

1. GSA President Jessy Coley calls the meeting to order at 6:39pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2019 Senate Meeting
  - Motion: Biological Sciences
  - Second: Community Health & Health Behavior
  - In Favor: 54, Oppose: 3, Abstain: 4
  - Motion passes

3. Announcements

- Vice Provost for Inclusive Excellence, Despina Stratigakos, states that an upcoming campus climate survey will be sent out to all students. The survey will take about 20 minutes to complete and is intended to provide the university with a fuller picture of issues of diversity and inclusion on campus.
- Jessy announces a Food Drive Competition to benefit the On-Campus Food Pantry opening this Spring. The competition will run from March 7<sup>th</sup> to April 3<sup>rd</sup> and has a \$250.00 club budget increase reward for the club that donates the most items. Eligible items must be non-perishable, 8+ oz. and in good, unopened, unexpired condition. All donations must be made to the GSA office location and must be noted with the GSA staff in order to be counted.
- GSA Vice President Connor Walters states that the GSA website will be down for a single business day in the near future, and that the GSA will try to notify everyone in advance when the exact date and times are known.
- GSA Assistant Office Manager Stephanie George briefly reviews the GSA events planned through the end of February.
  - Discount AMC Movie Tickets Available
    - \$6 each at the SBI Ticket Offices.
  - March 15<sup>th</sup>- South Campus Siesta, 12:30 – 2:30pm in 105 Harriman Hall
    - Free food and drinks for graduate students at South Campus
  - March 28<sup>th</sup>- Distinguished Speaker Series presents Ronan Farrow, 7:30pm at CFA
    - Free tickets available March 11<sup>th</sup> at the SBI Ticket Offices. 1 per UB ID.
- Stephanie announces that from March 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> the GSA Office will be on Summer Hours for Spring Recess
  - Monday – Thursday from 8:30am – 4:00pm, closed on Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Stephanie announces that additional upcoming events include:
  - April 5<sup>th</sup>- Plant Nite at Pearl Street Grill & Brewery
    - Tickets on sale now at the SBI Ticket Office for \$15 each. 2 per UB ID.
  - May 3<sup>rd</sup>- Book of Mormon at Shea's Performing Arts Center
    - Tickets on sale April 1<sup>st</sup> for \$20 each. 2 per UB ID.

4. Report of the President

- Jessy states that she is meeting with the head of Transportation and Parking, and that students have been given handouts for writing comments on parking, which she will bring to the meeting.

5. Report of the Vice President

- Connor reads a policy reminder:
  - The GSA would like to remind club officers that personally profiting from holding office is a violation of SUNY policies. This includes, as an example, personally receiving cash or cash equivalent (e.g. gift cards) in exchange for using specific vendors for club events or for referring club members to businesses. All money coming from outside organizations or persons must go through the SBI ticket office or GSA co-sponsorship forms, and will be deposited in the club's budget for the club's use. Clubs found to be in violation will either have offending officers removed or be derecognized by the GSA, decided on a case-by-case basis.
- Connor announces the hiring of new GSA Webmaster Mohammed Abdul Kamran, who goes by Kamran.

6. Report of the Treasurer

- GSA Treasurer Josh Joseph announces that SBI Programming Grants were given to 4 GSA clubs for a total of \$5,625.00
- Josh announces that budget preparation is underway and that next Senate meeting will involve the presentation of next year's budget.
- Funding Account Balances:
  - Special Activity: \$15,000 to start, \$4,718.89 allocated this month, \$1,931.11 remaining
  - Interdepartmental Activity: \$2,000.00 to start, \$0.00 allocated this month, \$1,350.00 remaining
  - Symposia: \$15,000.00 to start, \$1,333.00 allocated this month, \$6,957.00 remaining
  - Scholarly Publication: \$5,575.00, modified from \$5,000 to start, \$0.00 allocated this month, \$0.00 remaining
  - Community Outreach: \$2,000 to start, \$250.00 allocated this month, \$1,250.00 remaining
  - Conferences:
    - 63 requests totaling \$26,035.61, 62 applications approved for \$25,835.61
    - Beginning Balance: \$140,000.00, raised from \$132,000.00; Remaining Balance \$32,081.77

7. Old Business

- No old business.

## 8. New Business

- Funding Requests
  - A representative from Hellenic GSA is called to present on their Greek Easter Special Activity proposal. Nobody responds. Stephanie checks the sign-in sheet and notes that Hellenic GSA did not sign in for the meeting. Because Hellenic GSA is not present, their funding request cannot be approved.
  - A representative from Social Work presents on their Restorative Justice Day Special Activity proposal.
    - Requested/Recommended: \$1,118.89
    - Clarification is made that the organizers must use the SBI Ticket Office for all ticket sales related to this event.
  - A representative from GISA presents on their Holi Special Activity proposal.
    - Requested/Recommended: \$1,200.00
  - A representative from Bengladeshi GSA presents on their Pohela Boishak – Bengali New Year Special Activity proposal.
    - Requested/Recommended: \$1,200.00
  - Motion to approve all Special Activity funding requests, except Hellenic GSA, as a block at the recommended amounts
    - Motion: Biological Sciences
    - Second: Community Health & Health Behavior
    - In Favor: 53, Oppose: 6, Abstain: 2
    - Motion passes
  - A representative from UB-EERI presents on their Earthquake Engineering Symposium proposal.
    - Requested: \$1,383.00; Recommended: \$1,333.00
  - Josh asks Stephanie to explain the reasoning for the discrepancy on his behalf, as he is sick. Stephanie states that the original plan for the symposium involved \$150 towards prizes being spent by CSEE GSA, but there is a maximum expenditure of \$100 allowed for prizes or awards from club budgets in the GSA Budgetary Guidelines. Because of this, the event's prize budget, and thus its overall budget, was reduced by \$50. The amount fundable by Symposium Funding was also thus lowered by \$50.
  - Motion to approve UB-EERI Symposium funding at the recommended amount
    - Motion: Community Health & Health Behavior
    - Second: Mathematics
    - In Favor: 59, Oppose: 3, Abstain: 1
    - Motion passes
  - A representative from Chemistry GSA presents on their Ellicott Elementary School Science Night Community Outreach proposal.
    - Requested/Recommended: \$250.00
  - Motion to approve Chemistry GSA Community Outreach funding at the recommended amount
    - Motion: Graduate Indian Student Association
    - Second: Community Health & Health Behavior
    - In Favor: 56, Oppose: 7, Abstain: 1
    - Motion passes
- Election Committee Update
  - Election Committee Chair, Taylor Glausen, announces the candidates for presentation. Jessy Coley is running for President, Connor Walters and Lisa Kulka are running for Vice President, and Josh Joseph is running for Treasurer. Taylor states that three of the candidates are already in the front of the room, and asks if Lisa is present. There is no response. After a pause, Taylor asks again if Lisa is here. Stephanie states that with Lisa not in attendance at a second Senate meeting, she cannot be eligible to run for the office of Vice President. Taylor calls one more time to see if Lisa is here, and gets no response. Taylor presents the three eligible candidates for office: Jessy Coley for President, Connor Walters for Vice President, and Josh Joseph for Treasurer.
  - Taylor states that a Question and Answer session will be part of the next Senate meeting in April.
  - Elections will be held online from April 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Constitutional By-Law Amendment
  - Connor thanks students for their involvement in meeting with SUNY SA representative Rea Manderino last month. During Rea's visit, she shared that SUNY SA was looking for a liaison from the various schools represented. Connor states that after a conversation among the E-board, Josh volunteered to take it on as a role of the Treasurer. Thus, Connor announces the following amendment to the GSA By-Laws Article II Section 2.C, emailed out with the agenda a week in advance of the meeting, effective immediately with a 2/3 vote of the GSA Senate:
    - The addition of "5. Shall serve as the Graduate Student Association Liaison to the State University of New York Student Assembly (SUNY SA), with the responsibility of communicating between the SUNY SA and the Graduate Student Association."
    - The renumbering of the old point 5 to point 6.
    - The renumbering of the old point 6 to point 7.

- Connor asks if there are any questions.
  - A student asks to clarify that the only changes being made are the ones being shown on the projection currently.
    - Connor states that yes, the only changes being made are the addition of this new Treasurer duty and the renumbering of existing duties to maintain consistent flow with the other positions.
  - Motion to approve the amendment to the GSA By-Laws
    - Motion: Community Health & Health Behavior
    - Second: Mathematics
    - In Favor: 50, Oppose: 6, Abstain: 3
    - Motion passes

#### 9. Roll Call and Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn at 7:13pm
  - Motion: English
  - Second: Community Health & Health Behavior
  - In Favor: 48, Oppose: 6, Abstain: 0
  - Motion passes