



University of California, San Diego
Graduate Student Association

2017-18 Council Meeting #14

Monday, May 21, 2018

6:00 pm, Price Center Forum

I. Call to Order 6:03pm

II. Approval of Agenda, approved

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes [5 minutes]

A. [Minutes from CM13](#), approved

IV. Public Comment and General Announcements [10 minutes]

A. Public Comment

B. Upcoming Social Events (Vice President of Social Affairs)

1. 5/24 Roaming social with chemistry

2. 5/30 Town Hall

3. 6/13 Rep Appreciation dinner

C. Upcoming Cultural Events (Cultural Events Coordinator)

1. Eve of Garden 6/7

D. Open Calls for 2018-19 Appointed Officer Positions

E. DAC Annual Symposium

V. Presentation: University Librarian [20 minutes]

A. Erik Mitchell (University Librarian)

1. University Librarian outreach - would like input on where to reach out.

2. Main goal: understand the campus and how the library fits in for future strategy planning

3. Sophie: Reach out to community centers and provide quick tutorials on how to use library resources.

4. Rep: Would like to see how campus archive collection can be shown to the public and how it can be studied.

5. Rep: Is there any plan to update the Roger system?

a) Yes, not under immediate short term plan. Would love to talk more about what ideas there are.

b) There will be short term updates to the system, please email to Erik Mitchell.

6. Rep: Would love to see more 3D printers and with longer printing

time.

7. Sophie: There are students with disabilities struggle to find place to study in the library. The suggestion was to collaborate with OSD to give students a private space to study in the library.
8. The 8th floor is planned to open during October.
9. The 3rd phase of library renovation is focused on the entry space. What are the suggestions on how to engage the campus on how to use the space?
 - a) Sophie: Maybe have a competition on ideas on how to use the space. Or there could also be roaming social at the library.
 - b) Rep: At UCSC, they removed the books in the library. Please don't get rid of the books.

10. Email address: etm@ucsd.edu

VI. Vote on Finance Bills (Appendix A) [5 minutes]

- A. [Zihan Xu](#) (Vice President of Financial Affairs), approved.

VII. Presentation: Summer Recreation Fee [5 minutes]

- A. Walter (Quint) Frauman (Recreation Facilities Advisory Board Representative)

1. Looking for member for the coming year, there are two available appointed GSA positions. Overlooks rec funding. Utilities is increasing, hence there will be significant input needed on what facilities and programs will be cut/reduced in funding. Rec has agree to the same thing as last year, 20k from reserve for students to have free gym during the summer. After that, there will be conversations on how to continue funding this program as it is popular among grad students.

VIII. CLOSED SESSION: Discussion: GSA Reserves [5 minutes]

- A. Mark Derdzinski (President)

IX. Presentation on GSA Professional Staff [15 minutes]

- A. Mark Derdzinski (President)

1. [Job Description Bullets & Sample](#)
2. Having a staff will allow us to do the necessary planning to run a referendum that is entirely focus on programing and to develop a more sustainable organization. Having only students as execs are not capable of achieving a sustainable organization.
3. Sophie: What is the purpose of a full time staff, how does AS differ from GSA?
 - a) Chief of Staff: GSA are not achieving the same as AS

because the lack of the professional staff support. AS has 11 full time staff, they started with 1, and adding staffs the org grew in terms of programing. Part of my position at as was to provide interpersonal support and navigating campus policy. Becoming a student, I realized how everything becomes more difficult because of a lack of support from staff.

- b) Rep: Would like to have a strawpoll if you looked at slack in the recent two weeks.
- c) Sabrina: Raise your placard if they are supportive of the budget with the staff.
- d) Sophie: When do we envision hiring this person if it passes?
 - (1) Chief of Staff: It can be as fast as 6 weeks, most likely during the summer.
- e) Rivera: If the staff we hire decides to unionize, that the campus to deal with?
 - (1) President: In anything GSA underwrites, GSA will be the oversight. However if we cannot afford it, it will be unfunded.
 - (2) Chief of Staff: The job title is not unionized group, there is no current effort to unionize. If GSA do not want the position or can't pay, we can cease to hire them.
- f) Scripps Rep: Cutting DPC is challenging as we use all that.
 - (1) President: There will be more information on that during the budget presentation. Would like to challenge this group to consider whether simply giving the fees collected back to the department is the most effective way to use the funds? What is being proposed is to provide more oversights to improve efficiency and avoid abuses of the funds.
- g) Rep: Is the staff member why the referendum failed? And why do we need to do it now? Why not another year to educate reps about this?
 - (1) President: We do not have the capacity to do needs assessment to know why the referendum failed. If we are able to run a referandum solely on programing, it is easier to communicate the message to the student body. GSA is not dysfunctional, but there are interpersonal challenges within GSA that slows our

advocacy. Would like to ask why not now? This conversation has been going on since the beginning of this year. We need to move forward in terms of addressing the needs of the general body and it is difficult to achieve with only students.

X. Presentation on 2018-19 Budget [60 minutes]

A. Zihan Xu (Vice President of Financial Affairs)

Sabrina Berkamp (GSA Finance Committee Chair)

1. [Summary Slides](#)

2. [Bylaw Amendments](#)

3. Q&A

a) John: Since if we are hiring more people, why isn't any of the compensation being cutted since they are doing less work?

(1) For the amount of work expected from the new social coordinator, it is unreasonably low if we pay each less.

(2) Current execs are underpaid compared to other universities.

b) Rep: Why aren't we raising the pay for execs since we have the reserve?

(1) If we do that, over 68% of the fees will be going to compensation which will force us to cut the social events.

c) Sarah: Are you talking about the general discretionary being cut?

d) Sophie: How do you expect the DEF fund will be?

(1) There is no oversight with funding currently. We are lowering DPC as it's not used by half without a staff, and lowered further with a staff, but we will increase other funds to compensate for that.

B. [Budget Proposals](#)

1. Including Professional Staff

2. Without Professional Staff

C. Comments from GSA Committees

1. [GSA Executive Committee](#)

2. [GSA Finance Committee](#)

D. Debate:

1. Sophie: I think it is ridiculously to have over half of our budget go to personel.

2. Mia: Opposed to cutting DPC.
3. Jake: Support hiring a staff, execs are spending too much time on this org. However, it is a bad look to committing this much resources while dramatically reducing programing funding.
4. Rep: I like the way the budget is presented in this way, showing us what are the differences between the two budget. It is annoying to have to go through finance committee for DPC.
5. Anupam: Reached out to other UC campus about their compensations. Campuses that are smaller have full time staff, and that having the staff was transforming experiences.
6. Eric: Having DPC go through finance is too challenging. Would like to yield to Sophie on opinion on things being cutted.
7. Sophie: I think it is bad to cut rep training, committee chairs compensation.
 - a) President: The compensation is not lowered.
8. VP Academic: There are a lot of waste in DPC which allow us to cut them effectively. We need to decide whether we want a staff or not before we can decide on how to effectively decide on DPC allocation to meet the need of different department.
9. Chief of Staff: I would like to add that, my department is where the department coordinator use all the DPC without interacting with students. When we reduce a certain line item, it doesn't mean that we are cutting the event, it's just that the funds just often used inefficiently,. Move to cut Chief of Staff compensation and move the amount into the DPC funding in the proposal with the staff.
 - a) No opposition, approved.
10. VP Finance: I think it is important to consider the benifit in the long term.
11. VP EDI: I think we should focus on ourselves when it comes to funding. Like to re-entertain the idea of grad students to serve on this position in case the budget does not pass.
12. Rep: What was the timeline of this budget with staff started?
 - a) The conversation on staff has been happening since the beginning of this year, while the construction of the budget begun two weeks ago.
 - b) Rep: As reps, we have did not have the opportunity to comment on the budget. I believe this room is out of touch of what the general body needs. We have not had enough time to look at this budget hence we should take more time and

not wait until the last few weeks of the year.

13. Cultural Coordinator: Shouldn't the travel grant coordinator also be cutted under the budget with staff? Move to move the compensation for travel grant coordinator to dpc funds.
 - a) Second, objected.
 - b) VP Finance: We need a travel grant coordinator to run the travel grant fund during the summer.
 - c) Culture Coordinator: Move to unfund the travel grant coordinator when fall quarter begins.
 - (1) Approved.
14. Sabrina: The staff budget presented is a little unsustainable, we might not have enough reserve by the end of the year and need to cut the staff in the next year. In order to keep the staff, we would need to pass a referendum.
15. Mia: Convince that the staff is essential, but unsure of the cut on DPC. Perhaps reps are interested in simplifying the process of general request funds?
16. Katherine: Why isn't it possible to have half time staff?
 - a) Chief of Staff: Paying a half time is generally closer to paying a full time staff. Also the pool for qualified half time staff are generally smaller.
 - b) Katherine: Would it be possible to hire through contract?
 - c) Chief of Staff: Potentially.
 - d) Katherine: Can we reach out grad students management to come up with some solutions?
17. Ed: When we are running the referendum, we were asking for a very high increase, but now we are willing to lower the funding on many events to put over half of the budget to hire this person. How can we evaluate the success having this person. It seems that the general body does not entertain such
18. John: But if GSA is running more effeicently as a result of the staff, it is worth it. We just approved a bunch money for career fair but now we are cutting the conference, would like to yield to VP Academic on opinion.
 - a) VP Academic: The career fair is separate from the conference. And there is enough funding to cover for the career conference.
19. Thomas: Suggest deciding whether if we want a staff member then decide the details of the budget later. With regards to cutting

events, if we do not have enough personal to run these program, it is unfair to expect our execs to work overtime to run it.

20. VP Campus: Wanted to do a mental health event, but the mental health event gets scrapped because there is no personnel to run it. If there is a professional staff, they can take care of a lot of these things.

21. Erica: Proposing reduce academic request fund by \$3000, reduce general request fund by \$3000, and remove summer pool party. And increase all exec pay. Cut summer rec program and cut all discretionary funds to create a GSR position.

a) Second, objection. Amendment withdrawn.

22. Rep: Personally in favor of having a staff, but I am not okay with the approach in the budget to achieve this. Move to table to the next meeting.

23. Tabled to next meeting.

XI. GSA Attendance Policy [15 minutes]

A. Hayley Weddle (Chief of Staff, Governing Docs Chair)
Bobak Hashemi (Governing Docs Member)

1. [Presentation slides](#)
2. [Standing Rules for Attendance Policy](#)
3. Tabled to next meeting.

B. Sophia Hirakis (Governing Docs Member)
Melissa Viperman-Cohen (Governing Docs Member)

1. [First Vote on Constitutional amendment](#)
2. Proposed to remove alternates.
3. No vote, lost forum.

XII. Proposed Amendments to Constitution and Bylaws [15 minutes]

A. Sara Rivera (SIO Representative)

1. [First Vote on Constitutional amendment](#)

XIII. Proposed Amendments to Elected Officer Bylaws [10 minutes]

A. Melissa Viperman-Cohen (Vice President of Social Affairs)

1. [Proposed Amendments to change Parliamentarian to Council Chair](#)

XIV. Proposed Amendments to Bylaws

A. Sara Rivera (SIO Representative)

1. Presentation on Elected Officer and Financial Bylaws

XV. Appointments [5 minutes]

A. Pepper Canyon Neighborhood Planning Advisory Committee (President)

1. Rhea-Comfort Addo

B. Academic Integrity Review Board (VP Academic)

1. James Middlebrook
2. Daniel Crocker
3. David Lenz
4. Jor-el Briones
5. Juan Ybarra
6. Sean Purcell

XVI. Open Floor and Call for Council Agenda Items [5 minutes]

XVII. Adjourn 9:15pm

Appendix A: Finance Bills

Fund	# of Grad	Amount	Title	Time	Organization /Department	Funded Before?	AD?
APRF31	30	220	Spring LinkedIn Lab and Professional Headshots	2018-05-24	Grad Life	Yes	No
DRF13	41	287	Powwow 101 Workshop	2018-06-01	Neurosciences	No	No
FFF3	70	490	8th Annual UCSD Powwow	2018-06-02	Neurosciences	No	No
GRF15	30	210	Paint Your Research	2018-06-08	Biology	Yes	No
LIF3	100	900	Lounge Improvement	-	Chemistry & Biochemistry	Eligible	-

Description of Events:

APRF31: The Graduate Climate and Community Interns will provide a workshop and one-on-one guidance for improving your LinkedIn page, resume, CV, or personal website. FREE coffee and breakfast included! In addition, the Graduate Student Association (GSA) and Grad Life are offering FREE professional headshot photos to the first 50 grad students to sign up. This event was held in Fall and Winter of this academic year.

DRF13: On Friday, June 1, from 12 PM to 2 PM, the American Indian Graduate Student Association will be hosting a workshop to introduce powwow dances, traditions, and etiquette to UCSD students, to help them feel more welcome and prepared to attend the UCSD Powwow the following day. We are working with the GSA Cultural Coordinator to host this event and advertise especially to graduate students.

FFF3: This is the eighth annual Powwow at UCSD. Over the last few years, the event has been growing, with last year's two-day powwow being one of the most successful yet. This year, the main event will be on Saturday only, with a workshop conducted the day before to help introduce and promote the powwow to UCSD students and help them to know what to expect on Saturday. This year, AIGSA is also taking on a much greater role working with NASA to plan and organize the both the workshop and the main event, a collaboration we hope to continue in the future. We also hope that taking part in this event, we can help our new organization to grow and better engage with and serve Native American graduate students on Campus.

GRF15: Social hour where we have graduate students express their research creatively through painting. We will provide some pre-packaged snacks and painting supplies. BioEASI has hosted this event several times in the past, generally twice a year.

LIF3: Couch: \$500, Microwave: \$60, Toaster Oven: \$80, Coffee Pot: \$60, Bagel Slicer: \$20, Rug: \$80, Vacuum: \$100.

Upcoming Events:

Fund	Location	Title	Time	Organization/Department
APRF29	Geisel Library	Digital Humanities (DH) Research Group May Meetings	05/31/18 16:00-18:00	Literature
APRF30	Fung Auditorium	Dr. Rhodes Drug Delivery Seminar	05/24/18 16:35-18:35	BioEngineering
DRF12	PC East Ballroom	Celebration of Africa	05/24/18 18:30-21:00	ASA (Undergrad)
APRF20	Cymer Room of SME Building	NanoXpo	05/25/18 13:00-16:00	NanoEngineering
GRF14	Student C. Stage Room	Spring General Body Meeting	05/26/18 19:00-23:00	CISTA
APRF26	Eckart sea cave (SIO)	Growing Up In Science (May)	05/31/18 12:30-14:00	SIO

FUND	Budget Funds	Funds Approved	Funds Remaining	Funds Under Request	Funds Remaining If the Requests Approve
Early Request Fund	\$2,500.00	\$2,415.00	\$85.00	\$0.00	\$85.00
General Request Fund	\$10,000.00	\$8,432.00	\$1,568.00	\$210.00	\$1,358.00
Academic & Professional Request Fund	\$11,000.00	\$8,276.00	\$2,724.00	\$220.00	\$2,504.00
Lounge Improvement Fund	\$4,500.00	\$1,120.00	\$3,380.00	\$900.00	\$2,480.00
Diversity Request Fund	\$5,500.00	\$4,739.00	\$761.00	\$287.00	\$474.00
Family Friendly Fund	\$1,200.00	\$420.00	\$780.00	\$490.00	\$290.00