**Wednesday, October 2nd, 2019**

**7pm – 9pm, CHEM-A203**

1. **Call to Order: 7:06**
2. **Recognition of Senators-** Quorum was met with 29 senators.
3. **Guest Speaker:** 
   1. Kent Holsinger, *Dean of the Graduate School, Vice Provost for Graduate Education.*
4. ~7,200 graduate students at UConn (1 in every 4)
5. Invitation to graduate students to attend President Katsouleas inauguration this Friday @ 3pm.
6. Urged all graduate students to vote for the BoT graduate position.
7. In response to question asked about what the Graduate School is doing to make international students feel more welcome- Enrollment services and global affairs sent a team to China for a pre-orientation for students coming from China.
8. In response to a question asked about non-grad students using the “grad only” room in the Union- There are plans for a dedicated “Grad only” lounge in the library but the Graduate School is working on securing funds for this.
9. In response to a question asked about UConn’s excessive parking ticket revenue - stating there is not enough parking on campus for 30,000 cars and more lots need to be built on the outskirts of campus.
10. In response to a question asked about graduate students backlogged summer pay- The Graduate School needs to do a better job of communicating the delay in the beginning of summer.
11. In response to a question asked about international graduate students being overqualified for on-campus jobs- He will try to see if the Graduate School can allow graduate students access to undergrad on-campus jobs that they are overqualified for.
12. The Graduate School is interested in developing a graduate exchange program, however, the difficulty is finding abroad campuses to exchange students with.
13. **Approval of Minutes:**
    1. GSS-2019-09-04 GSS General Meeting Minutes
    2. GSS-2019-09-30 E-Board Meeting Minutes

*Robert Daniels motioned to approve the minutes as shown; seconded by Derrick Kamp. The minutes were approved unanimously by the Senate.*

1. **Unfinished Business:**
2. **Executive Committee Reports:**
   1. President – Justin Fang
      1. UConn BoT Elections currently ongoing
      2. UConn’s Environmental Impact- Replacement of light bulbs, insulation and solar power potential for reducing energy use and environmental impact.
      3. University Senate Bylaws Amendment- Working on amending a bylaw to add an extra graduate student to participate in the Senate.
      4. Provost Search Projected Timeline- A review pool of the candidates will happen in December, candidates will be interviewed in January, a choice will be finalized in late spring and the new Provost will begin in Summer of 2020.
      5. Chief Diversity Officer Updates- President Katsouleas is still searching for a CDO.
   2. Vice President – Erin Curry
      1. Carpooling App Updates- Working on securing a few spots on campus and a developer for the App.
      2. New GSS Office Admin Assistant hired- An email will be sent out when everything is finalized.
      3. Tier II Officer SOLID Trainings (With Kristen Carr)
         1. Reminder to all Tier II Officers to complete SOLID trainings.
         2. Tier II orgs will be frozen by SABO if non-compliant.
      4. Committee Recruitment:
         1. Finance Committee (will vote on this in new business)
         2. President’s Council on Race and Diversity- Searching for a graduate student to sit on the committee
   3. Treasurer – Nafis Fuad
      1. Tier II Treasurer Trainings on Sept. 11th went well
      2. Special Allocation (will be voted on in new business)
   4. Communications Director – Gabrielle Corso
      1. Please send contact info for all e-board officers and senators for Tier II groups to gabrielle.corso@uconn.edu
   5. Activities Director – Deepa Shukla
      1. Need volunteers for happy hour events
      2. GSS Halloween Happy Hour date and details
         1. October 31st, from 4pm – 6pm, at Huskies Restaurant (Not Tavern)
      3. Thanksgiving Lunch date and details
         1. November 21st
   6. Parliamentarian – Damaris Thuita
      1. 4 Senator-at-large positions available
      2. Attendance policy review- Senator
      3. Incorporation of multi TIIRSOs into the bylaws
3. **New Business:**
   1. GSS Finance Committee Election:

Robert Daniels

Saketh Gudapati (Senator-at-large)

Tulika Paul

Robert Smith

Emily Green

*Cynthia Gerber motioned to approve the GSS Finance Committee Election as shown; seconded by Derrick Kamp. The GSS Finance Committee Election was approved unanimously by the Senate.*

* 1. TARANG Special Allocation

*Tulkia Paul motioned to approve the E-board recommendation for the special allocation as shown; seconded by Robert Daniels. The E-board recommendation for the special allocation was approved unanimously by the Senate.*

* 1. Nafis Travel Presentation- Presentation on conference attendance, and the knowledge that he is bringing back to the Senate.

1. **Committee Reports:**
2. Stephany Santos, Provost Search Committee- Stephany asks graduate students to email her with requests if they have topics/issues/ideas/suggestions to bring to the provost search.
3. Damaris Thuita, Graduate Faculty Council- New Master student program will be extended to 10 years.
4. **Issues Forum:**
5. Deepa Shukla, Accepting senate requests for different food options at the senate meetings.
6. Justin Fang
7. Money for electric buses will be utilized by WRTD in a partnership with UConn. UConn is seeking to turn over control of all UConn bus routes to WRTD. UConn would save a significant amount of money in doing so. WRTD is on track to replace fossil fuel buses with electric buses in an estimated 2 years.
8. Gym attire complaints from students at the new UConn Recreation center.
9. Rob Smith- Are special allocations welcome for this Fall 2019? Nafis responds, “Yes”.
10. Senator upset that previous senators did not attend meetings last semester and is therefore ineligible for funding. Justin recommends joining the policies and procedure committee.
11. Shamayeta Bhattacharya advertised a Tarang event happening in the Union tomorrow at 2pm.
12. Tulika Paul is unhappy about waiting time for appointments at the health service facilities on campus. Erin recommends Daniel Pfeiffer bring the issue to the Student Welfare Committee. Daniel Pfeiffer also suggests we bring a guest speaker from Mental Health Services to an upcoming GSS meeting.

1. **Adjournment:** *Cynthia Gerber motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Tulika Paul. Senate voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 pm.*