



Present: President, VP, Finance Director, Public Relations, Programming, Student Relations, Director of Services, SCB, CIAS, GCCIS, KGCOE, COLA, CAST, Women's, Cross Registered, Freshman, Graduate, CAB, Global Union, NSC, Reporter, RHA, SAAC, ACA, Dr. Heath, Karey Pine.

Absent: Organization Recognition, COS, NTID, Greek Council, WITR, OUTspoken, OCASA, Academic Senate, Staff Council.

Call Called To Order at 1:05pm.

Approval of Minutes:

- 1st by GU, 2nd by Cross Registered.
- All in favor.
- Minutes pass as submitted.

Speak to the Senate:

- None.

Old Business

SG Term Start Date:

- VP: We only have old business on the agenda today. I have handed out a copy of potential bylaw changes to you all that we can look at. They are more of discussion points right now, not quite formal arrangement yet. We talked about how setting a calendar date as the start of a term could promote some difficulties. Someone mentioned the term date should be a week after graduation, and that is what I have drafted here. I was curious how people feel about that. Should there be more or less time? Other ideas in general?
- Grad: I love the proposal.
- VP: So everyone feels comfortable with it?
- SAAC: I like the week. I think maybe before graduation the new people should have some sort of orientation?
- VP: The transition process begins after elections. This is just an official day that they would officially begin. I think in a lot of ways the graduation date makes sense. It

provides time for a new and outgoing representative to cross train; after graduation, most people would be gone. Not that there is that much business for these positions during the summer, but still. If everyone feels alright, I would like to table this proposal for voting next week. We will vote on it next week.

Transfer Students:

- VP: I have talked to many senators regarding the transfer student conversation. This morning, Greg and I presented to the Board of Trustees. We highlighted the transfer student discussion that we have been having. The board was very interested in it. They asked several questions, which is somewhat unusual. They took the time to understand our points. I think we were able to raise a little bit of awareness about the issue. I did want to talk a little bit more about the possibility of what transfer representation would look like here in senate. I have a quick piece drafted of what the bylaws would look like if we were to add a transfer senator. Do we have any opening thoughts? Does anyone feel like this is a bad proposal?
- CAST: I think it is a good proposal. I just want to make sure we check with the financial team and Kathy Hall to make sure we can support more senators.
- GCCIS: I spoke with some of my constituents about this. If we have a transfer student, I think we need to have a part time student senator as well. When I mentioned the issue to my student advisory board, those transfer students didn't think it was necessary.
- SR: I am confused about the part time thing. You can't be a member of SG but you are still represented by your college.
- GCCIS: But that is the same thing with a transfer student.
- SR: I don't understand what their needs are. We are talking about two different things. A single person having a representative and how their issues can be categorized. A transfer student is represented by their academic issues. Transfer students get the short end of the stick all the time. Now we have senators during the same work. So are international, deaf/hard of hearing, etc. We have allotted seats appropriately because they have specific needs that a college senator cannot address. I am not aware of a part time student's specific needs. We are saying we need to help those students crying out for help. Every department just said they do the best they can for transfer students.
- SAAC: It is not that we aren't representing them in their colleges etc., but they need to be represented specifically as a transfer student. A lot of transfer students are just thrown in and are not getting their needs addressed. If there was someone they could address their needs to that could address them to us, I think that would be worthwhile.
- GCCIS: I am missing how part time students don't have the same issue. They have to feel out different forms for financial aid, etc.

- VP: If part time students have needs that need to be advocated for, I would expect you to present that case next meeting. I understand there is a larger issue at play here, and we have to think about how our organization is going to move forward. By saying transfer students can't have a seat because other students don't have a seat is the wrong way to look at this. It's about their needs more than equal representation.
- SR: When Kari came here, no one told her to register for housing. We need someone to advocate for an office for transfer students on campus. No one we spoke to last year is going to be able to do that. We want a student to work on that and bring that to being. Someone who can get Dr. Destler to commit finances towards this. We already have issues that need to be addressed.
- Dr. Heath: I was wondering, one thing, there is a question of when we need to stop. Do we have a senator for the students who like to wear blue? But you could consider having one or two reps at large. For the unrepresented, for a more broad student population. The "everything else" senator.
- Fresh: Didn't we have a rep a large senator?
- VP: We had one on cabinet.
- Fresh: How do they vote on an issue if the issue is split for their constituencies?
- Dr. Heath: They would have to figure that out. It could be a fluid movement. In the end they could vote, or even abstain for voting. It is more about getting ideas out then just a vote.
- KGCoe: I think we all agree there are needs that have been recognized, correct? There are needs that need to be met. The disagreement is if there should be a senator position or not. The best part of SG is that we make the rules. We are looking at this like it is black and white, senator or nothing. I am looking for a grey area. Maybe an Ad Hoc position, someone to work alongside the administration to create a transfer office, and then dissolve the position once the goal is completed. Almost like outsourcing for a company. It helps draw the line.
- SAAC: Just balancing everything everyone has said. The rep at large, how would we represent everybody? I think transfer students have a need. Part time might too. What I am thinking is that we just need a central location; the SG office is not working as well as we wanted. We need a transfer office, and an office almost like a student complaint office. They need to be aware they have someone besides their own senator to go too. Wherever it needs to be directed, that can be done.
- VP: The cost associated with adding another seat is very small. It is minimal compared to our overall budget.
- CAST: It sounds like a problem that SG needs to solve. As senate, we should be advocating for a transfer office ourselves.

- DofS: SG tried to do that last year. But there is so much work involved we were not able to make those changes. I think a transfer student's issues are so large it is needed. Those people are not necessarily not represented. We do have a student relations director. Those who feel underrepresented could come to us and we could work on getting something together for them.
- SR: My position used to be the rep at large. We just renamed it. I do the open forums because someone came in and said there was a need. I think yes, a transfer senator is not the best solution, but they need advocacy somewhere. But it needs to come from beyond my position. You can direct those students who feel underrepresented towards me. I help people get people onto all debit plans because they have special food allergies. That is what my position is for. As for university study students, that falls under my position.
- Fresh: I think that we should try having a transfer senator. We should monitor the success rate. I have no idea what it is like to be a transfer student, most of us don't. I think it is something we should try. When there is a student speaking for something, it definitely makes a big difference.
- Pres: I said this last week and I will say it again. 900-1000 transfers come here every year, and they all bring issues. How do we address that? I would love to see a proposal from transfer students, so we can set up a senator position to meet those needs. We need to make sure this transfer senator has to have a goal. I want to see something concrete.
- SCB: I am worried about if there are people who really want this position. Is there an issue for the transfer students? We should make a committee under Student Relation director, see if the transfer students are active and on this position.
- Karey: I think that we can not one hundred percent identify the problems. There are obviously issues. Last year Kari knew there were transfer student issues. Last year we surveyed and found out there would be issues. I don't know what that would tell us besides the fact that there are transfer needs. We have done the middle thing for the last two years.
- SR: I can type up the issues if you want them on paper. Are we confused about the issues?
- Fresh: I think the issue is if we need a senator or not.
- SR: For me, a transfer office is the major goal. There needs to be a room that says transfer office that facilitates their orientation and everything else they need. They will be going to the transfer office. That is what we would advocate for. They need someone to advocate for them. We tried under cabinet last year but it is bigger than that. We need something, even if it is an ad hoc position.

- COLA: I think a lot of us have trouble understanding it because we don't know what the roles would be. What are the concrete roles on how we would get a transfer office. How would they get there?
- VP: I would offer that was what last meeting was. I can try to clarify that. In terms of the steps? There aren't any. We want to create new positions, move funds, etc. This is not an overnight thing. We don't know what the steps will be. Just help me understand where the disconnect is.
- Programming: What I said last week. We might not know exactly what this position will entail, etc. People have worked on this and we do have a list of issues, Teraisa could pass them out so you can understand. If this doesn't work, we can try something else after. We can do something about this and it doesn't hurt to give it a shot.
- Pres: I was not talking about an ongoing committee. I think other transfer students that want representation, it would be nice to see what they have to say about it. I think what this table is hoping for is what you and Kari were talking about. When we have the opportunity to read it on paper, I think the office is a good ultimate goal, but what will be expected of the senator? Who will they go to?
- Karey: I think if we called a meeting of freshman and asked them the same thing, I don't think a lot of people would show up. But we gave them a senator. Some of you exist without those processes and some with those processes. Just because people don't congregate... we want them to organize their needs, why they are trying to figure out those issues we aren't addressing? Some of you in this room (in terms of positions) didn't have to jump through any hoops.
- VP: I think transfer students are a special group in that many students have a bad experience in the "process of transferring". I think there are very few students that once I felt comfortable I would be trying to get SG to advocate.
- DofS: If I am correct, we created the cross registered senator last year. Did we know their exact responsibilities at the time, or did we recognize the need for the position, created it, and then let them define what they would do?
- SR: We did survey 150-250 transfer students during student speak up day. Last year when we talked about the cross registered seat, I didn't get it last year. Until Karey and Dr. Heath mentioned that if students don't think they are being represented, that is a problem. We as SG have to address it. I would love for people who don't agree to suggest something else. I am proposing a senator leading to an office. If not that, we need to brainstorm other ideas. What are we talking about here? We don't know their needs, or not a transfer senator? What are you guys thinking?
- SCB: I definitely think an office is the goal. But as a senate, can we advocate for it? If we can't, what can one person do? Someone should create a proposal, and as a senate we should bring it to Dr. Destler, or whoever else.

- VP: I would disagree. I would say a proposal of that magnitude is a big responsibility.
- SAAC: Agreeing with Teraisa, I think we are coming back to the Greek title position. If we have this office that is formed, we could just have a representative. If there are other students that need to be represented, and if the senator title is bothering everyone, we could have just a representative at large, etc.
- VP: I will close with that I think this is a healthy discussion. Thank you. The SG bylaws are on the SG website. I look forward to your suggestions next week.

Reports

Senate Reports:

- Programming: Don't forget, the debates are today! I have the set up for today. Those who are running cannot help. We only have a short amount of time to set up. Marissa will probably need help with the posters, I'll need help with bringing up t-shirts.
- CAB: OAR is on April 30th! Tonight in Ingle, 5:30 pm, we have Mr. RIT! We have senior wine tasting event in the SAU, and there are still spots open, but they are going very fast. 3 dollar tickets. You have to be a senior. We also have, Saturday through Sunday, a 30 hour event, LAN of the hidden temple in the field house. Next Thursday, we are showing The Goonies in Ingle auditorium.

Committee Reports:

- DofS: SG tech committee is finalizing the clipboard survey about the GeneSIS project. Open forum Monday, April 18th, 2 pm in the fireside lounge. You will hear about it again next week. If you would like to help out, contact me.
- CAST: Nominations end tonight at midnight. On our door is the nomination directions, please nominate a teacher!

Advisor Reports:

- Karey: Dodge ball this May 1st! Register at www.dbworldrecord.com! We need 2,300 registers! We are going to have headbands and t shirts. We ordered the official dodge balls this week.
- Fresh: One year down party, I will need help at four; if you help, you will get free Gracies. I am having the fifth annual one year down party, celebrating freshman completing one year. We will make our own cupcakes, there will be booths set up for different things beneficial for freshman students going on to sophomores. We will be raffling and handing out free lanyards.

Adjourned at 1:57pm.