



University of California, San Diego
Graduate Student Association

Council Meeting #10
Monday, March 13, 2017
6:00 pm, Price Center Forum

I. Call to Order

A. 6:07 pm

II. Approval of CM #9 (2017) [Minutes](#)

A. Move to approve: Martin

B. Second: Vlad

C. Approved

III. Approval of Agenda

A. Move to approve: Brian

B. Second: Larry

C. Approved

IV. Public Comments and Announcements [10 minutes]

A. Blameless tickets still for sale (Lynn)

1. 1 tix left, event is this thursday

2. Might have jazz event tix sales for this sunday

3. Brewery bus yesterday: only sold 66% of seats on bus and 50% of those tix sales showed up day of, should we keep doing this event?

a) Email me your thoughts

B. General Finance comments (Sara)

1. DPC

a) A lot of departments haven't spent their \$

b) If you don't spend this \$, then \$ goes back to GSA reserves

c) Come up with ideas: events for your department (but can't spend on alcohol)

2. CM #14

a) Last CM to approve budget requests, get in requests for this year

3. New budget items?

- a) Let me know new budget items since I will soon be on a research vessel in the ocean for a month
 - 4. Interested in VP Finance? SFAC?
 - a) I am not going to run for VP Finance next year
 - b) If you are interested let me know!
 - c) Looking for 2 reps for SFAC, really important committee, please let me know if you or your friends are interested
- C. GSA elections nominations open today (Christina)
 - 1. Sent out email with list of important dates for GSA elections
 - 2. Want to engage student public, so talk to your constituents
 - 3. Want to continue great election cycle
- D. GSA Presents St. Patrick's Day Social with "Nothing Special" (Mel)
 - 1. Free beer, flat breads, and more on St. Patrick's day at 8pm at the Loft
 - 2. Nothing Special: band from physics department will be there
- E. GSA Career Center Announcement
 - 1. March 27-30th: career development week
 - 2. Panels, breakout sessions, and more
- F. Spot available on ARCHAC
 - 1. Please see me or Betty if you are interested
- G. Diversity panel in spring quarter
 - 1. Keynote speaker has been chosen
- H. LGBT Event - Vlad
 - 1. Please forward to your constituents
- V. Vote on Finance Bills [5 minutes]
 - A. Sara Rivera (Vice President of Financial Affairs)
 - 1. GRF7: Best Student Pharmacist
 - a) Request: \$500 for decorations, food, refreshments
 - b) April 3rd, 2017 at Price Center East Ballroom
 - c) Expected attendance: 125 grads
 - 2. GRF8: Springfest 2017
 - a) Request: \$1,400 for materials, printing, food
 - b) April 9-16, 2017 at multiple venues around campus
 - c) Expected total attendance: 200 grads
 - 3. APRF21: Strategic Studies Group Summit
 - a) Request: \$245 for food, refreshments
 - b) May 26th, 2017 at GPS
 - c) Expected attendance: 35 grads
 - 4. APRF22: Graphic Design Principles for Scientists

- a) Request: \$150 for speaker fees
- b) March 30th, 2017 at location TBA
- c) Expected attendance: 25 grads
- 5. DRF11: Digital Cultural Heritage: In Greece and Beyond
 - a) Request: \$60 for refreshments
 - b) March 27th, 2017 at Atkinson Hall Auditorium
 - c) Expected attendance: 25 grads
- 6. Sophia: history of GRF8? Has it happened before?
 - a) Rep: event has been wildly successful in the past
 - b) Sophia: sounds great, please forward to constituents
 - c) Mel: point of information: it is the 15th year of the event
- 7. Vlad: could we make amendment for APRF22? Motion to change APRF22 budget request from \$150 -> \$350 and projected attendance to 50 grads
 - a) Second: Robert
 - b) Approved
- 8. Move to approve as slate: second, approved
- 9. Move to approve slate: Sophia
 - a) Second: Cory
 - b) Approved

VI. Presentation on Basic Needs Updates [10 minutes]

A. Hayley Weddle [Chief of Staff], Daniel Juarez [A.S. President]

1. What are basic needs?
 - a) Food and housing insecurity at UCSD are ongoing issues that affect well-being and success of students (undergrads and grads)
2. How many students experience food insecurity?
 - a) 41% of undergrads
 - b) 26% of grads
 - c) Food insecurity: either inconsistent access to quality food or no access to quality food
 - d) According to system-wide food access and security study by UCOP
 - e) Will get more information on housing insecurity later this year
3. History of basic needs initiatives
 - a) Began in 2014, when administrators and students showed concern about data that many students experience high food insecurity

- b) Fall 2015: A.S. opens Triton Food Pantry with \$75,000 in funding from VCSA
- 4. Basic needs initiative on campus
 - a) \$151,000 from UCOP
 - (1) Triton food pantry
 - (2) Food demonstrations
 - (3) Meal preparation sessions
 - (4) Meal vouchers
 - (5) Calfresh workshops and application support
 - (6) Food literacy program
 - (a) What foods are healthy
 - (7) Awareness campaign
 - (8) Financial aid emergency grants
 - (9) evaluation /data collection efforts
 - (10) Short term housing protocol
 - (a) Housing units on campus
 - (11) Basic needs coordinator
 - (a) Position for full-time staff member, outreach to students, person just hired and she started 2 days ago, she's great!
- 5. Triton food pantry
 - a) Provide a discreet and reliable space for students
 - b) Improve food access among students by offering wide assortment of non-perishable and perishable foods
 - c) Students get 10 points per week to use for foods
- 6. Triton food pantry: fall 2016 data analysis
 - a) 3,397 individual visits (including repeats)
 - b) 17% of these visits are from grad students, more than 200 unique grad students
 - c) Usage has gone way up from last year
- 7. Triton food pantry expenditures
 - a) Currently seeing about 350 students/week
 - b) Current budgeting cost: \$120,000
 - c) Anticipated cost next year: \$150,000
 - d) Funding partners: AS (\$30000), VCSA, UCOP, college councils, fundraising, provosts, grad division (\$2500)
 - e) Move to extend by 3 minutes + questions: Sophia
 - (1) Second: Rep
 - (2) Approved

8. Future of basic needs resource center
 - a) Central location for students to visit for answers to basic needs questions and concerns
 - b) Food demos and meal preparation
9. Questions
 - a) Sophia: grad population should give funding because a lot of grad students are using pantry
 - (1) Sara: list of items to add to budget next year, a lot of discussion about this with UCSD admin, talking about hiring a grad student counselor, front the \$, expect UCSD admin to meet this \$ for the future
 - (2) Sophia: recommend that grad division should double funding?
 - (3) Move to extend to end of speaker's list: approved
 - (4) Valerie: programming to account for food waste?
 - (a) Hayley: great that students should waste less, this information will go into our food literacy campaign, food recovery network on campus, looks for food waste on campus and routes to non-profits on campus, food waste could also be part of food awareness campaign
 - b) Tanner: find myself on campus for long hours, could we set up kitchenettes for grad students to store/make food?
 - (1) Daniel: a lot of students at triton food pantry have thought about creating kitchenettes, we should use current resources to address this issue (commuter groups, etc).
 - (2) Hayley: big part of hiring new coordinator, get inventory of current resources, educate staff and faculty about these to tell their students
 - c) Betty: are you in touch with dean of colleges to use more resources?
 - (1) Hayley: yes, she is co-chair of basic needs committee

VII. Presentation on Taxation Document [10 minutes]

- A. Vladimir Jovanovic (Rep for Neuroscience Grad Program)
 1. Please send this information to your constituents
 2. We're getting taxed for going to school
 - a) Health insurance
 - b) Student transportation fee

3. Wrote document to explain these taxes
4. Disclaimer: this is my opinion on the tax situation, not tax advice
5. Graduate student fees/tuition
 - a) Every quarter: tuition, university center fee, recreation facility fee, GSA fee, student transportation fee
 - b) Health insurance
6. Typically, you do get health insurance through the school
7. Some of you have tuition/fee remissions
 - a) School charges fees that they have for grad student researchers and TAs
 - b) Question is what is considered "expenses", stems from student health fee and transportation fee
8. Total breakdown: for 2016-17
 - a) Total fees = total \$ given
 - b) Issue is "qualified expenses" ~ \$3655.65
 - c) \$ that you might pay taxes on is this different
9. Qualified expenses remove tax liability
 - a) Expenses that are exceptions
 - (1) Room and board
 - (2) Travel grants
 - (3) Research
 - (4) Clerical help
 - (5) Equipment and other expenses that aren't required for enrollment in or attendance at UCSD
 - (6) Payment for work (i.e. stipends)
10. What about transportation fee?
 - a) Mandatory fee for all students
 - (1) It should be listed on 1098-T
 - (2) Definitely should not be paying it
 - (3) Asked grad division about this, they said that they are going to change it
11. What about health insurance fee?
 - a) Called mandatory, but you can get a fee waiver
 - b) I say that this fee is mandatory, by definition not taxable
 - (1) Others disagree, say it is not mandatory, so taxable
 - c) Motion to extend by 3 minutes: Sophia
 - d) Second: Rep
 - e) Approved
12. Please send this document to your constituents

- a) If you want to be safe: pay \$550 per year for filing your taxes
- b) If you want to save \$: consider how this is reported, talk to your tax professional, read up on this

13. Questions:

- a) Sara: if i file my taxes, can i amend my taxes?
 - (1) Vlad: yes, you can amend taxes up to 5 years, email me with your questions
- b) Sophia: thanks for doing this work, can see it took a lot of effort

VIII. Presentation of Sun God Festival 2017 [10 minutes]

A. Representative from Sun God Committee

1. April 29th this year
2. Here to talk about grad student tixs and volunteer applications
3. Volunteers are vital: scanning tixs, water stations, so on
4. We are thankful for our volunteers, application due by march 31
5. You can drop off at Christian's desk (outside GSA office)
6. Sun God Festival: music festival held for undergrads every year
 - a) 35th year of sun god festival
 - b) We bring a lot of great national talent (Snoop Dog, Diplo, etc)
 - c) Fee was passed to increase budget by 200k this year
 - d) Bring back 2nd stage, want to increase engagement of festival
 - e) Will reveal line up later this month possibly
 - f) For grads: student tixs can attend for \$50, on sale at box office (only way to buy), sale ends at April 6th at 4pm
 - g) Make sure you have valid UCSD ID and sign a waiver
 - h) Bring your UCSD ID to the festival (it is your actual tix)
 - i) Please go out and buy your tix!
7. Sara: how many grad students usually attend?
 - a) Natalie: varies, we sold ~50 tixs last year, but this year will be a lot bigger so we are hoping to sell more tixs
8. Jacob (POI): some grads are not allowed to attend (due to certain events)
9. Lynn: grads usually only go to events when they can bring +1 (partners, spouses), i suggest to change this rule moving forward
 - a) Natalie: has been policy to not allow guests, historically around 10% of attendees, but 30% of incidents
10. Cory: definitely go to AS council to try to change this policy for

grads

IX. Presentation on Student Fee Advisory Committee (SFAC) Winter Report [10 minutes]

A. Raul Herrera & Masoud Jalali (SFAC reps)

1. 2016-17 SSF Permanent budget
 - a) \$2.82M of \$34.79M budget in campus budget office
 - b) Student affairs: \$14M
2. Campus budget office ssf balances
3. Enrollment over time
 - a) 33,945 in 2017-18, +1200 more students
4. Student services fee
 - a) \$54 increase in 2017-18
5. Total new ssf available: \$1.8M
6. Total permanent ssf available for allocation
 - a) Allocation goal: \$1M - \$2M
7. Budget proposals
 - a) Several proposals, our goal to interview people who make proposals and set impact-value score for proposal
8. Sfac suggestion
 - a) High/medium/low priority
 - (1) Grad division - grAdvantage program expansion \$200k
 - (2) ArtPower - speaker/talker series \$20k
 - (3) Career services center - health careers advisor \$105k
 - (4) Artpower - affordable tickets - \$56k
 - (5) Recreation - wilderness orientation scholarship program - \$100k
 - (6) AS - Triton Food Pantry - \$122k
 - b) Contact us to get into the details of this budget
9. Spring 2017: triton spark
 - a) Sparking ideas to improve your student experience
 - b) Ideawave.ucsd.edu - discussion forum to discuss ideas
 - c) We will start campaign on ideawave for students to suggest initiatives that they want to see on campus
10. Any feedback?
 - a) Contact Masoud and Raul or Sara
 - b) SFAC looking for 1-2 GSA reps for next year (starting mid-spring)

11. Questions

- a) Hayley: thank you for the time and effort that you have
- b) Motion to approve by 2 minutes: sophia
- c) Second: cory
- d) Approve
- e) Hayley: not understanding why triton food pantry is ranked low compared to the other things, want to see it ranked higher
 - (1) Raul: agree it should be higher priority, we should be getting more funding, we agree that the impact of TFP is high, but not sure that value is there due to its guaranteed funding from other sources
 - (2) Motion for 5 minute extension: Sara
 - (3) Second: Rep
 - (4) Approved
 - (5) Masoud: We are pushing VCSA to push for permanent funding from Chancellor
- f) Cory: priority 21 - center for student involvement should have more oversight, especially that it should have bigger impact for grads
 - (1) Raul: agree with you, email us and we can discuss a plan
- g) Christina: what is the next step for funding?
 - (1) Masoud: VC is in charge of making the final decision, we just make report of suggestions
 - (2) Raul: we endorse and recommend, not final decision
- h) Mel: thank you for your presentation, when will funding happen and where are results published?
 - (1) Raul: 2 rounds of reports a year (winter and spring)
 - (2) Masoud: mid-spring budget is finalized for next year
- i) Motion to extend to end of speakers list: approved
- j) Sara: interested parties should join SFAC, let me know your opinions about budget items for next year
- k) Masoud: one-time allocation is open for department issues, let me know if you are interested in applying for these

X. Discussion and First Vote on [Constitutional Amendment “Changes to Time and Place” of Meetings](#) [5 min]

- A. Cory Stevenson [Parliamentarian]

1. Addressed everything that council members suggested
2. Motion to approve amendment as is: Cory
3. Second: Sophia
4. Approved
5. Vote: 33 for, 0 opposed, 1 abstentions
6. Passes first vote

XI. Presentation on the [Election Procedure](#) [5 minutes]

A. Election Committee (Christina Alarcón, Sophia P. Hirakis, and Bryce Thomson)

1. Nominations open today
 - a) Must be made by rep/officer, approved by nominee
 - b) Can be for more than 1 office
 - c) Are open until voting
2. Platforms:
 - a) Must be submitted by Mar 31, will be distributed to reps on April 3
3. Campaign ads
 - a) Must be approved by elections committee before dissemination
4. Procedure
 - a) Final call for nominations
 - b) Public endorsements
 - c) 3 minutes/candidate for platform -
 - d) 10 minute q/a (1 min q, 1 min a)
 - e) 10 minute open session, 3 minute concluding remarks
 - f) 5 minute closed session
 - g) Voting (closed session, secret ballot)
 - h) Candidates return, president announces winner
5. Officers will be elected in following order
 - a) President
 - b) VPs
 - c) Other elected positions
6. Elections mixer
 - a) Friday, March 24, 2017 from 5-6:30pm @ Philip Vera Cruz

Room

- b) Social from 6:30-8pm
- c) Sophia: welcome input for agenda for election mixer, want to make friendly and productive
- d) Hope to see you all there! If you are interested in running or running please come

7. Questions:

- a) Motion to extend by 5 minutes: Sophia
- b) Second: Sara
- c) Approved
- d) Sara: thought about having secret box for questions?

(1) Bryce: no haven't thought about this, but that is a good idea that we will look into

XII. Presentation and Vote on [DCR 05](#) [10 minutes]

A. Zihan Xu

- 1. Change: 2 graduate student representatives to participate in selection of future keynote commencement speakers at UCSD
- 2. Questions:
 - a) Sophia: last CM we discussed that it was not feasible to have Dalai Lama replaced as commencement speaker at this time, still on the resolution
 - b) Vlad: would you be okay with striking BIFR to remove Dalai Lama as commencement speaker?
- 3. Comments/Edits:
 - a) Robert: Motion to strike Whereas 5/6/7/8 BIFR 1/2/3
 - (1) add references, remove text that we want to remove dalai lama as student speaker, address issue that grad students should have more oversight to have
 - (2) Second
 - (3) Objection: Cory
 - (a) Move to divide question: start at Whereas 5/6/7, Whereas 8, and BIFR 1/2/3
 - (b) Second
 - (c) Vote: approved by majority
 - b) Vlad: Not sure about striking Whereas 7, we are explaining facts, disingenuous to gloss over chinese students' opinions

- c) Martin: comments from Udit
 - (1) Motion to extend by 10 minutes: Vlad
 - (2) Second: Rep
 - (3) Approved
 - d) Martin: Udit (ECE GSA rep, co-chair of ucsd international student group): losing tibetan student voice in dalai lama matter, also students who practice certain type of buddhism, DCR05 as written is using one-sided view instead of both sides of issue
 - e) Brian: vote against entire document (from philosophy department)
 - f) Betty: echo martin and vlad, in 1 of BIFR asks for student website that updates students about graduation speaker
 - g) Robert: GSA doesn't have full story, so i left the footnotes for students to read more information on this issue and gain the information
 - h) Vlad: we should consider the various angles that involve the dalai lama, the chinese students should have their views heard and expressed
 - i) Cory: agree want to strike whereas 5/6/7, move to call the question
 - (1) Second: Rep
 - (2) Vote: majority approves
 - j) Vote (to strike whereas 5/6/7):
 - (1) Majority approves
 - k) Motion to approve 10 minutes: Tanner
 - l) Second: Rep
 - m) Approved
4. Whereas 8
- a) Vlad: safe to leave in, shows Chinese student opinion
 - b) Robert: amenable to change to leave out "chinese students" generalize to "students"
 - c) Bryce: don't want to call out certain group of students, want to take out "predictable", friendly amendment
 - d) Jacob: agree with Bryce's amendment, believe we should keep in "predictable", find it surprising that grad students were caught off guard
 - e) Valerie: call the question
 - (1) Vote: majority approves

- f) Vote to Strike Whereas 8 and add footnotes
 - (1) Vote: for - 24, against - 4, abstain: 4
 - (2) Approved
- 5. BIFR 1/2/3
 - a) Brian: move to discuss BIFR 1/2/3 independently
 - b) Second
 - c) Approved
 - d) Vlad: call the question
 - (1) Second: Rep
 - (2) Vote: no objections, approved
 - e) Vote to strike BIFR 3
 - (1) Majority approves
- 6. BIFR 1:
 - a) Vlad: university should not use language “man of peace” to describe Dalai Lama
 - b) Robert: university should not use any specific language to describe Dalai Lama
 - c) Valerie: call the question
 - (1) Second: Rep
 - (2) Approved
 - d) Vote to strike BIFR 1
 - (1) For: 16, against: , abstain: 5
 - e) Motion to extend by 10 minutes: Sara
 - f) Second
 - g) Approved
- 7. BIFR 2:
 - a) Vlad: call the question
 - b) Second
 - c) Vote to end debate on BIFR 2
 - (1) Majority approved
 - (2) passes
 - d) Vote to strike BIFR 2:
 - (1) Majority approved
 - (2) Passes
- 8. Motion to approve Bryce’s friendly amendment: Vlad
 - a) Second: Rep
 - b) No objections, approved
- 9. Motion to approve Rob’s changes to Whereas 4: Rob
 - a) Second: Rep

- b) Object: Zihan
 - (1) Move to divide the question into first line and second bullet point: majority approves
- c) Vote to cut first line: majority approves
- 10. Bryce: don't want hostile environment at commencement for disagreeing parties
- 11. Sophia: no way ucsd admin is going to change commencement speaker
- 12. Valerie: call the question
 - a) Second: Rep
 - b) Vote: majority passes
- 13. Vote to cut bullet point 2
 - a) Majority approves
- 14. Move to approve revised document: Vlad
 - a) Second: Rep
 - b) Approved
- 15. Vote to approve revised document:
 - a) Majority approves

XIII. Presentation on [Officer Positions](#) [10 minutes]

A. Election Committee and Executive Committee

B. Motion to move DCR 05 to XII: Lynn

C. Second: Sophia

D. Approved

E. GSA President: Tatiana

- 1. Meet with a lot of different offices on campus, Chancellor, VCSA, AS, and many others
- 2. Chair meetings, put together agendas
- 3. Work on resolutions before they come to councils
- 4. Chat with me at elections mixer if you are interested

F. GSA VP Academic: Nate

- 1. Check GSA website

G. GSA VP Finance: Sara

- 1. Read changes to bylaws (describes my position in detail)
- 2. Oversee the budget ~300k
- 3. Oversee finance committee, SFAC, SFAB
- 4. If you are interested in finding out where funds go, get in touch with

me

H. GSA VP External: Mark

1. Check GSA website

I. GSA VP Campus: Betty

1. Work with UCEN and The Loft to put on social mixers
2. Coordinate roaming socials
3. Oversee campus changes (vendors, student health, etc) on several committees
4. Contact me with your changes

J. GSA VP EDI: Martin

1. Work with under-represented grads on campus
2. Run diversity committee, several events on campus per committee
3. Work on infrastructure, work on resolutions
4. Contact me to learn more!

K. All these positions are paid, so keep in mind for your budgeting

1. Should count as 12.5% for most departments, keep in back of your mind

L. Lynn: there was an issue with international student who was being paid, just make sure to handle these issues with your department ahead of time

XIV. Call for Nominations for executive positions 2017-18

A. Sophia: nominate Kim McCabe for VP External Affairs

B. Vlad: nominate Mark Derdzinski for President, nominate myself for VP Academic (Vlad accepts)

C. Sophia: nominate Mel for VP Campus Affairs (Mel accepts)

XV. Call for CM #11 Agenda Items

XVI. Adjourn

- A. Move to adjourn: Sophia
- B. Second: Rep
- C. Approved
- D. Meeting adjourned at 8:28pm

VI. Finance Bills

Fund	Budget	Funds	Funds under	Funds remaining if
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	Funds	Remaining	Request	requests approved
Early Request Fund	\$2,500	\$230	\$0	\$230
General Request Fund	\$11,000	\$7,865	\$1,900	\$5,965
Academic and Professional Request Fund	\$11,000	\$4,448	\$395	\$4,053
Lounge Improvement Fund	\$3,500	\$1,400	\$0	\$1,400
Diversity Request Fund	\$5,500	\$2,253	\$60	\$2,193
Service Request Fund	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Family Friendly Fund	\$1,200	\$990	\$0	\$990

GRF7: Appropriate \$500 for the event “Best Student Pharmacist” which is organized by graduate students in the Skaggs School of Pharmacy on April 3rd, 2017 at Price Center Ballroom East. Approximately 125 graduate students are expected to attend this event and the funding will be used for decorations, food, and refreshments.

GRF8: Appropriate \$1,400 for the event “Springfest 2017” which is organized by graduate students in the Music department on April 9th-16th, 2017 at multiple locations including UCSD Conrad Prebys Music Center, Birch Aquarium, and various outdoor locations. Approximately 200 graduate students are expected to attend this event and the funding will be used for materials, printing, and food.

APRF21: Appropriate \$245 for the event “Strategic Studies Group Summit” which is organized by graduate students in GPS on May 26th, 2017 (tentative date) at GPS. Approximately 35 graduate students are expected to attend this event and the funding will be used for food and refreshments.

APRF22: Appropriate \$150 for the event “Graphic Design Principles for Scientists” which is organized by graduate students in the Neurosciences department on March 30th, 2017 at a location TBA. Approximately 25 graduate students are expected to attend this event and the funding will be used for speaker fees.

DRF11: Appropriate \$60 for the event “Digital Cultural Heritage: In Greece and Beyond” which is organized by the Center for Hellenic Students, co-sponsored by the Hellenic Student Association, on March 27th, 2017 at Atkinson Hall Auditorium. Approximately 25 graduate students are expected to attend this event and the funding will be used for refreshments.