

GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL
UIC UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT CHICAGO

**General Body Meeting Minutes
October 6th, 2011**

Meeting: Call to Order

- Welcome by Juan Martinez, GSC Interim President.
- GSC officers' introductions: Juan Martinez/Vice-president, Byron Sigcho/Secretary, and Yash Jalundhwala Treasurer.
- Announcement about Jorge Cham event, October 8th 2011.

Officer reports:

President report

Student Leaders Meeting with Vice Chancellor Barbara Henley

- Growing concern among students about crime. What is the action taken by UIC and Chicago police? Possibility of bringing a representative of UIC police to speak about this in a GSC meeting.
- UIC has a relationship with a Israeli University, Palestinian organizations on campus unhappy about this.
- Smoke free campus
- UIC Faculty Award Ceremony
- Next GSC Meeting
- Regarding the next GSC meeting, GC was not able to reserve a room for the meeting scheduled on November 3rd 2011.
- Motion: Vote on changing the next meeting to November 17th, 2011
 - i. Ayes= 42; Nays=1 , Abstain=1: Motion passes
- UIC Faculty Senate
- Juan: Anyone interested in joining the UIC Faculty Senate?
 - i. Jocelyn D. Shadforth (Educational Psychology)
 - ii. Paul Reschke (Mathematics, Statistics and CS)
 - iii. Marie-Elena Brett (bioengineering)
- UIC Chancellor's Committees
- Anyone interested in joining any of the Chancellor's Committees please see Juan after the meeting.

Treasurer report

- Student Fees Advisory Committee (SFAC)
- Attended SFAC meeting. Discussion on a Students optional charge of \$4 for green campus efforts. Campus care discussion on potential changes on health care benefits for students (for details visit campus care website).

GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL

UIC UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

- GSC Travel Award Update
 - 60 Awards available for the first quarter, and 65 for the second quarter. 81 applications for first quarter, much higher than what historically we usually have. 21 students have been waitlisted; 17 applications still available (48 applications received for this quarter).
 - Floor is open to questions:
 - i. Why some students have not received their travel award yet?
 - a. Yash: Once students have been approved for their award, they must fill paper work in the Graduate College and go to payroll to verify that the funds have been transfer to them by direct deposit.
 - ii. Are students who received an award in the first quarter eligible for an award for the second quarter?
 - a. Yash: No, they are not eligible, but if they have been waitlisted then they can still apply again for the second quarter.
- GSC Project Awards Update
 - 4 project awards available each semester (\$500 each). Projects must be open to all graduate students not only to their department. We will have our first project award presentation today.

Secretary report

- Library/ IT Assessment Committee
 - Byron: Anyone interested in joining this committee?
 - i. Nilesh Sumb (Electrical Engineering)
 - ii. Melissa Hibbard (History)

Student Trustee, Kenneth Thomas, presentation.

- Introduction and presentation. Currently working on Graduate Assistants' representation in the university board regarding taxation. Also, talked about climate survey conducted on campus and its importance to change university practices. For any questions please contact Ken at kthoma23@uic.edu
 - Floor is open to questions:
 - i. Do you have voting rights in the Board?
 - a. Ken: No, but this may change as the three campuses are reviewing this matter.

Committee reports

- *Academic committee*: No update
- *Diversity committee*: No update
- *Service committee*: Gabriela Groza (Learning Sciences), Virginia Chu (Occupation Therapy), Yu-hui Huang (Biomedical Visualization). Please see attachment for details on their presentation.

GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL **UIC** UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

- Social committee: Slobodan Milasinovic called on GSC reps to join this committee. Suggested to have one good social event once a month. Plan to discuss plans for the next social event on November 17th, thirty minutes before the GSC general meeting.
- *Sustainability committee*: No update.

Old Business

- GSC Officer report on amending the GSC Constitution:
 - GSC officers feedback
 - Floor opened to discuss amending the constitution.
 - Question is Called: Vote to vote on amending Section V, Article 2c which states that would omit the clause requiring that GSC Officers must " *have served as a GSC representative for one year prior to election.*"
 - i. Ayes=7, Nays 34, Abstentions= 3; Motion dies
- Appointment to fill the vacant office of the 2011-2012 GSC President
 - The GSC Constitution states in Article 5, Section 5. Replacement of Officers: Should an officer fail to complete his/her term due to resignation, or failure to meet eligibility requirements as stated in Article IV, Section 1 of the GSC constitution, the remaining officers shall appoint a replacement from among the departmental representatives. This appointment must then be approved at a regular meeting by a vote of 50% +1 of the active GSC representatives in attendance.
 - The GSC officers have decided to nominate the current GSC Vice President, Juan Martinez, as to fill the vacancy of GSC president for 2011-2012.
 - Floor is open for discussion
 - The question is called: All those in favor of the GSC Officers' appointment of Juan Martinez to fill the vacancy of the GSC Office of President
 - i. Ayes= 34, Nays=1, Abstentions=3: Motion passes.
- Appointment to fill the vacant office of the 2011-2012 GSC Vice President
 - Floor is open to discussion
 - The question is called. All those in favor of the GSC Officers' appointment of Byron Sigcho to fill the vacancy of the GSC Office of the Vice President
 - i. Ayes= 30, Nays=2, Abstentions=6. Motion passes
- The GSC secretary position is vacant. Juan calls for nominations to fill the vacant position of GSC Secretary; nominations can be sent by e-mail to GSC officers.

Project Award Submission

- Project Presentation:
 - Windy City/Interdisciplinary graduate conference (Melissa Hibbard, and Allison R., History Dept)
 - The question is called: All those in favor of the project award proposal
 - i. Ayes=30, Nays=0, Abstentions= 3: Motion passes

Meeting Adjournment