**Wednesday, December 5th, 2018**

**I. Call to Order – 7:06 pm**

**II. Recognition of Senators** - Quorum was not met with 19 senators at the time of recognition.

**III. Guest Speaker – Craig Kennedy, University Provost**

1. The Provost is the Chief Academic Officer
2. Many faculty and staff searches happened this past year. We got many great applicants which is a measure of how UConn is perceived by the country.
3. Review is constantly undergoing to ensure that the graduate curriculums match the need of our students and their career placements.
4. Our office is working actively to strengthen the University’s diversity awareness and activism.

**V. Approval of Minutes –** *Since quorum was not met, we will move a vote to approve these to the next meeting.*

1. GSS-2018-11-14 Senate Meeting
2. GSS-2018-12-04 E-Board Meeting

**VI. Unfinished Business**

**VII. Executive Committee Reports**

1. President – Justin Fang
	1. New meeting dates for the spring for GSS and the GEU
	2. UConn Presidential search status – Candidates have been finalized will be voted upon by mid to late December.
	3. Senator-at-large elections – If anyone is interested in running, please contact Justin and let him know.
2. Vice President – Erin Curry
	1. Changes to Shruti’s holiday hours
		1. Our administrative assistant has set up alternative holiday hours.
		2. They can be found at gss.uconn.edu.
	2. Spring metanoia on student activism
		1. It will be a 2-3 day series of workshops and panels.
		2. We are looking for esteemed youth activists to come speak.
		3. Some major points are the Environment, Feminism, Gun Control, Equity, etc.
3. Treasurer – Kevin Boyd
	1. SASFAC budgets have been submitted to the committee for review in the spring. No major issues anticipated since we are not requesting a fee increase.
	2. Budget proposals for Tier II’s for the FY 2019-20
		1. They are due January 31st.
		2. The forms can be found online on the GSS website and will also be emailed out to you as well.
		3. As a reminder, please include the number of anticipated graduate students for attendance to avoid having to appeal based on this missing information.
	3. Reminder for Tier II treasurers who have not contacted Kevin in the past
		1. There are a number of treasurers who have failed to meet the Business Office’s requirements.
		2. Some of these issues can be fixed by us; others may not be so please have your treasurers contact Kevin for proper training if they haven’t already.
4. Activities Director – Jennifer Caffyn
	1. Holiday Happy Hour update
		1. Date is December 13th, 4:30-7 pm.
		2. Holiday sweater themed.
		3. Will take place at Huskies as usual. Free food and great drink deals.
	2. Spring Graduate Orientation happy hour on January 17th
	3. Other spring events include more happy hours and Grad Formal.
5. Parliamentarian – Andrew Meguerdichian
	1. By-Laws revisions
	2. Financial Policies and Procedures revisions
6. Communications Director – Ngoc Chau Vy

**VIII. New Business**

* 1. Anthony Patelunas, UConn Foundation – Please see Powerpoint slides.
	2. Exec Travel Reimbursement Presentation, Ngoc Chau Vy – Please see Powerpoint slides.

**IX. Committee Reports**

1. Jennifer Caffyn for the Transportation and Parking Committee
	1. Parking fees will likely be increased to offset costs for upkeep.
	2. Also hoping to get the state’s DOT to run the bus routes that are technically off-campus in order to free up some busses for intra-UConn routes.
	3. A lot of parking lots (X lot, paved and unpaved, and L lot) will be closed at the start of summer so brace yourselves for that.
	4. There was a transportation survey that was sent out. Please take it to provide feedback for parking and more efficient bussing.
	5. A subcommittee will be starting to develop new technologies for parking spot counting and bus user-ship tracking.
2. Stephanie Santos for the Diversity Committee
3. Rose Dziedzic for the Academic Integrity Committee
	1. Two separate policies are in play to handle academic integrity and misconduct.
	2. For undergrads, it’s more focused on plagiarism. For grads, it’s geared towards falsifying data, etc.
	3. Rose would like to get feedback on the undergrad portion from your experience as TAs etc.
	4. Question: What’s the guidelines on reporting? There is a reporting system in place but a lot of faculty don’t want to report because they’re worried that it would follow the student forever. There may be action taken to re-communicate with faculty to clarify that this is not necessarily the case.
	5. Question: What other forms of academic misconduct is there? The policies are laid out in the handbooks.
4. Tom Briggs
	1. President’s Working Group for Immigration Changes committee
		1. Financial Aid of undocumented students
			1. Undocumented students can’t get graduate funding
			2. The committee is concerned that legally, they would have to give up info on these students if asked,
		2. Public Charge Rule – As an international student, your visa renewal could be jeopardized if accept public benefits because you are supposed to be able to support yourself. Be wary and cognizant of what benefits you accept and claim.
		3. New and Unlawful Presence Rule – Be careful on accepting too many income sources to ensure you still fall within the legal guidelines.
	2. Senate Scholastic Standards committee
		1. This committee reviews lots of by-laws on academics.
		2. It’s mostly geared towards undergrads.
		3. FYI, there are no legal requirements of instructors to keep student work. The University recommends that they are kept for 6 months to a year.
		4. Gradebooks must be kept for 5 years.
	3. Provost’s Library Advisory committee
		1. This committee is basically a brainstorming session on how to run the libraries and how to make it better.
		2. About 1/3 of the staff have been lost. Usership continues to rise. They hope to increase the staff numbers in the hiring plan.
		3. Thesis binding is no longer offered. They seem to be taking this quite seriously and Tom will continue to follow up so that this service can be offered to grad students at a reasonable cost.
5. Samuel Surowitz for the Board of Trustee
	1. The BoT meets about 8 times a year.
	2. There are 21 members which are either appointed, elected or ex-officio.
	3. The BoT is the only authority on making decisions on University By-Laws, major changes to academic programs and selling/buying University property.
	4. The President’s Chief of Staff is also the BoT’s Secretary.
	5. Sam has a few questions for the Senate:
		1. Are people interested in formal reports or office hours?
		2. Sam would like to have the University mandate training active threat training. What do people think about that?

**X. Issues Forum**

**XI. Adjournment**