



## **GSO Senate Regular Business Meeting Minutes**

**January 24, 2018**

**Life Science Room 105**

**5:30pm**

### **I. Call to Order**

- a. Rikki Sargent called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

### **II. Roll Call**

- a. 32 voting Senators were present from various departments for the initial roll call
- b. The following officers were present: Jack Wilson, Rikki Sargent, Joshua Fenton, Sweta Roy, Zoey.

### **III. Invite Guest – Christopher Burke from Student Legal Services**

- a. Motion made to allow Student Legal Service Representative to briefly speak to the Senate Body about their services
  - i. Voted yes (14), no (5), abstain (4)
  - b. Christopher Burke's speech  
Two attorneys at the office. A organization funded by the GSO and SA. He is here to talk about the miscommunication and to introduce what they do.
    - ii. Student legal organization. Not affiliated with SU and ESF. Independent office
    - iii. Various legal, criminal, divorce, family traffic, landlord and tenant issue, security. Only in onagonda county.
    - iv. There's a paralegal who has been 25 years and he has been there for 20 years.
    - v. We see 1000 cases per year. Graduate students take more advantage of it compared to undergraduate,
    - vi. Always happy to sit down and consult with people about eg: job contract, legal advice,
    - vii. They don't do tax or immigration cases
  - b. Senate Questions: How often do people sue the SU? Ans: Not many cases suing the school. And how much does it cost? Ans: Free legal services. No attorney fee but you need to pay traffic fee or whatever the judge makes you pay depending on the outcome of the case. Do part time graduate students have the privilege? Ans: It should. How do you handle interstudent dispute? Ans: We can't represent one over the other.

### **IV. Invite Guest- Undergraduate Daily Orange Reporter**

- a. Outcome of vote: yes Voted yes ( )14, no (5), abstain (4)

**V. Approval of Previous Minutes**

- a. Before approving: Rikki introduced new addition to the agenda : addition to her report and addition to number of university senates
  - i. any objections: no answer
- b. Present previous minutes; vote will occur at current business meeting**
  - i. Debate ended with no comments
  - ii. Minutes approved with a voice vote.
  - iii. Voted yes (22), no (1), abstain (5)

**VI. Executive, Committee, and Other Leadership Reports**

**a. President's Report**

- i. The Tax Bill*
  - 1. Thank everyone for their work at the tax bill
- ii. Off-Campus Transportation*
  - 1. New Euclid shuttle that runs during the weekend. A change in east campus bus and detours in Price Rite. A couple graduate students complained that it took 5 minutes to price rite from westcott but 55 back. Discussing
- iii. Ombud's Office*
  - 1. *There will be an ombuds office and active by the end of the spring semester*
- iv. Employee Health Insurance
  - 1. Student plan is cheaper but more coverage and we can get discounted rates.
  - 2. GSO has been involved heavily.
  - 3. Expect some activity and plan to happen by April
  - 4. Rikki: Next meeting we will have representatives to talk about the issue

**b. Internal VP's Report**

- i. Sexual Assault and Harassment Training*
  - 1. Deadline about the training is February 16. Reminding everyone to complete the training
  - 2. Required by state law.
- ii. SU Values Input
  - 1. During the sequential meeting, one the discussion was what is the value of SU. Rikki wanted input from the senate about what they think Syracuse University Values are so she can present

**c. External VP's Report**

i.

**d. Comptroller's Report**

- i. Excre fund: \$400*
  - 1. Tell senate board meeting that we gave \$400 to fund Rajesh to go to the NAGPS meeting from the executive board excretionary fund.

ii. *SUGGS Special Programming Application*

1. Finance Committee recommendation will be presented; debate and vote will occur at current business meeting
  - a. SUGGS asking fund for the annual student symposium from central new york organized by SUGGS and the Department of Earth science. Held Saturday on April 14, 2018. They have been doing as a graduate student for five years. Gained professional experience and communication skills. Based their proposal on their previous outcome. This is the only central new york event for earth science events.
  - b. Requesting fund (\$1,755) for trip from the Finance Committee
  - c. Amount requested includes Keynote speaker travel expenses, party rental, catering and supplies.
  - d. Finance Committee recommends to provide \$1,755 to SUGGS
  - e. Lot of students will be benefited for this trip.
  - f. Question about ticket revenue.
  - g. Voice Vote: Debate ended and motion made to vote.
  - h. After the voting for the recommendation to fund **\$1,755** with a result of YES: 26 Senators, NO: 0 Senators, abstain:0 Senator, the amount of **\$1,755** will be granted to SUGGS.

**e. Financial Secretary's Report**

- i. No Report

**f. Recording Secretary's Report**

- i. No Report

**VII. Old Business**

- i. No old business

**VIII. New Business**

**a. Elections**

*i. University Senator (5)*

1. Position discussed with the Senate.
  - a. Justification for current open seats: class time conflict, internship and graduation.
2. They represent graduate student body in University Senate
3. There are total 10 University Senator
4. They must attend all University Senate and GSO Senate meetings.
5. University Senator must be part of at-least one GSO committee.
6. Nominations –
  - a. Nominated by Jack Wilson: Khem Raj Sedhai
  - b. Nominated by Senator: Christina Parsons
  - c. Self Nomination: Dawn Hollie
  - d. Self Nomination: Brenden
  - e. Nominated by Rajesh: Nodira Azizova

7. Voting Outcome

- a. After the voting with a result of YES: 23 Senators, NO: 0 Senator, abstain:1 Senator, **Khem Raj Sedhai** has been nominated as a University Senator.
- b. After the voting with a result of YES: 24 Senators, NO: 0 Senator, abstain:1 Senator, **Christina Parsons** has been nominated as a University Senator.
- c. After the voting with a result of YES: 25 Senators, NO: 0 Senator, abstain:1 Senator, **Dawn Hollie** has been nominated as a University Senator.
- d. After the voting with a result of YES: 25 Senators, NO: 0 Senator, abstain:1 Senator, **Brenden Reaney** has been nominated as a University Senator.
- e. After the voting with a result of YES: 25 Senators, NO: 0 Senator, abstain:1 Senator, **Nodira Azizova** has been nominated as a University Senator.

ii. *Senator-at-Large (3)*

1. Position discussed with the Senate.
2. There are total 6 At-large Senator.
3. They must attend all GSO Senate meetings.
4. Senator-at-large must be part of at-least one GSO committee.
5. Nominations – No nominations. Will be discussed in the next meeting.

b. **Motion to present a new resolution:** GSO Resolution on divestments from for-profit prisons

- i. Resolution was read and presented by Dante Dauksz and is open for discussion.
- ii. Motion to amend the last sentence which states, this would involve divesting from CoreCivic (CXW) and The Geo Group (GEO).
  1. No second
- iii. Motion to amend: Rewording the last resolved statement: The Graduate Student Organization of Syracuse University declare its collective support for Syracuse University to investigate the ethical behavior of other corporations in which it currently invests
  1. Second
  2. Motion to vote (voice vote) to end debate.
  3. Vote to keep the amendment:
    - a. After the voting with a result of YES: 6 Senators, NO: 21 Senator, abstain:4 Senator.
- iv. Motion to end debate (voice
- v. Vote on the current resolution:
  1. After the voting with a result of YES: 30 Senators, NO: 1 Senator, abstain: 0 Senator.

**IX. Remarks for the Record**

- a. GSO turns 50 this year: We will celebrate
- b. Bring your friends for Senator at Large seats
- c. Request for chocolate

**X. Announcements**

- a. Next Meeting: February 14, 2018 (Life Sciences 105)

**XI. Adjournment**

- a. Meeting adjourned at 6:41 pm