

GSO Senate Meeting Minutes 4/18/02

March 2002 minutes - approved unanimously with one correction.... Item #8 of budget items approved for \$1000, not \$100.

Committee Reports

Standing Committees

Housing- Masa Prodanovic (speaker)- Schomburg rent review is over. \$22,000 cut from budget in order to economize. It will be \$498 a room in a 4 room apartment and \$998 for a one bedroom apt. (Currently \$450 and \$939) This was accepted under protest.

Abigail McKay suggested that a letter be written to new students recording that a promise of no more than 5% increase will occur in the future. Masa stated that this will be on the GSO website. Kostas Pentikousis (senator) suggested that the web page should include the cost of living and the lack of entertainment in Stony Brook.

Election- Sherrye Glaser (secretary)-All new executive candidates introduced themselves to the senate. There will be 3 polling places each day. The polls will be open from 11am until 3pm. It will be a paper ballot election where individuals must place their name, dept, and SBU ID# on an envelope with the unlabeled ballot inside. Kostas pointed out that there is a lack of anonymity because the envelope is labeled. He suggested that smaller blank envelopes be provided, so that the ballots could be placed inside them, and then inside the larger labeled envelope. Sherrye said she would provide small envelopes, and also tape (as a more tree-friendly alternative). The voters could decide which they are more comfortable with.

The mandatory /voluntary student activity fee (which must occur once every 4 years) and a fee increase would be presented to the senate as possible referenda.

Lounge- Jasmina Sinanovic (treasurer)- upcoming Springfest will occur on 5/4 from noon until 5pm. There will be music and food. Volunteers are needed. Please sign up.

Special Committees

Habitat for Humanity task force- Pegine Walrad (president) There will be a musical cabaret on 4/19 at the Spot. Construction of the home will occur in Fall 2002.

Campus Life Awards- Pegine - will occur next tuesday at 4pm.

Survival guide committee- Tanya Smith (Vice Pres)- We need a new committee, contact Tanya if you are interested. There is a \$500 stipend for setting up the survival guide.

Think Tank Session- Discuss future of the GSO over lunch. It will occur sometime after the end of finals.

Period of Discussion and Debate

new members on the housing and lounge committees- GERALYN and Dave are no longer active on the lounge committee. On the housing committee, Ravindra and Jean Cadet are no longer active. They will be replaced by Michelle Cleary (Pres. of SARA). Changes approved.

Budget Items- Jasmina

1- Proposed by Biomedical engineering society (Russell Garmen)

BMES April 2002 Industry Guest Lecture (Adam Muzikant- career opportunities for grads in biomedical field, promote biomedical field.)

4/19/02 at 10am at Light Engineering rm 250

Amount requested \$322.50

Budget committee recommends \$197.50 (no more than \$100 for food allowed) (speaker series)

Unanimous consent for \$197.50

2- Proposed by Social Justice Alliance

Talk- 'Plan Columbia and 'free trade': " Ecocide and Genocide"

Guest Lecturer- Brendan O'Neill

4/12/02

Requested: \$500

BC recommends: \$500 (Speaker Series)

Unanimous consent: \$500

3- Proposed by Chad Kautzer, Social Justice Alliance President

title: 'Globalization handbook'

Serves as a useful guide for students and faculty, including grad research

Amount requested: \$781.45

BC recommends: \$700 (Publications)

Approved: 17 for/ 1 against / 2 abstain

Recommended to be put on GSO web page as PDF to avoid future publication costs and make more easily available.

4- Proposed by Queer Alliance, Tanya Smith

SIT OUT for Queer Awareness

An annual event hosted by the Queer Alliance designed to raise campus awareness.

During the Strawberry Festival, 5/1 from noon-3PM

Amount requested: \$100 (for ads)

BC recommends: \$100 (general cultural and social events)

Approved unanimously for \$100

Proposed GSO Budget 2002/2003 distributed by Jasmina

Election Ballot content-

The following ballot referenda, following several modifications, were approved unanimously by the senate:

1-Mandatory / voluntary vote

SHOULD THE GRADUATE STUDENT FEE OF \$20.50 PER FULL-TIME STUDENT AND \$6.25 PER PART-TIME STUDENT PER SEMESTER REMAIN MANDATORY FOR THE NEXT 4 YEARS?

Yes, the student activity fee should **remain MANDATORY** for all graduate students.

No, the student activity fee should **become VOLUNTARY** for all graduate students.

2-Student activity fee increase

Do you wish to increase the Graduate Student Activity Fee by \$2 (to \$22.50) per full-time student per semester and \$.50 (to \$6.75) per part-time student per semester, and allocate that increase in funding to program expenses such as Program Funding (student clubs and organizations, general cultural and social events, speaker series and conferences, cabaret, student publications, departmental allocations, and resource access project or RAP), GSO Publications (survival guide, newspaper, and editors), Contributions and Public Service (orientation, faculty staff retreat, NYPIRG, WUSB, child care, volunteer ambulance corps, NAGPS, and campus life awards), and General Service (Spot subsidy, graduate bash, spring fest, and the cabaret at the Spot)?

YES **NO**

May Senate Meeting- Either on 5/2 in the Union or 5/9 in SAC. Approved unanimously to be on 5/9.

GSEU- Ramon De Castillo, Steven Preston, and Chris Johns- They would like to place petitions (to dissolve the merger with the CWA) at the GSO polling stations for GA's and TA's to sign. Unanimously approved by the senate.