

## Minutes of the GSO Senate meeting on Wednesday February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Meeting started at 6:00pm with 22 senators present.

Amended minutes from February 12th passed.

The meeting started with 22 senators.

### Committee reports

*a. Student Health Advisory Committee.* Salih Kocer presented the Student Health Fee survey and asked the members of the senate to fill it out. He pointed out that all students have to pay the Infirmary fee of \$90. The reason that some students did not pay last semester was because there were some problems with the computers that were not fixed, but all students have to pay this fee with no exception.

### *b. Polity fact-finding task force*

Bin Tang called for a task force to be created in order to find out what happened with the Polity issue and decide whether an *Amicus Brief* should be filed, after the findings are presented to the Senate. A motion was put on the floor on whether there should be a committee created for this issue. The motion passed with 22 in favor, 1 opposed, no abstentions. Volunteers for this Committee were: Bryan Field, Bin Tang, Fan Wang, Chad Kautzer as voting members and Shane Hartman and Greg Lubicich as non-voting members due to the fact that they are undergraduates. The Senate confirmed the above members.

### Old business

*a. Funding cap limit.* The president of SBCSSA, Fan Wang, presented a proposal about removing the budget cap. She said that it is unfair to SBCSSA that has more than 500 members to get the same amount of money to organize events that smaller groups do. She added that the funding cap is mainly affecting the largest groups. Karl Junhke moved to strike from the Budget 2002-03 'Events will only be funded to a maximum of \$1000 for each specific event. Each club or organization may only receive up to a maximum of \$2000 funding for General Cultural and Social Events for each fiscal year. Determination of the composition of a specific club or organizing committee will be made entirely at the discretion of the GSO Budget Committee. The purpose of this is to prevent clubs from organizing ad hoc committees in order to gain funding beyond the previously mentioned limit'. The floor opened to discussion. Bryan Field said that the Budget line of Cultural and Social Events has only 22.1% of the money left and the Speaker Series has only 5.25% of the money left and we still have 3 senate meetings, which means that even with the cap, we are still not going to have enough money for all the groups.

There was a long discussion with arguments for and against the removal of the cap. The main arguments for the removal of the cap was that it is not fair for the bigger groups that have more members to be restricted at the same amount as the smaller groups. When compared to how much money per person the larger groups receive it is

much less that the amount the smaller groups take. The main arguments for not removing the cap were that it helps to control how money is spent and to make possible for smaller groups to have their events. If big groups deplete the funds early in the year, then there will be no chance for smaller groups to hold an event later in the year if they want to.

At this point the number of senators was 25. Stefan Hyman made a motion to end discussion Motion passed (20 in favor, 1 opposed). The senators voted on the motion that Karl Junhke as stated above. The motion failed (10 in favor, 15 opposed).

*b. Committee membership and representation.* New members were added to the Committees and confirmed by the Senate: Jasmina Sinanovic was dropped out of the Lounge Committee and was added to the Elections Committee. Fan Wang was added to the Lounge Committee and RCC Committee. Bin Tang was added to the RCC Committee. Angeliki Pollatou and Bryan Field were added in the Social Concerns Committee. Chad Kautzer replaced Christine Promin at the University Senate and Pegine Walrad became the alternate for the same committee. Maria Squire showed interest in representing GSO at the University Safety Council. Amit Vas was dropped from the Housing Committee and Bryan Pringle and Elizabeth Bojsza were added to the Lounge Advisory Committee. Carl Shapiro was added to the Lounge Committee and there was a debate by Pegine Walrad and Jasmina Sinanovic as to whether he should be a voting member or not since he is also an employer at the Graduate Lounge. Pegine Walrad argued that Carl is an employee at the SPOT and that it would be a conflict of interest if he is a voting member of the Lounge Committee. Jasmina Sinanovic argued that the membership in the committees should be open to all GSO members and as long as Carl is a graduate student he is entitled to be a member of any GSO committee. Pegine added that she was not sure whether Carl was a graduate student. A motion was made to leave Carl as a non-voting member for the next two weeks and in the next Senate meeting the issue to be voted on after Pegine Walrad finds out whether he is a graduate student or not. The motion passed unanimously.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed (9 in favor, 7 opposed, 4 abstain).

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

Submitted by Angeliki Field-Pollatou

GSO Secretary

03/12/03