

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

University of Connecticut

Senate Minutes 10 October 2012

I. Call to Order at 7:11 pm.

Regular meeting with Vice President, Safet Berisa, presiding; Erin Eighan, Secretary.

II. Recognition of Senators

III. Special Guest: Interim Provost Mun Choi

- a. Research, scholarship, outreach are very important activities at UConn. Central to this are graduate students. Without graduate students, our mission at UConn cannot move forward. One of the important things for Provost Choi is to find out what he can do to help the issues that are important to us as graduate students. Graduate studies is more than just our studies alone. Other important issues are networking opportunities, stipends, social relationships with colleagues, professional relationships with advisors.
- b. Areas that we need to address are professional development activities for students. Develop professional development techniques here. Training for networking, training for teaching, etc.
- c. Funding: there are opportunities out there that we may not be aware of (i.e., national grants).
- d. Misconception at UConn that undergraduate education is privileged. All the same opportunities available to undergraduate students are also available to graduate students. Provost Choi encourages us to explore these opportunities.
- e. University of Connecticut is a well-respected university and among the top research universities in the nation. When applying for academic positions, our affiliation with UConn will be a positive thing; however, we need to prepare ourselves to set us apart from the hundreds of candidates. Provost Choi encourages us to think about how we should prepare for our career.
- f. UConn is committed to graduate students. Provost Choi wants all of us to feel empowered, to voice our needs to the administration. The Graduate School wants to have more professional development opportunities, and they're working on this now. The first event had low attendance, so Provost Choi asks GSS to help spread the word about these events. The Graduate School also want to help fund and develop more social events.
- g. Please let the Provost's Office know if there's anything
- h. Questions from Senate:
 - i. Senator Charrette: Are there any plans or proposals to increase the travel stipend for graduate students?
 1. Provost: The short answer is no. It was very difficult to maintain it. One thing that we can do is maybe shift more of the funds to the social



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sciences and the humanities so that they have more opportunities to travel. But it has to be done in a fair way.

2. Graduate students are provided the same amount of funding as faculty (approximately \$250,000).
- ii. Senator Kilroy: Are you involved at all in incoming graduate students orientation process?
 1. Provost: I'm not yet, but we are planning a more extensive orientation process.
 2. Senator Kilroy: I'd like to see improvement and standardization.
 3. Provost: It would be helpful if GSS could collect the types of elements that GSS thinks would be beneficial for a graduate student orientation. It would be helpful if that could even be developed through GSS.
 4. Provost: There should be a welcome packet that includes information about housing, for example. There should be a one-stop shop for incoming students for issues they will be facing. I will request that Dean Holsinger and the Graduate School compile this information.
- iii. Provost: The Graduate School will be hiring a representative to help graduate students write proposals. Someone will be hired to help diversity initiatives and events.

IV. Approval of Minutes: 26 September 2012

- a. Summary of Amendments
 - i. Passed.
- b. Senator Mollmann: Motion to correct the spelling of "Mollman" to "Mollmann" throughout the minutes.
 - i. Passed.
- c. Minutes approved.

V. Executive Committee Reports

- a. President – Chantelle Messier
 - i. Executive Committee
 - ii. External Committees to Fill
 1. Mansfield Downtown Partnership
 2. UConn Reads
 3. IT Governance for Research and Scholarship, IT Governance for Admin Systems, IT Governance for Infrastructure
 - iii. Parking and Transportation



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1. WRTD: the relationship with UConn has existed for years now (at least 13 years). It used to be something that GSS and USG paid for. When Parking and Transportation saw that it was being used, they took over and it's now going under their budget. There has been a really sudden demand for WRTD, now they need to increase the bus system. What they're doing now is that they're shadowing buses with another bus behind them to take the overflow. Almost certainly new buses are coming. Hayley Kilroy (our rep on WRTD Committee) will be in touch with Janet Freniere, who will keep us posted on the new buses.
2. Parking at UConn has reached a crisis point, especially for Graduate Students. The issue right now seems to be that UConn students don't like paying parking fees, but UConn charges less than any of our other peer institutions for parking. To undergrads, parking seems to be inexpensive so they park here. Within the next 2 years, they will develop a long-term parking plan for UConn in conjunction with the master planner for UConn.
 - a. A few pressure valves that can take the pressure off of Parking
 - i. Mansfield Downtown Partnership; the Downtown parking garage is free for the first 2 hours, and only \$1 per hour afterwards. Let grad students know; they're trying to keep this quiet but want to help ease graduate student problems.
 - ii. Also, consider F lot and I lot.
 - iii. Have grad students watch the parking website for potential updates regarding new opportunities to park (up to 500 spaces potentially) that will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
 - iv. Car pool matching system: Zimride. Trying to approach the new USG president to take up this project again. It would cost \$10,000/yr. If GSS thinks grad students really want this service, we could split this service (some how) to help pilot the program.
 - b. Parking Services will be meeting with CTRides vanpool system
 - i. Tell your constituents to use this. You can use this program for free.
 - c. Technically Area III parking overflow is the Depot Campus
 - iv. Student Leadership Breakfast



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1. Met the Graduate Student Trustee, Rose Barham (UHC), our first Health Center Grad Student Trustee.
 - a. Discussed maintaining a relationship with other campuses and professional schools.
- v. Breakfast with President Herbst: October 25, 9:30-10:30 am (SU 104)
 1. 20 seats, first-come, first-served. Open to GSS members first.
 2. Encouraged to sign up or find someone in your department who would be willing to represent you and your constituency.
- b. Vice President – Safet Berisa
 - i. Student Life Committee
 1. Please see full report in Addendum.
 - ii. Photographing the Senate
 1. A photographer will come to our next meeting to take pictures of us.
 - iii. For more information, please see the full report in the Addendum.
- c. Treasurer – Ian Yue
 - i. Finance Committee
 1. One spot remaining on the committee. Anyone can take this spot, including a non-senator; however, no one from English, Political Science, Mathematics, or Physics can join because of the requirement that there cannot be two members from the same constituency
 - ii. Monthly Financial Report
 1. Please see full report in the Addendum, “GSS Financial Report, September 2012.”
 - iii. Information Sessions
 1. Required to hold at least one information session, but he will hold a few throughout the semester. The first two information sessions will focus on the reimbursement requests and the special allocation requests. Sent out a Doodle Poll to Tier-II financial points of contact to schedule the first session.
 - iv. Tier-II Attendance Requirement
 1. Please see the Finance Policies and Procedures, section 4.1.4: “A constituency organization receiving a budget must send at least on representative... to all meetings of the Senate. A constituency may not miss more than two meetings per semester.... Non-constituency organizations receiving a budget must send a representative to two meetings per semester.”



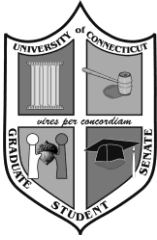
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- d. Secretary – Erin Eighan
 - i. Public Relations Committee
 - 1. **Branding and logos:** We are looking into the possibility of contracting an internal vendor for the graphic-design end of our branding efforts. The contracting process would be modeled on that of the new GSS website. Our hope is to design a new logo, a formal insignia, and a slogan. Rich Colon is currently researching the formal insignia of other University-related organizations to replace our current coat of arms. One suggestion by an Executive Committee member was to hold a design contest for a new GSS logo, modeled on a process many companies use for their own branding efforts. The PR Committee will consider this option and is open to feedback in all regards.
 - ii. *The Commons:* gssuconn.wordpress.com
 - 1. **Launch:** We have just launched a news blog for the graduate student community at the University of Connecticut. Currently, we are still conducting initial research on interest and demand. A formal announcement will be sent out to the Grad Listserv in the coming week. Please follow us (subscribe to our RSS feed, receive email updates, or follow us through your own Wordpress account) and tell your constituencies to do the same.
 - 2. **Mission:** Our long-term goal for this blog would be to develop it into a news source akin to *The Chronicle* or *Higher Ed* with regular contributors and Op-Ed postings about professional/graduate student news, University issues, announcements for events, reviews of events, etc. The top four most requested features currently are (in order) a professional development forum, announcements about events, grad student Op-Eds, and a graduate student marketplace/classifieds section. If you have any further suggestions, please let us know.
 - 3. **Contributions:** If you or any one in your constituency would like to become a regular contributor, please email us with your proposal at gssuconn@gmail.com. Alternatively, if any one already has a blog related to graduate student issues broadly and would like a larger forum, contact us to link to your blog directly, reblog your posts, or sponsor your blog for the broader audience of UConn grad students (much like the relationship between *ProfHacker* and *The Chronicle*, for example).



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4. **Security:** We are also aware that some of this information ought to be kept secure (information in the marketplace section, for example). We are currently researching options with IT services to make this happen—perhaps hosting certain web content through the UConn server and NetID system. If you have any input on this matter, we welcome it.
- iii. External Committee Report Forms
 1. I am working to develop a standardized template for all committee reports. It will serve two primary functions: to present a coherent and unified public record, and to better facilitate the presentation of information during and after meetings. Ideally, it will be set-up in three sections: a brief overview of relevant information to graduate students, a list of action items for Senate and/or Committee consideration, and a more formal, detailed report for further reference. If your committee report has any special needs beyond these, please let me know before I draft the template.
 2. Internal Committees have also agreed to prepare reports for GSS meeting minutes.
- iv. GSS Meeting Schedule: 9/26, 10/10, 10/24, 11/7, 12/5
- v. Contact GSS: gssuconn@gmail.com
- vi. Attendance
- e. Activities Director – Anish Kurian
 - i. Activities Committee
 - ii. Speed Dating: Friday, October 19
 1. 80 people registered, 60 people on the waiting list
 2. Post-Speed Dating social event open for everyone: Grad Student Mixer
 - a. Same Venue, immediately following from 8-10 pm
 - b. Senator Shabtay designed a flier to advertise this event. Please take some and post them for your constituency.
 - iii. Thanksgiving Lunch
 - iv. Graduate School-sponsored Social Night
 1. Popcorn and soda for 200 people, purchasing *Naturally Obsessed* to be shown in the Student Union theater.
- f. Parliamentarian – Leland Aldridge
 - i. Procedures Committee
 1. By unanimous decision, the Procedures Committee allows a representative to serve as representative of both a voting organization



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and a non-voting organization. If this applies to you, please notify the Procedures Committee.

2. For more information, please see the full report in the Addendum.
- ii. Senator Registration
 1. The registration period has ended. For any questions or concerns, please contact Leland Aldridge.
 2. The current apportionment of GSS senators lists Art and Art History as one constituency.

VI. External Committee Reports

- a. University Senate Executive Committee – Chantelle Messier
 - i. Please see full report in Addendum.
- b. SUBOG SU Policy Council – Safet Berisa
 - i. Please see full report in Addendum.
- c. Student Union Partners – Safet Berisa
 - i. Please see full report in Addendum.
- d. Scholastic Standards Committee – Aidali Aponte
 - i. Please see full report in Addendum.
 - ii. Students that take the final exam and then are diagnosed with mental health issues: whether or not the grade should be changed after they take the final exam. This issue needs to be considered because

VII. Issues Forum

- a. Virtual PC – Ian Yue
 - i. UConn has a Virtual PC system in place that keeps your files stored in a cloud. You get a 10 gb drive to yourself. You also have access to expensive software that UConn has access to.
 - ii. Senator Njuki: How different is this from a VPN?
 1. Activities Director Kurian: You get access to UConn-purchased software and programs.
 2. Senator Charrette: I'm frustrated by the resolution. Is there a way to increase this?
 3. Treasurer Yue: I will pass on contact information for people to find out more about this.
 4. Senator Wong: VPC was just recently updated.
 5. Senator Merceron: They also have an iPad app.



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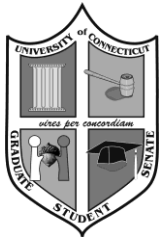
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- b. Carpooling System – Chantelle Messier
- c. Other Issues – Open Forum
 - i. Senator Mollmann: Accounts payable reimbursements are dreadful right now. The delay is taking a long time.
 - 1. President Messier: Bring this up at the next meeting with Rich Gray, our special guest.
 - 2. Senator Njuki: You can get someone to call Accounts Payable to speed up the process.
 - 3. Activities Director Kurian: With the KUWALI system, they can at least check where in the process you are if that helps.
 - ii. Secretary Eighan: Is there a possibility of creating alternative library drop-off points for books? Particularly those that we could drive up to?
 - 1. Vice President Berisa: Email me with specifics to present to the Provost
 - iii. Senator Kilroy: Wednesday, October 24 is Campus Sustainability Day. More importantly, at 4 pm that day, there will be a discussion and presentation about the campus climate action plan. Strategies in the plan focus on three areas: energy costs, sustainable development, and transportation. On Thursday, October 25 Green Grads is presenting *Queen of the Sun: What are the Bees Telling Us?* Friday, October 26, Green Grads is going to have a critical mass bikeride around Storrs (approximately 3 pm, exact details to be determined).

VIII. Unfinished Business

IX. New Business

- a. GSS 12/13-06: That the Graduate Student Senate Bylaws be amended such that the phrase “Dean of Students” be replaced with the phrase “Office of Student Services & Advocacy” in Bylaw V, Section 3.d.
 - i. Motion: Senator Tomchek. Seconded.
 - ii. **MOTION PASSES.**
- b. GSS 12/13-07: That the Graduate Student Senate allocate \$329.57 for the Graduate Association Public Policy Students’ “Managing the New England Town” event.
 - i. Please see “Addendum: Special Allocation Summary Sheet” for more information.
 - ii. Motion: Senator Aidali. Seconded.
 - iii. Senator Sharpsteen: Is it an open event?



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1. Absolutely, we will be advertising to UConn at large and would love to see Storrs campus students available.
 - iv. **MOTION PASSES.**
 - c. Finance Committee Election
 - i. Senator Njuki nominates Senator Ian Gutierrez.
 - ii. **Vote: By unanimous consent, the MOTION PASSES and Senator Gutierrez is approved.**
 - d. At-Large Senator Elections
 - i. Five open seats for at-large senators.
 - ii. Senator Washat: Has this been made public knowledge? This is something that should be on the listserv.
 1. Secretary Eighan: Yes, we can send out an email on the listserv. I will do so.
 - e. External Committee Appointments
 - i. Motion to approve the following committee appointments
 1. Growth and Development Committee: Bryant Reed
 2. Provost's Library Advisory Committee: Safet Berisa.
 3. Mansfield Downton Partnership: Ryan Tomchek
 - a. **MOTION PASSES.**
 - f. Tim Rubino: Student American Physical Therapy Association is hosting a 5k this weekend. Please take fliers back to your constituents.
- X. **Adjournment at 8:55 pm.**



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Addendum: Attendance

10 October 2012

Name	Email	Constituency	Role
Chantelle Messier	chantelle.messier@gmail.com	Exec. Committee	President
Safet Berisa	safet.berisa@uconn.edu	Exec. Committee	Vice President
Ian Yue	ian.yue@uconn.edu	Exec. Committee	Treasurer
Erin Eighan	eeighan@gmail.com	Exec. Committee	Secretary
Leland Aldridge	laldridge@gmail.com	Exec. Committee	Parliamentarian
Anish Kurian	anish.m.kurian@gmail.com	Exec. Committee	Activities Director
Mike Winder	mhwinder@gmail.com	Physics	Senator
Shawn Washart	shawn.washart@uconn.edu	HESA	Senator
Tim Rubino	tim.rubino@gmail.com	Physical Therapy	Senator
Micah Bruce-Davis	micah.bruce-davis@uconn.edu	Education	Senator
Larisa Kottke	larisa.kottke@uconn.edu	Public Policy	Representative
Becca Herman	becca.herman@uconn.edu	Student Activities	Staff Member
Michael Ambroselli	ambroselli@phys.uconn.edu	Physics	Senator
Michelle SanPedro	michelle.sanpedro@uconn.edu	Medical Anthropology	Senator
Alexandra Merceron	alexandra.merceron@uconn.edu	GSCA	Senator
Jason Charrette	jason.charrette@uconn.edu	Political Science	Senator
Danielle Wong	danielle.wong@uconn.edu	Political Science	Senator
Emily Slater	emily.slater@uconn.edu	English	Senator
Nate Windon	nathaniel.windon@uconn.edu	English	Senator
Matthew Ross	matthew.b.ross@uconn.edu	Economics	Senator
Noah Sharpsteen	noah.sharpsteen@uconn.edu	Philosophy	Senator
Troy Messick	troy.messick@uconn.edu	Linguistics	Senator
Melissa Rokosa	Melissa.rokosa@uconn.edu	Animal Science	Representative
Micah Cash	micahcash@gmail.com	Studio Art	Senator



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Anita Virga	anita.virga@uconn.edu	LANGSA	Senator
Aidalí Aponte- Avilés	aidali.aponte-aviles@uconn.edu	LANGSA	Senator
Talia Shabtay	talia.shabtay@uconn.edu	Art History	Senator
Ian Gutierrez	ian.gutierrez@uconn.edu	Psychology	Senator
Michael Hutson	michael.hutson@uconn.edu	EEB	Senator
Hayley Kilroy	hayley.kilroy@uconn.edu	EEB / Green Grads	Senator
Steven Mollmann	steven.mollmann@uconn.edu	English	Senator
Eric Njuki	eric.njuki@uconn.edu	ARE	Senator
Zihang Zhou	zihang.zhou@uconn.edu	Mathematics	Senator
Ryan Tomchek	rtomchek@gmail.com	Mathematics	Senator



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Addendum: External and Standing Committees

10 October 2012

GSS External Committees

(see GSS website for descriptions)

Notes	Committee	GSS Rep 1 Contact Info	GSS Rep 2 Contact Info	Associated With	Last Known Meeting Info	Committee Contact
General Election	Board of Trustees	Rose Barham rbarham@student.uhc.edu		BOT		
Approved	Capital Projects Planning and Advisory Committee	(unable to find info about committee)		University Admin.		
Approved	Distinguished Professor Nominations Committee	Nicole White nicole.2.white@uconn.edu		BOT		Mary Dean mary.dean@uconn.edu
Approved	Diversity Committee	Michelle San Pedro michelle.sanpedro@uconn.edu		University Senate	M 9:30-11 am	Tammy Gifford tammy.gifford@uconn.edu
Approved	Environmental Health and Safety	Eric Njuki eric.njuki@uconn.edu		University Admin.	T 9 am	Jane Miner jane.miner@uconn.edu
Approved	Faculty Standards	Danielle Wong danielle.wong@uconn.edu		University Senate	M	Tammy Gifford tammy.gifford@uconn.edu
Approved	General Education Oversight Committee	Noah Sharpsteen nesharps@gmail.com		University Senate	M/F 11-1 am	Tammy Gifford tammy.gifford@uconn.edu
Mandated	GFC Policies and Procedures	Parliamentarian: Leland Aldridge aldridge@phys.uconn.edu		GFC		Dr. Tom Peters thomas.b.peters@uconn.edu
Mandated	Graduate Faculty Council	President: Chantelle Messier chantelle.messier@gmail.com	Parliamentarian: Leland Aldridge laldridge@gmail.com	GFC		Dr. Tom Peters thomas.b.peters@uconn.edu
Requeste	Graduate	Erika Del Villar		Graduate		Dr. Sandra Chafouleas



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ad (ad-hoc)	Leave Policies Committee	erika.l.delvillar@uconn.edu		School		sandra.chafouleas@uconn.edu
Approved	Growth and Development Committee	Bryant Reed bryant.reed@huskymail.uconn.edu		University Senate	Th am	Tammy Gifford tammy.gifford@uconn.edu
Requested	IT Governance Committees (Teaching and Learning, Research and Scholarship, Administrative Systems, Infrastructure)	Teaching and Learning: Ryan Tomchek rtomchek@gmail.com Research and Scholarship: Anita Virga anita.virga@uconn.edu		CIO	1/month for 1 hour	Kristy Hughes kristy.hughes@uconn.edu
Mandated	Joint Elections Committee	Parliamentarian: Leland Aldridge aldridge@phys.uconn.edu		Student Activities		Becca Herman rebecca.herman@uconn.edu
Approved	Mansfield Downtown Partnership	Ryan Tomchek rtomchek@gmail.com		Other		Cynthia van Zelm vanZelmCA@mansfieldct.org
Requested	Parking Advisory Committee	Ryan Tomchek rtomchek@gmail.com		University Admin.	W/Th pm	Karla Fox karla.fox@uconn.edu
Requested	Parking Appeals Committee	Derek Doran derek.doran@uconn.edu		University Admin.	M 10 am	Martha Funderburk martha.funderburk@uconn.edu
Approved	President's Honors and Awards Committee	Micah Cash micahcash@gmail.com		President	one meeting: T, 10/30/12	Joanne Fazio joanne.fazio@uconn.edu
Approved	Provost's Commission on Institutional Diversity	Michael Crawford michael.crawford@uconn.edu		Provost		Salome Raheim salome.raheim@uconn.edu



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Approved	Provost's Library Advisory Committee	Safet Berisa safet.berisa@uconn.edu		Provost		Khara Leon khara.leon@lib.uconn.edu
Approved	Public Arts Committee	Allison Hale hale.allison@gmail.com		President		?
Approved	Scholastic Standards	Aidali Aponte-Aviles aidali.aponte-aviles@uconn.edu		University Senate	Th 11 am	Tammy Gifford tammy.gifford@uconn.edu
Mandated	Student Activities Election Week Committee	Parliamentarian: Leland Aldridge aldridge@phys.uconn.edu		Student Activities		
Mandated	Student Activity and Service Fee Advisory Committee	Treasurer: Ian Yue ian.yue@uconn.edu		University Admin.		David Clokey david.clokey@uconn.edu
Mandated	Student Leadership Group	Exec Member		Other		
Mandated	Student Life Committee	Grad Student Trustee Rose Barham rbarham@student.uhc.edu		BOT		
Approved	Student Technology Advisory Group	Derek Doran derek.doran@uconn.edu		Other		Matt Smith matt.smith@uconn.edu
Mandated	Student Trustee Election Committee	Parliamentarian: Leland Aldridge aldridge@phys.uconn.edu		Other	Exists on alternating years	
Mandated	Student Union Partners	Safet Berisa safet.berisa@uconn.edu		Other	W 1:30 pm	Tonya Lemire tonya.lemire@uconn.edu
Approved	Student Welfare Committee	Ian Gutierrez ian.gutierrez@uconn.edu		University Senate	F 12-1 pm	Tammy Gifford tammy.gifford@uconn.edu
Requested	SUBOG Policy	Safet Berisa safet.berisa@uconn.edu				



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Addendum: External and Standing Committees

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	Council					
Appointed by President	UConn Branding Committee	Safet Berisa safet.berisa@uconn.edu		President		Scott Brohinsky scott.brohinsky@uconn.edu
Appointed by President	UConn Reads Steering Committee			President		uconnreads@uconn.edu
Mandated	University Budget Committee	Treasurer: Ian Yue ian.yue@uconn.edu		University Senate	T/Th late am	Tammy Gifford tammy.gifford@uconn.edu
Mandated	University Senate	President: Chantelle Messier chantelle.messier@gmail.com	Vice President: Safet Berisa safet.berisa@uconn.edu	University Senate	M 4-6 pm	Tammy Gifford tammy.gifford@uconn.edu
Mandated	University Senate Executive Committee	President: Chantelle Messier chantelle.messier@gmail.com		University Senate	F 11-2 am	Tammy Gifford tammy.gifford@uconn.edu
Approved	Windham Regional Transit District	Hayley Kilroy-Mollmann hayleykilroy@gmail.com		Other	4th W of month 5 pm in Willimantic	Melinda Perkins melinda@wrtd.net

GSS Standing Committees (see Bylaws for descriptions)

Committee	Chair	Members and Contact Info
Student Life	Vice President: Safet Berisa safet.berisa@uconn.edu	Hayley Killroy hayleykilroy@gmail.com Troy Messick troy.messick@uconn.edu
Public Relations	Secretary: Erin Eighan eeighan@gmail.com	Rich Colon richardcolonjr@gmail.com Ryan Tomchek tomchek@gmail.com
Finance Committee	Treasurer: Ian Yue ian.yue@uconn.edu	Steven Mollmann steven.mollmann@uconn.edu



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		<p>Jason Charrette jason.charrette@uconn.edu</p> <p>Derek Doran derek.doran@uconn.edu</p> <p>Gao Niu gao.niu@uconn.edu</p>
Procedures Committee	Parliamentarian: Leland Aldridge laldridge@gmail.com	<p>Jason Charrette jason.charrette@uconn.edu</p> <p>Steven Mollmann steven.mollmann@uconn.edu</p> <p>Safet Berisa safet.berisa@uconn.edu</p>
Activities Committee	Activities Director: Anish Kurian anish.m.kurian@gmail.com	<p>Derek Doran derek.doran@uconn.edu</p> <p>Ryan Tomchek ryan.tomchek@uconn.edu</p> <p>Austin Johnson austin.johnson@uconn.edu</p> <p>Danielle Wong danielle.wong@uconn.edu</p> <p>Talia Shabtay talia.shabtay@uconn.edu</p> <p>Indu Upadhyaya indu.upadhyaya@uconn.edu</p>



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Addendum: GSS Financial Report, September 2012
10 October 2012

**University of Connecticut
Graduate Student Senate
Financial Statement FY 13
September 30, 2012**

<u>Income:</u>		
501	Donations	-
502	Dues	-
512	Advertising	-
513	Awards and Prizes	-
515	Contractual Services	-
516	Co-Sponsorships	-
517	Food Sales	-
518	Merchandise Sales	-
519	Participation Fees	-
522	Registration Fees	-
523	Rental	-
524	Travel	-
530	Penalties and Fees	-
531	Miscellaneous	-
532	Prior Year Income	-
533	Change Fund Returns	-
540	Business Taxes (Tier III/Univ.)	-
546	Interest (Univ.)	-
547	Student Fees (Tier III/Univ.)	104.00
		104.00
Total Income:		\$ 104.00
<u>Expense:</u>		
601	Donations	-
602	Dues	-
603	Gifts	672.50
604	Photocopying	-
605	Postage	35.82
606	Printing	-
607	Promotional Items	-
608	Refreshments -- Organization	313.87
609	Subscriptions	-
610	Supplies -- Organization	258.83
611	Telephone	-
612	Advertising	-
613	Awards and Prizes	132.02
615	Contractual Services	1,300.00
616	Co-Sponsorships	-
617	Cost of Goods Sold -- Food Sales	-
618	Cost of Goods Sold -- Merchandise Sales	-
619	Participation Fees	-
620	Refreshments -- Events/Programs	2,805.69
621	Supplies -- Events/Programs	138.54
622	Registration Fees	-
623	Rental	1,366.85
624	Travel	443.93
625	Equipment	-
626	Equipment -- Capital	-
627	Insurance	-
628	Repairs and Maintenance	-
629	Utilities	-
630	Penalties and Fees	-
631	Miscellaneous	-
632	Prior Year Expenses	-
633	Change Funds	-
640	Business Taxes (Tier III/Univ.)	-
641	Employee Benefits (Tier III)	-
642	Wages -- Student (Tier III)	-
643	Wages -- Non-Student (Tier III)	-
644	Wage Taxes -- Student (Tier III)	-
645	Wage Taxes -- Non-Student (Tier III)	-
		7,468.05
Total Expenses:		\$ 7,468.05
Net Profit (Loss)		\$ (7,364.05)
	Beginning Balance as of 7/01/12	30,442.55
	Plus Net Profit (Loss)	(7,364.05)
	Current Balance	\$ 23,078.50



GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

University of Connecticut

Addendum: Committee Reports

10 October 2012

GSS Student Life Committee, 10/5/12

In attendance: Safet Beriša, Troy Messick

Reporting: Safet Beriša

The Student Life Committee had a brief organizational meeting discussing our goals for the year which include finishing the interpretation of the Student Life Survey results, conducting a survey geared towards finding out more about where graduate students live and a focus on transportation and attempts to work with WRTD and UConn Transportation towards improving the service provided to us.

If you have any thoughts regarding any of the above, please email Safet at: safet.berisa@uconn.edu



GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

University of Connecticut

Addendum: Committee Reports

10 October 2012

GSS Procedures Committee

The Procedures Committee met electronically to consider the question of representation of non-constituency organizations (NCOs) by senators.

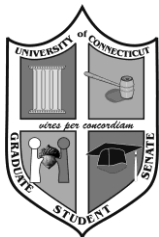
Under our Finance Policies and Procedures, section 4.1.4, NCOs must send representatives to at least two senate meetings per semester to maintain their budget allocation with GSS, with the Senate Parliamentarian verifying whether this attendance requirement has been met.

It was the unanimous decision of the Procedures Committee that the Parliamentarian consider senators valid representatives of NCOs, should they claim to be such a representative, for the purpose of the Finance Policies and Procedures, section 4.1.4.

Respectfully submitted,

Leland Aldridge

Parliamentarian and Procedures Committee Chair



GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

University of Connecticut

Addendum: Committee Reports

10 October 2012

University Senate Executive Committee meeting, 10/5:

Diversity Committee

- Will look into status of proposal for Native American Cultural Center
- Another committee chair from EEB has proposed an innovation in faculty searches to render the searches gender-blind. ODE has brought up some concerns about the feasibility of this approach in terms of procedures and compliance. Others commended the innovation, but brought up potential logistical, legal, or diversity obstacles.

Budget Committee

Will be meeting on 10/22 about Graduate Tuition-on-Grants, and would like anyone with questions about the impact of the policy to forward them to him so he can gather data before the meeting.

Student Welfare Committee

- Discussed laboratory safety.
- Had a wide-ranging but inconclusive discussion about the student debt crisis.

Buildings and Grounds

Predicts planning will be on hold while they await UConn's hire of a Master Planner and Architect who will be creating a cohesive master architectural plan for the University.

Courses and Curricula

Is developing an online, centralized Curriculum Action Request form for faculty to request changes to the curriculum (new courses, etc.). The goal is to develop a form that makes the process easier from a faculty point of view, but is sensitive to the needs of different academic departments.

Scholastic Standards

- Discussing proper guidelines about excusing students from coursework. This includes procedures for coordinating between disabled student advocacy and faculty members, as well as assessing what excuses are valid.
- Continuing discussion of bunched finals policy.

Enrollment Committee

This year UConn dropped in the national list of public universities from number 19 to number 21. Enrollment Committee is examining UConn's institutional statistics and assessing ways to boost UConn back into the top 20.

Respectfully submitted,
Chantelle Messier



GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

University of Connecticut

Addendum: Committee Reports

10 October 2012

SUBOG SU Policy Council, 10/4/12

In attendance and reporting: Safet Beriša

The Space Allocation policies (regarding student organizations maintaining office space within the Union) have been approved by the Director of SU (see next page). We will be working on coming up with a process to implement these.

Policy Council sent out the following list of recommendations regarding the locations to install (cell phone) charging stations in the Union:

1. The TV Lounge
2. The SOC
3. The pocket lounges outside rooms 302, 315, 402 and 415
4. The Graduate Student Lounge
5. The Commuter Student Lounge

Policy Council passed the resolution concerning the use of costumes in the Union. In brief, individuals wearing a costume to promote a student/university organization are to be accompanied by an escort. Individuals wearing a costume without an escort may be dealt with at the discretion of the Student Union staff. Staff persons are not limited to the following actions, but may request that masks be removed or that the individual leaves the building.

University Events merged with Conference Services and will be moving to the Whetten Graduate Center.

Updated U Guide can be found at the Student Union webpage. If you feel any of the policies are unfair, please contact your representative in the Policy Council.



GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

University of Connecticut

Addendum: Committee Reports

10 October 2012

SUBOG SU Policy Council, 10/4/12: Requirements for Student Organizations Maintaining Office Space in the Student Union

Student organizations that utilize office space within the Student Union are organizations that represent the best interests of the University community, through mission, programming, opportunities and services. Thus, any and all organizations wishing to secure and maintain an office within the Student Union must satisfy the following criteria recommended by the Student Union Board of Governors Policy Council and approved by the Director of the Student Union.

- Use of space in accordance with the mission of the Student Union and said student organization;
 - Usage shall be evaluated by the organization, the Student Union and the SUBOG Policy Council on a biennial basis
 - An organization up for review will be allowed a chance to explain in writing how its operations, services, programs and mission are in accordance with that of the Student Union
- Representation on the Student Union Board of Governors Policy Council;
 - An organization member must be present at SUBOG Policy Council meetings with an attendance record of 90% or higher
- Availability via office hours and contact information provided to constituency of said student organization;
 - Contact information for executive officers shall be posted outside the exterior door to the office
 - Contact information for executive officers (including but not limited to COO, CFO and Secretary) should be posted at the door at all times
 - Office hours shall be no less than four hours per week
 - In the event that one office is shared by multiple organizations, each organization is required to comply with the minimum number of office hours
 - Either phone numbers or email addresses are acceptable as contact information
- Hosting at least two events each semester within areas managed by the Student Union or other campus venues located in the Student Union such as Cultural Centers, at which the organization is primarily responsible for the event.
 - An event is defined as any program open to the public that satisfies the following requirements:
 - Provides students with an opportunity that would not be available to them otherwise
 - Is advertised for, via email, flyer, social media or some other demonstrable means
 - Any program involving Tier II organizations overseen by a Tier III organization
 - Is not a general meeting of the host organization



GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

University of Connecticut

Addendum: Committee Reports

10 October 2012

- Information tables within areas managed by the Student Union will constitute a program requirement
- Areas managed by the Student Union include all spaces within the building of the Student Union, Fairfield way, Student Union Terrace, and the Student Union Mall
- An organization must staff the event with its own members to a number of no less than half the total staff present
 - This policy acts to ensure that an organization hosting the event in conjunction with another organization does not claim credit for the event without taking on the responsibility for the operation of the event
- Organizations must be free of current violations of the Student Union policies and procedures, outlined in 'The U Guide', including but not limited to, 'no-shows' for meetings and cleanliness of space.
 - Violations of damage, theft and vandalism policy (p. 11), lighting policy (p. 12), posting policy (p. 13) and windows, walls, doors and floors policy (p. 14) shall be taken into consideration
 - An office shall not be used for storage to the point that the office is no longer able to function as an office or is found to be in violation of fire codes
 - Cleanliness shall be assessed both subjectively and objectively, wherein any review of the office will involve both actions taken by the Student Union and the opinion of review members
 - Records of excessive cleaning measures taken by Student Union staff or issues including but not limited to pests, odors or excessive levels of trash
 - A walkthrough performed by members of the SUBOG Policy Council and/or Student Union staff to evaluate cleanliness



GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

University of Connecticut

Addendum: Committee Reports 10 October 2012

Student Union Partners, 10/10/12

In attendance and reporting: Safet Beriša

Cell phone charging stations are installed in SU 107 and the lobby. The next two will be installed in the TV lounge and the SOC. iPhone 5 cables within two weeks.

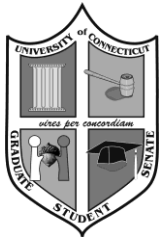
The central celebration of the Union's 60th anniversary will be held on 10/16/12 and will involve a 50s themed celebrations, cupcakes and ice cream donated by Dining at the terrace as well as specialty food items in the SU Marketplace. The festivities will also involve a stuff-a-husky (with a special anniversary t-shirt) event. The movie *Grease* will be played (twice) in the food court.

Trick a treat at the U will be held on 10/31/12 from 12:30 PM until 4:30 PM (or while supplies last). People will be able to get official trick a treat bags at the info center as well as a list of participating organizations. Significant others and children are welcome.

Association of College Unions International conference will be held in the Union 11/15-18 this year.

Visitors to internships and career services should visit them at their Wilbur Cross location (WC 201).

A concert by Angie Durrell '11 will be held 10/11/12 at 4:30 PM in the SU Theatre. Admission is free.



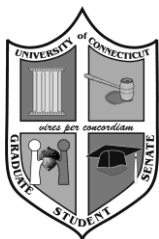
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

University of Connecticut

Addendum: Committee Reports 10 October 2012

Senate Scholastic Standards Committee, October 4th, 2012

1. Considered the SEC's request to include the academic integrity portion of the Student Code of Conduct into bylaws of the University Senate. After much discussion of the various revised documents, it was concluded that SSC chair Larry Gramling and past SSC chair Tom Recchio would meet with Cinnamon Adams of the Community Standards Office to ascertain the status of the revisions to the Code that were approved by the SSC during the previous academic year.
2. Reviewed academic dismissal/readmission policy proposal – Gay Douglas of the Office of Student Services & Advocacy reported that there is no formal University-wide policy for handling requests by students for re-admission to the University who have been dismissed more than once. There seems to be no specific guidelines concerning the appropriate grade point averages that the students need to attain as non-degree students at the University or elsewhere; the informal standard is 12 credits of B or better through non-degree or another institution. It was concluded that the issue would be discussed with the academic advisors on campus and suggestions for inclusion in the bylaws would be brought to the SSC.
3. New Business – Katrina Higgins brought up the current case of a student who had been diagnosed with mental health issues after the student had completed final exams. The Center for Students with Disabilities has asked for an “academic adjustment” to the student’s records in which the student had all letter-graded courses. It was reported that some faculty thought this adjustment should not be made for a student who had taken the final exams without notifying the instructor until months after the course had ended. The dilemma is that for students who have been diagnosed with certain disabilities, federal ADA laws and regulations dictate that adjustments or accommodations should be made.



GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

University of Connecticut

Addendum: Special Allocation Summary Sheet

10 October 2012

GSS 12/13-07: That the Graduate Student Senate allocate \$329.57 for the Graduate Association Public Policy Students’ “Managing the New England Town” event.

Basics

<i>Tier II Organization:</i>	Graduate Association of Public Policy
Students (GAPPS)	
<i>Event Name:</i>	Managing the New England Town
<i>Event Date:</i>	November 15, 2012
<i>Event Location:</i>	Library Building, UConn Greater Hartford
Campus	
<i>Anticipated Attendance (Total):</i>	28-30 people
<i>Anticipated Attendance (Graduate Students):</i>	~20 students

Proposed Budget

Expense Code	Expense Category	Expenses
603	Gifts	\$25.46
	Refreshments – Events/Programs	\$304.11

TOTAL: \$329.57

Executive Committee Recommendation

We are in support of approving GAPPS’ full requested amount of \$329.57 under the condition that GAPPS speak with the Department of Public Policy about the possibility of contributing funds to this event. The Executive Committee’s consensus is that for events that draw the majority of interest from students from a specific discipline or department — particularly for events that are also open to undergraduate students — it seems reasonable that the group also request departmental support.

While this, by no means, is a requirement to seek outside funding, we would like to request that the GAPPS representative present at the GSS meeting speak to the outcomes of the discussions with the Department of Public Policy on possible contributions to the event.