16-18, 3 people can go to the national conference for student government in Boston. Peta and Pat are going. Contact Pat for more details.
2. Minimum TA pay is set for \$13,000 for next year for a 20 hour contract. Increases are still in the works.

End 6:40 PM

# Travel and Research Grant Committee Report –Feb. 2014.

Presented by: Peta Long, Co-Chair for Travel and Research Grants Committee

Compiled by: Peta Long & Nyasha Boldon

Date: February 19, 2014

## **Brief Update:**

As per the mandate set by this senate to meet with Finance Committee regarding Grants, we have met, and will meet again before the set deadline to report findings to the Senate.

In our fall rap up meeting in December, the committee addressed a number of issues that stemmed from policy and grants reviews, as well as the issues raised as a result of meeting with the Finance Committee. We have amended our RUBRIC language which was a bit ambiguous. Additionally, changes were made to the website to reflect the notions of merit-based awards and to highlight resources and links that would help applicants. Changes have been made to the Grant Policy Document also, which is available online.

This semester there are 4 deadlines, the first of which was on February 1. This deadline had a cohort of research grant applicants as well as a cohort of travel grant applicants.

## **Travel Grants**

In total our team received and reviewed 69 Travel Grants application, and of those 57% Travel Grants received funding amounting to \$7,975. Overall, the total number of Travel Grants awarded thus far amounts to a total of \$16,875.

## **Research Grants**

In total our team received and reviewed 18 Research Grants application, and of those 78% Research Grants received funding amounting to \$6,106.92. Overall, the total number of Research Grants awarded thus far amounts to a total of \$6,831.75