



November 1, 2023

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### **Executive Summary**

The GSO Senate convened for its third regular senate meeting on November 1, 2023, at 5:30 PM in the Maxwell Auditorium. At the meeting, the Syracuse Graduate Employee United (SGEU) Bargaining Committee introduced themselves and gave a brief history of the SGEU and invited graduate students to their next meetings. Alex Scrivner was elected as an at-large senator and Becca Vinciguerra was confirmed as the new Vice President of External Affairs. Three Registered Student Organizations (Biology Graduate Student Organization, Emerging Museum Professionals Network at Syracuse, and Delta Delta Epsilon Honor Society) requested and were awarded various funding requests.

**1. Call to order at 5:40 PM**

**2. Approval of previous meeting minutes – 5:41 PM**

- a. View October meeting minutes [here](#).

**3. Review of Senate House Rules – 5:44 PM**

**4. Invited Guests – 5:50 PM**

- a. The Syracuse Graduate Employee United Bargaining Committee

i. Introduction and staff – Roger Rosena

ii. SGEU History – Cassidy Thomas

1. Path to Power

a. Fall 2021 – Spring 2022

i. Build and organizing committee

ii. Re-developed organizational infrastructure

iii. Spread the word

b. Summer 2022 – fall 2022

i. Developed a strategic plan

ii. On the ground organizing

iii. Continue to grow organizational capacity: more organizing committee members, more departmental representatives

iv. Collecting union authorization cards

b. Questions

i. CJ Arnell – of all the issues that you are working on, which ones do you think the university administration will push back on?

1. Economic issues, anything money-related

2. A lot of the things that they are looking for might be a little shocking to the university administration, so the most important thing is to stand together

ii. Bertram Probyn – in some ways, increasing healthcare subsidies is better than increasing gross pay. Healthcare subsidies come out of net pay so they have already been taxed, but if the money went to increase gross pay, it would be further taxed. Therefore, we would get less benefits from that because the tax in gross pay depends on where you are coming from.

iii. Michael Ammourey - when should we expect to see results on the economic issues such as new contracts, increase in salary, and is there any target in mind like what percent increase you are going to start negotiating on?

1. Cassidy Thomas: We cannot guarantee a timeline. We feel that as a bargaining committee we are making rather than good progress and operating at a good pace right now with

the administration. We do not want to get into the specific questions of negotiation strategy.

2. Bridget Mack: the more participation we get from you all, the more we can go to admin and say “this is what people want”
- iv. Jadrien Paustian – what tactics is the administration able to use to stall? Is there any sort of legal binding where they have to be meeting with a certain frequency or is it primarily the threat of a strike?
  1. Roger Rosena: We have been meeting frequently. We met twice this week. We met last week once. Usually it’s once or twice a week. Ideally it is trying to keep up with this pace. We have been bargaining in good faith on both sides. Usually most things can be handled in-house.

**5. Elections – 6:26 PM**

- a. Alex Scrivener - At-Large Senator
  - i. 34 Yes, 9 No, 2 Abstain

**6. Executive Reports – 6:35 PM**

- a. Daniel Kimmel – President
  - i. View report [here](#).

**7. Confirmation Hearing – 6:41 PM**

- a. Becca Vinciguerra for Vice President of External Affairs
- b. Daniel Kimmel opening remarks
- c. Becca speech
- d. Questions
  - i. Do you plan to step down as DEIA chair?
    1. It is currently an ongoing conversation with the rest of the executive board, but I assure you that that was a conversation during the interview process. And regardless of the capacity in my involvement in whatever position I hold will ensure that initiatives for diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility are promoted whether in this position or in that position.
  - ii. Michael Ammoury – could you give us soe more details about the numbers, budget-wise, how do you plan to spend the remaining budget on each of these budgets?
    1. A lot of the initiatives and goals I have do not require a budget. Moving forward we plan to have monthly events, but we are making it a priority that the majority of the money that we have left will be put towards the spring picnic.
- e. Private debate

- i. Rashida Thomas – “Senator Scrivner gave notice on October 14. The confirmation was held on October 30. What happened in that intervening period? And I did not receive any communication, why was nothing communicated to the Senate about the transition?”
  - 1. Institutionally resignations are reported to the Senate at the next regular meeting. The former submitted a letter which was two weeks' notice so the last day in office was yesterday. So in preparation for that, we asked for recommendations because the constitution basically gives a kind of power appointment to the E board to fill positions by the next regular meeting so we had two weeks. Alex worked with us on that process to identify people, interviewed them.
  - ii. Michael Ammourey – how many people were interviewed?
- f. Voting
  - i. 34 yes, 11 No, 3 Abstain

#### **8. Internal Vice President Report – 7:01 PM**

- a. State of the Senate
- b. State of the committees
  - i. Executive Board Advisory Council (EBAC) Meeting 3 is scheduled for Wednesday, November 22 at 5:30 PM
  - ii. Currently 105 committee members across all committees
  - iii. State of the RSOs
    - 1. 26 Academic RSOs, 23 in good standing.

#### **9. Parliamentarian’s Report – 7:04 PM**

- a. Submitted a memo to the Senate detailing the differences between a motion to discharge a committee and an excusal of duty to clarify an answer to a question during confirmation hearing.
  - i. View memo [here](#).
- b. Parliamentarian office hours on Thursdays at 10 AM in person and by Zoom.

#### **10. External Vice President’s Report – 7:06 PM**

- a. View report [here](#).

#### **11. Comptroller’s Report – 7:12 PM**

- a. View report [here](#).
- b. Motion to edit the GSO Fiscal Policies
  - i. Motion passes with majority vote

#### **12. Funding Requests – 7:41 PM**

- a. Biology Graduate Student Organization (\$1330) – 7:45 PM
  - i. Motion to increase the budget by \$420, to \$1,750 – CJ Arnell
    - 1. Vote: 19 Yes, 4 No
  - ii. Motion for \$1750 funding

1. 17 Yes, 10 No, 2 Abstain
- b. Emerging Museum Professionals Network at Syracuse – 8:12 PM
  - i. 27 Yes, 2 No, 0 abstain
- c. Delta Delta Epsilon Honor Society – 8:17 PM
  - i. 26 Yes, 5 No, 0 Abstain

**13. Motion to limit debate to 15 minutes**

- a. 29 Yes, 1 No, 0 Abstain

**14. New Business – 8:22 PM**

- a. Motion to summarize resolutions rather than read them fully
  - i. Special motion so Rules and Administration Committee will discuss it, then the Senate will discuss it at the next meeting
- b. Resolution 24.3: A Resolution Establishing the GSO's Recognition and Support of United Syracuse's Parking Petition – 8:25 PM
  - i. View resolution [here](#).
  - ii. Additional amendment: to add "Resolved, that the GSO advocates for additional parking allocations for people with mobility limitations, including van accessible handicap spaces."
    1. Passes
  - iii. Voting
    1. 23 Yes, 0 No, 3 Abstain

**15. Adjournment as a result of no quorum – 8:24 PM**

**16. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 6, 2023 in Maxwell Auditorium**