

Anticipated Attendance: Sandip Roy, Leo Gold, Maham Liaqat, Noah Kravette, Medha Arora, Kari Comstock.

Join using the following link: Meeting link: <https://uconn-cmr.webex.com/meet/sar20009>

1. Call to Order – 15:19

2. Executive Committee Report

a. President

- i. Meeting with Leslie Shor to discuss paying part of the comprehensive fee to GSS. Some deans are objecting, asserting that some students are online or part-time; this is reportedly inaccurate. Leslie clarified that part-time students pay \$10 per semester, online students pay \$11 per semester, and full-time students pay the full \$32 per year from the comprehensive fee, with no additional charges to students.
- ii. Fabio (Grad Trustee) contacted the President.

b. Vice-President

- i. Did you do the training for the credit card reading? There is a lot of set-up to actually have for our one big event, instead of all the little events too. There is also a question of who can buy tickets?
 1. Sandip: I say we have anyone be able to pay, for example \$25 for an entrée at our larger events.

c. Treasurer

- i. SASFAC meeting after the GSS meeting. All the departments are asking for a 4.5% in employee salaries. Some departments are planning to reallocate some of their leftover budgets.
- ii. There seems to be a payment for services that are not directly linked to them.
- iii. The Rec center is paying for outdoor courtyards, etc, and athletics use that. Athletics. So, who pays for what seems to be mixed up. Many departments say they will be asking for additional services or better funding next year. Increase today at 2 PM to increase all fees for next year. It is the same for the undergraduates. For \$42 more for transportation and maybe \$60 more for SHAW? This seems to be hard for graduate students next year.
 1. Medha: For a 1% increase in tuition or \$240 increase in the AY, and \$172 for GAs, you are thinking about only a \$6 fee increase per AY for GSS. Fabio also reported this.
 2. Sandip: Someone needs to do something about this. This is insane. And why do they think they can dictate what the graduate students

want to increase their own GSS fee? And the increase in all other fee bills is unacceptable as well. Crunching the numbers, this is a 15% fee increase, not a 1%. He erupts in shock over the prices.

3. Medha: We can talk to USG and the Daily Campus.
4. Maham: We need to talk to all of these people. GSS can go bankrupt if we don't do something
5. Leo: How much
6. How are they paying for university renovations (Medha: \$68)? They added a \$68 fee for just their own construction and infrastructure—they can't just dictate what we do to increase the fee for graduate students' resources and events. Talk to Fabio, the undergraduate trustee, and the USG to put pressure on the board to ensure this does not happen. We need to have at least \$6/6/Semester, not per year.
7. Maham: The student activity fee has not increased since 2008 or earlier—this is necessary.

d. Communications Director

- i. I received the minutes from the Parliamentarian. The meeting proceeded smoothly, and all major motions were passed. However, additional information is still required, and I am in contact with the Parliamentarian to obtain it.

1. All six GSS officers' budgeted amounts were approved for the academic year, contingent on meeting semesterly attendance requirements. Committee members were approved, but it appears six individuals were elected, even though there are only five available spots. Could you clarify this discrepancy.

- i. Julia Navarrette,
- ii. Quin Zabel,
- iii. Atta Seck,
- iv. Nadia Upah,
- v. Patrick Corrigan (Senator-At-Large).

1. Sandip: There was a vote between Patrick, Khadija, and David Osei Kissi. Patrick was the only Senator. There was a tie between Patrick and Khadija in votes, which Leo broke by ruling that the bylaw amendments

were on the agenda. The discussion was then postponed until the end of the meeting, and nothing else was mentioned about them. Kari mentioned they were discussed, but I want to make sure they were, as I was not there.

1. And it seems the bylaw amendments were on the agenda, but the discussion was postponed until the end of the meeting, and nothing else was mentioned about them. Kari mentioned they were discussed, but I want to make sure they were, as I was not there.
 - a. Sandip: The bylaws changes were presented to the Senate by Kari for all the important motions. The reimbursement cannot be both a reimbursement and a fellowship, so they ask to make a straight-up fellowship at the market rate for a UConn garage parking pass. Another piece of feedback was to add a bylaw stating that if no one is eligible to run for a position, it is open to all graduate students.
 - b. Noah: Also, the Procedures Committee can think about voting for any UConn Tier-III officer organizations (such as USG).
 - c. Sandip: Do you also have the final copies of the constitutions and financial policies? We should fix the types in the Constitution and financial policies to allow us to sell tickets on Tier-II's behalf.
- ii. The Graduate Feedback form I sent out at the beginning of the year and the exit poll conducted with students who attended the Halloween event produced contrasting satisfaction rates. The graduate feedback form indicated a 21.5% event satisfaction rate, while the exit poll, with an almost 10% response rate, recorded a 92% satisfaction rate. This reflects a 70.5 percentage-point difference, or a 328% (3.28x) increase in graduate student event satisfaction. If anyone can demonstrate how to import data from the card reader, please let me know so I can further analyze this information.
- e. Activities Director
 - i. Have a large professional event coming up this January.
 - ii. Thanks to Noah, I got in contact with USG to do a professional clothing drive with USG. They said if we invest an amount (\$1000/Semester, but only in the Spring) for 11 credits which is a full suit. They are even thinking about doubling it midway through the year. We can also apply a

little pressure to Grad School, so that way more people beyond just fee-paying students can participate, assuming they want to pay for them.

- iii. We should also send out an email to say who is a fee-paying member or not.

- 1. Sandip: Also Noah what step are you on to make the only fee-paying member email list?
 - 2. Noah: The email list input said we have to put in each person individually.
 - 3. Sandip: Sounds good, I think we should only send emails about these fee-paying only students for Spring 2026.

- iv. Attending the SASFAC meeting as well.

- v. Have a large professional event coming up this January.

- ii. Thanks to Noah, contact was made with USG to run a professional clothing drive. USG said that if we invest \$1000 per semester (Spring only) for students enrolled in 11 credits, it will cover a full suit. They are also considering doubling this amount midway through the year. We can also apply pressure to the Graduate School so more students beyond fee-paying members can participate if they choose to fund it.

- iii. We should send out an email to identify who is a fee-paying member.

- 1. Sandip: Noah, what step are you on for creating the fee-paying email list?
 - 2. Noah: The system requires entering each person individually.
 - 3. Sandip: Okay. We should only send emails to fee-paying students for Spring 2026.

- iv. Attending the SASFAC meeting as well.

- f. Parliamentary

- i. We will hold a Procedures Committee meeting soon. I am currently the only respondent, so I want to check Noah's availability to make sure we can have people at the meeting.

- 1. Sandip: That is true, but Noah does not count toward quorum, so we can hold the meeting.

3. Old Business

- a. SASFAC Packet

- i. Maham: I need access to my email and then send the draft.
 - ii. Sandip: It needs to be done soon and before the Senate meeting on Dec. 3, 2025, to be approved. Please send it as soon as possible. How is the Tarang form for the fee increase and other groups?
 - iii. Maham: They are not able to get signatures.
 - iv. Sandip: I have decided not to have the collaborative event with Tarang in Spring 2026. We can do our own event.
 - v. Maham: Tarang has collected some signatures and so has the Bangladesh organization. I need to consolidate and check all of them.

vi. Sandip: Please send out the email soon.

vii. Maham: I do not have access to my email, so if Noah can send out the email with all documentation, I will write the message.

b. Discussion: Bylaw, constitution, financial policies changes

4. New Business

a. Discussion: Signature update for fee increase

i. Sandip: email send out tonight once Maham sends Noah the documents and message. Then the deadline to collect the signatures is this Friday Nov. 21, 2025.

b. Discussion: Signature update for fee increase

◦ Sandip: Email will be sent out tonight once Maham sends Noah the documents and message. The deadline to collect signatures is Friday, Nov. 21, 2025.

c. Motion (all below):

i. Add to agenda: Collaborative events.

ii. Add to agenda: Discussion as a vote on ticket sales for another time

iii. Add to agenda: Vote for \$1000 for professional clothing

iv. Add to agenda: Spring E-Board dates and food options in budget

v. Add to agenda: Decide on Senate food for spring and vote on amount.

1. (Motion by Sandip, seconded by Medha)

2. Motion passes unanimously.

d. Discussion: Office assistant(s) performance evaluation

i. **Motion:** Start an executive session about employment matters. -16:17

1. Executive session ends -16:32

e. Vote: December 5th coffee hour

i. Maham: We should expand the order to include food beyond snacks before telling the Senate.

ii. Medha: The event is already known as coffee and snacks—we would just expand snack options.

iii. Sandip: We can also get Big Y subs for the event.

iv. **Motion:** Expand the catering order for an additional \$200 for the food order (motion by Medha, seconded by Kari).

1. *Motion passes unanimously.*

f. Vote: December 5th holiday party

i. Sandip: They will file and pay for the event. What do we want at the event?

1. Medha: Salads and some Big Y themed food

2. Maham: Pizzas too

3. Sandip: Pizza for 50 people—about 18 pizzas

4. Maham: Maybe 20 pizzas instead?

5. Medha: They gave no logistics warnings last time, which cannot happen again
 6. Sandip: 8 cheese, 4 veggie, and the rest chicken 5 cheese, 5 mar
 7. Medha: 5 cheese, 5 Margherita
 8. Sandip: 5 cheese, 5 Margherita, 2 veggie, and the rest meat
 9. Medha: Snickerdoodles and other festive foods
 10. Sandip: Festive foods sound good. Medha may need to leave the coffee hour early for the Corleone's event
 11. Medha: Maybe move the time to 7 PM instead of 6:30 PM?
 12. Sandip: The issue is we can only go until 8 PM and people arrive late
- g. Collaborative events
- i. **Motion:** Make an exception for GSC to file the PR without 40-day notice since this is a collaborative event (motion by Sandip, seconded by Maham).
 1. *Motion passes with 5-0-1 (Noah abstains)*
 - ii. **Motion:** For all collaborative events with Tier-II clubs, a 2-week notice must be sent to Comms along with a PR filing. Tier-II clubs may use their own budgeted funds as long as GSS retains final authority (motion by Noah, seconded by Sandip).
 1. *Motion passes with 5-0-1 (Leo abstains)*
- h. Discussion as a vote on ticket sales for GSS events
- i. **Motion:** Non-fee-payers may pay \$27.50 to attend large GSS events (motion by Maham, seconded by Medha).
 - ii. *Motion passes unanimously.*
- i. Discussion as a vote on ticket sales for GSS events.
- i. **Motion:** Non-fee-payers can pay \$27.50 to enter the large GSS events (motion by Maham, seconded by Medha).
 1. *Motion passes unanimously.*
- j. Spring E-Board dates and food options in budget.
- i. Sandip: Fridays work best for all of us so let's keep those.
 - ii. Dates:
 1. Monday, Jan 5, 2025, online at 9-11 PM
 2. Friday, Feb 6, 2025, 5-7 PM
 3. Friday, March 6, 2025, 5-7 PM
 4. Friday, April 10, 2025, 5-7 PM
 - iii. Food:
 1. Kathmandu and Huskies alternating (starting with Kathmandu)
 - a. Kathmandu order:
 - i. Mango chicken with extra rice (Noah)
 - ii. Lamb chops (Maham)

- iii. Butter chicken (Medha)
- iv. Fried Chicken Noodles, Chilli Chicken (Spicy NOT Sweet) (Sandip)
- v. Baingan bharta (Leo)
- vi. Lamb korma (medium spicy) (Kari)
- vii. Fried Chicken Noodles, Chilli Chicken (Spicy NOT Sweet) (Neha)
- viii. Nick TBD
- ix. 7 naan's.
- b. Huskies
 - i. Medium chicken tacos with corn tortillas (Medha)
 - ii. 8-piece bone-in wings (Garlic Parmesan) + Truffle Fries (Sandip)
 - iii. Flatbread pizza (Leo)
 - iv. Apple walnut salad without meat (Maham)
 - v. Flatbread Pizza (Noah)
 - vi. Cajun chicken pasta (Kari)
 - vii. Philli steak sandwich with sweet potato fries (Neha)
 - viii. TBD Nick
- c. **Motion:** Approve up to \$750 for all E-Board food and E-Board meeting dates as listed above in section (i) (motion by Leo, seconded by Medha)
 - i. *Motion passes unanimously.*
- k. Senate food for Spring and allocated amount.
 - i. Poll:
 - 1. Sandip: Let's do a poll instead.
 - 2. Leo: This way we can do a poll for the Senate for next Semester and keep the menu TBD.
 - ii. January and February: Willimantic Pizza
 - 1. 3 seafood casinos
 - a. **2 seafood casinos without bacon**
 - b. 1 seafood casino with bacon
 - 2. 2 California
 - 3. 2 buffalo chicken pizza
 - 4. 3 Greek salads (**No meat on two of the Salads**)
 - iii. March: Gansett wraps
 - 1. 4 Tuna wraps
 - 2. 7 Athenas with chicken
 - 3. 10 falafels

- 4. 2 Ham
 - 5. 7 Buffalo chicken
 - iv. April: Kathmandu
 - 1. Chili chicken / paneer
 - 2. Vegetarian samosas
 - 3. Gualb Jamun
 - 4. Food quantity TBD
 - v. **Motion:** Approve up to 2000 for Senate for Spring 2026 with the menu listed in section (j) for each (motion by Leo, seconded by Maham)
 - 1. *Motion passes unanimously*
 - 1. Discussion/Vote: Early Spring events
 - i. **Motion:** Approve up to \$1000 for yoga for Spring 2026 (Motion by Medha, seconded by Kari)
 - 1. *Motion passes unanimously.*
 - ii. **Motion:** Approve up to \$3000 for coffee hours for Spring 2026 (motion by Medha, seconded by Maham)
 - 1. *Motion passes unanimously.*
 - m. **Motion:** Authorizing Medha to sign the MOU and approve up to \$1000 for professional clothing closet in collaboration with USG (motion by Medha, seconded by Sandip)
 - i. *Motion passes unanimously.*
- 5. Good News**
- 6. Adjournment - Meeting ends at 17:40 via unanimous consent**