

- I. Call to Order** 7:04 pm.
- II. Recognition of Senators**
- III. Special Guest/Speaker:** Victoria Blodgett, Assistant Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Affairs – A couple of updates from the Graduate School and what we hope to be happening in the future
 - a. Graduate Housing – The Graduate School is trying to get ahead of what we are going to be looking at for the upcoming cycle for students and how they can get this information out more quickly. For the next year they are going to have 40 slots available (Northwood). There is a concern from the housing office about the possibility of students coming in for the semester and then leaving mid-semester. In order to show grads want and need housing they are going to be asking them to sign an academic long year contract for those slots. And for those that do leave to let the Graduate School know because new students do come in mid-semester. They want the contracts signed by July 1st and the Graduate School is currently working in the admissions office so the information is up as quickly as possible. The University planner is thinking about the future of the Graduate School. They are talking about a long term plan about housing for early tenure track faculty and graduate students at the Depot Campus
 - b. Graduate Initiatives Network – Victoria is planning on partnering with groups around campus that have stake in supporting graduate students (writing center, national scholarship office, health services, Ombuds, dean of students etc) about trying to get more cohesive thinking around how we design and provide support and education programming for graduate students.
 - c. New student orientation from the fall – the Senate has been working with us about thinking of a new student orientation. One of the representatives that is very interested is the head librarian. They would like for the kick off to be in the library patio and is interested with the library of playing a more active role.
 - d. Currently in the second round for possibly being funded by the provost's office for a 3-Step college teaching certificate. Want to offer a course you can take and allow for graduate students to build a portfolio of teaching experience. This is based off the of the Purdue model and is hopefully something that can be launched in the Fall.

- e. Graduate School is currently going under construction. The entrance will be moved to the back of the building from mid-March to end of April
 - f. Going to also start an initiative program in the Graduate School that allows 4-5 hourly graduate students as fellows to drive what the initiative network is going to be looking at. They will help with producing newsletters, looking at data, professional development, health and wellness etc. If anyone knows grads who are interested please contact Victoria.
- IV. Approval of Minutes:** 21 January 2015 approved
- V. Unfinished Business**
- VI. New Business**
- a. GOMCB Special Allocation Request
 - i. The representative from GOMCB, Senator Patelunas, discussed the event and how it will be useful for graduate students. There was discussion on the high cost of the event, it was agreed that the MCB department will be contributing to the cost of the event. The costs for printing was removed from the services since USG offers free printing services. There was a suggestion to add the \$100 that was struck down to the refreshments budget but this was declined. The motion for the amended special allocation request was passed.
 - b. Finance Committee Member
 - i. Ross Dardani was nominated and selected to be the new Finance Committee Member
- VII. Executive Committee Reports**
- a. President – Jason Charrette
 - i. Update – there will be no increase in fees for the following year (meaning the General University Fee is not going to be going up, that does not include the other SASFAC Storrs Based Fees).
 - b. Vice President – Talea Cornelius
 - i. Student Welfare Committee
 - ii. Tax Information Session – will be on Tuesday from 3-5pm. An email will be sent out about collecting questions. A live stream will also be recorded and notes will

be circulated after the fact. A representative from the Bursar's office will also be present.

- iii. Health survey (360 respondents) – There is an interest in eye care but less interest in paying for it. Many of never heard or if they have, have had trouble accessing the discount. Talea will be speaking with Mike Kirland and steps that can be taken.
- iv. Pub 32 Friday 5pm
- c. Treasurer – Michael Ambroselli
 - i. SASFAC met to discuss the fees there are more meetings later this month (they can be found on the GSS calendar)
- d. Secretary – Danielle Wong
 - i. Attendance
 - ii. Committee Report Forms
 - iii. Awards Committee
- e. Activities Director – Nicole Flaig
 - i. Graduate Prom
 - ii. Upcoming Activities: singles mixer at the Benton, Game Night, Casino Night
- f. Parliamentarian – Pat Butler
 - i. President and Treasurer Pay
 - ii. Apportionment – will be voted on in the next meeting

VIII. External Committee Reports

IX. Issues Forum

- a. NAPGS – Phillip Price
 - i. Our application is being reviewed. There was a switch over in the presidency and Jason was just able to get a hold of the new president. They just sent us an invoice for \$250 (down from what we actually paid) which is nice.

X. Adjournment 8:26pm

Attendance:

Michelle San Pedro
Valeri Kolev
Ned Eskew
Brandon Benevento
Kacie Davis
Hannah Kennedy
Nicole Coleman
Ruth Yuste Alonso
Abigail Thornton
Micah Goodrich
Tony Patelunas
Jordan Ochs
Greg Treich
Andy Tucker
Julia Drouin
Sajad Mairzaei
Dana Miranda
Phillip Price
Eric Simning
Vanessa Lovelace
Tom Briggs
Suvash Dhakal
Paul Wortman
Kam Momeni
Mike Winder
Kaitlin Gallagher
Gabriel Maradejos
Francesca Colturi
Sriram Vijayan
David Gamliel
Sally Chamberland

Faculty Standards Committee

02/04/2015

<i>Chair:</i>	Mark Boyer	<i>Representative:</i>	Morad Behandish
	BoT Distinguished Professor		Ph.D. Student
	Mark.boyer@uconn.edu		m.behandish@engr.uconn.edu
<i>Website:</i>	http://senate.uconn.edu/faculty.html	<i>Committee Type:</i>	GSS External

Overview of Report

This meeting was spent discussing three main topics, namely: 1) An overview of the time period issue related to University's IP policies; 2) AAUP's objection to changes of the PTR forms proposed by the FSC; and 3) multiple measures for faculty teaching evaluations in addition to SET, and correlations between SET responses.

Detailed Report

The discussion from 01/21/15 meeting continued on the IP policies and the time period issue, namely, how long does the University have before deciding about whether they would pursue a particular technology's patenting and commercialization, filing the patents and licensing it back to faculty, etc. The FSC members were largely supportive of an upper bound on the time period (12 months, maybe more) after which the faculty could proceed themselves by filing the patents without University's support. But the VPR office folks who attended the 01/21/15 meeting preferred indefinite time because of its dependence on the particular technology. A middle ground (not 12 months, not indefinite) would be preferred by the FSC members. Also, there was a brief discussion about provisional patenting and how it plays into the whole picture.

The next discussion (following from the 10/20/14 and 11/10/14 meetings) was about the updated PTR policies and simplifications/improvements made to the forms by the joint work of Sally Reis from the Provost's office and the feedbacks of FSC members. Sally Reis read an e-mail she received from the AAUP executive committee in response to her presentation of the improvements. In the e-mail, the AAUP clearly stated that no changes can be made to any forms until the contract terms of the collective bargaining agreement ends. Their main focus was related to "forms" as interpreted from the e-mail language. Since the FSC believes the improvements are limited to language clarifications, eliminations of redundancy, and simplifications that at the end of the day, would be beneficial to faculty (hence no reason for AAUP to oppose), the chair of FSC, Mark Boyer, drafted a brief e-mail to the AAUP executive board to see if the matter can be resolved. The AAUP's e-mail

indicates that they are aware of the benefits that these improvements can provide to faculty. But since anything related to PTR policies can eventually affect employment-related issues (e.g., office/lab space, etc.) the changes need to be discussed and approved by collective bargaining.

The next discussion (following from the 11/10/14 and 01/21/15 meetings) was related to the SET measures. The concern was the choice of mean or median of the last question in the SET (asking about the instructor's overall performance) is not enough, and multiple measures should be taken. There are examples that an instructor gets 5s on all 14 questions, but a 4 in the 15th (and last) question. Should the mean or median of the other 14 questions be also considered? Statistical analysis shows that only 2-3 of the 14 questions (namely, the instructor's presentation of the material, and how much the instructor helps the student) show strong correlation with the 15th question on overall assessment of the student. The discussions continued on the suggestion about adding other measures, such as the Department Heads' assessment in addition to SET, and the language to be used to specify those.

Student Life Committee

2/10/2015

Chair: Talea Cornelius
UConn Affiliation
talea.cornelius@uconn.edu

Representative: Anthony Patelunas

Committee Type: GSS Internal/Standing

Overview of Report

Was anything of relevance to graduate students?

- WRTD meeting upcoming
- UConn health: sent out health survey
- Working with Kay Gruder on checklist forms
- Community: Calendar emails/widgets? Try for Friday 2-20-15
- Snow: no cancellation on 2/9/15, expressed general concerns.
- Tax meeting is set up (bursar representative and CPA)

Detailed Report

WRTD meeting upcoming: sometimes next week (date is not yet finalized)

UConn health: sent out health survey, will compile and analyze data to assess student wishes and report back to Michael Kurland at SHS.

Working with Kay Gruder on checklist forms; sent department head information

Community: Added to the calendar. Try for Friday 2-20-15 at Pub 32.

Snow: no cancellation on 2/9/15, discussed general concerns.

Tax meeting is set up (bursar representative and CPA); 3-5 pm in Konover Auditorium, working on setting up note-taking and live stream, hope to find a way to take questions from students via live stream

Apportionment Report for AY15-17

Adopted by the Graduate Student Senate on

RELEVANT GSS BYLAWS

Bylaw III, Section 2, Part C.iiv

Academic constituencies shall be apportioned at least three-fourths of the total number of seats apportioned, including at-large seats but not including the GSS officers.

Bylaw III, Section 2, Part D

While the Procedures Committee shall have flexibility in apportioning seats in the Senate amongst the academic constituencies, the following guidelines should be used:

- i) Dividing lines between the enrollments required for each level of representation (1, 2, 3, or more seats per constituency) should correspond to natural breaks in the distribution of constituency enrollments.
- ii) Constituencies within roughly the 50th percentile of the distribution of constituency enrollments should receive 1 seat.
- iii) Constituencies within roughly the 50th - 75th percentile of the distribution of constituency enrollments should receive 2 seats.
- iv) Constituencies above roughly the 75th percentile of the distribution of constituency enrollments should receive 3 seats.

Bylaw III, Section 3, Part A

At least one-twentieth of the apportioned seats shall be at-large. All graduate students who do not already represent a constituency in the Senate or serve on the Executive Committee shall be eligible to be at-large Senators.

PERCENTILE DIVISIONS, AY15-17

- **50th percentile** = 59 students. Any academic program having 56 or fewer students is apportioned one Senator according the above Bylaw.
- **50th through 75th percentile** = 60 to 122 students. Any academic program having between 60 and 122 students is apportioned two Senators according the above Bylaw.
- **75th percentile** = 123 students. Any academic program having 123 or more students is apportioned three Senators according the above Bylaw.

DURATION OF THE APPORTIONMENT

While this report is based on data included in the Fall 2014 Graduate School Enrollment Report, the apportioned Senate representation applies to AY15-16 and AY16-17 according to GSS Bylaw III, Section 2, Parts A and B. The apportionment must be redetermined by the first meeting of the Spring semester, 2017.

CHANGES IN REPRESENTATION SINCE LAST APPORTIONMENT

The following constituencies have received a reduction in senators apportioned:

- Communications, from 2 to 1.
- Educational Leadership, from 3 to 2.

The following constituencies have received an increase in senators apportioned:

- Agricultural & Resource Economics, from 1 to 2.
- Chemical & Biomedical Engineering, from 1 to 2.
- Computer Science & Engineering, from 2 to 3.
- Operations & Information Management, from 2 to 3.
- Speech, Hearing, and Language Sciences, from 1 to 2.

The following constituencies have been combined:

- Management and Marketing are now Business Administration.

The following constituencies have been added:

- Clinical and Translational Research

- Digital Media and Design
- Sports Management
- Earthquake Engineering Research Institute

The following constituencies are no longer recognized as per Article III, Section I Part A of the Constitution of the Graduate Student Senate:

- Judaic Studies (No current graduate student enrollment)

The number of academic constituencies has remained at 58

The number of apportioned academic Senators has increased from 102 to 104

The overall number of apportioned Senators has increased from 109 to 113

FULL APPORTIONMENT

Field of Study	Masters	Doctoral	Total	Seats
Accounting	159		159	3
Agricultural & Resource Economics	49	27	76	2
Allied Health Sciences	26		26	1
Animal Science	14	14	28	1
Anthropology	3	45	48	1
Art History	5		5	1
Biomedical Engineering	65	47	112	2
Business Administration	744	48	792	3
Chemical & Biomedical Engineering	11	50	61	2
Chemistry	6	140	146	3
Civil Engineering & Environmental Engineering	62	57	119	2
Clinical and Translational Research	16		16	1
Communications	6	38	44	1
Computer Science & Engineering	40	84	124	3
Curriculum and Instruction	174	14	188	3
Digital Media and Design	12		12	1
Dramatic Arts	43		43	1
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology	12	49	61	2
Economics	16	48	64	2
Educational Leadership	49	43	92	2
Educational Psychology	139	112	251	3

Electrical Engineering	36	117	153	3
English	5	78	83	2
Finance	208		208	3
Geography	5	31	36	1
Geological Sciences	9	6	15	1
History	9	41	50	1
Human Development and Family Studies	21	31	52	1
International Studies	20		20	1
Kinesiology	18	108	126	3
Linguistics		35	35	1
Literatures, Cultures and Languages	25	58	83	2
Marine Sciences	10	25	35	1
Materials Science and Engineering	12	76	88	2
Mathematics	82	58	140	3
Mechanical Engineering	149	71	220	3
Medieval Studies	1	8	9	1
Molecular and Cell Biology	52	95	147	3
Music	10	28	38	1
Natural Resources and the Environment	17	18	35	1
Nursing	125	78	203	3
Nutritional Science	8	14	22	1
Operations & Information Management	246		246	3
Pathobiology	6	15	21	1
Pharmaceutical Sciences	1	52	53	1
Philosophy	1	33	34	1
Physics	7	81	88	2
Physiology and Neurobiology	4	33	37	1
Plant Science and Landscape Architecture	19	9	28	1
Political Science	2	54	56	1
Polymer Science	2	26	28	1
Professional Studies	63		63	2
Psychology		152	152	3
Public Policy	83		83	2

Sociology		46	46	1
Speech, Hearing, and Language Sciences	42	61	103	2
Sports Management	23		23	1
Statistics	61	43	104	2
Studio Art	10		10	1
Total	3043	2397	5440	104
At Large Seats				6
Graduate Students of Color Association				1
Iranian Cultural Organization				1
Earthquake Engineering Research Institute				1
		Total		113

GOMCB Special Allocation Request

<i>Organization</i>	Graduate Organization: Molecular and Cellular Biology
<i>Event</i>	What a PhD in science can do for you
<i>Proposed Date</i>	03/26/15
<i>Contact Person(s)</i>	Tony Patelunas
<i>Date Submitted</i>	01/22/15
<i>Exec. Approval</i>	02/11/15
<i>Presented to</i>	
<i>Senate</i>	02/18/15

Proposed Budget

Code	Description	Proposed	Outside Revenues	Exec. Recommendation
620 Refreshments		\$200.00		\$200.00
606 Printing	Posters	\$100.00		\$100.00
615 Honorariums		\$200.00		\$200.00
624 Travel	if necessary; plane + hotel	\$700.00		\$700.00
Totals:		\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00

Summary

This special allocation request was presented to the GSS Executive Committee by Treasurer Ambroselli. The unanimous recommendation of the Executive Committee is that the Graduate Student Senate allocate \$1,200.00 to the GOMCB, for their event "What a PhD in science can do for you".