

- I. **Call to Order** at 7:09pm.
- II. **Recognition of Senators**
- III. **Special Guest/Speaker: Kay Gruder**, Career Consultant, Graduate School: Kay gave three different graduate student scenarios that she sees graduate students fall into the most. She is wanting to have a call to action. There are now different services she as a Career Consultant can provide. In response to the questions from senators she is interested in helping graduate students determine what they need to do now, what experiences are in and outside of academia, and helping students create networks. She does have experience working with students from multiple disciplines.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes:** 12 November 2014 approved
- V. **Unfinished Business**
- VI. **New Business**
- VII. **Executive Committee Reports**
 - a. President – Jason Charrette
 - i. Update: An email was sent out about the creation of a Rec Center Advisory Committee. After discussion with the USG we have now increased the number of graduate representatives. More information about this will be discussed on Friday in a meeting with the Vice Provost for Student Affairs, and Director of the Rec Center. This will happen through a normal GSS nomination procedure. If you are interested send an email to the GSS account. Senator Miranda asked what the purpose of this committee will be for graduate interests. President Charrette mentioned that they will help facilitate graduate interests and graduate only spaces in the Rec Center. The sky is the limit and a creative diverse group, needs to be represented.
 - ii. Meeting with Herbst Friday: Asked for any specific graduate concerns. Director Flaig brought up her concern with the budget and issues dealing with parking. Eric Simning and Michael Hutson brought up concerns about the master planning plans and coordination with communication at the top levels. Director Wong mentioned the concern for graduate students constantly being left out of the

equation and the desire for direct and real responses about what is happening to graduate students in the future.

- b. Vice President – Talea Cornelius
 - i. WRTD: A petition was delivered to Janet Frouneer (sp?), John Armstrong, and William Went among others. They all want more funding for the bus system, and are waiting to get more information about ridership and funding. From what we currently know UConn students and faculty make up most of the ridership. We plan to see charts and graphs when she has time to make more of those. We also had over 300 signatures and a faculty letter of support.
 - ii. Student Welfare Committee: hoping to meet in the beginning of next semester
- c. Treasurer – Michael Ambroselli
 - i. Budget Info Session, December 5, 8:30am-10, 10:45-11:30, scheduling another for December 12, 8:30-noon. This applies to the leadership of Tier II organizations if planning on having a budget next fiscal year
- d. Secretary – Danielle Wong
 - i. Attendance
 - ii. Committee Report Forms
 - iii. Website
 - iv. Beginning Survey Data: Director Wong gave a preliminary presentation over what the survey data looks like. If anyone is interested she is welcoming outside help for the statistical analysis.
- e. Activities Director – Nicole Flaig
 - i. Coffee Hours: 11-4:30 free coffee
 - ii. Prom: It is coming up and Director Flaig is looking for anyone interested on being on the committee for that
 - iii. Thanksgiving Lunch Wrap-up – not present, mixed opinions on how lunch went, confusion about time slots. Overall most enjoyed it. Ross Dardani and Treasurer Ambroselli both spoke up on how they thought the time slot worked well, about 550-600 people attended.
- f. Parliamentarian – Pat Butler

- i. Election Procedures: Our current procedure for doing the executive committee election for GSS is what we have in the Constitution. If we are going to have permanent changes we are going to have to propose them in one meeting, vote in the next, and then wait for them to be approved by the BOT. This will take a substantial amount of time. Parliamentarian Butler, however, is still willing to work on and discuss future changes that the Senate feels may be necessary.
- ii. Executive Board Stipends: Some confusion arose about pay for the VP but because past VP Eghan forfeited her pay current VP Cornelius is given the full amount of pay for the VP position. The Senate voted to give each member of Exec their pay.

VIII. External Committee Reports

- a. Student Welfare Committee – Nancy Wong: there has been discussion about the bus service and graduate housing, the committee is interested in helping.

IX. Issues Forum

- a. Jeremy Jelliffe, BOT Representative: Working on discussing the policy in regards to adjuncts. If anyone has any questions feel free to email him. In addition, he will be hosting office hours next semester.
- b. Tony Pateulunas, Elections: Senator Pateulunas asked why we do not have elections online. President Charrette discussed that it will come to down to rules about campaigning, rules about spending, and maybe a creation of a judicial board like the USG. Also there is the fear of having someone not qualified to do the job or being overrun by the Law school who has a history of great mobilization.

X. Adjournment at 8:50 pm.

Attendance

Attendance: Senators			
Department / Tier II Group	Name	Initial	Email
Animal Science	Meera Sureshnan Nair		
Anthropology	Michelle San Pedro		
Civil and Environmental Engineering	Valeri Kober	VK	valeri.kober@uconn.edu
	Aad Rahan		
Communications	Karen Piatrok		
Economics	Xingeng Wang		
	Julie He		
Educational Leadership (UCSAA)	Huong Nguyen	HN	huong.nguyen@uconn.edu
Educational Leadership (NGSA)	Mike Madrick	MM	mike.madrick@uconn.edu
Educational Psychology	Ashley Wisniewski	AW	ashley.wisniewski@uconn.edu
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology	Michael Hutson	MH	michael.hutson@uconn.edu
	Kaitlin Gallagher		
English	Brandon Benevento		
	George Moore	GM	george.p.moore@uconn.edu
Graduate Art Alliance	Claire Coleman		
Graduate Art History Society	Betty Lou Starnes		
	Hannah Kennedy		
Graduate Students of Color Association	Shanna Graham		
	Dana Miranda	DM	dana.miranda@uconn.edu
Human Development & Family Studies	Carmen Britton	CB	Carmen.britton@uconn.edu
Iranian Cultural Organization	Reza Amin		
	Sajad Mirzaei		
LANGSA/LCL	Nicole Coleman		
	Ruth Z. Yuste Alonso	RZA	ruth.yuste_alonso@uconn.edu
Linguistics	Abigail Thorton		
Medieval Studies	Megg Goodrich	MG	megg.goodrich@uconn.edu
Molecular and Cellular Biology	Anthony Patelunas	AP	

Attendance: Non Senators			
Department / Tier II Group	Name	Initial	Email
SAGE	Paul Wortness	PW	paul.wortness@uconn.edu
History	Erica Willis	EW	erica.willis@uconn.edu
CSE	Gabriel Mason	GM	mason@uconn.edu
ARE/ERIC THURSTON	JEREMY JELWIC	JJ	
ARE	Eric Sunning	ES	eric.sunning@uconn.edu
Department of Applied Technology SA	Liyang Xia	LX	lyyang.xia@uconn.edu
Physics	Mike Winder	MW	winder@uconn.edu
Educational Studies	Nancy Wong	NW	nancy.m.wong@uconn.edu
Health Services/Resort	Jane Song	JS	jsong@uconn.edu

Student Welfare Committee

11/13/2014

Chair: Karen Bresciano
Assistant Dean
Kanre.bresciano@uconn.edu
Website: <http://senate.uconn.edu/student.html>

Representative: Nancy Wong
EDLR
nancy.m.wong@uconn.edu
Committee Type: Faculty Senate Committee

Overview of Report

Were the details of the meeting confidential? No

Was anything of relevance to graduate students?

- Books
- Bus Service
- Master Plan/Recreation Center

Detailed Report

Books

We discussed the issue again about the lack of open source books, and we decided to break down the problem into smaller parts. First, we do not know how many students actually purchase their textbooks from the the UConn Co-op. Second, another issue involved with the cost of books and the buyback price. Faculty tend to list their books for the next semester early, which in turn will devalue some books while rise the value of others. The committee has decided to bring in an individual from the Co-op to our next meeting to discuss these issues.

Bus Service

Windham bus service was brought up during the meeting. It has been added to the list of new items for the committee to look into for the following year. Our discussion connected back to the lack of affordable housing near campus. If the only housing that we have for graduate students is off-campus, then we need to improve the busing services. Several committee members made statements about the issues that their graduate students are facing, especially living near Foster Lane. We discussed the problem of who to contact about these issues (e.g. university vs bussing service). Some suggestions were made about giving back the Mansfield Apartments to graduate students. We will be bringing in more individuals to discuss these problems.

Master Plan/Recreation Center

VPSA Michael Gilbert discussed the concerns around the lack of transparency about changes to the master plan. He reiterated again that these future plans will also be subject to change. The Recreation Student Advisory Committee (RSAC) has been created by USG for better communication with the master plan architects.

Action Items for Senate

The Student Welfare Committee would like to get more information about the results from the graduate student survey. They would also like to learn more about our next steps after the assessment results have been collected.