

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. Recognition of Senators**

**III. Approval of minutes**

- a. Executive meeting minutes, November 30, 2016 – The minutes were approved by a voice vote.
- b. Senate Meeting Minutes, November 9, 2016 – The minutes were approved by a voice vote.

**IV. Unfinished Business**

- a. Quarterly bills (Chriss) – Chriss Sneed is working through some of the financial backlog, but quarterly bills are still due.

**V. Executive Committee Reports**

- a. President – Chriss Sneed
  - i. ISSS International Student Leadership Updates (Chriss) – There will be a meeting next week with Dean Holsinger and Christine Wilson. We wanted to meet before everyone started travelling but were not accommodated. Details of the meeting will be sent by email when available.
  - ii. University Senate report – see attached agenda.
    1. Support for Undocumented Students – See joint resolution on p. 8 of the senate minutes. University lawyers confirmed the resolution is lawful. University police did a presentation confirming the same thing.
    2. The University Senate discussed an environmental literacy requirement for undergraduates. The proposal will go to the curriculum committee.
- b. Vice President – Matt Parent
  - i. SEC Committee Chair Report – Covered above by Chriss.
- c. Treasurer – Covered by Chriss

- i. 2016/2017 budget issues – The senate is reminded to us the please use the direct payment protocol outlined in previous meetings. Back reimbursements are being worked on by Chriss.
  - 1. The executive board approved using \$1200 for one larger happy hour event, as we have an excess of funds for happy hour.
- d. Parliamentarian – Donyeil Hoy
  - i. Attendance policy reminder (Don) – If a constituency hasn't met the attendance requirement you will not have a budget next semester, but you will still need to attend to secure a budget for next fall. If your constituency has lost its budget, it will still qualify for special allocations.
  - ii. By-law update – You cannot be the representative for more than one organization. This was passed last year but not entered into the current by-laws. Those will be updated over the break.
- e. Communications Director
  - i. Involvement Fair – We were contacted about this but will probably not participate.
  - ii. Parking and transportation survey and complaint form – These are going live this week!
- f. Activities Director – Bahareh Deljoo
  - i. Thanksgiving Update – The event went very well. We appreciate every one who came, and especially those who volunteered their time to make it happen.
  - ii. Bingo Event Happy Hour – Details of this event are forthcoming. It may be a welcome event the first week of the semester.

**VI. New Business**

- a. **Senator at large vote – Song has been approved by closed ballot.**
- b. Pay for all e-board members (Matthew)

- i. Activities Director – Stipend for this position was approved by voice vote
- ii. Parliamentarian – Stipend for this position was approved by voice vote
- iii. President – Stipend for this position was approved by voice vote
- iv. Vice President – Stipend for this position was approved by voice vote
- c. Storage space rentals (Jordan) – We are looking into this in order to make the office more organized and safe (towers of boxes are unstable). The executive committee approved the expenditure.
- d. Thank-you Honorariums (Chriss)
  - i. The executive committee would like to give out some honorariums as a thank-you for people who have gone above and beyond in their service this semester. In the future, this should go to the awards committee. Overall, the senate was concerned about this as a practice. Some of the reasons are listed below.
    - 1. Tom Briggs suggests this should go to the awards committee.
    - 2. Monique Golden expressed concern that this represents a lack of transparency, that the executive committee is making decisions unilaterally.
      - a. Chriss responded that this is not a unilateral decision, that the executive committee is proposing it now, to the senate, to be approved or not approved.
    - 3. Others expressed concern that this is not a good way to spend money. It may look like we are paying friends to help out doing things like moving furniture.
    - 4. Others asked if this can be decided upon at a later date.
      - a. The money can only be distributed once per semester.
    - 5. A motion to table this proposal is approved by a voice vote.

- e. USG resolution – a motion to endorse the USG resolution to support undocumented students (see attached resolution). The movement was approved unanimously by voice vote.

**VII. Other Business**

- a. Senate Student Welfare Committee report – See attached report by Tom Briggs.

**VIII. Issues Forum**

- a. GSS Survey – Tom Briggs suggests this might be a good time to administer another GSS survey. Perhaps the Student Life Committee could do this.
  - i. Information is available on the google drive
- b. Visa Compliance Fee – Cera Fisher presented information from the Board of Trustees meeting this morning, where they voted changes to fees, including a visa compliance fee for FY 2018 (see attached email for contents of report).
  - i. Tony Patelunas reported that Provost Choi and Scott Jordan hosted the executive committee of GSS and USG to discuss fees during the last academic year. The Visa fee was discussed at this meeting. The hosts reported they wouldn't not levee these fees when attendees expressed concerns. Tony contrasts the vote that took place today with the statement the fee would not be leveed at the meeting last year.
    - 1. Chriss Sneed reports they were told thefee would not apply to graduate students, the fee was still being considered and it was unclear if/when it would happen. Then suddenly it has been approved, while the SEC was making members keep information about the fee confidential.
    - 2. Cera reported that initially the BoT approved the fee without knowing what it was, voted to rescind the decision, heard the presentation, then re-voted to approve it.

3. Tom Briggs reiterated Tony's previous point, stating that he was in attendance at the meeting Tony discussed and also recalls they were told that it wouldn't be for graduate students and the administration was just exploring it.
  4. Multiple meeting attendees asked what we can do. Can we put enough pressure on the administration to keep it from being implemented?
  5. Tony Patelunas suggested this should go student welfare, include Kevin, and draft a resolution against this kind of behavior, citing the event he attended.
  6. Entertain a motion of disapproval from GSS was passed by voice vote.
  7. A motion to refer the issue to student life was approved by a voice vote.
- c. Tony Patelunas raises the issue that, though his constituency didn't have budget this fall, they will in the spring and the current financial process is inefficient. He states the president should do the job of the treasurer or we should appoint an interim.
- i. Chriss – The University is pushing us to move forward on employment paperwork for the executive committee and electing an interim treasurer will be supporting their tactic. Additionally, the treasurer that the senate voted in to the position would have to officially resign.
  - ii. Monique Golden asked what the next step is to get old reimbursement and new claims paid.
    1. Chriss is working on the old reimbursements. For new financial transactions, constituents should refer to financial policy laid out at the November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- iii. Tony Patelunas requests that we please ask the administration of the issue will be resolved if we remove the stipends from the GSS executive committee positions. He also suggests this be taken to the graduate faculty senate.
    - 1. Jordan Rees wants to state for the record that she does not speak for the rest of the executive committee, but removing the stipends is a more than acceptable option if it resolves the issue and allows the full participation of F-1 Visa students.
  - iv. Chriss tried to take the issue to the faculty senate and was been politely told the graduate school is handling.
  - v. Tony
    - 1. Email the form letter sent previous by Jordan
    - 2. Continue to contact relevant administration
  - vi. Cera Fischer wanted to say for the minutes that she thanks the executive committee for protecting the body for the future, and our anger should be directed at the proper people, the ones messing everything up.
- d. Growth and development committee – report to be emailed.
  - e. Meeting extended by 10 minutes by voice vote

**IX. Adjournment - 9:23p.m.**

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  - a. President – Chriss Sneed
    - i. ISSS International Student Leadership Updates (Chriss)
    - ii. University Senate report  
<http://senate.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1323/2015/07/2016-1205-Senate-Agenda-FINAL.pdf>
    - iii. Support for Undocumented Students
  - b. Vice President – Matt Parent
    - i. SEC Committee Chair Report
  - c. Treasurer – Covered by Chriss
    - i. 2016/2017 budget issues
  - d. Parliamentarian – Donyeil Hoy
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  - b. Storage space rentals (Jordan)
  - c. Thank-you Honorariums (Chriss)
- VII. Other Business**
  - a. Senate Student Welfare Committee report – Tom Briggs
- VIII. Issues Forum**
  - a. GSS Survey – Tom Briggs
  - b. Visa Compliance Fee – Cera Fisher
- IX. Adjournment**

**A JOINT RESOLUTION REGARDING  
THE PROTECTION OF UNDOCUMENTED STUDENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the Undergraduate Student Government is charged with representing the views of the Undergraduate Student Body at the University of Connecticut at Storrs;

**WHEREAS**, the result of the 2016 Presidential Election has created turmoil within many individuals at the University and has prompted conversation about the implications of Donald Trump's policy proposals on students at UConn;

**WHEREAS**, Undocumented Students are valuable members of our community and enrich our University;

**WHEREAS**, immigration status does not determine Undocumented Students' worth or lessen their contributions to UConn, Connecticut, or the United States;

**WHEREAS**, Donald Trump has threatened to rescind President Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (hereinafter referred to as DACA), a policy that allows eligible Undocumented People brought to the United States before the age of 16 to receive a two year renewable work permit and exemption from deportation;

**WHEREAS**, if DACA is rescinded, over one hundred UConn students will face the threat of deportation;

**WHEREAS**, a "Sanctuary City" is a municipality that refuses to use its resources to assist the Federal Government in determining the immigration status of any resident and does not use immigration status as the sole reason for arrest;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Undergraduate Student Government and University of Connecticut Undergraduate Student Body at Storrs opposes the rescindment of the DACA Program;

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Undergraduate Student Government and University of Connecticut Undergraduate Student Body at Storrs urge the UConn Administration to take whatever steps necessary to protect Undocumented Students;



**--THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Undergraduate Student Government and University of Connecticut Undergraduate Student Body at Storrs want UConn to implement the policies necessary to become a sanctuary city and prevent students from being deported;

**--THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that must include instructing University of Connecticut Departments, including the University of Connecticut Police Department, not to cooperate with Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) efforts to inquire about the immigration status of students;

**--THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Undergraduate Student Government and University of Connecticut Undergraduate Student Body at Storrs want the Town of Mansfield to implement the policies necessary to become a sanctuary city and prevent students from being deported;

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Undergraduate Student Government and University of Connecticut Undergraduate Student Body at Storrs request that the UConn Administration develops and releases a plan of action to address the deportation of any UConn student;

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Undergraduate Student Government and University of Connecticut Undergraduate Student Body at Storrs support the December 1st, 2016 deadline to release this plan set by students on November 9th, 2016;

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, Undergraduate Student Government encourages a healthy dialogue between students and Administration and urges all parties to work cooperatively to find solutions to the dire threats Undocumented Students face;

**THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, Undergraduate Student Government desires that UConn be a community that protects and welcomes all students regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual identity, ableness, age, immigration status, national origin, or socioeconomic status.

**Author(s):**

*Lauren Oldziej, CLAS*  
*Daniel A. Byrd, President*

**Sponsor(s):**

*Lauren Oldziej, CLAS*  
*Vanessa Villar, Multicultural and Diversity*  
*Christine Savino, McMahan*  
*Sydney Carr, CLAS*  
*Kristin Von Ohlsen, CLAS*  
*Fahima Dirir, MCD*  
*Alihan Seyrek, Mansfield Apartments*  
*Martin Villanueva, Towers*  
*Jacob Kowalski, Engineering*  
*Andrew Rogalski, North*  
*Christian Allyn, CAHNR*  
*Dylan Nenadal, Hilltop Halls*  
*Noah O'Connor, West*  
*Ama Appiah, CLAS*  
*Soledad Castellano, ACES*  
*Wanjiku Gatheru, McMahan*  
*Nandan Tumu, Buckley/Shippee*  
*Janae McMillan, North*  
*Darius Javidi, Buckley/Shippee*

Certified:

Enacted:

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November 16th, 2016  
George P. Wang  
Speaker of the Senate

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November 16th, 2016  
Daniel A. Byrd  
President of the Student Body

**Instructions:** Please fill out and email this form within 7 days of your committee meeting to [jordan.rees@uconn.edu](mailto:jordan.rees@uconn.edu) with the subject header “Committee Report Form” and the date of the next GSS meeting at which it will be presented (i.e., “Committee Report Form 11-7-12”). To fill out the form, click on the editable fields and enter the specified information.

**University Senate Student Welfare Committee**  
**November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

*Chair:* Karen Bresciano                      *Representative:* Thomas Briggs  
Student Affairs                                      Graduate Student  
[karen.bresciano@uconn.edu](mailto:karen.bresciano@uconn.edu)                      [thomas.briggs@uconn.edu](mailto:thomas.briggs@uconn.edu)

*Website:* <http://senate.uconn.edu/student-welfare-committee/>

*Committee Type:* External Senate Committee

**Overview of Report**

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Were the details of the meeting confidential?                      No

Was anything of relevance to graduate students?                      Yes

- Bus services
  - Hartford-Storrs bus service
  - Expanding to create off-campus bus services

**Detailed Report**

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UConn Transportation

Bill Wendt (Director of UConn Transport),  
Tanya Husick (Transportation Planner)  
Dennis Solensky (General Manager – Transport and Fleet Services)

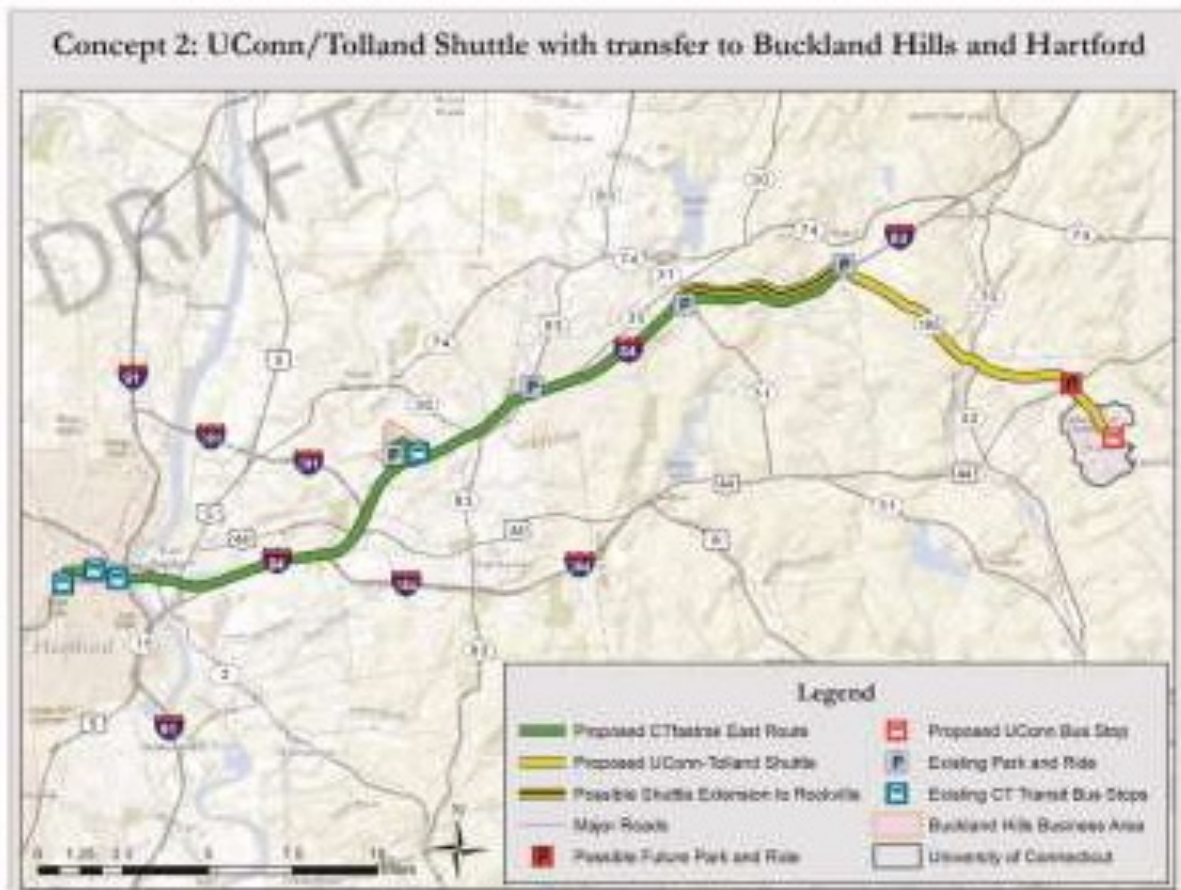
The UConn Transport management team presented on transportation issues.

- Parking

- Bill Wendt stated that UConn has more parking than most institutions for the size of its population.
- He said UConn needs to change its culture to take alternative options to cars.
- He said this could take up to 5 years.
- He said UConn intends to do more to improve public transportation to-and-from UConn.

- Hartford-Storrs service

- Bill Wendt said *CT Fast Track East* service should start Fall 2017 with opening of new Hartford Campus.
- He said it is 17% funded by UConn.
- He said the route will be: Hartford – Buckland Hills – Vernon – Tolland
- He said it needs to be complemented with a local route that ran from Tolland – Storrs – Willimantic



- WRTD

- Dennis Solensky said that they are looking to expand off-campus bus routes.
- He said he plan to do a full route restructuring within a year.

- He said current WRTD bus service problems should be directed to WRTD.

- I explained the problems with the WRTD service and that it gives priority to other service users, not UConn students, and that its management are unresponsive to student complaints and concerns.

- I suggested UConn take over the Storrs-Willimantic service and seek funding contributions from Windham to enable non-UConn affiliated service users to still travel to Storrs and Mansfield.

Motor-scooters

A committee member raised concerns about the regulation of motorbikes and the danger they present to people walking on campus.

**Action Items for Senate**

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- Provide data to enable UConn Transport to expand off-campus bus routes
- Suggest other items to bring to next committee meeting tomorrow

**Attachments\***

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Do you have any attachments? Should they be displayed during your report?

*\* Please only include an attachment if the document is not (or will not become) available publically elsewhere AND if you cannot excerpt from it to include in your detailed report AND if it is a necessary accompaniment to your detailed report. Attach it as a .doc file (if possible) separately.*

## **Email From Cera Fischer Regarding Board of Trustees Vote on Visa Compliance Fee**

Hi folks,

I'll be attending the GSS meeting tonight as a senator for the EEB constituency, but I also wanted to drop you a line in advance about something I'd like to bring up during the Issues forum. Today the Board of Trustees just approved the following new fee:

"VISA COMPLIANCE FEE: UConn strives for academic excellence and diversity and is proud to attract and host international students and scholars from around the world. In the last ten years, the international student and scholar population has increased dramatically from 1,717 to 4,242 students. To support the growing programmatic and federal visa compliance needs for this group, the Administration is proposing a new Visa Compliance Fee of \$350/semester, which will be charged to J-1 and F-1 visa holders. The new revenue will be used to support employees within the UConn Office of Global Affairs who are responsible for visa compliance, as well as provide funding and programmatic support for English language services, cultural centers, recruitment, First Year Experience, etc. "

-- See Attachment 12 of the full BOT agenda here: <http://boardoftrustees.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1799/2016/06/2016-12-07-BOT-Full-Agenda-Includes-Attachments-Informational-Items-and-Committee-Agendas.pdf>

This was the first I'd ever heard of it, so I wanted to bring it up because it affects all students, undergrads and graduate students.

Cera

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Doctoral student, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
University of Connecticut