

Attendance:

- **Present:** Greg Treich, Phillip Price, Tony Patelunas, Michelle San Pedro, Thomas Briggs (minutes), Morad Behandish (absent) Ross Dordani (absent).

Meeting began 5.32pm

President: Tony Patelunas

- Connecticut Young Professionals (CTYP) event. Tony reminded Tom to send out an email announcement of the first CTYP/GSS social event.
- Loan Bylaws. Tony informed the Executive that the Bursar's Office are trying to prevent changes to the GSS Short Term loan process. The Bursar's Office complained that extending the loan period would mean the loans were no longer "short term" and that the lending period will extend over semesters. Tony explained that he could find no official definition of "short term" loans, and stated that in the financial industry there are "short term" loans that can go up to 5 years. He also explained that the current process allows for loans to go over semesters already so it is not introducing a new problem. He expressed dissatisfaction at the lack of cooperation from the Bursar's Office, and will work to remedy this.
- Telecasting bylaws. Tony said that he will present the telecasting bylaws to the Senate at the next meeting.
- Sustainability divestments. Tony said the Senate can vote at the next meeting whether to support the letter from Professor Mark Urban about UConn divesting from fossil fuels.
- Guest Speaker. Tony informed the Executive that the next guest speaker is Tanya Husick, UConn's Transportation Planner. He stated that the guest speaker at the final meeting will be Scott Jordan, Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President for Administration.
- New Board of Trustees graduate representative. Tony announced that Kevin Braghirol, the graduate student from the law school, who came to speak at the GSS meeting won the election to be the graduate representative for the next two years.
- Agenda items
 - New Business
 - Sustainability divestment letter
 - President's report
 - Connecticut Young Professionals event
 - Board of Trustees graduate representative
 - Student Health Services Executive Director search

Vice President: Michelle San Pedro

- Constitution Change. Michelle explained that she will present the change to the GSS meeting clock that was approved by the GSS at the last meeting to the Board of Trustees

Student Life Committee in late April, where it will then go to the Board of Trustees for approval.

- Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP). Michelle explained the changes she wanted GSS to request are made to improve the SHIP. She asked the Executive whether any of her recommendations were not worth pursuing. Tony commented that it is worth pursuing all the points, particularly the suggestion that we divest from Bailey's Agency and look to form a consortium with other colleges and universities or join a larger national health insurance plan.
- Agenda items
 - New Business
 - Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) resolution vote
 - Vice President's report
 - Student Welfare Committee report

Treasurer: Greg Treich

- Finance Committee update. Greg informed the Executive that there had been a mistake with distributing the dates to committee members about GSOs' budget hearings but this has been resolved and they will take place next week.
- Special Allocations Request. Greg announced that Tarang has submitted a request for \$200 for refreshments for their cricket league. The Executive agreed to put the request to the Senate for approval at the next GSS meeting.
- Payroll meeting. Greg announced that there will be a meeting held by the Payroll department for the incoming-Executive board and Ross Dordani explaining how their pay is processed in accordance with state and federal minimum wage legislation.
- Agenda items
 - Treasurer's report
 - Finance Committee - GSO Budget hearings

Communications Director: Thomas Briggs

- GSS Logo/Banner. Tom explained that he has contacted Brandon Nickle, an MFA Candidate in UConn's Digital Media and Design department who has offered to help us design a secondary logo and banner artwork.
- GSS Service Award update. Tom stated that he will send out an email on 28th March reminding people to submit their nominations for the award before the end of March.
- GSS promotional email. Tom explained that he had not yet sent out the promotional email and will be contacting the Executive members for information that can be put into an email to promote the work GSS does for the graduate body to increase awareness of GSS and encourage participation. He said he will send this out with the email sent out on

Monday to remind people of the next GSS meeting and the elections that are being held for the new Executive.

- Agenda items
 - Communications Director's report
 - Attendance
 - GSS Service Award

Parliamentarian: Phillip Price

- GSS Executive Officer elections. Phillip informed the Executive that Executive Officer elections will be taken at the next GSS meeting. He recommended giving all candidates an opportunity to submit a written statement in advance and to speak at the meeting if they wanted to, but if candidates were nominated during the meeting they should not be forced to make an improvised statement. He stated that Senators will be able to ask the candidates questions before the election takes place.
- Agenda items
 - Parliamentarian's report
 - Presidential and Treasurer pay

Activities Director: Morad Behandish (*Tom Briggs read out a prepared report submitted via email by Morad*)

- GSS Visa Seminar. Morad stated that this event was cancelled due to the speaker's limited availability which would have made his presentation too close to the similar visa seminar held by the Graduate Employee Union (GEU-UAW). He stated that if there is still demand for the visa seminar after the GEU event then he can ask the speaker, who is a local attorney unlike the GEU's speaker, to come and present at another time, or he can advise the next GSS Activities Director to do so.
- Agenda items
 - Activities Director's report
 - Event updates

Meeting adjourned 6.17pm