

Senate Meeting Minutes

May 3rd

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the Minutes

R: Now, we will start with the GSO award ceremony.

V: Hello everyone. Thanks for coming to the last Senate meeting. Every year, GSO give reward to people who contribute to GSO. Everyone give their effort to GSO, but those people did more and they deserve a reward from us.

Dean Taber: Distinguished Advisor

- He is our advisor and we meet with him regularly
- He is the main person between GSO and the administration
- We worked with Dean Taber to get funding from the president's office for the NAGPS conference and Trevor Noah event
- He is one of the key persons we have been talking with about graduate student stipend raise and he has assured us that it is his top priority
- We are working on combining our resources and establishing a new scholarship

Dean Ecklund: Distinguished Advocate

- He has been our main advocate
- He has helped us in reserving rooms for tax workshop, talking with Campus Residences about their new rule
- He is one of the main person helping us find a replacement for UCafe
- He was our keynote speaker at the NAGPS conference
- He is dedicated to improving quality of student life and he is always welcoming and approachable

Steven Jaret: Distinguished Service

- He has contributed to the GSO in different ways this year
- His impact on the GSO has been impressive
- He is a member of the Rules and Constitution Committee, the Elections Committee, and Library Services
- He has spent a lot of time and effort in writing election bylaws and has helped with revising the constitution
- His service at the library service committee is also acknowledged. He received an award from the University Senate yesterday.

Michael Gusev: Distinguished Service

- Michael is the Director of Productions.
- Productions is very demanding and challenging position
- He is the one who has been in charge all of our events in UCafe, concerts, and movies
- He is very reliable and responsible person
- He has made sure all performers sign their contract on time and get paid on time
- He has been on top of all the events we have had
- In addition to his major responsibilities, he has always been there for us when we needed him. He performed at our NAGPS conference reception, on the West/Schomburg festival.

Thomas Kirnbauer: Distinguished Service

- Tom is a graduate student in Higher Education and he is also the Administrative Director of USG
- Tom played an important role in making Trevor Noah happen
- He coordinated all the communication and meetings between GSO, USG, Athletic Department, and the agents
- He booked the arena, was in charge of emailing students after they filed ticket reservation form, and he helped us with the logistics of the event
- Without Tom, we would not be able
- He is also the person I talk with if I need any advice or consultation

Oscar Icochea: Distinguished Service

- Oscar is our office manager
- He is the one who receives all the receipts, creates vouchers, makes sure checks are printed on time.
- He was actively involved in planning our NAGPS conference and Trevor Noah event
- He helped us with a lot of logistics, purchasing different items for the conference and Trevor event,
- He has done way more than what's in his job description
- He knows well how USG and GSO works. He has helped us in our collaboration with the USG.
- He always suggests good ideas on how we can improve what we do

R: Now we have Linrui to announce the Election results.

L: Hello. Now I want to give you the result of the GSO EC election.

Position	Candidate	Number of Vote
President	Vahideh Rasekhi	75
Vice-President	Tiffany Vector	65
Treasurer	Joseph Verardo	57
Secretary	Ramiro Alberto Malaga Ortega	61

L: And also we passed the referendum about student activity fee, so the student activity fee will be mandatory for the next two years.

R: Now, we have Vahideh to give us the President's report.

V: Hello. First I want to thank you all. It has been a pleasure working with you. Your service and contribution to the GSO and to the university committees is much appreciated. I look forward to working with you next year. Also, we need your feedback in doing things better.

Then, I want to give you a summary for recent events: the NAGPS conference was hold on April 15-17, in the Reception on Friday, April 15th at UCafe, we had 35-40 people attended it, and for the Conference on Saturday, April 16th, we had 30-35 people attended. The President's office funded the conference, and we thank them for their contribution. And just FYI, we have another NAGPS conference in November. The National NAGPS Conference will be from November 3-6.

We had Trevor Noah Event on April 29th, here I give you the list of the money we raised from different resources.

- \$40,000 in the speaker line
- \$23,110 Ticket sale revenue
- \$13,000 President's office
- \$13,000 Provost's office
- \$10,000 USG
- \$5,000 Alumni Association Office
- \$4,000 Productions
- \$3,000 Dean Kaushansky (Dean of Medical School)

- \$2,500 Advancement office

Total: \$113,610

Total money raised: \$46,500

Last week, we had the grant writing workshop On April 26th, from 1:00-2:30pm in SAC 305. Nancy Goroff (Prof. in the Department of Chemistry & Associate Provost, IREP) and Barbara Frank (Prof in the Department of Art) gave speeches in the workshop. 70 students attended the workshop and we had free food for them. The grant workshop is going to start in summer, in collaboration with the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, we will have grant writing Brown Bags.

Now, GSO is looking for someone to join us. We have opening position for Media Relations, Productions, and Master's Student Advocate. We already sent out email to announce that with the following info:

- Deadline: Friday May 13th at 5pm
- A cover letter and Resume are required.
- Documents should be email to vicepresident@sbgso.org

For the Graduate Advisory Board (GAB), it will include two senators, the president, the treasurer, the vice-president. This summer we might be able to work on the GAB Bylaws. After that GAB will be responsible for the speaker event, also it should work with the Productions. GAB is not finalized, so we need your suggestions for the type of events and activities the Productions should have.

Max: I recommend that let someone else take the responsible and don't give yourself too much work.

V: We have president in the committee because he needs to sign the contract, having treasurer so that he can give the money info, and having VP here just because he's the one who be charge in events.

Senator: Why do we need to create a committee when we have social concern committee? And I also suggested in the budget committee that we should combine the speaker line into the social concern committee line.

V: It should be fine if you want to combine the two committee. I just give you the basic idea about it and we will talk more in the fall.

V: We had successful tax clinics this year. There were 30-40 students in each session, and we also had tax workshop for Indian and Chinese students, both had 20-25 students attended. This year we offered online tax system and 150 students filed their taxes online in Sprintax.

We are going to have the End of year party at UCafe on Friday, May 13th, welcome to have fun.

We are planning 3 Minute Thesis for next year. This is in collaboration with the Career Center, the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, and Alda Center. I will give you more info when we have more detail paln.

Senator: I suggest to have an orientation for senators would be better. Efficiency with our meeting time.

V: How can we make the senator more engaging in what GSO is doing?

Senator: One problem comes to every senate meeting is that we never stick to the agenda. If the president's report should be 10 minutes, then you need to finish it in 10 minutes.

Senator: Some of our guest speaking is boring and not-interesting. Listening 30-minutes report about library is really boring and waste of time.

V: Ok. I will stop here. And if you have any question just email me.

Treasurer's Report (approved)

Report about GSO Budget for 16-17 (approved)

Budget Committee Recommendations for Departmental Allocations (approved)

R: Next, we have Max to talk about the Continuation of Funding Request for Stony Brook Frontiers.

Max: I'm working on the Continuation of Funding Request for Stony Brook. We are working on communication, research, translate the policies to those people who don't know how to get involved in. The main we are doing now is to create the magazine for Stony Brook Frontiers and producing it annually. There are two ways to get involved: one is to be a writer if you are passion about share what you learn with other people; another is run the organization and get magazine printed. We got \$5000 every year for production cost. I have limit number of magazine in case if you want to take one with you. If you have any question, I'm happy to answer it.

R: Now, we have Lyl Tomlinson to talk about their Upcoming science events.

Lyl: Hello, I'm Lyl, and I'm here on the behalf of Graduate Career Association and publish the upcoming science events. It is Careers in Science Policy Event, that will give you the basic idea about the science policy. The event will be on May 6, Friday at 5:00pm in Wang center, room 201. Refreshment will be served and if you have any question, please contact me or email to RSVP @ sbugca.org. Thank you.

R: Tomorrow, we will have the result of the DTA. Some of you will continue to be senator, please email Linrui about your continue.

Adjourn