**Attendance:** Nafis Fuad, Roman Mays, Robert Daniels, Deepa Shukla, Irio Schiano, Gabrielle Corso, Robert Smith, Ashley Robinson and Manny Ramirez.

**Meeting began at 10:02am, via Zoom web platform**

1. **Guest Speaker:** 
   1. Manuel Ramirez, Grad student, Sociology- Yesterday at town hall meeting, UConn administration is overlooking many issue.
   2. Robert Smith, CEE rep from GEU
   3. Ashley Robinson, Vice President of the GEU- As a union, they have not received any communication from the University since the Pandemic has begun. There has been a severe lack of transparency and the union has not been included in the University “talks” and shows a lack of shared governance. The University will be making a decision on June 30th and so far the University has not involved the Union. Nafis said he is most concerned about summer funds for UConn graduate students and would like to have the reverse town hall as a platform for students to provide a testimony. Nafis said he wants to avoid sending out another email survey to graduate students. The GEU sent out a survey a couple weeks ago and received ~100 responses which provides useful information pertinent to graduate students and their funding. Manuel mentions that although we need to prioritize grad students, there is significant overlap between graduate and undergraduate students that should be taken into consideration.
   4. Nafis asks if international students are eligible for the CARES Act and Ashley says as far as she knows, they are not. Administration is telling students who are ineligible for the CARES Act to apply for the Students First Fund which will eventually run dry. CARES Act was only available for Title IV eligible students. Robert Smith says the issues with the CARES Act is exactly why students’ needs to be at the table. The way the administration decided to handle the money was
2. **Executive Committee Reports:**
   1. President –Nafis Fuad
      1. UConn Reopening Status
         1. Campus- Professors have the choice to teach their classes online and TA’s may or may not have this option. Hybrid version of classes are currently being proposed for Summer and Fall 2020.
         2. Research- As of May 20, labs need to apply to reopen their labs. Amount of people to be in labs at the same time is still to be determined.
      2. List of Graduate Student Demands- Talked about in the first potion of this meeting.
      3. Housing for Grad Students- 9 month system is not efficient for graduate students. UMass and URI both have graduate student villages and the benefit of this is if they student is in financial hardship, the University can waive their rent which lessens the burden.
      4. Legal Clinic for Grad Students- Have not made any progress on this yet, but it is still on the radar.
      5. GSS travel reimbursement – Kim is concerned right now because travel is being restricted. Since the funds are from the state, they will not be available. We need to think of other options of how to be reimbursed. Potentially could be paid by logging our miles to get to campus. Nafis asks the E-board if they have any suggestions and if so, to email him.
      6. Dean of students- There has and will be a stigma with Asian students who are wearing masks. We need to make it clear that UConn needs to support the system and if people are not wearing masks then what will the Dean of students do?! Robert Daniels said in Chemistry, designated students and PI’s will be monitoring the use of masks. Deepa mentions that she is on the University reopening committee which advises anyone working in the lab avoid using the restrooms.
   2. Vice President –Roman Mays
      1. Carpooling App Status- Made plans to speak with Erin and App developer to continue with the plan of rolling out the App for Fall of 2020.
      2. Financial Aid Sources for grad students- No new sources of financial aid have been discovered.
   3. Treasurer –Robert Daniels
      1. GSS Short Term Loan program- To increase the amount it will need to be approved by the state but to extend the time when the loan is due will not require state approval.
      2. GSS Tier-II RSO payment/reimbursement system is online – Being launched online and should be a swift process.
      3. GSS loan extension is going online – waiting to hear back from Sylvie.
      4. TII-RSO Reimbursement - System change and will involve a Pro card so it makes the reimbursement process much easier.
   4. Communications Director – Gabrielle Corso
      1. Promotional items status- Items are in the GSS office and BPB and will be kept until students start returning to campus to receive their gift. Nafis will ask Student Union to open up GSS office just temporarily.
      2. GSS Service Awards are being processed.
   5. Activities Director – Deepa Shukla
      1. Fall Resource Fair- Is GSS participating in this? Nafis says yes, we should make a 1 minute video to broadcast. This is due June 15.
      2. Stuff A Husky- Supplies were sent and being held by the Graduate School. Nafis says he will send a follow up email to the because we had spent the money on it and can use it in the future.
   6. Parliamentarian –Irio Schiano
      1. Apportionment- GSS needs to do the apportionment this year. This will depend on the number of students in each department.
3. **New Business:**
4. **Committee Reports:**
   1. Need to assign grads to committees- This can be done in Fall. All E-board members need to serve on a committee(s) so Nafis will send out a list of committees that need to be filled. If anyone would like to nominate someone or yourself for a committee that would be good too.
5. **Issues Forum:**
6. Roman said he attended the town meeting yesterday and felt as though there was a lot of dancing around issues instead of addressing them.

Meeting adjourned at 12:01pm.