

Minutes

GSO Fifth Regular Business Meeting

January 20, 2016

Crouse-Hinds Hall 010

5:30 pm

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Sam Leitemann, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.
- II. Roll Call
 - a. Motion to approve the sign-in sheet as roll call was approved.
- III. Executive Reports
 - a. President
 - i. Brief recap of last semester
 1. The new website will be rolled out soon-There will be more information on the new website
 2. Student health insurance
 - a. The university will not require grad students to have health insurance
 - b. The Senate asked for Can to have someone talk to us about health insurance
 - c. They are still waiting on data
 - d. Hopefully someone from health services or another representative will be at the next meeting on Feb. 10th
 - e. There will be three focus groups-next one on Jan 27th at 5:30pm- to talk about health insurance with the university
 - f. Can will share the dates with the Senate, and the entire graduate student population
 - g. If there are any question email Can
 - h. Graduate employee health insurance-the employees are good for this year
 - i. The committee is forming at the end of this month- focusing on Graduate employee benefits
 - ii. Representative will be reporting to the Senate
 3. Travel Policy
 - a. There have been problems with the travel policy-
 - b. For now, If you can show cheaper options that Concur can't accommodate, you will be reimbursed
 - c. The travel policy team is working on reforming the policy-Can will have more later on
 - d. Outside speakers don't have to go through Concur
 - e. Students don't have to use concur for nonacademic conference travel
 4. GSO Surplus

- a. We presented the recommendation—we will be spending \$100K of the surplus
 - b. The finance committee will make recommendations at the next meeting
 - ii. Looking ahead, upcoming work
 - b. Internal VP Report
 - i. New senators are not on the Listserv, please talk to Sam to be added to the Listserv
 - ii. NAGPS
 - 1. Association that serves graduate and professional student interest
 - 2. They lobby for student interest
 - 3. Talk to Sam for more information
 - 4. There are several conferences coming up
 - 5. Sam is the Social Justice chair—student rights, employment issues—talk to Sam if there are any concerns
 - iii. New Members
 - 1. The meetings will be run by Robert’s Rules
 - 2. Question raised about the GSO Senate Committee: See gradorg.syr.edu/senate/committee
 - a. All Senators should be on a committee
 - b. Adhoc NAGPS, and DayCare Committee are looking for members
 - c. Look for upcoming email about committee progress
- IV. Old Business
- V. New Business
 - a. Election for Vice President of External Affairs
 - i. Nominees: Souradeep Sinha (Sinha); Bly Valentine (Priscilla); Rahul Goyal (Rahul); Komal Dilshad (Komal)
 - ii. Results: Komal Dilshad is elected
 - b. Election for Vacant University Senate Position (2 positions available)
 - i. Nominees: Rob Trudo; Brandi Williams; Yanqing Hu (Veronica); Rahul Goyal
 - ii. Results: Ron Trudo; Brandi Williams are elected
- VI. Announcements
 - a. Next Senate Meeting – February 10
 - b. Potential for a move in meetings
 - c. Teaching Mentor information session: see Graduate student Newsletter for more information. Comes with a paid position over the summer, being a teaching mentor for orientation.
 - d. Spring Legislative Action Day in Washington D.C. is March 12 – 14, looking for volunteers
 - e. Northeast Regional Conference for NAGPS is April 1, looking for volunteers
- VII. Adjournment - 6:50 PM