**Wednesday, December 4th, 2019**

**7pm – 9pm, CHEM-A203**

1. **Call to Order: 7:08pm**
2. **Recognition of Senators:** Quorum was met with 35 senators.
3. **Guest Speaker:**
	1. Laura Cruickshank *Master Planner and Chief Architect*
4. Designing the Northwest Science Quad and Supplemental Utility Plant
5. Science buildings require a great deal of resources and utilities
6. Utilities required are electric power, steam, chilled water, fire protection, water, reclaimed water, communications
7. Supplemental Utility Plant will need to be built because the University does not produce enough chilled water
8. Designing Fall 2017-Fall 2019 and construction Summer 2020-Summer 2022
9. UConn provides own water, chilled water, sewage system for not just UConn facilities but surrounding town so nothing is done arbitrarily (Although there are some utilities UConn has to import from Eversource, such as power)
10. Cannot keep expanding building conservation and taking buildings offline are ways to save money and resources [Factoid; 10 acres of solar power = 1 MW and UConn uses 55 MW!]
11. Improvements- Walls have been rebuilt in Gant from an insulation rating of 3 to 33, LED lights installed, water reuse, triple glazed efficient windows
12. Daniel Pfieffer asked if installing solar panels would be better than allowing the agriculture lands to be there? Laura says that in the area there isn’t 55,000 acres to create solar panels for UConn and that the Storrs campus is already very efficient compared to the Farmington campus
13. Derek Kamp asks what types of plants will be in the Woodland corridor and Laura responds that the design guidelines are what are appropriate for this area; drought resistant, cold resistant, etc. and Tanner Matson mentions that the Gingko trees do not add much ecology to the area and Laura agreed.
14. Robert Daniels mentioned that bike racks should be ample on campus and the one at the new rec center is behind the rec center instead of in the front.
15. Gabrielle Corso asked if there was a way to prevent the salt used on roadways and parking lots from entering the local farmlands nearby and Laura responds that the salt enter the filtration systems
16. **Approval of Minutes:**
	1. GSS-2019-10-30 Senate Meeting Minutes
	2. GSS-2019-11-26 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. Board of Trustees meeting updates
		2. Food insecurity for students on campus - There is a program already for students to donate extra swipes, as well as a food pantry being set up.
		3. Review of academic programs on campus
		4. Renovations at UConn Health in Farmington and many of these renovations are very expensive because there were updated regulations that UConn needed to comply to
		5. Appropriations Testimony before CT Legislature- Looking for 2 speakers to testify
		6. Spring Senate Meeting dates- Dates have been set but are still tentative, will notify Senators once confirmed.
	2. Vice President – Erin Curry
		1. Nomination: TAFTS committee- Seeking nominations for this committee
		2. Nomination: Community Resource Team- Seeking 1 nomination for this committee
		3. Carpooling App- App should be available before Fall of 2020 but the University said the App can be used whenever it is finished and the App will have designated Area 1 and/or Area 2 parking privileges
	3. Treasurer – Nafis Fuad
		1. New UConntact Finance Systems- If there are any treasurers here that would like to pilot test this new finance system next semester please reach out to Nafis.
		2. Tier II Budget Proposals for 2020-2021 will be due Jan. 31st, 2020
	4. Communications Director – Gabrielle Corso
		1. Promotional item requests- If anyone has ideas please email her
	5. Activities Director – Deepa Shukla
		1. Thanksgiving Lunch- 450 students showed up and it went well
		2. Spring Stuff-A-Husky event- will take place in Spring of 2020
		3. Spring Grad Formal date (April 3rd)- Room was booked on Apr. 3 so it will be on Mar. 6
	6. Parliamentarian – Damaris Thuita
		1. Bylaws change
			1. Incorporate multi-dept TierII RSO’s
			2. Senators requiring Dept. Head approval
		2. Update on proposed A/A+ grading policy change
3. Kathy Sergenson- Elimination of A+ grades for graduate students. Undergraduates grades are F-A and graduate student grades are F-A+. This is a problem when an undergraduate takes a graduate course and can’t earn the same grade. UConn is an outlier when compared to other Peer Aspirants. The proposal will be voted on at the first GFC meeting in the Spring semester. Once this is approved, then it would be implemented immediately.
4. Daniel Pfieffer asks if this would be retroactive and Kathy responds no.
5. **New Business:**
	1. Special Allocation (GSAC) Spring Semester Wings n’ Things

*Utsav Awasthi motioned to approve the GSAC special allocation as shown; seconded by William Biel. The special allocation was approved unanimously by the Senate.*

* 1. Senator Tate’s Resolution

*Roman Mays motioned to approve the Resolution as shown; seconded by Tulika Paul. The Resolution was passed unanimously by the Senate.*

* 1. Justin Fang Travel Presentation:
		1. M&M Conference presentation (August 2019)
		2. Mayo Clinic Conference presentation (November 2019)
	2. Ngoc Chau Vy Travel Presentation
		1. Summit on Global Chemicals and Petrochemicals (November 2019)
1. **Committee Reports:**
	1. SASFAC updates (Nafis Fuad)
2. Committee has come to a decision about the non-student entities that are funded by our student fees, and that fees will not be increased and organizations will not be receiving money except the marching band.
3. Ice Cream Tuesdays were quite popular in the summertime at The Union and undergrads were only paying $1 while everyone else was being charged $3 which is unfair so this was brought up to the director and now graduate students will only pay $1.
	1. University Senate Budget Committee updates (Nafis Fuad)
4. Proposed naming “unnamed” buildings as a way to generate revenue for the UConn Foundation.
5. UConn’s investment is very conservative- when stocks go down, little money is lost but when the stocks increase, money is gained.
6. Athletics does generate revenue but the money is then only used by Athletics. Note: Atheletics is typically budget negative, by approximately $40 million /year.
	1. Immigration Committee (Thomas Briggs)
7. International graduate population has maintained the same but applications have decreased.
8. International students claiming state benefits should be aware that this could be illegal and should seek advice
9. Worry about funding risks, 30% of engineering funding comes from the Department of Defense, which sometimes restricts research to US citizens.
	1. Library Committee (Thomas Briggs)
10. Trying to hire new staff due to low employee levels
11. Construction for a new stairwell in the near future
12. **Issues Forum:**
	1. Nafis Fuad- Proposal about the new tuition plan, tuition will be increased similarly for the in state and out of state students. Undergraduate students will see a raised tuition fee ($600 per academic year). Nafis asked if this would decrease the amount of in state students who are accepted and Scott Jordan responded that this will not be the case because out of state students acceptance has been declining.
	2. Daniel Pfieffer announced that the Student Welfare Committee is meeting tomorrow and the topic is international students so if anyone has anything to bring up please let him know.
13. **Adjournment:** *Cynthia Gerber motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Pejman Ghelich . Senate voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm.*