

**Graduate Student Senate  
Meeting MINUTES**

**Date/Time:** October 22, 2014, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

**Location:** SGA Office

**Guest(s):** none

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position/College</b>	<b>Meeting Status</b>
Robert Nanna	President College of Arts and Science, School of Education	Present
Catherine Sauter	Vice President School of Law	Absent/excused
Zachary Grant	Treasurer College of Engineering	Present
Trevor Mattos	Secretary College of Arts and Science, Public Policy	Present
Steven Briggs	Advisor	Present

<b>Senator</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>Meeting Status</b>
Sidafa Conde	College of Engineering	Present
R. Bart Henderson	School of Law	Present
Elizabeth Janson	College of Arts and Science, School of Education	Absent/excused
Jane Murphy	College of Nursing	Present
Kien Nguyen	College of Business	Present
Russell Prigodich	College of Visual and Performing Arts	Present
Katyanne Shoemaker	School of Marine Science and Technology	Present
Joe Truschelli	College of Business	Present

Meeting called to order by Robert Nanna, GSS President at 5:35 p.m.

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Follow-Up/Person(s) Responsible</b>
Fundraising, E-board report from Rob	Rob gave an overview of the fundraising topic. He said we would discuss fundraising later in the meeting. Rob briefly explained why we couldn't establish the scholarship. We cannot use money that comes from student fees to establish a scholarship. We need to gather \$25,000 in a different way. Rob suggests we consider putting money into events that we use to fundraise for the scholarship (e.g. the gala).	Rob opened this topic to discussion later in the GSS general meeting.
Funding requests, E-board report from Zach	We have not heard back from Chinese Scholars and Students Association. We will discuss the Chinese Club constitution later in the meeting. We will not discuss the Legal Association of Women (LAW) funding proposal during this GSS meeting. We will discuss the SOFA funding request. We resolved to table Chinese Club funding proposal. This brief discussion ends the E-board report.	Further discussion took place later in the GSS general meeting.
Celtics tickets	Steve told us that the Celtics tickets have arrived. The plan is to put the tickets up for sale on November 3.	Steve will send an email regarding the sale of Celtics tickets.

	<p>Senators agree that GSS will have exclusive access to tickets for 1 hour prior to the general student population. We discussed charging \$20 per ticket. Steve mentioned using the Celtics event as a 'gift bag event', where students can bring nonperishable items for donation to his office or to the bus. Steve was very clear in saying that tickets will not be distributed unless the purchaser provides a valid ID at the time of pick up. We discussed limiting purchasers to no more than 4 tickets, so as to allow some people to bring families and friends. Joe suggested we do similar events next semester, perhaps a Bruins game and/or another Celtics game.</p>	
<p>Winter Gala</p>	<p>Liz sent a report stating the following: "We have agreed to host the Winter Gala at TRIO in Fall River. The plan is to only spend \$10,000. Tickets will be sold through Webapps when we have more details I (Liz) will set that up. Zack has sent a menu. In addition, he is looking into the availability, including a snow date. We have discussed possibly having a cultural arts night in the winter or fall. We are still</p>	

	<p>in the planning phases. Celtics game and the buses have been reserved. We are still waiting on confirmation of tickets.” *Steve confirmed receipt of Celtics tickets. Zack told us that we have reserved February 7 (or that the date is ‘on hold’) for the Gala. The snow date will be Friday February 20<sup>th</sup>. There will be free valet parking and buses available for students. It has been decided that there will be 1 hour of an open beer/wine bar, followed by a cash bar. Steve explicitly stated that we are not to sign any contracts before submitting them to the Business Office for review. Steve’s contact in this office is Mike Lagrassa, who is very accommodating. We shouldn’t hesitate to contact Mike with any contracts. We also discussed having a separate event at the cultural center, but this is still in the works. Zack explained that for the Winter Gala, the event is at the Cultural Center, and TRIO, which is adjacent, will cater.</p>	
<p>Fundraising</p>	<p>Rob wants to keep the scholarship, despite the fact that we cannot use our own budget monies. He opened the scholarship topic to general discussion. Zack</p>	<p>Jane will explore incremental account building for \$25,000 scholarship fund. She will contact the business office and report back.</p>

	<p>reported that we have \$70,000 in our annual budget, not counting the \$25,000 intended to start the GSS scholarship. Joe feels strongly that we shouldn't scrap the scholarship idea. Jane also agrees that a GSS scholarship provides a lasting, capacity-building impact on the student body. Zack suggested a 2 year plan to generate the necessary revenues to endow the scholarship. We could also collect donations for the scholarships, to supplement proposed fundraising via event proceeds. The central idea for establishing the scholarship, though, is fundraising through our numerous annual events. In this scenario, all proceeds from events would be designated for the scholarship fund. Joe suggested building the \$25,000 fund incrementally. Jane and others question whether we are able to put in small portions over time to add up to the \$25,000 necessary for establishing a scholarship. Jane will further explore this and report back. Rob suggests, Steve agrees, we should make all events fundraising events where proceeds go to scholarship. It is not certain</p>	
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	<p>that even this would lead to reaching our \$25,000 target within 1 year. Still, we resolve to use events as fundraisers to build scholarship fund within 1-2 years.</p>	
<p>Chinese Club Constitution</p>	<p>The original constitution submitted listed 2 vice presidents. After following up, the constitution will stipulate only 1 vice president. Jane suggested striking the word 'propaganda' from the constitution as it has differing cultural significance here.</p> <p>Also Jane has given written comments to Cate and Rob for the Chinese Club Constitution, for example the use of "propaganda" denotes a cultural difference, possible use of media instead. Jane motioned we accept the constitution conditional upon the club making the recommended changes. Katy seconded Jane's motion. The vote passed: 1 vote against, 8 votes for.</p>	<p>Cate will email the Chinese Club our decision, and we will double check the correction next GSS meeting.</p>
<p>SOFA funding request</p>	<p>The total SOFA expenditure is \$11,000, and the group has raised everything except \$4,670. The Finance Committee recommends funding travel, hotel, registration, and stipends,</p>	<p>Zack will contact SOFA and transfer \$4,470 in funds.</p>

	<p>totaling \$4,470. Joe motioned we vote on \$4,470 to be allocated to the SOFA group of 8 students for expenses. Bart seconded Joe's motion. The vote passes with 8 for, and 1 abstention.</p>	
<p>MBAA funding request</p>	<p>Kien explained the request for funding 2 training events related to job interview skills. Jane and Rob inquired with Kien about gifts for graduating students and suggest it be cut from the request. The Finance Committee suggests we fund the interview training events, but we hold off on funding the Spring Gala. Kien explained that the MBAA sought funding from the Provost last year unsuccessfully. The group did not seek funding from the provost this year. Steve said he will discuss funding from the provost with the provost. The Business department gave \$1,000 in funding. The Finance Committee recommends we fund the MBAA \$6,044.50. Joe motioned to vote on allocating \$6,044.50 conditional upon the MBAA seeking additional funding from the provost. Trevor seconded Joe's motion. The vote passes with 7 for, and 1 abstention.</p>	<p>Zack will apportion \$6,044 to MBAA, with the expectation that the MBAA will seek additional funding from the provost and submit a separate proposal for their spring gala.</p>

<p>ISA</p>	<p>Jane commented on how expensive janitorial and technical fees were, associated with ISA's Diwali function. Steve and Zack explained that janitorial and technical fees were nonnegotiable and therefore must be accounted for in the funding request. Rob mentioned that the request from last year was a very similar dollar amount, and that ISA fundraised a lot already. Though, Rob and Zack agreed that we couldn't back pay for August 15 expenses totaling \$1,200. Jane motioned to allocate \$5,697. Joe seconded Jane's motion. The vote passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Zack will apportion \$5,697 to the ISA.</p>
<p>LALSA</p>	<p>Jane asked about the entrance fee and whether students were presenting or just attending conferences. It was decided that the proposal needed to be clarified a bit. GSS bylaws stipulate that we cannot fund apparel, re: t-shirts for LALSA. We resolved to suggest that students submit individual requests. Though, the funding request for event speakers seemed legitimate. Jane motioned to fund LALSA \$500 for guest speakers. Joe seconded Jane's motion. The vote passed unanimously. LALSA</p>	<p>Zack will apportion \$500 to LALSA. LALSA will be asked to resubmit request for conference funding for 2015.</p>

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Michael Savaria funding request	Mike requested funding for a conference. The request is for \$465.10. Finance Committee recommends we fund in total. Jane motioned to fund Mike Savaria fully, Katy seconded Jane's motion. The vote passed unanimously to fund Mike Savaria with \$465.10 to present his poster at the conference.	Zack will apportion \$465.10 to Mike Savaria.
October 9 GSS general meeting minutes	Zack motioned to pass the minutes from the October 9, 2014 GSS general meeting. Trevor seconded Zack's motion. The vote passed unanimously.	None
Other business	Zack commented that he will email about funding requests, and that he will update the GSS on total account balance during the next meeting. * Sidafa will not be present at the November 19 meeting. Russell will not be present at November 6 meeting.	Zack will follow-up on new funding requests and update the Senators on the account balance.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted  
Trevor Mattos  
GSS Secretary