**Wednesday, March 27th, 2019**

**CHEM A-203**

**I. Call to Order – 7:06 pm**

**II. Recognition of Senators** – Quorum was met with ~27 senators.

**III. Guest Speaker – None today.**

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

1. GSS-2019-02-20 Senate Meeting
2. GSS-2019-03-26 E-Board Meeting

*Alexis Ernst motioned to approve the minutes as shown; seconded by Mo Akhshik. The minutes were approved unanimously by the Senate.*

**V. Unfinished Business –** Approval of past minutes included in section IV.

**VII. Executive Committee Reports**

1. President – Justin Fang
	1. Breakfast/Lunch with President Herbst – Signup will be sent out once we establish a time.
	2. Trustee Bill HB-7119
		1. This bill is proposing to add two more student representatives to the Board of Trustees.
		2. We are working on writing student testimonials in favor of this.
	3. Mansfield Downtown Partnership
		1. This is a governing coalition of the business in this area. They are opening the committee to a student member.
		2. Anyone who interested in joining the committee, please contact Justin.
	4. Renovations to the SU
		1. In response to complaints when the SU is full, we would like to ask the SU to put in a card-access lock to make it only accessible to grad students.
		2. Any other suggestions for renovations, send them to Justin.
2. Vice President – Erin Curry
	1. Executive Committee Elections
		1. This will happen later in the meeting.
		2. Anyone would like to run, you are welcome to nominate yourself or anyone else present.
3. Treasurer – Kevin Boyd
	1. Tier II budget presentation
		1. Kevin presented the budget.
		2. This will be sent out to everyone and be voted upon during the next meeting.
4. Communications Director – Ngoc Chau Vy
	1. Promotional items order
		1. This year we have decided to get a nice double walled stainless steel mug, a lunchbag and pens.
		2. PO has been submitted and we hope to receive the items before the next meeting.
	2. GSS Service Award
		1. As mentioned during the previous meeting, the GSS Service Award goes out to graduate students who have gone above and beyond the call of service to assist GSS in its functions, organization and success. The floor was opened for nominations from last meeting.
		2. For this year, nominations we received include:
			1. Stephanie Santos for her willingness to serve on numerous committees when no one else would step up;
			2. Deepthi Varghese for her countless hours spent advising and helping the current E-board with her knowledge and experience with GSS, and for her time in setup and tabling at several GSS events;
			3. Nafis Fuad for his dedication and reliability in the mundane and time-consuming endeavors of the GSS Finance Committee and assistance in other GSS committees and events;
			4. Alexis Ernst for her support in the organization and setup in virtually all the GSS events this year.
			5. For each of these nominees, we propose awarding a scholarship of $250.
			6. The Senate will vote on this award next meeting.
	3. GSS Graduate Community Service Award
		1. Nominations for the 2018-19 academic year are now open and published on the listserv and Graduate Daily News.
		2. We highly encourage you to submit an application as we don’t get many nominees each year.
5. Activities Director – Jennifer Caffyn
	1. Grad Formal
		1. We believe it went well.
		2. There was a SNAFU with the RSVP so we got lower turnout there than we anticipated. We will be on the lookout for similar issues in the future so it doesn’t happen again.
	2. Stuff a Husky
		1. April 3rd
		2. April 18th
6. Parliamentarian – Andrew Meguerdichian
	1. Andrew is working on cranking the numbers for apportionment.
	2. We will present and vote on this next meeting.

**VIII. New Business**

* 1. Special Allocations
		1. SAGE – $2000 for refreshments; $400 for supplies.

*Bahareh Deljoo motioned to approve the SA request; seconded by Alex Estrada. The Senate approved the motion unanimously.*

* 1. Monthly Bill – February 2019

*Alexis Trench motioned to approve the monthly bill; seconded by Gabby Corso. The Senate approved the motion unanimously.*

* 1. Executive Committee Elections
		1. President – *The winning candidate was Justin Fang (26/27 votes).*
		2. Vice President – *The winning candidate was (26/27 votes).*
		3. Treasurer – *The winning candidate was Nafis Fuad (27/27).*
		4. Communications Director – *The winning candidate was Gabrielle Corso (27/27).*
		5. Activities Director – *The winning candidate was Deepa Shukla (27/27).*
		6. Parliamentarian – *The winning candidate was Damaris Thuita (27/27).*

**IX. Committee Reports**

* 1. Erin Curry – Student Welfare Committee
		1. There are a number of grad students who feel that they don’t get positive feedback from their advisors if they decide to go into industry.
		2. The University administration seemed to be surprised when they were informed of this.
		3. Kay Gruder, who is an administrator in the Career Center, came to talk to us about this and acknowledged this. They are holding workshops for both students and faculties to improve upon this attitude.
	2. Jennifer Caffyn – Transportation and Parking Committee
		1. There are a lot of changes coming in the fall.
		2. There is a new building that will be erected in the spots of X lot and L lot. These lots will be going away.
		3. The first move will be taking place starting in Fall 2019.
		4. F lot will be converted to Area 2.
		5. All student permits for north garage will be moved to south garage.
	3. Gabrielle Corso – Distinguished Professor Selection Committee
		1. The committee met on March 7th to go over the packets of ten nominees.
		2. This was narrowed down to three candidates.

**X. Issues Forum**

1. Alexis Ernst gave a presentation on the MMM conference that she attended and how this related back to the graduate community UConn.
2. Kevin Boyd gave a presentation on the BPS conference that he attended and how this related back to the graduate community at UConn.

**XI. Adjournment**  *- Cynthia Gerber motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Alexander Estrada. Senate voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 pm.*