

- I. Call to Order [6:04pm]
- II. Approval of Agenda
 - A. *Motion to approve, seconded*
- III. Old Business - Approval of Council Meeting 10 Minutes
 - A. *Motion to approve, seconded*
- IV. Public Comments and Announcements
 - A. One of the programs I'm working on is GSA Travel Grants, where the GSA will be able to give \$300-500 supplementary money to students going to conferences. I already have \$25,000 from the Chancellor and \$25,000 from Academic Affairs, hoping for \$75,000 in all and for the program to start Fall 2014. Next meeting: special committee for bylaws
 - B. Grad-prof week: happy hour at the loft, goes til 7. Wed: finale of the Grand Slam, reception with drinks. Roaming Happy Hour at Cafe Vita on Friday
 - C. Swan Lake contest: post a pic of you and your friends on the FB page and I will randomly pick someone for free tickets
- V. Transportation Referendum - Ted Stinson & Jeremy Davis-Turak
 - A. Few logistical things we have to update you all on from last time; some suggestions from UCOP, some changes in language
 1. Explicitly stating that no money will go towards staff salaries
 2. Mandates reports
 3. Fee will be included in determination of financial aid
 4. Modifications to the fee cannot be made without appropriate student govt input
 5. Special election will be held May 19-23
 - a) Question: What happens over the summer?
 - (1) The fee is not imposed over the summer, we're talking about it and working in it with MTS
 - B. *Motion to approve, seconded*
 1. Vote: 29-0-5. The referendum passes so it will be voted on in May
- VI. Finance Bills
 - A. Amendment to current allocations
 - B. APRF 11: \$500 → 2014 Conference on Gender Beyond Boundaries
 1. *Motion to approve, seconded*
 - C. *Motion to approve as a slate, seconded*
 - D. Discussion on finance bills. See "Financial Bills" for details on these bills
 1. *Motion to approve as slate, seconded*
 2. Point of information: what do we usually use as a target amount to spend per person?
 - a) We usually look at GSA events and use them as a guideline. If we spend \$3-6 per student, we use that for org events

VII. Constitutional Amendment

A. Motion to approve, seconded

1. Objection

a) I personally think it is bad idea. Trying to match with the VCs makes very little sense, the admin scramble the positions when they want to. This leaves VCs out, especially the VC Health Services, which covers medical and pharmacy students and our health plan. Additionally, how VCs interact with students is mixed up. Right now University Centers are under VCSA while things like ARCHAC are under Business Services--it doesn't match well with how grad students affected. Constitution states that power should be in Council, and in Council committees. As set up, the Execs are not supposed to interact with any of the admin except when Council tells them to. Execs are supposed to be representatives of Council and answer only to Council. Nothing prohibits a VP from going outside their purview and nothing prohibits President from delegating. Council should be center of authority. I think this decision is hasty, the necessary changes should be done through an independent bylaws committee that works with each individual exec. After bylaws are changed, then the Constitution should be changed, not the other way around. As it stands now, the changes are immediate and we have no one to take over VPI's position.

(1) What is the timeframe you have in mind for the process of bylaws committee and changing them?

(a) Depends on how Council gives the charge; it's up to us

2. I think in terms of arguments against, it doesn't make sense to do bylaws first as they are incomplete and do not even include all the committees that people are appointed to. The people who know this best are the execs, and they came up with this, so they should have more input. It doesn't make sense for non-exec's to be on the committee
3. As president, the execs are here to do what Council wants, but we are the ones who are actually talk to the Chancellor, VCs, etc--it makes it much faster, much better. We have to accept the bureaucracy and work with it. I meet regularly with the Dean and VCs because you can get a lot more done. We feel these changes will make it easier for everyone
4. I appreciate your (Cody's) concerns, but I don't feel like you're offering many solutions. You mentioned that we can all meet with any of the VCs which is true, but having delineated bylaws that are specific about who

should meet with who makes it easier. We're all grad students and we don't have the time to individually meet with every VC.

a) Note that the charge of the aforementioned committee was not an overview of all the bylaws

5. When we changed the diversity bylaws, the specific goal was to make the office efficient. I think the VPI is a very top-heavy position, and I feel like some offices need more power that would make the office more transparent. Same with campus: right now they only do events, but we can change it so they work with the VCSA more and we can see more come out of it. I see this movement as a step that's positive. I hear Cory when he says that it's very fast; I myself am not ok with it going so fast, but I appreciate what we're doing and what we're trying to work towards.

6. *Motion to call the question, seconded*

a) Vote: 21-2-14, Constitutional amendment passes

VIII. Elected and Appointed Office by-laws: Presentation and Vote - Nathaniel Wood-Cohan (Bylaws committee rep)

A. Now that VPI has been eliminated, we have a new Chief of Staff (CoS) position. The most contentious part of this is that an appointed position is replacing an elected official. We all thought the President would be appointing the person, so Council would be disenfranchised and the President would have too much power. We usually just appoint people off-hand and no one cares, which would be bad for such an important position, so we came up with a compromise: a majority of the Exec Board will have to agree on who they want to appoint. That nominee is sent to Council and we vote on that appointment. If execs can't get a majority vote, then it goes automatically to Council.

B. Other things: we also thought about the Webmaster. It will be a student worker position so we don't have to only pool from grad students, we can bring in a good undergrad

C. Should be noted: one major problem is that now, VP Academic will be next in line if President is incapacitated. The VP Academic is also the head of judiciary body, so the concern is that they will now have too much power because now he's both president and Chief Justice. We need to fix the order of succession or change judiciary powers so VP Academic can't be both at the same time. Someone should draft an amendment about that.

D. Questions

1. The idea was brought up about moving Cultural Coordinator to Diversity, because Social now has two coordinators. Is the wording of the vote needed from the execs "unanimous" or "majority"?

a) We wrote majority

2. I'm confused about the webmaster's status. my understanding was that it was one of the duties of the VPI, and that it was being moved to Chief of Staff?
 - a) The point of striking Webmaster bylaws was that the position is considered an appointed official. However by striking, the Chief of Staff would oversee the webmaster, who can be anyone (doesn't have to be a grad student)
 - b) Isn't the salary \$2000 for the CoS? The tasks don't seem too overwhelming, and I thought the website would be a large chunk of the Chief of Staff's workload
 - c) The current website you see, the brand new one, we paid a programmer for 50 hours of his time to make from scratch. So the idea is that it's just that person's job to update, not an exec's duty
 - d) Point of Information: what's the vote needed?
 - (1) $\frac{2}{3}$ of those voting must approve
 - e) To answer Harrison's thought that \$2000 is too much for the Chief of Staff if they're not working with the website too much, it might not sound like a lot of work, but it actually is. They will still be doing a lot of the website work, just not the programming
3. I'm confused about the nomination process. Couldn't the president still just present someone unqualified?
 - a) I'll add a little: the way it works now, any exec can nominate whoever they want to do it, so they can bring more than one candidate. The council will have a mini election to appoint the person
 - b) This way, there's one more filter to get a good nominee to the Council floor. If there's multiple good candidates passed by the execs, then we would have mini election
4. Why not just have this as a generally elected position then, if we might have to elect this person? They're still held accountable, still have to abide bylaws, etc.
 - a) Two main reasons: if an appointed position isn't doing their job, they can easily be removed. The appointed positions have to be reappointed every quarter, so they're held more accountable, vs. elected officials who must be impeached (long tedious process, etc). Secondly: elections are poorly attended, and we want the CoS to be competent and vetted.
 - b) Also, if no one adequate ran and someone just runs last minute, then we have a problem.

- c) Is there any text besides the one little sentence describing how officers will approve of the nominee?
 - (1) No, we can add that language now
 - (a) *Motion to add language*
 - (b) *Objection*: it just doesn't follow the format of the rest of the text
 - (c) *Motion withdrawn with minor edits made*
- 5. I like this provision because it gives me as an independent voice on executive committee
- 6. *Motion to approve, seconded*
 - a) Vote: 33-1-4, bylaws approved.

IX. Appointments

- A. Haydee Smith to Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation Issues
- B. Martin Boston to Diversity Council
- C. Tara-lynn Pixley to Diversity Committee
 - 1. *Motion to approve as a slate, seconded*

X. GSA Executive Elections

- A. Nominations are still open
- B. President: Jon Monk [see platform]
 - 1. Questions
 - a) We've talked about improving committee appointments, we don't have enough people on them. Do you have any ideas?
 - (1) I want to make council more cohesive. I want to have a team building day and want to incentivize joining a committee by offering things like advanced access to our popular cultural events, dinner, trip, things like that.
 - b) How do you plan on improving relationship between grad students and police?
 - (1) I have a lot of experience, just last week we sat down with the person who signs every single alcohol permit. I was actually called by the police because there was a party in Cafe Vita. Police just don't know so we have to educate them, they're scared bc they can get into trouble if alcohol is served without a permit. Communication most important
 - c) Closed Session
 - (1) Jon Monk elected President
- C. VP Academic: Holly Dembinski [See Platform]
 - 1. Questions

a) You were Leg. Liaison. What skills do you think you have or have built this past year that would help you next year?

(1) I actively participated in this forum and on UCSA. In those two capacities I've learned about how boards work, and I would take that to the Academic Senate. I've also learned how to communicate well with Admin, and I would use them next year in working with Dean Barrett and other staff members.

b) Opinion on the succession order issue?

(1) I'm open to changing the language but I also believe there are other solutions, such as designating a temporary Chair of the Judiciary. But I am open to changing it as well.

2. Closed Session

a) Holly Dembinski elected VP Academic

D. Negin Nazarian for VP Finance [See Platform]

1. Questions

a) Shameless plug: is diversity included in the brochure?

(1) The process is different for diversity and you don't need to go through the same process, so its excluded

2. Closed Session

a) Negin Nazarian elected VP Finance

E. Timia Crisp for VP External [See Platform]

1. Questions

a) Experience with UCSA has gone from bad to worse; what is your opinion?

(1) I think we need a better discussion of pros/cons. I've gone to a couple meetings and I see the value in it but i also see the pitfalls. I want to discuss with Ash and Holly and bring the discussion to Council

b) As VP External, you have to balance your views, Council's views, and the views of the general student body. How will you do that?

(1) I think that I am only one grad student, and I'm an elected official so I shouldn't be the one presenting my views to Admin. A lot of it has to do with getting the word out there, getting the information out there and giving updates in Council meetings so everyone is informed enough to make their own decisions and we can all vote on what we want to see happen.

c) Closed Session

(1) Timia Crisp elected VP External

F. Lindsay Freeman for VP Campus

1. Harrison Carter nominated for VP Campus; accepts nomination: I need to put my name in the race because I noticed one similarity amongst every person running: they all come from the hard sciences. It's important that we have at least ONE person on exec board from the social sciences. I'm a "no nonsense" person and I like recognizing when we're wasting our time. I've been involved in the discussions surrounding campus affairs and would've run for Internal because I think the things we talk about are important. I don't have a social background, so I would want to leave the social aspect to the coordinators and be the first person in this office that is all about campus affairs.
2. Questions for both:
 - a) How would either of you make this office unique?
 - (1) Harrison: I bring an outside perspective that I think can be beneficial to Council. I think coming in from outside of exec and understanding the issues that are important to us will help me excel in this role.
 - (2) Lindsay: I don't think we should completely look down on social events altogether, they are still really important. I think it'll be important to align the GSA with VCSA Houston, and I already have a personal relationship with him, which I think will help us
 - b) Can you give me an example of a large-scale event you planned, what went into it, how you publicized, etc.?
 - (1) Lindsay: As the Social Coordinator, I've planned free-for-alls and organized Orientation, which had 900 attendees. I've worked closely with VP finance and know my way around the paperwork, and began using Facebook extensively to publicize events this year.
 - (2) Harrison: I didn't mean to downplay the social aspect of the role. The fact is we're empowering more people to focus on social with the new coordinator, and I see the VP's role as more of a facilitator. I'm currently organizing the PhD conference for the Sociology department and I've worked as a marketing person doing social media, so that's not a problem.
 - c) With the new role of CoS, how do you see yourself taking over the VPI's role?

(1) Harrison: I see it as an opportunity. Before, the VPI was too bogged down with administrative things to engage with admin, but now we can really work well with them,

(2) Lindsay: Specifically, a lot of the extra responsibility is being moved to social coordinators, and I'm well-prepared to train them. In terms of committees, I've previously served on ARCHAC, and I'd like to use social events to get people more involved in committees.

d) What are a couple of the largest and most important issues of the coming year?

(1) Lindsay: We have really been pushed back in terms of our social events and our right to have social events. I'd like to make progress in that regard

(2) Harrison: I'm going to say the opposite. We have the most participation at our social events, so we should focus on other things. We have to continue our relationship with Houston and address the problems that comes back year after year: families and children, transportation, healthcare. It's important to have good dialogue and relationship with admin

e) Ask this every year of VP Campus: quality or quantity when it comes to beer?

(1) Harrison: quality, we're in San Diego

(2) Lindsay: quality as well!

3. Closed Session

a) Lindsay Freeman elected VP Campus

G. Don Johnson for VP Diversity [See Platform]

1. Questions

a) Can you explain more about the community outreach/involvement you want to do?

(1) I recently talked to 2nd graders about what they want to do with their lives. I think mentorship and outreach to disadvantaged schools in the area is important

b) How do you feel about moving Cultural Coordinator to Diversity?

(1) I see it working well. I think it could work as a step towards diversity. Making the cultural coordinator co-chair of the diversity committee could help me and make it better

c) Are you aware of the current initiatives for outreach?

(a) Yes, I know of the initiatives out of the CCC, LGBTRC, and the Women's Centers, so I'm connecting with them

2. Closed Session

a) Don Johnson elected VP Diversity

XI. Announcements

A. Student Conduct Code: whole thing has been reformatted, and certain things have been eliminated. It's going to open up for public comment, so I contacted the Director, Ben White, and there will be a presentation at the next meeting

B. Will also be a presentation on the Bill of Rights and Lobby Corps

XII. Adjourn [8:20pm]