1. **Call to Order: Meeting started at 7:10 pm.**
2. **Recognition of senators: Quorum was met with 27 senators**
3. **Guest Speaker(s):**
	1. Dr. Suzanne Onorato, Executive Director of Student Health and Wellness
* UConn Health at downtown Storrs is separate from SHaW. Graduate Assistants receive the same services offered to University employees. Some of the services include medical care, sick care to keep patients overnight, immunization, travel medicine, allergy medication, bloodwork, radiology, nutrition, outbreak management, drive thru pick up, medication management, and mental health services. All patient information is kept confidential and SHaW has 24-hour nurse service.
* SHaW also has mental health case managers in regional campuses. Senator Madeline Kollegger asked about the temporary setup that was used for Covid. Dr. Onorato said that students with Covid like symptoms, flu, or respiratory problems are now sent there.
* Senator Ethan Gossett asked if SHaW will work with graduate students’ feedback to continue improvement. In response, Dr. Onorato said that SHaW did a pilot program with School of Engineering to see what they can do to promote wellbeing of students. Sometimes more focus is given on solving a crisis, rather than providing a caring environment. Students can come to Innovate Wellness Lab.
* Senator Lindsay Barnum asked if SHaW has resources for all UConn grad students. Dr. Onorato said that any student who pays student health and wellness fee should have access to ShaW.
* Senator Maham Liaqat said that paying $15 co-pay each time students visit is a burden especially for students who need to go to SHaW multiple times. She also said that students should be able to see a doctor after 5 pm. Dr. Onorato said that they are working on extending the time.
* Senator Hannah Collins said that students from Avery Point do not pay the student health and wellness fee, so they do not get the service from SHaW and asked if there is any option to opt in to pay the fee. Dr. Onorato said that there are case managers in Avery Point who students can see regardless of whether they pay the fee or not. Right now, there is no option to opt in to pay the fee. However, she will check if it can be included.
1. **Approval of consent agenda:**
	1. GSS Senate meeting minutes – 10/05/2022 meeting
	2. GSS E-board meeting minutes - 11/01/2022 meeting

*Senator Lindsay Barnum made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Senator Gaurav Gupta seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.*

1. **Issues Forum:**
	1. **SAGE-** SenatorKoushan Mohammadi said SAGE had an issue with their last event with Big Y card. He said that GSS was late in processing the purchase request (PR) and so there was a delay in starting their event which caused some problems for SAGE. GSS Treasurer Sandip Roy said that GSS office assistant Bharath forgot to put the request. Sandip also said that when PR requests are approved, people who submitted the request are given updates. GSS cannot give the Big Y card to organizations until GSS has a new office assistant. Organizations will be reimbursed usually within two weeks if they use their credit card. Sandip also said that orders can be done through Amazon. TSOS pays for Amazon purchases upfront. Sandip said that new office assistant will be in the GSS office for 3 days and he/she can go with the organizations to purchase things. TSOS is using Big Y card as a test and from next year TSOS might give out cards to Tier IIs. Senator Maham Liaqat said that there are lots of problems with WRTD transport who have contract with UConn. The buses are frequently cancelled. GSS Parliamentarian Gianna Raimondi said that the parking committee will meet on Nov 17. Senator Katayoun Matloubi will be in the parking committee meeting.
	2. **GO:MCB Special Allocation-** Treasurer Daniel Phillips requested for a special allocation of $660 for the end of the Spring semester socialization event.

*Senator Jackson Calhoun made a motion to approve the special allocation. Senator Mikayla Moody seconded the motion. The special allocation was approved unanimously.*

1. **Executive Board Reports:**
	1. President – Gabrielle Corso
		1. GSS Vice President Elections- Two nomination were submitted: Mohsina Rahman and Gaurav Gupta. Mohsina Rahman was elected as the GSS Vice President with majority votes cast by the senators.
		2. Storrs Food Pantry- Food Pantry is open on Sundays 11-12:30pm, Mondays 1-3pm, and Thursdays 2:30-6:30pm. This resource is open to all community members and does not require ID. Senator Katayoun Matloubi requested the food pantry information to be circulated.
		3. Hiring of GSS Admin Assistant- GSS office assistant Bharath has resigned. GSS President Gabrielle Corso posted about the opening for the GSS office assistant position. Responsibilities of office assistant includes checking emails, submitting PRs, reviewing GSS short term emergency loans. Senator Maham Liaqat asked if there are any specific office hours for the position. Gabrielle said that the office hours are flexible and are usually 3 times a week. Gabrielle said that Senate needs to vote to bring a second person as the office assistant.

*Senator Koushan Mohammadi made a motion to hire GSS Office assistant. Senator Lindsay Barnum seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.*

* + 1. Meeting times for the Spring Semester- Gabrielle asked if senate would like to change the meeting to 6 pm-8 pm from 7-9 pm. The senate was in agreement.
	1. Vice President –
		1. N/A
	2. Treasurer – Sandip Roy –
		1. Finance Committee Election- Financial committee was elected. Members are: Senator Maham Liaqat, Senator Ethan Gosset, Senator Saurabh Goswami, Daniel Phillips (Treasurer of GO: MCB) and Srijana.
		2. GSS short term emergency loan- If there is an outstanding loan, people will be denied for a new loan. Sandip also gets loan reports from TSOS and he can cross check if the information provided in the loan form about outstanding loan is correct or not. Students who do not pay grad activity fee are not eligible for loans. Senator Lindsay Barnum asked how some departments decide if they want to pay the grad activity fee or not. Senator Maham Liaqat said that departments decide not to pay the fee, it is not decided by the students. Gabrielle said that students in the past came together to decide if they did not want to pay the fee. Senator Lindsay Barnum asked if those departments could be informed if they want to opt in to pay the grad activity fee as students are often not aware of the fee. Senator Maham Liaqat asked if the system could be made like GEU. Sandip said it probably will not be passed by SASFAC. Senator Lindsay Barnum asked if GSS can reach out to those departments before making a motion about the loan. Senator Jackson Calhoun said not to make the motion about loan. Senator Ethan Gossett said that GSS should temporarily approve loans of those students who do not pay the grad activity fee but let them know that the rules regarding loan approval might be changing.
		3. Grad activity fee- GSS does not have enough fund as many departments do not pay grad activity fee. GSS either needs to cut down the budget or increase the grad activity fee. Since 2019, Tier II budgets have increased by more than 50%. So, E-board suggested 50% increase in the grad activity fee from Fall 2024. Senator Gaurav Gupta asked that if the fee is increased from Fall 2024, what would happen if GSS runs out of money before that. Sandip said that GSS has back up from grad school and is not expected to run out of money by 2024. Sandip said that we can ask for 75% increase in grad activity fee, but it might get reduced, or it might not pass at all when it goes to higher up in the chain which has happened before. Sandip suggested $28 grad activity fee per semester from Fall 2024.

*Senator Maham Liaqat made a motion to increase the grad activity to $28 from Fall 2024. Senator Saurabh Goswami seconded the motion. There was one opposition. The motion passed with majority vote.*

* 1. Activities Director – Usman Ali
		1. Thanksgiving Luncheon- Will be on Nov 15 from 11 am -2 pm. There will be seating arrangements. Students need to RSVP.
		2. Holiday Happy Hour- GSS will have a happy hour on 8 or 9 Dec.

*Senator Jackson Calhoun made a motion to extend the senate meeting if needed. Senator Ethan Gossett seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.*

* 1. Communications Director – Israt Jahan
		1. N/A
	2. Parliamentarian – Gianna Raimondi
		1. N/A
1. **Committee Reports**
2. **Senate Executive Committee (SEC)-** GabrielleCorso- There has been discussion on reinstating climate initiative, the implementation of non-binary bathrooms, and the Provost search.
3. **Grad Faculty Council (GFC)-** Gianna Raimondi- Discussion on by-law revision of pop-up courses, certificate degree might be counted, 6th year certificates and credit transfer, timeline for grade appeals, repeating an audited course for credit, academic integrity appeals. Senator Katayoun Matloubi asked if students could be informed about rules regarding credit. Senator Zachary Muscavitch asked for clarifications regarding PhD extending to 6th year. Senator Koushan Mohammadi asked what would happen if a student were in 6th year of PhD and had not defended yet, what the implications would be for him. Gianna said she would ask for clarification to the committee.
4. **Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.**

*Senator Lindsay Barnum**made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Senator Gaurav Gupta seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.*

**Attendees:**

Maham Liaqat

Victoria Sanchez

Daniel Phillips

Raja Zubair Zahoor Qadiri

John Toribio

Spencer Hayes

Saurabh Goswami

Koushan Mohammadi

Gaurav Gupta

Laura Lapham

Morteza Azizi

Veera Venkata Praveen Raja Kosuri

Muhammed Masudur Rahman

Mohammed Albayati

Jackson Calhoun

Shangyan Pan

Ethan Gossett

Ashok Gurung

Theodor Mayer

Lindsay Barnum

Mikayla Moody

Jinzhou Liu

Evelyn Mollocana Lara

Zachary Muscavitch

Olivia Dono

Amit Hasan

Elizabeth Zavodny

Gretchen Geer

Hannah Collins

Emma Shipley

Gawtam Bhat

Katayoun Matloubi

Madeline Kollegger