GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

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University of Connecticut
Executive Committee Meeting Draft
May 13, 2025 | 5:00PM – 9:00PM
Student Union 213

Attendance: President (Sandip Roy), Vice President (Leo Gold), Treasurer (Maham Liaqat), Communications Director (Noah Kravette), Activities Director (Kari Comstock), Parliamentarian (Matt Silverman)

I.Call to Order 5:34 PM

II. Executive Committee Report

- a. President: (Sandip Roy)
 - i.All Board members have completed training in record time.
 - ii.Remaining E-Board members will receive keys shortly.
 - iii.Fundamental documents will be distributed soon.
 - iv. Concerns raised regarding the GSS BBQ event: check-in process, 75-person occupancy limit, and alcohol control.
 - v.Meetings scheduled with Dan Weimer (VISAs), Karen B. (international student fund), and Leslie Shorr (comprehensive fee).
 - vi.N Lot not being fully Area 2 parking noted as a ticket risk and is currently being addressed.
- b. Vice President (Leo Gold)
 - i. Exploring new online voting tools and working to close out all PRs.
 - ii. Upcoming University Senate meeting with Leo and Sandip attending.
- c. Treasurer (Maham Liagat):
 - i.Contacted Dave Clokey about a \$2 Graduate Student Activity Fee increase voted in mid-November 2024.
 - ii. The prior President, Brian Greene (AY 24-25 President), left without completing the task at the end of January 2025.
 - iii.A September Senate vote is required, followed by SASFAC, a 300-signature petition, and a student vote. Marketing will be needed to increase the fee.
- d. Communications Director (Noah Kravette):
 - i. Website updated.
 - ii.Plans to add an events calendar and news page for the website.
 - iii.Formatted and submitted GSS foundational documents.
 - iv.Gained email access and shared events with students via ListServ.
 - v.Created Graduate Student Feedback Form.
 - vi.Currently working on these minutes.
- e. Activities Director (Kari Comstock):
 - i.Creaser Park needs improved event boundaries.
 - ii.Previous event had non-fee-paying attendees who attended and created a scene
 - iii. Suggestions included ticketing, ID scanning, and food access barriers. Leo suggested a unified event ticketing system.
- f. Parliamentarian (Matt Silverman):
 - i. Awaiting email access.
 - ii.Expressed enthusiasm for the year.
- g. RECESS: 6:09 PM (via Unanimous Consent)

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- a. MOTION: Sandip proposed adding parking reimbursements to the agenda. Seconded by Maham.
 - i. Motion pass unanimously.
 - ii.Maham raised concerns regarding Khaled (AY 23-24 Parliamentarian) over-requesting reimbursement and being disrespectful to GSS Admin Assistant over email. GSS will require full documentation with official receipt for UCONN parking services before processing his reimbursement. Previous Vice President Alaa Selim (AY 24-25 Vice President) was also asked to submit proper reimbursement documentation and official receipt from UCONN parking services.

IV. New Business

- a. Transition of New Board
 - i.Keys
- 1. Currently waiting on Matt and Kari to get their keys.
- ii.Trainings
 - 1. All trainings for E-Board finished.
- iii.Fundamental Documents for TSOS
 - 1. Noah provided final formatted documents voted on by the Senate in Spring 2025 for the Constitution, Bylaws, and Financial Policy.
 - 2. MOTION: Approve fundamental documents as emailed. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Leo.
 - a. Motion passed unanimously.

iv.Big Y Cards

- 1. Sandip expresses desire to cancel all current Big Y cards to prevent any misuse of the cards and start with new cards on a clean slate.
- 2. MOTION: Cancel existing cards and issue new ones to Treasurer and GSS Admin. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Maham.
 - a. Motion passed unanimously.

v. Authorized Signers

- 1. MOTION: Appoint Leo as President alternate and Noah as Treasurer alternate, creating four authorized signers. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Matt.
 - a. Motion passes unanimously.
- b. GSS Feedback Form
 - i.A form sent out to all Graduate Students discusses how to best serve the graduate student body and what they would like to see.
 - ii.Concerns included parking, housing, international support, childcare, mental health, stipends, and a strong desire professional development activities and coffee hours.
 - iii.Maham raised concerns about summer contracts specifically for international students.
 - iv.GSS is in talks with UCONN administration and the Rec Center for new events.

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 - v.Concerns about the Kathmandu formal noted for follow-up. Some students had a difficult time due to GSS having serious logistical problems checking people in and the overall event. Solutions were discussed for check-in procedures to make it easier for everyone. Noted to follow-up with the people who contacted GSS for further input and how we will address these issues in the future.
 - c. E-Board Responsibilities and Training
 - i.All of E-Board coming in know the PR system, except for one currently who will work with the rest of the E-Board to learn.
 - ii.Kari will be trained to file PRs and coordinate with TSOS.
 - iii.A shared calendar was requested.
 - iv.MOTION: Appoint Leo to second SEC seat. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Maham.
 - 1. Motion passes unanimously.
 - v.MOTION: Reserve third SEC seat for regional campuses. Motion by Maham, seconded by Kari.
 - 1. Motion passes unanimously.
 - d. Summer Work Delegation
 - i.President
 - 1. Orientation planning, hiring, and working with university administration staff and advocation.
 - ii.Vice President
 - 1. Develop voting system.
 - iii.Treasurer
 - 1. Coordinate with UConn Health, improve Kuali training.
 - iv.Communications Director
 - 1. Manage minutes / documentation, announcements, website.
 - v.Activities Director
 - 1. Manage events, file PRs, coordinate with vendors.
 - vi.Parliamentarian
 - 1. Prepare senator materials for orientation and the rest of the AY and an online Senator signup form.
 - e. Inventory Sheet
 - i. Vote on Inventory Sheet
 - 1. MOTION: Approve inventory list. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Kari.
 - a. Motion passes unanimously.
 - ii.Vote on Surplus
 - 1. MOTION: Surplus shredder, coffee machine, monitor, and coffee rack. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Maham.
 - a. Motion passes unanimously.
 - f. Senate meeting dates for FY 26 (Wednesdays, 6 PM)
 - i. Senate dates
 - a. Sept 10, 2025 (Orientation)
 - b. Sept 17, 2025
 - c. Oct 22, 2025
 - d. Nov 12, 2025

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- - e. Dec 3, 2025
 - f. Jan 21, 2026
 - g. Feb 18, 2026
 - h. Mar 11, 2026
 - i. Apr 15, 2026
 - ii. MOTION: Approve Senate meeting dates. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Leo.
 - a. Motion passes unanimously.
 - b. Leo will manage room booking and setup.
 - iii. MOTION: All meetings to be in-person; satellites may attend remotely. Motion by Leo, seconded by Sandip.
 - a. Motion passes unanimously.
 - iv. Meeting Food Schedule:
 - a. Senate dates and specific food
 - b. Sept 10 Tacos Los Gallos;
 - c. Sept 17 Little Aladdin (wraps);
 - d. Oct Gansett Wraps;
 - e. Nov Kathmandu (veg noodles, chicken 65);
 - f. Dec Oriental Downtown (chicken & vegetables);
 - g. Jan Pho Delight (sweet rice, mango fried rice);
 - h. Feb Willimantic Tacos Los Gallos;
 - i. Mar Little Aladdin (chicken/falafel rice);
 - j. Apr Willington Pizza.
 - v. MOTION: Approve menu with \$500 per meeting cap. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Matt.
 - a. Motion passes unanimously.
 - vi. **RECESS**: called for prayer break by Sandip for religious observers.
 - a. Approved via unanimous consent.
 - vii. MOTION: Set final Senator deadline for Sept 7, 2025, at 5 PM. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Maham.
 - a. Motion passes unanimously.
 - g. E-Board meeting dates for Fall 2025
 - i.Summer E-Board dates (all 5 PM):
 - 1. June 13,
 - 2. July 11,
 - 3. August 15.
 - ii.Fall E-Board dates:
 - 1. Sept 4 (5 PM),
 - 2. Oct 3 (5 PM),
 - 3. Nov 1 (1 PM),
 - 4. Nov 13 (5 PM),
 - a. Spring 2026 dates to be determined here.
 - 5. Dec 3 (post-Senate meeting).
 - iii.MOTION: Approve E-Board meeting dates listed. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Maham.



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- 1. Passed unanimously.
- iv.MOTION: GSS Admin to attend all Fall and Spring meetings. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Noah.
 - 1. Passed unanimously.
- v.MOTION: Approve per diem food from Kathmandu for next E-Board meeting. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Maham.
 - 1. Passed unanimously.
- vi.MOTION: Approve full payment to TSOS for October 2024 and April 2025. Motion by Maham, seconded by Sandip.
 - 1. Passed unanimously.
- vii.MOTION: Allocate \$500 for speakers/sound system. Motion by Matt, seconded by Sandip.
 - 1. Passed unanimously.
- viii.MOTION: Tier II system must submit PR 40 calendar days in advance of scheduled activity. Motion by Sandip, seconded by Maham.
 - 1. Passed unanimously.
- ix.MOTION: Set deadline for collaborator event proposals to Sept 30. Motion by Maham, seconded by Kari.
 - 1. Passed unanimously.
- h. Events Schedule for Summer, Fall, and Spring
 - i.Welcome Back Event
 - ii.Halloween Event
 - iii.Weekly Coffee Hours (Fall & Spring)
 - iv.Kari responsible for event planning and sponsorship coordination (e.g., TSOS, Grad School)

V.Good News

VI.Adjournment 8:30 PM via unanimous consent