1. **Call to Order: Meeting began at 7:09pm.**
2. **Recognition of senators:** Quorum was met with 28 senators.
3. **Guest Speaker(s):**
4. Dr. Kent Holsinger, *Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Graduate School*
5. CIRTL, Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning, is a network of 42 Universities that prepare students for a career in teaching which includes teaching in non-academic settings. This network is available to all UConn students to participate in and take advantage of the events and cross-network courses. UConn joined this year along with other prestigious Universities such as, California Institute of Technology, Ohio State, and Stanford.
6. The link to the website is <https://www.cirtl.net>. If there are any changes you would like to see on this network, please let Dr. Holsinger or Peter Diplock know so they can be addressed.
7. Senator Katayoun Matloubi asked what is the most important part of the site to benefit? Dr. Holsinger replied that it will depend on what the individual student is most interesting and valuable along with how much time the student is willing to devote if they wish to sign up for one of the courses offered.
8. An unknown senator asked if the courses focus on interpersonal skills or the more technical aspects of teaching like organizing a class, or both? Dr. Holsinger says that they tend to focus on both.
9. **Approval of consent agenda:**
   1. GSS-2021-4-21 Senate Meeting Minutes
   2. GSS-2021-7-13 E-Board Meeting Minutes
   3. GSS-2021-8-4 E-Board Meeting Minutes
   4. GSS-2021-9-7 E-Board Meeting Minutes
   5. GSS-2021-9-22 Senate Meeting Minutes
   6. GSS-2021-10-5 E-Board Meeting Minutes

*Senator Hannah Taylor made a motion to vote on the consent agenda and Senator Nicole Tillquist seconded it. The consent agenda was approved unanimously.*

1. **Issues Forum:**
   1. EEBrepresentative- Henry Frye
      1. Climate Action Proposal
      2. In the last few years, Gov. Ned Lamont passed two executive orders that made climate change a priority.
      3. 2019 was a big year for Climate Change Action at UConn (climate strike, literacy course, President’s Working Group) but after the pandemic hit, the momentum slowed down. However, The President’s Working Group (PWGSE) did produce a final report in April 2021, “Transforming UConn to a Zero Carbon Campus” that was presented to the Board of Trustees and although it was well received, funding and cost was a big factor.
      4. Why present a resolution now? Because it can be considered in the University’s master planning process which is about to begin.
      5. What does the resolution resolved?

* Clause 1: Endorse the PWGSE report findings.
* Clauses 2 and 3: Endorse all future building to be carbon neutral and for the trustees to actively seek ways to retrofit.
* Clause 4: Endorse making a sustainability a key part of master planning.
* Clause 5: Recommend all buildings have a Sustainability and Environmental Impact Analysis
* Clause 6: Propose a $5 student fee for climate action given representation on the trustee Environment subcommittee (with priority for matching funds and used to support those seeking funding opportunities).
  + 1. An unknown senator asked about excluding historical buildings from being demolished to become carbon neutral and Henry said that was a very good point and this should be added to the resolution. Communications Director, Gabrielle Corso, asked how the graduate student fee was determined to be $5 and Henry replied that the Undergraduate Student Government proposed a similar amount and it seemed to be a sweet spot being that it was not too little and not too much.
  1. GEUrepresentative- Grace Easterly
     1. Bargaining Survey- Please fill out the bargaining survey to voice what is most important to you!
     2. Training- GA trainings are due this week so please complete ASAP.
     3. Membership Meeting next Wednesday, October 13, 2021 and virtual attendance is encouraged as well. Link is posted on the GEU website.
     4. Coffee Hours will be weekly and the next one is October 21 from 10am-2pm outside of the library.

1. **Executive Board Reports:**
   1. President –Irio Schiano
      1. Graduate Housing- A survey will be sent out to gauge graduate student interest and opinions on what is most important in regards to on campus housing. Henry Frye suggests working with the Town of Mansfield since they are currently focused on securing affordable housing in downtown Mansfield.
      2. Legal Services- These services would be available to graduate students to assist with legal consultations.
      3. Infrastructure adjustments- What kinds of tools do you wish you had in your department that would be beneficial? Any and all ideas are welcome. Please email Irio with suggestions.
   2. Vice President – Daniel Pfeiffer
      1. UConntact Page- If you have not already, please join on the GSS UConntact page so the roster is current.
   3. Treasurer – Deepa Shukla
      1. GSS Financial policy addition- The addition would apply to Tier II Organizations that cannot use their funding that was approved for, may have a one-time exemption to use this allocated money for a future event that was unable to be used. Additionally, if this money is used for a future event, a special allocation may not be requested.
      2. GSS Finance committee- Nominations from; Senator Bilal Hossain, Justin Fang, Senator Gianna Raimondi, and Senator Bryan Greene.
   4. Communications Director – Gabrielle Corso
      1. N/A
   5. Activities Director – Thomas Pilnik
      1. Thanksgiving Event Update- Instead of the large banquet that is usually held, a grab and go station will be set up for students to enjoy the buffet. This event will be Monday, November 14th and will be an ongoing event.
      2. Halloween Event- Still working with Huskies to nail down a date for the October Happy Hour and future monthly Happy Hours.

GSS activities committee- Nominations from; Senator Jackson Calhoun, Senator Cassandra Gonzalez, and Senator Koushan Mohammadi.

* 1. Parliamentarian – Julianna Herman
     1. N/A

1. **Committee Reports:**
   1. Justin Fang- Board of Trustees Representative
      1. Masking/Vaccination Update- Storrs campus is 98% vaccinated but because we are a state institution, UConn will not lift the mask mandate until the state does so.
      2. Intersection of Discovery Drive and North Eagleville- UConn will be installing push to cross buttons on N. Eagleville Rd. and Discovery Dr. Until recently, push to cross buttons were prohibited due to restrictions and traffic patterns.
   2. Open Committees
      1. Senate Growth and Development
      2. Faculty Standards
      3. Transportation and Pa- Gianna Raimondi nominated Emily Parrish
2. **Special Allocations**
   1. EEB- Cleanup Extravaganza
      1. Graduate students to clean up the campus. $340 is requested for this event.

*Senator Aaron Proudfoot made a motion to vote on the special allocation and Senator Makyala Moody seconded it. The special allocation was approved unanimously.*

* 1. PSGSA- Coffee Hours
     1. Graduate students are invited to enjoy refreshments on campus. $193.60 is requested for this event and the event will be held twice.

*Senator Isabell Sluka made a motion to vote on the special allocation and Senator Gianna Raimondi seconded it. The special allocation was approved unanimously.*

* 1. SAGE- Halloween Event
     1. Graduate students are invited to a Halloween event to enjoy Moe’s and paint pumpkins. $1,000 is requested for this event.

*Senator Jessica Maita made a motion to vote on the special allocation and Senator Israt Jahan seconded it. The special allocation was approved unanimously.*

1. **Adjournment: Meeting ended at 8:53pm.**

*Senator Julian made a motion to adjourn and Senator Bryan Greene seconded it. The meeting was adjourned unanimously.*

**Attendance**

Hannah Taylor

Henry Frye

Justin Fang

Ijaaz Muhammad

Pierredens Fils

Julian Biddle

Roman Mays

Aaron Proudfoot

ASHOK Gurung

Alyssa Bunyea

Cassandra Gonzalez

Mikayla Moody

Joshua Gil

Jessica Maita

Gianna Raimondi

Isabell Sluka

Lauren Barrett

Nicole Tillquist

Katayoun Matloubi

David Ahumada

William Hawkins

Mary McGuinness

Zachary Muscavitch

Jinzhou Liu

Amanda Fording

James Canne

Durga P Joshi

Karla Del Cid-Ledezma

Israt Jahan

Md Billal Hossain

Koushan Mohammadi

Bryan Greene

Islam Kabil

Adanma Akoma

Irio Schiano

Daniel Pfieffer

Gabrielle Corso

Deepa Shukla

Thomas Pilnik