

GSO Senate Meeting Minutes

October 11, 2001

Welcome Remarks

1. Senator Status- Sherrye Glaser GSO Secretary

As of this meeting, only senators who have submitted to the GSO confirmation of their reappointment for 2001-2002 by their department may vote. Individuals wanting to become senators must either have to submit signature sheets with 30% of their departmental graduate students, election results, or an email to the GSO office or to Sherrye from either departmental faculty or staff confirming that no one else was interested in the position.

2. Rules of Order- Masa Prodanovic GSO Speaker

September Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Budget Related Issues

1. Budget Requests

Navratri- arranged by 3 individuals from Chapin Complex

A colorful dance and music festival celebrating the victory of good over evil.

300-400 expected to attend on 10/20. The budget committee proposes to fund it at \$800. The DJ will cost \$600, \$100 for food, and \$100 for decorations. They are attempting to book the SAC lobby. \$400 will be received from Chapin.

Approved unanimously for \$400.

Staff Writer for the News and Blues- The budget committee, along with the GSO exec's and the editors recommend the hiring of a staff writer to be paid \$20 per issue to write one article. They recommend retroactive pay for a writer who submitted work in August and September. This would increase the News and Blues expenses by \$180 for this year.

Evalyn Flarity (Psych) asked why the \$20 per issue was in the budget last year and not this year?

Tanya Smith (GSO Vice President) replied that it was just not used.

EF-Why not more than \$20/issue, it seems like a lot of work.

TS-The writer is only expected to submit one article per issue.

Staff writer and retroactive pay approved unanimously.

Survival Guide- Payment of editors should be based upon the amount budgeted for the Survival guide minus publication and distribution costs. This amount is \$527.50. The editors worked the following hours:

Editors:

Tanya Smith 70 hours

Pegine Walrad 14 hours

Jasmina Sinanovic 12 hours

Charis Ng less than 2

Total editor committee: 96 hours

Recommendation: Editors working over 2 hours will split \$527.50 between themselves, each getting an amount proportionate to the number of hours they worked and pending budget committee and senate approval.

Office Assistants:

Abigail McKay 19.75 hours

Jean Cadet 1-2 hours

(Both already paid)

Masa Prodanovic 4 hours

Ashley Cohen 30 hours

Total Assistant hours: 55

Recommendation to exec committee: (Not needing senate approval) salary of \$11/hour paid from surplus office assistant funds, pending budget committee approval and ad revenue.

Ad revenue:

\$2850 generated by ads. It is suggested that the ad solicitors for the survival guide receive a 50% commission. Solicitation fees are not specified in the budget, but the 50 / 50 (solicitor / paper) figure was taken from News and Blues guidelines.

Recommendation- Peg Walrad receives \$62.50, Jasmina Sinanovic receives \$250, Abigail McKay receives \$6.25, and Tanya Smith receives \$1106.25 as 50% commissions for ad solicitations.

Masa Prodanovic- Will this set a precedent on how to compensate those involved with updating the survival guide each year?

Jasmina Sinanovic- No, we will set-up guidelines for future years.

Motions approved unanimously.

La Noche Hispanica

Alicia Shephard, a grad RA from Schomburg is proposing a night celebrating Hispanic culture to occur at the Spot on 10/25 from 8PM-midnight. It will include Latin music, food, and beverages. She is requesting \$100 for food, \$250 for a DJ, \$500 for DJ equipment rental, and \$340 for decorations and advertising.

Campus residences will give \$400.

Tanya Smith-Can you find a cheaper DJ? Usually they run about \$100/hour. Yours will be \$750 for 4 hours.

Alicia said she looked very hard for someone less expensive, but Latin DJ's are more expensive than standard DJ's.

Tanya-See if you can get the equipment for free from our campus.

Audra VanWart (Neuro)-motion to fund for \$410. If she cannot get equipment for free, she can return to the November senate meeting and propose a reimbursement for the rentals.

(17 senators 13 approved / 4 against) **Motion approved.**

Late Budgetary Request

Lecture: Do Animals have STD's?

Ben Hirsch (Behavioral Ecology)

11/2 in basement of SBS building

Requesting \$700 for plane ticket for lecturer Charles Nunn. (\$200 may be supplied by Anatomical Sciences.) He said he will only ask for \$500 if anatomical sciences gives \$200.

Tanya Smith mentioned that this is not under the club budgetary line, but the speaker series line of the GSO budget.

Motion: Fund \$700 with the stipulation that Ben gets Paleobiology to pay as much as possible towards the ticket. The GSO will cover the balance.

Approved Unanimously

GSO Budget outline distributed Ron Willa is ill, and cannot attend this meeting.

Committee Reports

Rules and Constitution Committee (RCC)- constitution and bylaws are not completed, therefore this report is postponed.

GSEU Liaison Committee - Ben Hirsch

Ben asked senators to encourage their departments to attend the meetings and have GSEU rep for their department. Contact Paula Clarity for more information. (She gives all names to Ramon (SBU business rep), who signs off on the list.)

Evalyn (Psychology) asked for a brief explanation of the GSEU problem.

Ben replied that Ramon has done nothing, and he has admitted it. He has never been elected as our business rep, he was just written into the current contract. We must have meetings with all departments to keep track of GSEU issues.

Steven Preston (Math, GSO member) said that Ben's view is not accurate. Ramon has done things.

Masa Prodanovic (GSO speaker) asked Steven if he would like to be in the GSEU Liaison Committee, and he said he would.

Housing Committee

Masa updated the senate on the meeting with President Kenny to address international student concerns (including housing issues). Management issues were discussed, including that proper housing information was not given to students. A centralized location for check-in, and trailers for luggage and sleeping was suggested.

Also addressed at that meeting was the off-campus verbal attacks students have received. A formal statement by the university to the community and local businesses will be sent out addressing this topic and the events of 9/11.

Also, The CR office will be open all weekend next fall when graduate students arrive.

For further information concerning housing minutes, please see www.sinc.sunysb.edu/clubs/gso

Lounge Committee

Pegine Walrad notified everyone of the upcoming events at the Spot. There will be a drag show on 10/13 and the Halloween Party on 10/27.

Social Concerns Committee

Tanya Smith asked everyone to fill out a survey inquiring what areas are considered to be social concerns by the senate.

Special Committees

Divided We Fall Series Update

Mustafa Siddiq (Molecular and Cellular Biology) summarized the Open Forum On Tolerance and Healing in the Aftermath that occurred last month. Future lectures will occur, although at the moment, there are no finalized plans.

Period of Discussion and Debate

Old Business:

The executive board recruited members for additional committee seats.

New Business:

Brother Clarke-Habitat for Humanity- could not come due to a miscommunication in meeting scheduling. He will speak at a future senate meeting.

Underrepresented Graduate Scholars address policy on the use of the GSO clubroom SAC 226.

On 9/22, the UGS was not let into room 226 even though they have prior permission by the GSO and frequently use these facilities. The UGS expressed their disappointment in not being informed in a change in room policy. They requested that they be given the respect to be contacted in matters such as these. The GSO executive board explained that there was no policy change, and they were still free to use the room as they always have been and that there have been recent problems with the building management. These problems not only resulted in UGS getting locked out, but also GSO office staff, over the recent weeks. The UGS reiterated their disappointment in the GSO and how they were disrespected, and the GSO apologized, but repeated that this was not their decision, there were no policy changes made. The exec board recently (after this incident occurred) straightened things out with SAC management, and ensured that this will not happen again.