**Wednesday, October 3rd, 2018**

**I. Call to Order – 7:10 PM**

**II. Recognition of Senators** – 28 Senators were present.

**III. Guest Speakers – Kent Holsinger**

1. Kent is the Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School
2. Question: For the 3MT competition, how does citation work? It’s an in person competition where the candidate projects one slide so citations could go there.
3. Question: How do you interact with students in terms of an advisory role? The majority of students I see are those going through a particular challenge, which is certainly a small minority. And as a reminder, I only get involved when things get particularly complicated or involved.
4. Question: Who is the POC for such issues? Cinnamon Adams
5. Question: Who is the POC to coordinate outreach to undergrads, particularly students of color, in order to prepare them for the grad school and the application process? Karen Bresciano could be a good speaker for this.
6. Question: Is the 3MT mainly geared towards students who are in the process of completing their dissertation or those at an earlier stage? Typically those in the later stages but even those in the mid stage could enter so long as there is a chunk of the research you believe is interesting enough to present.
7. Question: Is the Graduate School involved in the Presidential Search Committee? Yes, I am on the search committee. Go to Presidentsearch.uconn.edu for more info.
8. Question: Are the amounts given out to grad students for scholarships or assistantships decided at the Grad School level or otherwise? The amounts and where these go is determined at the department level or even at the faculty level.

**IV. Meeting Policy and Robert’s Rules of Order – Presentation by VP Erin**

**V. Approval of Minutes:**

1. GSS-2018-09-12 General Meeting
2. GSS-2018-09-27 E-Board Meeting

*Cristian Gogu motioned to approve all minutes as shown. Motion was seconded by Daniel Pfeifer. Stephanie Santos abstained from motion. The remainder of the Senate approved the minutes unanimously.*

**VI. Unfinished Business**

No unfinished business from last meeting

**VII. Executive Committee Reports**

1. President – Justin Fang
   1. Announcement for CT Midterm Elections – Another plug to please go vote!
   2. Presidential Search Committee update – Our ideal qualities list has be compiled and sent to the Search committee. Thank you to those who provided feedback.
   3. Announcement for James Comey’s lecture – If you are interested in attending, tickets are free and available at the box office.
2. Vice President – Erin Curry
   1. ATM survey from UConn Procurement – This was sent out today.
   2. Hiring new GSS Administrative Assistant – We are currently in the hiring process currently and will be reviewing applications in the next week so we should have an update for you by the next meeting.
   3. Internal Committee Recruitment:
      1. Activities Committee
      2. Finance Committee (Election Announcement)
      3. Policies and Procedure Committee
      4. Student Life Committee
      5. Public Relations Committee
   4. External Committee Recruitment: (There is always a call-in option if a member cannot attend in person.)
      1. Senate Growth & Development
      2. Scholastic Standards
      3. Provost’s Library Advisory Committee
3. Treasurer – Kevin Boyd
   1. Transfer of funds within General Operations Budget – We had to create a new section for rentals in order to pay for our storage. It was approved unanimously by the E-Board.
   2. Student Activity and Service Fee Advisory Committee (SASFAC) initial meeting report
      1. This committee advises the University on whether fees should be increased and how these fees are allocated.
      2. One of the things that came up is that the Student Health Services will be getting its own fee so they will no longer need allocation from the SASF.
      3. The majority of this fee goes to salaries so we are anticipating an increase in funding requests. This may change the recommendations but would not change the fees.
      4. There will be an open forum on fees will be on October 8th, 3-4 pm in SU 304A. SFAC.uconn.edu for more info.
   3. 4x special allocations need voting. This will happen in new business.
   4. GSS treasurer trainings – About ¾ of treasurers have attended training. Kevin can set up one on one trainings if needed for those who couldn’t make it to the meetings. These are to help you get your money so it’s up to you to get in touch.
   5. Reimbursement status – These are on track.
4. Communications Director – Ngoc Chau Vy
   1. Service Awards from 2017-2018 finally complete.
   2. Please send contact info for all e-board officers and senators for Tier II groups to Chau or gssuconn@gmail.com.
5. Activities Director – Jennifer Caffyn
   1. Halloween Happy Hour
      1. 4:30-7 pm on October 31st at Huskies Tavern.
      2. We will have a prize for best costume(s).
   2. Thanksgiving Lunch
      1. Tuesday November 6th in the Rome Commons Ballroom.
      2. There will be an RSVP form to register and to select one of the two sessions (11:30-12:30 and 1-2 pm). You must get an email confirmation to verify.
   3. Holiday Happy Hour – Maybe an ugly sweater event?
6. Parliamentarian – Andrew Meguerdichian
   1. Confirmation of all Tier II Senators
   2. Tier II Attendance Policy: Each constituency needs to be present for 3 senate meetings per semester.
   3. Committee reports

**VIII. New Business**

1. EGSA Special Allocation
   1. The E-Board recommended $100 supplement for travel.
   2. *Danielle Heichel motioned to approve the SA request; seconded by Alexis Ernst. The Senate approved the SA request for EGSA unanimously.*
2. LANGSA Special Allocation
   1. The E-Board recommended $100 for refreshments.
   2. *Nafis Fuad motioned to approve the SA request recommendation; motion seconded by William. The Senate approved the SA request for LANGSA unanimously.*
3. TARANG Special Allocation
   1. The E-Board recommended $400 for rentals.
   2. *Daniel Pfeifer motioned to approve the SA request recommendation; motion was seconded by Danielle Heichel.* *The Senate approved the SA request for Tarang unanimously.*
4. GSS Special Allocation
   1. The E-Board recommended $1,250 for awards.
   2. *Deepthi Varghese motioned to approve the SA request recommendation; motion was seconded by Nafis Fuad. The Senate approved the SA request for GSS unanimously.*
5. Presentation on conference by Andrew Meguerdichian via Powerpoint slides.

**IX. Committee Reports**

1. Danielle Heichel, Senate Faculty Standards
   1. The first meeting was held on September 17th.
   2. Tenure and reappointment procedure was updated. Preamble was added. Policy for tenure review was pushed to the end of year 3. There was some minor changing in phraseology.
   3. Sabbatical for non-tenure track faculty. Allowed if they can generate 100% of their own funding.
   4. Student evaluations were modified with respect to data reporting and question wording to make them stand our more.
   5. There was also discussion on how to increase participation.
2. Andrew Meguerdichian (2x committees)
   1. Graduate Faculty Council
      1. There will be a new admission software for the upcoming application cycle.
      2. They are moving the add/drop of courses to a more streamlined system online.
   2. Elections Committee – There was discussion on the election process and how to make it better. No major updates otherwise.

**X. Issues Forum**

1. Sam Surowitz: UConn is building a new hockey arena on campus. It is going to cost $50 million and only going to increase the seating of the current hockey arena by ~900 seats. Sam voted against it. If you have any questions or comments, please let Sam know. You can also voice your opinion in the public section of the forum’s website.
2. Question from Bahareh: Could we invite someone from the GEU to come elucidate some of the new terms of the GA/TA contract? Yes, actually they are scheduled to be our guest speaker next meeting.

**XI. Adjournment** – Roman Mays motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Deepthi Varghese. Meeting was unanimously adjourned by the Senate at 10:02 pm.