**Wednesday, November 14th, 2018**

**I. Call to Order – 7:04 pm**

**II. Recognition of Senators** (Quorum was not met at the initial recognition but additional senators arrived during the guest speaker presentations.)

**III. Guest Speaker:**

1. Suzanne Onorato (University Health Services)
   1. The SHS collect graduate student-specific data to tailor their care and services to our needs.
   2. Question: Does the SHS offer primary care services, for example annual physicals? Yes, we should be listed and definitely take the grad student insurance.
   3. Question: Is the SHS 24/7? No we do have listed hours which are usually til 8 pm or 10 pm during the schoolyear.
   4. FYI, there is an online scheduler to book appointments online.
   5. Question: Can you provide us an update on the hiring of additional mental health professionals as we recall from last year that there’s very high demand for it? Yes, we’ve hired five additional members in the past couple years. Our model for care has also evolved to several different categories of care. We have also hired case managers for regional campuses.
2. Dan Schwarts (COR2E Director)
   1. The website for the center is core.uconn.edu .
   2. The mission of COR2E is to bring together resources, e.g. facilities and expertise for STEM researchers across campus.
   3. Currently, COR2E is meant only to list facilities which are open to all UConn users. Squared Labs, however, is working on getting instrumentation and resources available in individual labs, in one searchable space.
   4. Another service that COR2E provides is illustration services. It’s available at a pretty reasonable student hourly rate.
   5. Lincus, another tool that grew out of COR2E, is one that makes it possible to search the university for faculty/staff expertise. Access it at lincus.uconn.edu

**V. Approval of Minutes:**

1. GSS-2018-10-24 Senate Meeting
2. GSS-2018-11-12 E-Board Meeting

*Timothy Michaels motioned to approve all minutes; seconded by Alexis Ernst. The minutes were approved unanimously by the Senate.*

**VI. Unfinished Business**

**VII. Executive Committee Reports**

1. President – Justin Fang
   1. Hockey Stadium Update
      1. It’s been approved at this point.
      2. We voted against it but everyone else voted for it.
   2. UConn Foundation Opening
      1. The position will be open by the end of this academic year.
      2. Both UGs and grads qualify, only one student representative is allowed so we will be running against them when the vote opens up.
   3. Youth Activism Metanoia
      1. If you are interested in joining this committee, let us know.
      2. This committee has a budget of $25k. We don’t know where this money is coming from though.
2. Vice President – Erin Curry
   1. Dean of CLAS Search
      1. Erin was able to attend 1 of the 4 candidate presentations.
      2. The search is under way and we will keep you posted.
   2. UConn Food Insecurity Study
      1. The group running this is looking to get information on food security among the student population.
      2. There is an event, a pop-up food pantry, Nov 15th 1-6 pm in the SU third floor.
   3. Student Welfare Committee report
      1. We heard from people from the Title 9, which centers around sexual harassment, reports, responses and claims.
      2. All the info is available on the Institutional Equity website.
      3. Cinnamon Adams brought up that students have come forward that their advisor/department isn’t very supportive about students’ endeavors to go into industry. We will be investigating this and let you know soon.
3. Treasurer – Kevin Boyd
   1. GSAC Special Allocation 🡪 New Business
   2. Monthly bill 🡪 New Business
   3. General budget update
      1. Our balance going into this year was ~$80k which is higher than is recommended.
      2. The plan to reduce this is to draw out the balance over the course of the next few years by increasing expenditures.
      3. The expenditures are implemented by increasing the allowed budgets and special allocations for Tier II’s. For example, the budget we approved this year is already higher than previous years.
   4. SASFAC Report
      1. Based on the committee’s analysis, it is looking like the General University Fee will need to be raised by ~$120.
      2. There is disagreement on whether there should be a fee increase or an across the board recision.
      3. Based on the discussion, it seems like people
4. Communications Director – Ngoc Chau Vy
   1. Marth Mentorship Award
      1. The recipient this year will be Dr. Sandra Chafouleas, who is a professor in the department of Educational Psychology.
      2. She was a rollover candidate from last year and we found the letters from her students to be the most heartfelt and deserving of this mentorship award.
5. Activities Director – Jennifer Caffyn
   1. Halloween Happy Hour
      1. Attendance was at over 180 people, whereas we only ordered food for 100 people.
      2. A few people got small prizes for best costume.
   2. Thanksgiving Lunch
      1. Attendance was in the high 400s/low 500s.
      2. Maybe the big rainstorm deterred attendance.
   3. Holiday Happy Hour update
      1. This is booked for December 5th, from 4:30-7 pm.
      2. The theme will be holiday sweaters, so wear something fun and festive!
6. Parliamentarian – Andrew Meguerdichian
   1. Policies and Procedures Committee meeting
      1. The committee met and updated the By-Laws.
      2. We will be sending it out for your review and we can discuss next meeting and vote on it first thing in the spring.
   2. Apportionment of Senator Spots – Will be done in the spring to verify that departmental enrollment has not changed.

**VIII. New Business**

* 1. GSAC Special Allocation
     1. The E-Board recommended $800 for refreshments for the requested event based on the grad student attendance.
     2. *Motion to approve the SA was started by Nafis Fuad. Motion was seconded by Roman Mays. The SA as recommended was approved unanimously by the Senate.*
  2. October Monthly Bill
     1. Kevin presented the October bill.
     2. *The motion to approve payment of the monthly bill was initiated by Alexis Trench; seconded by Renee Rotolo. The monthly bill payment was approved unanimously by the Senate.*

**IX. Committee Reports**

1. Jennifer Caffyn for the Parking and Transportation Committee
   1. Bus lines have been revamped.
   2. Suggestion to break this committee down to sub-committees.
   3. Any comments or feedback for Jen to take back?
      1. Communication in general is not great.
      2. The staff and students who work at the parking office are not pleasant or helpful.
      3. Would it be possible to set up a question and answer forum? Maybe make it searchable.
2. Meeting extension – *Rose Dziedzic motioned to extend the meeting by 20 minutes; seconded by Alexis Ernst. The Senate, with the exception of Chau Vy, voted to extend the meeting by 20 minutes.*

**X. Issues Forum**

1. Short term loan – GSS offers a no interest loan of up to $1500.
2. SAGE events – There are numerous coming up so please come!
3. To amend the University By-Laws, there was a draft proposal that made the Board of Trustees less democratic. Sam voted against these changes, as one of the protectors of student interest on the board.

**XI. Adjournment –** *Rose Dziedzic motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Alexis Trench. Meeting was adjourned at 9:07 pm.*