



University of California, San Diego  
Graduate Student Association

Council Meeting #3  
Monday, October 31, 2016  
5:30 pm, Price Center Forum

- I. Call to Order: 5:35 pm
- II. Approval of CM #2 (2016) [Minutes](#)
  - A. Approval of minutes by unanimous approval
- III. Approval of Agenda
  - A. Presentation for writing center closed
  - B. Sofia: strike election item and move to next week
  - C. Kim: second
  - D. Representative: object
  - E. GSA Prez: vote to leave it on agenda
    1. For: 16
    2. Against: 6
    3. Abstain: 2
  - F. Eric H.: Move to approve agenda as slate
  - G. Representative: Second
  - H. No objections, approved
  - I. Representative: Move to approve agenda
  - J. Representative: Second
  - K. No objections, approved
- IV. Public Comments and Announcements [10 minutes]
  - A. Sara R. Rivera- Family Friendly Fund
  - B. Cultural Events Sales & Eventbrite update (Lynn)
  - C. Extended Transition Relief for Grad Student SHIP (Mark)
  - D. SAGE Whitepaper Committee Call (Mark)
  - E. UCAB Update (Rob & Megan)
    1. Updates about changes to UCEN (University Centers)
    2. [Hi-Thai Feedback Survey](#)
      - a) Upcoming vote on Hi-Thai
    3. New grad student member at large position on committee
  - F. VP DEI: Martin
    1. Che Cafe event

2. New childcare oversight committee for campus
- G. Sabrina:
  1. Is Che Cafe still allowed to program?
  2. Megan: Technically, the university does not support holding activities there. But, if students want to go, that is their choice
- H. Sophia:
  1. Next CM, I'll be telling you all about writing hub
  2. International Center updates and upcoming meeting with admin
- I. VP Student Affairs Betty:
  1. Thank you to people who helped with halloween party on Friday!
- V. Recess: 7 minutes
- VI. Vote on Finance Bills [10 minutes]
  - A. Sara R. Rivera (Vice President of Financial Affairs)
    1. GRF1: "Love Made Audible"
      - a) Event by the Serotones
      - b) Budget: \$350
      - c) Expected attendance: 150 grad students
    2. APRF6: "Association of Robotics Grad Students at UCSD Weekly Seminar"
      - a) Series of 5 events by Association of Robotics Grad Students at UCSD
      - b) Budget: \$350
      - c) Expected attendance: 50 "unique" grad students
      - d) Sophia: definition of unique grad students?
      - e) Sara: have not received funding previously for programs
  - B. Sophia: move to approve as a slate
  - C. Sara: second
  - D. No objections, approved
  - E. Val : move to approve slate
  - F. Representative: second
  - G. No objections, approved
- VII. Presentation and Vote on [Budget Amendment: DPC](#) [10 minutes]
  - A. Sara R. Rivera (Vice President of Financial Affairs)
    1. Every quarter student's pay \$12
    2. GSA gives \$7.50/student back to each student's department
    3. This year, we budgeted for 150 students, but actual enrollment is closer to 350 students; thus, we are under budget
    4. We cannot amend the DPC budget without passing an amendment in GSA council

5. More funding with increase in base of student fees
6. Propose to increase the DPC fund for the 2016-17 academic year
7. Sophia: does this change amount allocated per student? Or change total budget?
  - a) Sara: budget per student stays constant. We will cover all students at same budget rate
8. Val: will we see other amendments like this for other budgets?
  - a) Sara: not likely, probably a one off
9. Mark: are governing docs allowed to change to accommodate increase in students?
  - a) Sara: last year was 7.50, this year would be less around 7.20 something, we want to work with governing docs committee to take (# of grad students \* student fee/student)
10. Rob: still unclear, no changes to student fee? Is this a silly resolution?
  - a) Mark: more students means more student fees, so no change to GSA bottom line
  - b) Sara: yes, we are doing this resolution through council in order to meet november 1 deadline
11. Sophia: which account is this amendment coming from?
  - a) Sara: transfer from "general account" to "temporary fund" to be allocated
12. Sophia: move to vote on DPC Budget Amendment
  - a) Second: Martin
  - b) No objections
13. Robert: move to approve DPC Budget Amendment
  - a) Second: Sophia
  - b) No objections, passes by consent

VIII. Presentation and Vote on [DCR\\_01](#)-Resolution on the reinstatement of the International Center [15 minutes]

A. [Background information](#) (Sophia P. Hirakis)

1. could not inform GSA of changes to IC over summer
2. worked with a professor to stop demolition of IC on July 8th, last summer
3. January 2017: planned demolition of IC
4. We need a written document to recentralize IC, signed by UCSD admin
5. Myself, Vlad, Tatiana, and Vice Chancellor are planning to meet within the next few weeks

6. Lynn: do we have a copy of the proposed resolution?
  - a) Sophia: yes
7. IC was used by 83.7% of non-US citizen reported using the IC, most were moderately satisfied
8. Almost double amount of international grad students admitted increase in 2 years
9. Had interviews with NBC and people around campus to bring light to admin failure
10. GSA has had no plans given to them from UCSD admin about future plans for recentralization
11. Admin refuses to give details about the reasons for demolition of IC
12. Demand to have grad students to be on campus planning committee to ensure timely recentralization of IC
13. We want in writing all the future plans for IC before demolition occurs
14. Rob: is there reason to believe admin did this on purpose?
  - a) Sophia: probably not malicious, just prime real estate, unconfirmed rumors of donors
15. Val: are mou's typically written by GSA or parties involved?
  - a) Sophia: usually just the parties involved, mou can be written by us or by admin
16. Beverly: specify "adequate" grad student representation on committee?
17. Victoria: have admin closed offices or dispersed?
  - a) Sophia: offices still open, but they have been operating with inadequate resources, i.e. oceanids and friends of international center
18. Lynn: do you have a draft of mou written?
  - a) Sophia: no mou written, will be written by wednesday
19. Kim: is there health hazard and what would happen if IC is rebuilt in same place?
  - a) Sophia: admin has been vague and we have no information about health hazards, seems that admin has another plan
20. Mark (Point of information): GSA has in writing that reintegration of IC will happen from UCSD
  - a) Sophia: yes, but we want admin to commit to their promise
21. Val: move to extend by 5 minutes
  - a) Rob: second
  - b) No objections

22. Rob: what do leaders of IC think?
- a) Sophia: excited for new buildings, but not excited about dispersement, some employees have their hands tied (conflict of interest)
23. Udit: composition of committees who are meeting with admin?
- a) Sophia: no set composition, postdoc + undergrad + IC offices (1 rep from each body), looking for new members
24. Bryce: recentralization defined at all?
- a) Sophia: one center where all IC is kept
25. Megan: admin does want IC to be recentralized? Is there a timetable?
- a) Mark (poi): reassessment before end of 2016, still no mou
26. Beverly: amend to “henceforth (as defined in the Memorandum of Understanding)”
- a) Sophia: motion to amend to “henceforth (as defined in the Memorandum of Understanding)”
    - (1) ?: second
    - (2) No objections
27. Mark: move to extend by 5 minutes
- a) Rob: second
  - b) No objections
28. Mark: move to readjust “be it resolved” section from last to first
- a) Second: Rob
  - b) No objections
29. Lynn: move to amend Memorandum of Understanding to MOU
- a) Second: Larry
  - b) No objections
30. Lynn: move to amend sentence
- a) Martin: second
  - b) No objections
31. Michael O.: common for admin to reveal projected building costs/budgets?
- a) Sophia: on ARCHAC, we have seen budgets from admin
32. ?: Move to extend by 5 minutes
- a) Second: ?
  - b) No objections
33. Lynn: move to approve amendment
- a) Sara: second
  - b) No objections

- 34. Mark: most powerful motivation is VC already promised mou that they have not yet provided, response to GSA exec letter
- 35. Sophia: "Whereas the VCSA, Juan Gonzalez, and AVCSRC, Jeff Orgera, indicated in a letter to the 2015-16 GSA Executive Officers would work with colleagues to draft an MOU/MOA with the intent to reinstate the IC"
- 36. Lynn: move to extend by 5 minutes
  - a) Mark: second
  - b) No objections
- 37. Sophia: move to approve document
  - a) Martin: second
  - b) No objections
  - c) Vote: for: 37, against: 0, abstain: 1

IX. Election for [Election Committee](#) [15 minutes]

A. [Candidate Statements](#)

- 1. Christina N. Alarcón
- 2. Bryce Thomson

B. Sophia: move to strike my name from Election Committee candidates

C. Sophia: move to approve bryce and christina for elections committee

- 1. Mark: second
- 2. No objections

D. GSA Prez: have 1 available spot, any council members want to consider applying?

- 1. No additional candidates

X. Special Election: VP Academic [30 minutes]

A. Elections Committee shall chair

B. Before election night

- 1. No submitted endorsements

C. On election night

- 1. Chaired by Bryce T.
- 2. Structure: public endorsements, Q&A, open session, closed session

3. Candidates return and winner is announced

4. GSA Prez (poi): who is running?

- a) Bryce: Vlad J. and Nate C., both are absent due to previous commitments

5. ?: move to nominate Sophia H. as VP Academic

- a) Sophia: i accept

D. Opening statements:

- 1. Sophia:

- a) Put myself on elections committee to preserve well-being of candidates
- b) There was drama between GSA prez candidates
- c) Goal: have open dialogue necessary to function in council
- d) Need information/committee updates to give to constituents
- e) Been on GSA for 5 years, want to interface with admin, which I already do
- f) I care about the work and I already do it

E. Q&A (10 min.)

1. Kim: why are you the best candidate?
  - a) Sophia: respect both candidates, i have advantage interfacing with underrepresented and students with disabilities, i ask good questions and am an active listener
2. Sabrina: medical/personal issues last year, will you be able to run in full health this year?
  - a) Sophia: personal well-being is paramount; however, i still do the work necessary and am committed
3. Michael: how will becoming VP Academic change your relationships with admin?
  - a) Sophia: already working with Dean of Grad Students to improve mentoring of grad students, i have been challenged before by admin due to lack of being an elected official
4. Martin: how are you going to fit into role of VP Academic?
  - a) Sophia: no cohesive ways to update GSA council about various meetings, need a central forum
5. Hannah: sounds like you are already involved with many committees, would you have the time for this role?
  - a) Sophia: yes, i will find suitable replacements to committees
6. Chris: specific instance that qualifies you to be VP Academic?
  - a) Sophia: sent to UC-wide women's conference, asked other grads about their mentorship experience, monica and i recorded this info and met with dean of grad students, want to make mentors more accountable to grad students
7. Val: goals as VP Academic?
  - a) Sophia: lack of transitional careers, want more speakers about these careers, focus on academia and workplace
8. Betty: specific goals, besides IC, that you will take on?
  - a) Sophia: mentorship advising program (MAP), want to make GPSES, want to understand specific needs of grad students as they relate to their departments
9. Mark: move to extend to end of speaker's list
  - a) Mel: Second
  - b) Objections none
10. Val: how will you adjust "off-putting" perception when interfacing with admin?

- a) Sophia: i have had mentors, and i will be better
- 11. Mark: last year running for VP EDI you described yourself as “raw”, how would this affect your relationship with grads
  - a) Sophia: rub people wrong way because i bring up points that people don't want to address, however, i do get stuff done

F. Open session (10 minutes)

1. Kim: we are speaking about candidates with candidates present?
  - a) Bryce: yes, intention to tell feelings to council members while they are present
2. Kim: i agree with Sophia because ppl who serve in GSA should not serve self-interests
3. Michael: who has worked with Vlad or Nate and what are your experiences?
  - a) Sabrina: Nate has been on GSA for 4 years, started townhalls, chaired previous election, revised election docs, other committees
4. Rob: i endorse Nate, he is the reason that i joined GSA, i believe in his leadership skills
5. Val: Vlad is clear, concise, and to the point
6. Nina: Sophia came to IC work group, i endorse her
7. Tatiana Z., GSA Prez: support election of Sophia bcus she is passionate about student needs, worked with grad students from diversity of backgrounds, able to interface with admin
8. Sara (VP Finance): if Vlad is elected, we would not need to have another election
9. Betty: all candidates are qualified, i have worked with Nate through Gradvantage, agree with Sabrina and Rob, he is concise and to the point
10. Beverly: can we see platforms of other candidates?
  - a) Christina: only received the platform of one candidate by deadline
11. Mark: Sophia is a great person, however, she can be disruptive during council meetings, i have reservations about her ability to interface with UCSD admin and faculty
12. Larry: why is nate not here?
  - a) Sabrina: nate was looking for other labs, now he is good to go
13. Betty: move to extend to end of speaker's list
  - a) Sara: second
  - b) No objections
14. Kim: the use of explicit language does not preclude Sophia from being able to do her job while interfacing with admin
  - a) Mark: it is a matter of professionalism that all people must be held accountable too, Vlad is easy to work with, he is professional and invested in success of GSA

- G. Closing statement: (1 min)
  - 1. Sophia: i trust council to make the right decision, vlad and nate are great candidates
  - 2. Mark: move to extend speaking time to 1 min and closed session to 10 minutes
  - 3. Second: Sara
  - 4. No objections
- H. Closed session: (10 minutes)
- I. Vote:
  - 1. Nate: 27, Sophia: 5, Vlad: 4, Other: 2 -> Nate wins election
- XI. Vote on Appointments
  - A. VP Campus
    - 1. Student Conduct Boards Group: Teresa Zimmerman-Liu
    - 2. TRFR Committee: Victoria Holden
  - B. VP Academic
    - 1. Library Graduate Advisory Committee: Matt Wills
  - C. Sophia: move to approve appointment as a slate
    - 1. Mark: second
    - 2. No objections
  - D. Rob: move to approve appointment slate
    - 1. Val: second
    - 2. No objections
- XII. Call for CM #4 Agenda Items
  - A. Sophia: ?
- XIII. Adjourn
  - A. Rob: Move to adjourn meeting
    - 1. Val: Second
    - 2. No objections
  - B. Meeting adjourned: 7:40 pm