# UCONN GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE

## **GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE**

University of Connecticut
Executive Committee Meeting
August 02, 2025 | 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
Virtual (Via Webex)

GSS

What necessitates this emergency meeting is making a final decision on the August events for GSS. Meeting link: https://uconn-cmr.webex.com/meet/sar20009

Anticipated Attendance: Sandip Roy (Pres), Leo Gold (VP), Maham Liaqat (Treasurer), Noah Kravette (Comms), Matt Silverman (Parliamentarian).

## 1. Call to Order – 12:16PM

## 2. Executive Committee Report

- President
  - MOTION: Hold off officer reports until official report until official August 2025 meeting. Motion by Pres, seconded by Coms.
    - Motion passes unanimously.
- Vice-President
- Treasurer
- Communication Director
- Activities Director: Vacant
- Parliamentarian

## 3. Old Business

### 4. New Business

- a. Executive Session
  - i. MOTION: Create an executive session to discuss sensitive employee matters. Motion by Pres, seconded by Treasurer. 12:18 PM
    - 1. Motion passes unanimously.
  - ii. The board approves to exit the executive session. -12:50 PM
    - 1. Passes unanimously.
  - b. MOTION: Add to New Business agenda to talk about the Senator form after the important payment votes at after "GSS Events for August-September" bullet point. Motion by Comms, seconded by Pres.
    - i. Motion passes unanimously.
  - c. GSS Events for August-September
    - i. Amazon order for GSS Summer formal
    - ii. Huskies: Welcome back party
      - 1. \$30 per person for 200 people. Includes juices and sodas for free.
      - 2. Pres: I think boneless chicken tenders would be good. Buffalo and Honey BBQ. Pulled pork sliders and macaroni and cheese without bacon (so vegetarian). Huskies cannot make flatbed at this
      - 3. VP: What are the vegetarian options?

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- a. Mac and Cheese, pasta, garden salad, fried pickles, and another.
- 4. MOTION: For \$6000 for Kathmandu for the Summer Formal Aug 15, 8:30pm onwards at Kathmandu Storrs. Motion by Pres, seconded by VP.
  - a. Motion passes unanimously.
- 5. MOTION: \$7000 for Huskie's event for Aug 29 event at Huskies Downtown. Motion by Treasurer, seconded by Comms.
  - a. Motion passes unanimously.
- iii. Amazon order for GSS outdoor events
  - 1. MOTION: \$100 for summer formal with amazon item decorations. BY Parliamentarian, seconded by Pres.
    - a. Motion passes unanimously.
  - 2. Items:
    - a. Badminton rackets and two badminton nets for 5ft high and 17 ft width. This will never be lent to any organizations this is for GSS only events. All below \$300.
      - i. Paid badminton / volleyball nets (2)
      - ii. Badminton rackets
      - iii. Wilson volleyballs (2)
      - iv. Soccer balls (2)
      - v. Frisbees (16-20)
      - vi. Tennis racket with tennis balls
      - vii. Ball inflator
      - viii. MOTION: Approve \$400 for outdoor equipment as discussed previously. Motion by Pres, seconded by VP.
        - 1. Motion passes unanimously.
    - b. Discussion that we can allow Tier-II to get equipment, but the that it must be kept in GSS office and needs to be checked out with Office assistant. It would be a GSS supply but lent out to said Tier-II; therefore, it would be property of GSS like how it is at USG. This would mean that other Tier-II's can rent out said equipment potentially.
    - c. iPad and camera will never leave this office. These can never be checked out.
- iv. Vote for coffee-hour expenses
  - 1. Pres: Cancel Coffee hour on Aug 29 for Huskies. Also, students can stay after 8 PM for free. Additionally, Huskies gave us the

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ability to do Oct 31 Halloween where grad students get free wristbands to stay longer. If grad school does not sponsor us to do an on-campus event for the formal—we may do it at Kathmandu.

- a. There are many expenses such as \$1500-2000 for a bar card on campus. Many additional expenses too.
- 2. MOTION: \$2000 for all coffee hours for Fall 2025. Motion by VP, seconded by Comms.
  - a. Motion passes unanimously.
- v. Vote for GSS Yoga events
  - 1. \$90 per session.
  - 2. MOTION: \$1000 all session Fall 2025. Motion by Treasurer, and VP seconds.
    - a. Motion passes unanimously.
- vi. Kathmandu event for September: theme and expenses
  - 1. Event from 9 PM onwards for 250 people for \$9500 at Kathmandu.
  - 2. VP: This is an expensive event, and we could end up blowing our Budget. This may not be a great expense to allow for future events. We are blowing money like crazy, and we still have coffee hours and yoga throughout the year.
  - 3. Pres: I did the budgeting because we are on track (spent \$2500 this summer) we would have spent 15,000 by end of September. Which leaves us with 35,000 for the rest of the schoolyear. We may get some grants from Grad School and then we can do even more fun events.

## d. Senator Form

- i. Comms: When is the Senator form coming up as this was supposed to be by Aug 1, 2025. Where is it?
- ii. VP: Reached out to TSOS said we will get update by Mon or Tues, and then we can have access to create the form. Somone at ITS must hit the switch for this.
- iii. Pres: What is the deadline we are thinking about?
  - 1. VP: Blocked until get access to create said form. TSOS told to reach out to a person in TSOS to create the form on their end and make them an admin.
    - a. Great thing with Kuali form is it automatically and complete integrated into the UConn system which has all the data.
  - 2. Parliamentarian: Want to make sure people aren't left with 2 weeks to submit.

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- 3. VP: We can use a Microsoft form.
- 4. Comms: Parliamentarian, are you helping the VP to make sure this all goes through as responsible of senator membership?
  - a. Parliamentarian: Working with VP to make the form. VP originally said that he would make the Kuali form for Senator membership.
  - b. VP: We are currently waiting on TSOS to make this happen as we don't have access until Mon/Tues when TSOS gets back to us.
- 5. Pres: We need to make sure we have a clear deadline and requirements. Only time we can let in other students is when they can prove they were created after deadline.
- 6. Comms: Aug 1 was our originally deadline and contacting TSOS could have happened sooner. Everyone has responsibilities and things can get left in the cracks. However, moving forward, it is important that we can do these things sooner such as contacting TSOS sooner to make sure this happens. Can we vote on another date to make sure this happens timely?
- 7. Parliamentarian: With that said did you (Comms) post the Procedures Committee meeting minutes on the website? I did not see it.
  - a. Comms: Yes! It is on the website. I reorganized the website to separate Senate/Exec vs other committee meeting so I may look into seeing if I can clean that up a bit while still separate the minutes for easier reading.
- 8. MOTION: Aug 8<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for Senator Deadline. Motion by Pres, seconded by Parliamentarian.
  - a. Motion passes unanimously.

## e. Promotion Plan

- i. Pres: Comms can you figure out a procedure for people who RSVP, but don't show up consistently. We end us wasting food on people who do not show up when other grad students greatly want to join.
- ii. MOTION: Weds Aug 13 to publish the totally ready and Tier-II trainings that must take end of day 5 PM. Motion by Pres, seconded by VP.
  - 1. Motion passes unanimously.
- f. Tier II training email notification
  - i. MOTION: Drop Tier-II filing deadline to be 21 days for all events that happen until end of September.



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- 1. Comms: Initial concern is that we want all events for the month (including Tier-II) on the events calendar send out normally prior to the start of the month. If it is less than one month, than end of month events it may not be added which can cause confusion and problems. We also just want to make sure everything moves smoothly and easy for everyone. We also sent out the email weeks ago to all Tier-II's who have a budget for the upcoming schoolyear. Originally, it was supposed to be 40 days, and then we gave a grace period of 30-40 days for Tier II forms. I know we will go back to the 40 days, but I still think it is good to keep precedent.
- 2. Motion passes: 4 ayes, 1 abstain.
- 5. Good News
- 6. **Adjournment 14:17**