



University of California, San Diego
Graduate Student Association

2017-18 Council Meeting #5
Monday, December 4, 2017
6:00 pm, Price Center Forum

I. Call to Order 6:03pm

II. Approval of Agenda

- A. Move to add presentation and vote for 10 minutes, second, approved.**

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes [5 minutes]

- A. [Minutes from CM4](#)
B. Move to approve, second, approved.

IV. Public Comment and General Announcements [10 minutes]

- A. Public Comment
- B. New Travel Grants Procedure (Travel Grant Coordinator)
1. Will send out new travel grant application. The advisor support form will be now digital. Can contact at travel@gsa.ucsd.edu
 2. President: Will student still suffer tax liability.
 - a) No
- C. Call for Winter Rep Training Items (Parliamentarian)
1. Reps will have the opportunity to provide feedback for what and how the rep training will go.
 2. Community Coordinator: Will there be food drinks and game at the Winter Rep?
 - a) President: Currently planning, will have more details at the beginning of winter quarter.
- D. GSA Events and Committees Calendar (VP Campus)
1. There will be now two GSA calendars. One with all committee meeting time and details. GSA social calendar will have up to date social events.
- E. Coffee & Bagels (VP External)
1. Wednesday December 6, 9:30am in the GSA Offices (4th Floor Price Center)
 2. Call Bank for Tax Reform
 3. Rep: If it does pass will we be able to push for lowering tuition

instead of waivers.

- a) We are trying not to be very public with that so we can have any legitimately changes if possible. But we are looking to work on that.

F. grAdvantage Career Night (Professional Development Coordinator)

1. Wednesday December 6, 5pm at Village 15, with speaker Ali Crawford, Senior Scientist at Illumina

G. Paid opportunity to teach bioinformatic to high school students.

V. Presentation on History of GSA Finances [10 minutes]

A. Sara Rivera (Scripps Institute of Oceanography)

1. Presentation: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/19yILMwG_tgC3qp48A9cTXUQcH75nJTSIWcM6xh_6j2g/edit?usp=sharing
2. Lack complete financial record prior to 2017.
3. Increase in total fee received over the year only due to an increase in enrollment.
4. The expected amount is always lower as the expected value is based on fall enrollment and people graduate or leave their programs.
5. GSA gets access to 23% University Campus Fee.
6. GSA always budget lower, however, social spending has been exceeding their budget due to increased enrollment.
7. Reserve is currently at \$205,000.

VI. Presentation on Summer Recreation Pilot Program [10 minutes]

A. Zihan Xu (Vice President of Financial Affairs), Walter (Quint) Frauman (SFAB Representative)

1. Over 80% students used gym during June.
2. 8.5 entry per grad students between July 1 to Sep 13.
3. 75% used the gym more than 2 time during the summer. Only 30% used the gym more than 10 times.

B. Questions:

1. Cultural Coordinator: Do you know how much will cost to to do it next summer.
 - a) We will have to talk about it, it will around \$2 per entry.
2. Erica: What is the \$2 for?
 - a) GSA was just accommodating the summer day pass that students can get.
3. John: Do you think it will continue for the next summer?
 - a) Definitely possible, we will meet during winter to work on things.

4. Raul: Now that people know that this is a thing, it will be well attended next week?
 - a) Yes, as long as we don't let rec know that.
5. Cultural Coordinator: Did they anticipate to eat some of the cost?
 - a) They were expecting to eat some of the cost. But they did not have a previous numbers to know how much it will cost. If not the full 10k entry, we will not pay the full 20k. E.g. if only 8k went, we pay 16k.
6. Social Coordinator: If we go for it next week, it will be reserves?
 - a) That's how we were looking to pay. But we can think of a better way to fund it.
 - b) Social coordinator: Will this going to be sustainable with reserves?
 - (1) President: it is never sustainable from reserves.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: GSA Fee Referendum [45 minutes]

- A. Hayley Weddle (Chief of Staff), Melissa Viperman-Cohen (Vice President of Social Affairs)
 1. [Budget proposal for additional fee revenue](#)
- B. Debate to amendment from 19.90 to 17.50
 1. VP Social: Request a strawpoll
 - a) Majority no
 2. Sabrina: The bylaw caps salary at 25% but the proposed budget is suggested over 25%.
 - a) President: That is not included in the cap, only exec salaries are.
 3. **Vote:**
 - a) **Yes: 17 No: 25, failed**
- C. Debate on Referendum Language
 1. Maya: The amount doesn't matter, even if it is \$0.90 people say no. Maybe there is a better way to communicate the increase to people.
 2. Iulia: When I talked to my department, GPS gets a lot of funding from GSA.
 3. Rep: There is a reason to bring the price down. It is hard to get the referendum to go through but 19 is small for most people.
 4. Community Coordinator: If there a way to indicate that recognizes the disparity that certain people might or might not have to pay.
 - a) President: That might be considered for not neutral and for pro/con statement.

5. Community coordinator: Can it be a sliding scale?
6. Chief of Staff: It have not been seen but it's not impossible. I have done a Google Doc for people who wanted to see the responsibility for a potential. President is currently working to see if GSA can have more control on return to aid.
7. VP Social: GSA is partiale in conversation with the dean that this fee should be covered by departments. Going into winter that the exec officers will be bringing new ideas to bring to our consistent to show that we are invested in making their grad life better. I hope that we can bring this to grad students and show them what we can do with a little bit more funding.
8. Valerie: If there are going to demands for the new events that's been proposing? How can we trust the future GSA to spending the amount in the same responsible manner.
9. Erica: Comment on the language, I don't know how i can make this appeal to people who are struggling financial insecurity because this does not. I don't know if this is going to pass.
10. VP Academic: I would rather allow the general body to decide
11. Sabrina: Over 6% will go to salaries and it is not transparent in this document. Should we vote to amend this language to show that 6% of the increase is spent on salary.

12. Luke: Move to entirely remove language on annual adjustments.

- a) **Second, object**
- b) Rep: It is difficult to pass the language, would not remove the annual adjustment.
- c) Chief of Staff: If we do not put a escalator, we are devaluing our money over time.
- d) Fiona: We want to give this document the best chance to pass. We can try to go back in a few years.
- e) VP Social: It is really difficult to pass a referendum, only to adjust for inflation.
- f) Laura: If we don't pass with the inflation because the programs will become less, and we will not be able to meet what we promised.
- g) Fiona: Have we been able to maintain our program without the increase for the past 5 years?
- h) Thomas: We are getting more money because increased student enrollment which will be cap at one point. We should

keep the inflation adjustment to not have to get another referendum. We cannot rely on increased enrollment to get more funding.

- i) Social Coordinator: We have more students paying but that means we have more students to serve. The budget is continually shrinking overtime we cannot do thing to meet the demand.
- j) VP Academic: Every student we add, it is an exponential increase in cost. We might also have new regulation that will bring unexpected costs.
- k) Rep: This is a pretty standard thing to have. It will be harder pass another referendum later.
- l) Call to previous questions, second
 - (1) Vote close debate, no objection
- m) **Vote to remove this language:**
 - (1) **Majority no.**

13. Chief of Staff: To the question with future GSA will follow the same plan, having a staff member will help to ensure that the important initiative that was discussed here will be continued in the future. .

14. Move to call to question, second.

- a) **Vote to end to debate**
 - (1) **Yes: 34 No:15, approved.**

D. [Vote on Approval of Referendum Language](#) to be submitted to students, pending administrative approval

1. Yes: 38 No: 10, approved.

VIII. Presentation and Vote on Net Neutrality Letter [10 minutes]

A. Landon Klein (Legislative Advocacy Committee Member), Anupam Garg (Legislative Liaison for State and Local Affairs)

- 1. Eliminating net neutrality may slow or block certain websites that might be extremely important to grad students
- 2. Might put fiscal burden, limit the resources and access might be biased by political and economic agenda of the internet company.
- 3. Graduate students might lose access to many of the non-preferred domains that is essential to their research.
- 4. Allows IPS to suppress their competitors. Certain work by scholars that conflicts with the internet's providers political agenda might be negatively harmed.

B. Q&A

- 1. Rep: How easily can this be undone?

- a) Likely be difficult because of the political situation. Do not foresee changes in our graduate tenure.
- 2. Rep: Why is this as undersigned but not a resolution? Can we make changes to it?
 - a) President: Because this is shared letter
 - b) Landon: Because of the limited time we have we should have this argument exposed to the legislators asap.
- 3. Rep: Would it be possible that the price might go down since they get to choose how it would cost?
 - a) The biggest issue is the selective paywall. It seems unlikely that internet provider will lower charges.
- 4. Eric: What can the representative do since it's a FCC vote?
 - a) Nothing besides pursuing their colleagues to vote for or against. They can go through legitimate system to protect net neutrality regardless.

C. Debate:

- 1. Parliamentarian: It will change who gets to have the power to change the rule but not what rule will be changed.
- 2. Community coordinator: It is important to us as internet is as essential as other utilities.
- 3. John: This is more political than it is presented. We should not use GSA to push political agenda.
- 4. Mike: This issue is something that affects us.
- 5. Luke: I think it represents our need.
- 6. VP Academic: This is something we carable collectively so we want our legislator to know. We've done before we can redo it.
- 7. Rep: This does represents mostly how it affects GSA as open access to resources is important to conducting research.
- 8. Rep: I think this letter is written in a way that specifically focus on how it affects graduate students.

D. [Presentation](#)

E. [Vote on Undersigning Letter](#)

1. Passed unanimously

IX. Vote on Finance Bills (Appendix A) [10 minutes]

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

- 1. Move to approve as a slate, second, approved.

X. Appointments [5 minutes]

A. Call for GSA Elections Committee (Council)

- 1. VACANCY

B. GSA Finance Committee (VP Finance)

1. Eric Lybrand

C. Search Committee: Dean of Biological Sciences (VP Academic)

1. Beverly Naigles

D. Move to approve, second, approved.

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

XII. Adjourn

A. 7:56pm

Appendix A: Finance Bills

| 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 | \$1,350.00 | \$8,650.00 | \$0.00 | \$8,650.00 |
| Academic & Professional Request Fund | \$11,000.00 | \$2,212.00 | \$8,788.00 | \$1,700.00 | \$7,088.00 |
| Lounge Improvement Fund | \$4,500.00 | \$320.00 | \$4,180.00 | \$0.00 | \$4,180.00 |
| Diversity Request Fund | \$5,500.00 | \$2,710.00 | \$2,790.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,790.00 |
| Family Friendly Fund | \$1,200.00 | \$420.00 | \$780.00 | \$0.00 | \$780.00 |

| Fund | # of Grad | Amount | Title | Time | Organization /Department | Funded Before? | AD? |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|--|-------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| APRF9 | 72 | 500 | 2018 Graduate Student Philosophy Conference | 2018-05-18 | Philosophy | No | NA |
| APRF10 | 50 | 350 | Professional Image Night | 2019-01-17 | APDCC | No | No |
| APRF11 | 50 | 210 | 2017-2018 Cross-USA Lecture at UCSD | 2018-02-22 | Structural Engineering | No | Yes |

Description of Events:

APRF9: Graduate Student Philosophy Conference is an annual event, during which participants have the opportunity to engage with an eminent philosopher, present their own work, and receive direct feedback. This year's conference speaker will be Professor Hannah Ginsborg from UC Berkeley, who has done

extensive work in philosophy of mind, theory of meaning, and aesthetics. Open to all graduate students.

APRF10: A high quality headshot is important for having a professional online presence. Many APDs that apply to jobs don't have a good LinkedIn picture. At this event, we will be offering free professional photos to 50 graduate students. While they are waiting their turn they will have the chance to network with APDCC officers and learn about how to present a professional image online. In addition to food, we are asking for \$85 to purchase a photoshoot backdrop that will be used for years to come. This is a new event. However, similar GSA events in the past were in high demand and 50 spots filled up within a few hours. Food will be provided and this event will be open to all graduate students.

APRF11: UCSD have been selected as one of the locations of the 2017-2018 Cross-USA Lecture, to be visited by Dr. Whittle in January 2018.

<http://chapters.geoinstitute.org/cross-usa-lecture-tour/cross-usa-lecture-tour-2017-2018/> Prof. John McCartney and Prof. Ahmed Elagmak from the structural engineering department will give short lecture about the latest updates of the Geotechnical research at UCSD. \$350 will go to food for the seminar. It's a professional development and networking event that will benefit STEM graduate students. Open to all graduate students.

Upcoming Events:

| Fund | Location | Title | Time | Organization/Department |
|-------|-------------------------------|--|----------|-------------------------|
| APRF7 | Geisel Library's Redwood Room | Digital Humanities Interdisciplinary Group | 12/06/17 | Literature |
| APRF8 | AP&M | Digital Humanities Interdisciplinary Group | 12/04/17 | Grad Life |