

Minutes

GSO Regular Business Meeting

October 21, 2015

Life Sciences 105

5:30 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
 - a. 34 voting members present (21 people need to vote to pass amendment)
- III. Executive Reports
 - a. President
 - i. GSO Office: Safe Space
 1. Can sent an email about SPSS training; E-Board has signed up to receive training
 - 2.
 - ii. Academic integrity Week and Tournament
 1. AI office held events at 3 locations to raise awareness about Academic Integrity
 2. GSO was asked to attend
 3. This Friday, there is a tournament; brainstorming session with representatives on how to improve academic integrity among the university
 4. There are between 220 and 270 violations reported per academic year
 - iii. New Travel Policy: Clarification
 1. There is confusion about the new travel policy
 2. Students are exempt from the new Travel policy
 3. IT should be clear of this fact-students that are not traveling on official University business (School committee, etc.) do not have to use Concur-Conferences are NOT University Business
 4. Can will send out an email that clarify the travel policy as it relates to the travel policy and GSO travel grants versus University/Department funded travel funding
 5. Patrick moves that the GSO urges Graduate School to clarify the travel policy; seconded
 6. Debate
 - a. There is concern that asking for clarification will force students to use Concur
 - i. Can believes that this will not be the case
 7. Move to vote; seconded
 - a. 34 in favor; motion passes unanimously
 8. There will be a follow-up next week
 - iv. Types of Graduate awards

1. Last week there was a discussion with the university about concerns with the kind of assistantships at the university
 - a. Cuts of benefits to the positions, positions are becoming hourly-changes in hourly rates
 2. This Monday data was collected, but it wasn't discussed
 3. There will be a meeting next week to discuss the data findings; Can will report to the senate next meeting
- b. Comptrollers Report
- i. Recommendations
 1. Fund SUPRA: Refugee Reflections with Habiba-\$400
 - a. Working with refugees to transition into American life
 - b. Asking to fund campus catering
 - c. Debate: None
 - d. Move to vote
 - i. 33 in favor; 1 abstention; 0 against-motion passes
 2. Fund BCC Annual Budget: Reading Series-\$1210
 - a. Requested special funding; there was a confusion with the deadline date last year
 - b. Holding 4 more of the reading series this academic year
 - c. Funds for food, interpreter, etc.
 - d. Debate: None
 - e. Move to vote
 - i. 33 in favor, 0 opposed; 2 abstentions-motion passes
 3. Fund APDS: Symposium
 - a. Conference in D.C; networking event
 - b. Bring in faculty and students
 - c. Previous funding of 2k last year
 - d. Funds for room rental in D.C
 - e. Debate
 - i. There is concern about the meeting being held in D.C. This means that the rest of the graduate student population isn't able to attend
 1. Moving the conference to DC is more beneficial to the group
 - ii. How many SU students attend?
 1. 25 students at this time; there is no previous data from last year
 - iii. There is a lot of support from alumni in DC
 - iv. There is concern that none of the organizations are present in the meeting to give more information on their funding
 - v. There is concern about the symposium being held in D.C.
 - vi. All organizations were present at the Finance committee meeting
 - f. Move to vote
 - i. 22 in favor; 9 opposed; 4 abstentions-motion passes
- c. Outreach Report

- i. Sam is ill and not in attendance
 - d. IVP Report
 - i. Sexual Assault taskforce
 - 1. The week of Nov. 16th there will be documentaries being shown to bring awareness
 - ii. Sexual Assault Training
 - 1. Sam met with Caitlyn; NY state law requires that RSO be trained
 - 2. It is required to be an RSO
 - 3. Sam will send an email to confirm the trainings; we will try to schedule the trainings on Saturday or after senate meeting
 - 4. If you have a specific date in mind email Sam
 - 5. There is a movement to take the training online

IV. Old Business

- a. Report from the Ad-Hoc Committee on Unionization
 - i. Can and Sam have spoken to this Committee
 - 1. The committee will send a report by next week
 - ii. Sam makes a motion that this group send this report by the next meeting
 - iii. Debate
 - 1. Move to amend the motion-the report be sent 3 days before the next senate meeting
 - 2. Move to vote on the amendment; seconded
 - a. 34 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 abstention-motion passed
 - iv. Move to vote; seconded
 - 1. 34 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 abstention-motion passes
- b. Resolution 16.03 – A Resolution to Alter the Budgeting Procedures for Recognized Graduate Student Organizations
 - i. Altering the Budget procedures, must pass by a 2/3 vote of voting senators (22 must be in favor) to pass a by-law amendment
 - ii. Determining a percentage to allocate monies to RSO
 - iii. Organizations backed by a department will be given a flat amount; organizations not backed by a department a flat amount; seconded
 - iv. Amendment posed; seconded
 - 1. Moved that language be fixed
 - 2. “GSO is bound by the fiscal policy”, procedures will be made public on the GSO website, give an effective date (April 15th), distinguishing between regular special programming and start up funds
 - 3. Debate
 - a. Why not before April 15th?
 - i. To coincide with the Annual budget meeting
 - b. Move to vote; on the amendment; seconded
 - i. 35 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions-motion passes-amendment
 - v. Debate on the Resolution
 - 1. Why not have have a flat threshold and add on students that you have?
 - a. The student organizations not backed by department don’t have those numbers looked at.
 - b. It doesn’t make a different mathematically

2. Student groups associated with the department are their RSO; purpose is to organize students of that department
 3. What is the flat amount
 - a. The finance committee will decide, and bring to the senate at the Annual budget meeting at the end of the year-the senate can edit that number
 4. IS their any flexibility for student organizations with broad interest?
 - a. The amount will be the same
 5. Will there be more special programming
 - a. We cannot tell at this time
 6. This change is being made because there is a shift in many of the RSO yearly, and there is fluctuating amounts that are being asked for
 7. Article 8 Sec. 2
 - a. This is to prevent a deadlock in the senate that will create problems for future senate
 8. What if the finance committee doesn't propose a budget?
 - a. The finance committee will always propose a budget
 - b. The finance committee is constitutionally ordered to pass a budget
- vi. Move to vote; seconded
1. 31 in favor; 1 opposed; 3 abstentions-motion passes
- V. New Business
- a. No new business
- VI. Announcements
- a. Upcoming Events
 - i. Next Senate Meeting – November 11, 2015
 - ii. 10/29 Halloween Trivia, 9-11, Inn Complete
 - iii. 11/7 Karaoke Night 9-12 am, Inn Complete
 - iv. 12/5 Paint to De-stress: Paint Night, TBD, Inn Complete
 - b. Delegation for NAGPS conference will be traveling next month
 - i. There will be elections for this meeting; there can be absentee nomination
 - ii. There are regional board and national board positions open
 - iii. Talk to Peta if interested
 - iv. Student workers right, health insurance, grad student debt, visa validation, OPPT training will be discussed at the conference
 - v. Nov. 18th is the Call congress day-
 1. Contact Peta if interested
 - c. Thanks to everyone that attended the Cider tasting; we almost reached capacity at the Inn Complete
- VII. Motion to adjourn
- VIII. Adjournment