



Present: President, VP, Finance Director, Public Relations, Student Relations, Programming, Director of Services, Organization Recognition, SCB, CIAS, GCCIS, KGCOE, COLA, COS, Women's, Cross Registered, Freshman, NTID, Graduate, CAST, CAB, Global Union, Reporter, RHA, WITR, SAAC, OUTspoken, OCASA, Academic Senate, Dr. Heath.

Absent: Greek Council, NSC, ACA, Staff Council, Karey Pine.

## **Called To Order at 1:03 pm.**

### **Approval of Minutes:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> by GU, 2<sup>nd</sup> by KGCOE.
- All in favor.
- Minutes pass as submitted.

### **Speak to the Senate:**

- None.

## **New Business**

### **WITR Additional Funds Request:**

- VP: Just for background information: If there is any request for funds that is 5,000 dollars or greater, Senate has to approve the request as well as finance committee. In front of you is WITR's request. Finance committee has already signed off and approved this request. Andy and his business manager are going to give us a brief presentation, and then we will take a vote.
- WITR: The request is mostly to cover the Architectural fees for Studio X. We paid about \$4,000 for architect fees, designing a new studio right in the front of the SAU. The basic idea is a studio, not in the basement, to interact with the students. We want glass walls where students can see into the studio, people will be able to make requests on the fly, and we will increase the overall exposure of WITR to campus. The last page of the packet talks about the entire process of making the studio; we are trying to meet the goals of the architectural fees. Currently, we have about \$18,000 saved up. We have to pay about \$5,000 for hockey, so we are about \$5,400 dollars sort (Karey pine donated \$3000). Any questions?
- CAST: You will be taking requests?

- WITR: Yes.
- VP: Our finance committee has reviewed this request and has approved it. They feel they will still have a decent amount of funds left over for other organizations of campus. This has been thoroughly examined.
- Director of Services: Do you have plans for the old space?
- WITR: We are still going to use it as a library and a recording studio, so it will still be ours. We might be turning the old studio into our internet studio if all things work out.
- VP: If there are no more further questions, I would ask for a motion to approve WITR's request.
- 1<sup>st</sup> by SCB, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Fresh.
- 17 for, 0 opposed.
- Request granted.

### **Elections Committee Chair:**

- SR: We have elections committee in the spring quarter to deal with candidate grievances and other such things. Student Relations nominates someone to chair the committee, and that candidate needs to be approved by senate. I am nominating Diego, who was selected with the help of the advisors. He plays a critical part in the election process in terms of our candidates. We are working on finding more people to sit on the committee. I would like some of you who are not running or who are graduating to sit on the committee. He will now give a brief speech before we vote.
- Diego: Hello, I am a Fifth year IE major, director of internal relationships for GU, involved with honors council and Hispanic deaf club. I want the entire election process to be fair for the students. The experience of getting to the decision is what really matters. We want them to also know how we are going to meet their concerns. Thank you.
- VP: Questions? Seeing none, please step out for a moment while we vote.
- VP: Do we a motion to approve Diego as the chair?
- 1<sup>st</sup> by SAAC, 2<sup>nd</sup> CIAS 16.
- All in favor, 0 opposed.
- Diego returns.
- VP: Congratulations Diego, you are now officially the committee chair.

## **Old Business**

### **Greek Senator/Programming Board:**

- VP: The Greek senator/programming board discussion is next on the agenda. You have some bylaw changes in front of you that I am proposing. Jess who works in CCL overseeing fraternities and sororities has come to answer some of our questions. Danaury thought we were unclear about some things last meeting, so I want to clarify. There will still be sub council presidents; the Greek senator position will have all the duties of an SG senator because they will not have to take care of the same responsibilities Greek Council had. With the Greek senator, their role would be to do just the SG part, the same as any other senator. He does not feel like this would be any different from any other senator's responsibilities. He says that he doesn't anticipate the senator will have an executive position in their chapter. The bylaw changes remove Greek Council, but include that there shall be a senator from these communities: students who are members of fraternity and sorority life recognized by Greek organizations. Not the academic related Greek organizations. If you flip to the next page, there is a section, article three, section three, point E, the senator from the community shall be elected according to the following guidelines: chapter voting system, each student passes one vote for the candidate of their choice, votes will be categorized by chapter, and the candidate with plurality receives one vote on behalf of that chapter. Whoever gets the plurality from the chapters individually will be elected as senator. The language in the bylaws is not great, we might have to clarify again.
- KGC OE: Nowhere in the bylaws did it make changes to the requirements a senator has, like charging them with handling these committees, etc.
- VP: I like to stay away from putting specifics for senators in the bylaws, if I said that would happen last time I misspoke. I would add to my documentation as VP, and we would have to talk to the sub councils to include the senator in their documentation.
- KGC OE: You stressed that, they should be made into the Greek senator. Since there is so little amount of votes going into this election, we should address what happens in the event of a tie.
- VP: That is a great point we should clarify for all positions.
- SR: In info meetings, people want to know the specific things each senator does. I would like by the end of the year to have the senators and cabinet create a document outside of the bylaws, that can be mentioned in the bylaws under senator duties, that senators should follow duties listed in an external document. For example, this would include having the Greek senator sit on these committees, etc. We can provide candidates and winners with more information that way.
- WITR: We actually follow a structure just like that, the bylaws state the bare minimum of each position, but the nitty gritty goes into that external document.
- KGC OE: I completely agree, I just think that it needs to be somewhere. These aren't transient groups, they aren't going anywhere.

- CAST: Each student has representation and has somewhere to go. I don't necessarily think adding more senators will represent the population better. If you aren't going to who's in charge, you aren't going to get helped anyway.
- CAST: Each student should be recognized by one senator. A female Greek student in COLA is represented by three senators. Some students are only represented by one senator.
- VP: It is a good point, but I think it is important to look at needs, not votes. Yes, that would happen with a woman, but I would expect Deirdresha would vote only on behalf of women. The same sort of conversation came up for cross registered last year. There could be academic problem that comes up just being cross registered.
- CAST: What would be the specific needs of a Greek student that a senator could attend to instead of an MSO?
- Dr. Heath: I think we have to pay very close attention to what the organization feels in the best way to represent their constituents. When we have students saying they are not represented like they should be, SG should listen to that. Greek council didn't make sense nationally; however, they need a voice at SG. I don't see it as a difference in representation, I see it as a way to add another voice. At this table, you are more involved with the voice you bring to the table.
- VP: Dr. Cooper, Greg and I were speaking this morning; SG itself went through a similar shift. There was a time where SG was just programming, a second CAB on campus. SG realized we have a responsibility as a governance group on campus that our focus should be representation. I think we have done a good job and left CAB and the others serve the students in that capacity. When I look at this change, I think it is very similar to that. Greek Council has been doing both, and that's not working.
- SAAC: When I first heard this as an MSO, I was completely against it. After listening and having been filled in a little bit, I realize they do deserve to be represented in the same way they want to be. Greek on this campus is almost like a college. They work so much harder than a lot of groups. They are just changing the title at the end of their name.
- SR: I had a lot of concerns when we added cross registered about adding a new senator seat in general. I think there is a difference in having a student represent a student, then having a thing represent you. SG's sole purpose is that you have a student representing a student, so that your unique issues are represented by someone. We have single representation based on our needs. I should be able to go to a single person who understands that need or that issue.
- COS: This senator position is being created because the Greek community felt that was the right way to go and not something they are just throwing out to stay connected?
- VP: They felt like they wanted the senator position. They want stronger ties to SG; they want to play a better role in the governance structure. Danaury feels like he hasn't been

able to stay in tune with SG as much because of his other responsibilities. I did want to present this week, we have to go soon but I will take a few more points.

- SCB: I agree Greeks should have a tie but I am still worried about all the other responsibilities they have. I feel like we should create a representative position, not a senator. Senators do have a programming aspect, and that is for the programming board. Creating a new position might work better.
- VP: I have a couple of concerns. I feel it needs to be a senator, and it needs to have the same requirements and responsibilities as all the others. I want everyone to take it seriously. People have suggested that, and we do need to talk about it.
- Grad: I think we need to focus on adding senator positions for students that aren't represented at all; sustainability, interdisciplinary, etc. We need to give them voices before we give people more than one voice.
- VP: I could add five more to your list. I will be honest, this change happened a lot faster than anybody planned. This was proposed and voted on before anybody was really ready. We are just trying to find the best way to move forward with the system we already have. This is a need that we do need to address. We are recognizing Greek council even though it doesn't exist. They are not doing what we ask them to do. We need to address this.
- SAAC: When are we voting on the changes of the bylaw, and are we voting about a senator position today?
- VP: They will be tabled a week, we will not vote today.
- Director of Services: When we talked about this in cabinet, with this new position and any new senator position, it is not going to be perfect this first year. We will make mistakes but we can always make bylaw changes again if this doesn't end of being the right fit. It is not going to be perfect.
- SCB: Can we split the voting for dissolving Greek council and then the senator position?
- VP: We can split it. We will probably be continuing this discussion next week. Over the next week I will clarify the voting language. Adjourned at 1:44 pm.

**Adjourned at 1:44 pm.**