

# Agenda

GSO Business Meeting

December 3, 2014

Life Sciences 105

5:30 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
  - a. We have 50% of the Senate in attendance
- III. Confirmation of Minutes
  - a. No need to confirm the minutes from the last senate meeting
  - b. They Will be confirmed in the Senate meeting in January
- IV. Procedure
  - a. In this discussion the Internal VP will try to remain neutral
  - b. Questions will be referred to Patrick
- V. President's Statement
  - a. President is addressing the E-Board decision to Veto the Resolution
  - b. After the resolution was passed in the November Senate meeting, the E-Board elected to veto the Resolution
  - c. The Resolution that was passed did not properly define the Omnibudsman program
  - d. The E Board felt that the definition needed clarity, and vetoed the Resolution and call for a special Senate meeting
  - e. There are communication issues that need to be addressed about this Resolution
  - f. The E Board acknowledges the input from the Senators and others who were involve dint the Resolution
- VI. Statement from Vicky Wang
  - a. Senate committee member
  - b. Vicki knows the Omnibudsman program and can give information about what the program is
    - i. She also has handouts for the Senators

- c. Vicki is going to explain an Omnibudsman
  - i. Definition of an Omnibudsman is a person that helps students deal with problems they are having ‘
  - ii. An Omnibudsman is confidential and students should feel free to come forward with any issues that they have
  - iii. Omnibudsman office reports to the chancellor
  - iv. To insure confidentiality, the Omnibudsman office can have it written into their charter document that they must remain confidential and not reveal any information about the individuals that express concerns to them
  - v. They also facilitate or act as a mediator between groups with conflicting problems
  - vi. There are 300 universities in the US that have such an office’
    - 1. The Omnibudsman office that would be at Syracuse University would be open to students, faculty, and staff
  - vii. Vicki list her concerns about the previous Resolutions definition of Omnibudsman; she list her concerns in her handout
    - 1. She feels that the Resolution should have stated the duties of the office, their function, etc.
    - 2. The resolution did not state the motivation to start an Omnibudman office; it is needed because of the structure of the university

## VII. New Business

- a. Before the new business is discussed there was a 3 minute break for those people to sign in, and roll to be taken again
- b. Resolution 15.12 – Definition and Proposal for an Ombudsman Office
  - i. Floor open to debate
    - 1. Question: Why weren’t the issues raised in the debate?
      - a. These issues were brought to the attention of the E Board; that factored into the decision to veto and hold a special meeting
    - 2. There is concern about the GSO compromising and following other Student groups in forming an Omnibudsman program or office
    - 3. President moves to postpone voting on this resolution until the January Senate meeting
      - a. It has been seconded; Open for debate
      - b. Debate

- i. There is a move to postpone and create a committee of senators
- ii. Vicki states that there is work being done between the university and other Omnibudsman programs at other universities (this is confidential information as it is in progress.)
- iii. The ad hoc committee would be the ones to refer issues to and ask questions about the Omnibudsman program
- iv. Move to Amend the motion and have a Senate elected ad hoc committee
  1. IT has been seconded
- v. Debate on this motion
  1. There is a question about why there can't be appointments to the committee instead of electing the committee by the senate
  2. In the interest of disclosure there are some that would like the E Board to appoint members to this committee
  3. This motion is recorded
- vi. Moving to Vote
  1. All in favor to vote on electing the committee
  2. 1 for, others against
    - a. Motion fails on electing the committee
- vii. Debate continues on whether to postpone this Resolution until the January meeting
  1. There is feeling that there needs to be time to consider the viewpoints; that is the reason to postpone until January meeting
  2. Others feel that the Resolution is fine and we should vote on it instead of postponing it until January
- viii. Moves to Question;
  1. It is seconded

- ix. Vote on motion
  - 1. All in favor; debate ended
- x. Voting on referring the motion to committee
  - 1. Motion fails;
- xi. Move that the language be changed to Omnibusperson to be gender neutral
  - 1. NO debate; it will be changed to Omnibusperson
- xii. Debate on the language of the motion
  - 1. Motion to change language  
“the issues brought forth by The General Body”
  - 2. No debate; motion passes to change language
  - 3. Motion to strike “inevitably”
  - 4. Debate
    - a. Some feel that “inevitable” is the correct word to use given the circumstances of the situation
    - b. Others feel that the word “inevitable” is correctly used in this
  - 5. Call to Question
  - 6. Move to a vote
    - a. 20 in favor, 1 opposed, 3 abstaining
  - 7. Vote on striking “inevitably”
    - a. 6 in favor, 15 opposed, 3 abstaining
    - b. Motion fails; we will not strike “inevitably”
  - 8. Motion to vote on the Resolution
    - a. Question of the “Whereas” in the Resolution
  - 9. Call to question

a. Vote on voting on the motion

i. 21 in favor, 0, 2  
abstaining

ii. Motion passes

b. Vote on passing the motion

i. 22 in favor, 1 against, 1  
abstaining

ii. Motion passes

10.Resolution 15.12 passes

c. Resolution 15.08 – Calling for an Investigation of Administrative Actions  
Towards THE General Body

i. Debate

1. Motion to amend the last line of the Resolution

a. Motion to strike “Ask” and say “Instruct”

i. All in favor of this motion; it passes

2. Question of what is to be investigated

a. IT is not about the Chancellor but his team being  
investigated

3. There is a question about endorsing this resolution  
perhaps putting a bad light on the Chancellor

4. Question: Whom would investigate the Chancellor’s team

a. The Chancellor would have to because no other  
entity could investigate satisfactorily

5. Motion to amend Resolved; that the President ask to  
Chancellor to appoint an independent arbitrator

a. No Second; motion dies on the floor

6. Call to question

a. Seconded

b. Voting on the motion

i. 21 in favor, 1 opposed, 2 abstaining

ii. Motion carries

7. Vote on motion as written,

a. 18 in favor, 0 opposed, 4 abstaining

b. Passed without dissent

VIII. Eggers 010 is where the meetings for spring will be held.

IX. Adjournment