\*\*\*Hybrid Link for the Meeting\*\*\*

<https://uconn-cmr.webex.com/meet/brg20004>

1. **Call to Order: 6:17pm**
2. **Recognition of Senators**
3. **Robert’s Rules of Order Refresher Training (30 Mins):**
   1. Institution/Consensus of “Best Practices” for GSS
   2. Presentation by Bryan Greene
   3. Best Practices during the Meetings
   4. Reports/Issues Forums: Bryan would like suggestions
      1. What’s the most efficient way to vote on things? How we vote, when we vote
         1. options include voice, standing, roll call
      2. Making a motion, someone seconds, discussion
   5. Emma S: voting during one part of the meeting
      1. if voting was consolidated, it might make things smoother
      2. Set time for voting
   6. Laura Lapam: losing track of what we’re voting on,
      1. Highlighting, visuals help to keep everyone on same page
      2. Not a fancy doc, very practical, to the point, reducing yelling between tables
   7. Lindsay: agenda has votes
      1. voting that comes up during the meeting, things that arise during the meetings. We can have a voting section, but we should be able to move through votes that come up during the course of the meeting.
   8. Luis O seconds the visuals, highlights
   9. Bryan - old v new business
      1. how that gets introduced, voted on
   10. Lindsay: votes shouldn’t happen with just a verbal thing, what we are voting on can be confusing. If we’re voting on something that’s pre-determined, the person calling for the vote should have some sort of document or powerpoint summarizing presented.
   11. Laura: agenda should include voting, so that we know ahead of time
   12. Bryan - things we have to vote on soon/deadlines
       1. if they come up in discussion, maybe they are new business
   13. Flexibility to vote, section for pre-planned votes in agenda
   14. Bryan - agenda for tomorrow is already out; so maybe future meeting agendas
       1. Consensus? thumbs up!
   15. Alev: Visuals for tomorrow’s meeting?
       1. Bryan - will check agenda, some things do not have visuals, so will do his best
       2. tomorrow’s meeting - there will be food, business 211 ([map](https://maps.uconn.edu/m/info/BUSN))
4. **Issues Forum (3 Sessions, 90 Mins):**
   1. Bryan is opening the forum, describing the purpose of the issues forum, only one person reached out ahead of time
      1. Timer of 2 minutes
      2. as many different voices on issues as possible
   2. Email communication - Freedom of Information Act - emails are public domain
   3. Session 1 (30 min)- Issues arising from the Complaint lodged by the former GSS Administrative Assistant

* Speaker 1 (2 mins)\_\_Brian Lassey\_\_; Discussion/Rebuttal (2 mins)
  + Speaker: understanding that there is an investigation, but GSS should be accountability; still an E-board member in the Senate; specifically about the email from VP about sexism
  + Discussion/Rebuttal: Lindsay Barnum Grad SWE - email thread, every member of the E-board said something, disrespectful/hostile, violating fair hiring?, if the university isn’t going to do anything; do the E-board members contend that the emails are not accurate? We can’t really accomplish anything here if we don’t know that the remaining e-board members are denying they did anything wrong or if they’re saying their actions are being misrepresented.
  + Bryan G: is just taking over, but has had conversations, has read through emails, thinking about the calendar, 4 meetings left for this year, there seems to be long simmering tension and personalities/relationships contributing; Bryan is in a weird situation with this, trying to navigate; some resignations, plus onboarding tension; BS recognizes BS; issues with feelings about Bryan’s “agenda” as he comes in
  + The remaining E-board, accountability, waiting on the university,
  + Emma S: how can we prevent this from happening again? figure out a way for this to move forward, there are things out of our control, how do we protect the admin assistant?
    - I want to reiterate that not everyone among the senators feels the same way about this situation as others. Moving on is the best idea, here, and to figuring out how to adjust behaviors and expectations in the future.
  + Bryan: the admin assist reports to the pres, but anyone on the E-board can assign tasks
  + Cindy: when you start being an exec, mandatory training, as they onboard to be on the Board, respect has to happen toward other senators and to others
  + Bryan: series of trainings for Tier 3 organizations, onboarding requires training
  + Brian L: Tier 2 orgs have hours of training on diversity and inclusion, quizzes. if the other E-board members are not here, how can we address these issues? disrespectful for them not to come
  + Bryan G: as pres, he doesn't have a vote. enough folx that have expressed votes of no confidence, constitutional crisis; Axel is taking on 3 positions, so we need to be proactive and address what has gone on, remind yourself that there are elections and 4 meetings left; consider avenues; we need to have a conversation about budget; we have big things to work on, like the university budget; if there is a consensus that senators come to, there are things we (senators) can do
* Speaker 2 (2 mins)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Discussion/Rebuttal (2 mins)
* Speaker 3 (2 mins)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Discussion/Rebuttal (2 mins)
* Speaker 4 (2 mins)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Discussion/Rebuttal (2 mins)
* Speaker 5 (2 mins)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Discussion/Rebuttal (2 mins)
* General Discussion On The Topic (10 min)
  + Emma Siegfried
  1. Session 2- Issues with GSS as a whole and Executive Board Members
* Speaker 1 (2 mins) Gabbrielle Corso ; Discussion/Rebuttal (2 mins)
  + in the past, people would be paid or sometimes they weren’t paid at all; bring up a motion, to add to bylaws to make sure pay is not 0 or 100%; needs to be fair; discussion about pay in the case of exec board leaving
  + Alev E asked about the timeline for the positions
  + Bryan G: some positions start in the academic year, but some exec board
  + Gab: elections in March, typically the new e board members start in April; 12 month appointment, some positions do more work than others in the summer; form April to April
* Speaker 2 (2 mins) Emma Siegfried ; Discussion/Rebuttal (2 mins)
  + the end of the last GSS meeting; aggressive; a number of our current exec board members; things were made personal; a bit of an overstep and inappropriate; would like to see an apology from a specific exec board; we need to serve our constituents and we need to be respectful
  + Kyle aggress with Emma, decorum, respect; things became very personal; senators also need to be respectful, can’t be aggressive toward Exec board (Hannah C agrees)
* Speaker 3 (2 mins)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Discussion/Rebuttal (2 mins)
  + Luis Ortiz - people talk; we know some things; people who are still on the E-board. Are they going to stay? Will they all resign? What happens next?
* Speaker 4 (2 mins)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Discussion/Rebuttal (2 mins)
* Speaker 5 (2 mins)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Discussion/Rebuttal (2 mins)
* General Discussion On The Topic (10 min)
  + Brian L: relatively loud senator, severity of the issues of the E-board; representing a Tier 2 organization; constituents support Brian’s response
  + Bryan G: pro-rated vs not; Bryan needs to get paid; if we are going to be leaders, people’s emotions get hot, it’s intense; people on the margin, folx have a say, feel heard and seen; we have to be above the fray; representatives of our jurisdictions; we need to have swag, worthy of the position you’ve had; we are adults; don’t talk to me sideways; you get what you give; both ways; y’all are supposed to be getting PhDs? we gotta step it up a bit; re: budget could cut social sciences; hot to trot with?
  + Laura: we need to be the scholars and the leaders that we should be; even when justified, you want to remain dignified; culture trickles down from the top; if we want to see change, we have to do it; moving forward, we do have issues; current E-board members are not here, so we can’t address that; standards for moving forward
  + Bryan: we have a constitution that we need to address; we have to figure some things out
  1. Session 3- Other Issues of Concerns
* Speaker 1 (2 mins)\_\_\_Alaa Selim\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Discussion/Rebuttal (2 mins)
  + Alaa: mental health, Palestine, ceasefire, protests; organize; Alaa is from Egypt and it’s a challenge for studying, focusing; other universities in the area have take action; how can we address student mental health; undergrad students are also feeling it; asking for wellbeing of the students;
  + Bryan G: reports from local Daily Campus, Hartford Courant; undergrad scenario; grad scenario; certain grad students; if they want to get access to counseling, they might not have access; in normal times, how will we come together as GSS to advocate for mental health? (during issues forum) voice and advocacy for grad students
  + Ruba: the dorm vandalism was never addressed by the UConn administration
  + Alaa: we need to show some attention; many international students; negative vibes; just go to protests; calling senators in Hartford; it’s a real issue; we need to get their voices out; mental issue - resources for mental concerns; a lot of people affected and there’s not a voice of how to do it; we should know who to communicate if we have a problem, therapy sessions; how to get their voices out; how to cope with the situation
  + Bryan G: graduate student town hall; bringing the players in; speakers for our meetings; moving on advocacy issues; fully on board
* Speaker 2 (2 mins)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Discussion/Rebuttal (2 mins)
* Speaker 3 (2 mins)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Discussion/Rebuttal (2 mins)
* Speaker 4 (2 mins)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Discussion/Rebuttal (2 mins)
* Speaker 5 (2 mins)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_; Discussion/Rebuttal (2 mins)
* General Discussion On The Topic (10 min)

1. **Final Thoughts/Adjournment**
   1. Bryan says thanks
   2. Emma, things seem dire, but we can get through it; we are having productive conversations in this meeting; we can build a better GSS and a better space to be students
   3. Laura H: thank you Bryan for putting this together and moving this forward; now we gotta put it into action; everyone’s going to be there; feel the feeling, breathe and respond;
   4. Bryan G: agree and concur
2. 7:33 call to end
   1. hybrid option, same webex link

Attendance:

1. Bryan Greene
2. Kent Holsinger (Dean)
3. Karen (Assistant Dean)
4. Emma Siegfried (Marine Sciences GSO)
5. Alev Ecevitolglu (GSAC)
6. Aaron Sanchez
7. Mehedi Hassan Dipu (MRS)
8. Shah Saki (CEE)
9. Ruba Bouzan
10. Cindy Barreto
11. Gabrielle Corso
12. Spencer Hayes (PSGSA)
13. Syed Islam (SAGE)
14. Kamal Gautam (NGSA)
15. Madeline Kollegger
16. Veera Venka
17. Laura Holt
18. Lindsay Barnum
19. Luis Ortiz (SHPE)
20. Mehedi Hassan Dipu
21. Prakash Ranjan
22. Alaa Selim
23. Hangyu Wu
24. Hannah Cooke (NGSA)
25. Kyle Labe
26. Brenden Ferland
27. Kent Holsinger
28. Kimberly Curry