April 7th, 2020
ZOOM
General Assembly
-Open Session-

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Alexander Tang, Chief of Staff  Present

April Phan, Vice Chair of Finance and Strategic Planning

Ashley Sutton, Vice Chair of Community Relations

Buddy Todd, Vice Chair of Marketing and Communications  Present

Cheyenne Carlson, Executive Coordinator  Present

Clara Cordova, President and Board Chair  Present

Khoa Nguyen, Intern

Michelle Harper Kowalczyk, Assistant Director & Advisor  Present
REPRESENTATIVES

Charlie Stone, Student Wellness Representative

Danielle Beaulieu, Incoming College of Science and Engineering Representative

Donald Hall, Student Wellness Representative

Gustav Meyners, Veterans Affairs Community Representative

James Austin, College of Nursing Representative

Joanna Delasse, School of Law Representative

John Malcomson, School of Theology and Ministry

Kabanda Obed, College of Education Representative

Mark Chesney, College of Arts and Sciences Representative

Miguel Gonzalez, Albers School of Business and Economics Representative

Nicole Parker, Student Parent Representative

Odmaa Munkhjargal, Albers School of Business and Economics Representative

Oscar Trinidad, College of Arts and Sciences Representative

Sarah Christensen, College of Nursing Representative

Sayuri Barron, Student Parents Representative

GUESTS

Trish Henley, Special Assistant to the Provost for Graduate Education
I. Call to Order

(Alex) I call meeting to order. Trish Henley is here and will continue to attend GA meetings this spring!

(Trish) The provost heard the concern that the school needs to pay more attention to graduate education; thus, I am the new “special assistant to the provost for graduate education.”

I will be one point of contact to discuss graduate issues, any barriers to education, and to improve movement on action items. Thinking about graduate structures and life cycle of entire graduate.

Today the provost announced a virtual student support center, which is on SU’s main graduate webpage; there are many answers to common questions, but if your concern is not answered on the site, there are multiple ways to contact the office directly to answer such questions and connect you to further resources. Finally, if a fact is not on there that you think should be please let the office know.

II. Adoption of Minutes from General Assembly

Sarah: I seek to move to adopt the Meeting Minutes from February 18th and March 8th, 2020.

Gustav: I second.

Vote
Yays: 6
Nays: 0
Abstentions: 0

The Meeting Minutes from February 18th and March 8th, 2020 are now adopted.

III. Old Business: Bylaws Amendments and Adoption

(Alex) I seek a motion to combine part c & d and move point e from Section 2 of Chapter 4 of the bylaws.

Gustav: I move to adopt the reorganization.

Sarah: I second.
(Alex) Chapter VI stipulates that GA Meeting will be held every two weeks, any thoughts?

- (Sarah) Having meetings every two weeks seems a little overzealous and a large time commitment that I could not commit to.
- (Nicole) If GA has business to attend to then meetings every two weeks would be relevant.
  - (Sayuri) I agree that if there is something that needs to be talked over then there should be two meetings over Zoom.
- (Donald) We could possibly hold meetings every three weeks, however schedule would become staggered.
- (Clara) The Constitution is written to secure at least one GA meeting a month, but the Bylaws say every two weeks. We are thinking for the future and how can we engage prospective teams. Focus is on the wording of the bylaws and not our own schedule.
  - Once a month works and if we need to add another meeting than we will; the Chief of Staff has discretion to add more meetings.
- (Alex) So, how does everyone feel about twice a week and if there is important business than GA meetings can be held every two weeks?
  - (Sayuri) I would want the wording to specify that, and not require two weeks.

(Alex) I seek a motion to change Chapter VI from shall to may be held every two weeks.

John: I motion.
Sarah: I second.

Vote
Yays: 6
Nays: 0
Abstentions: 0

(Alex) I seek a motion to adopt these drafted Bylaws, given if there are any typos we can edit them.

Sarah: I motion
Gustav: I second.

Vote
Yays: 6
Nays: 0
Abstentions: 0

New Bylaws are adopted!
IV. New Business:

i. Spring Quarter Graduate Student Survey

(Alex) I seek a motion to include student parents and veterans for question 4.4 on page 34 of the student survey.

Sayuri: I motion to include these classes of people.
John: I second.

Vote
Yays: 6
Nays: 0
Abstentions: 0

We will include these categories in this question.

(Alex) Questions about the budget are not very pertinent to graduate student life. I seek a motion to remove questions 6.1-6.10.

Gustav: I move to include these classes of people.
Sarah: I second.

Vote
Yays: 6
Nays: 0
Abstentions: 0

These questions will be removed.

ii. Spring Quarter Elections

(Alex) The GSC will make applications for GSC Executive Board positions public next week. Anyone who is interested in running for an Executive Board position please let me know. Any questions?

(Clara) The applications will be open April 15th and the ballot will be sent out on the 5th to students.

iii. Vision for Spring Quarter (Social Events?)

(Alex) Recommendations or opinions about a social event virtually?

- (Sarah) I like the idea and I am willing to promote it within my school. However, I am always on Zoom and online and being in another virtual chatroom is the last thing I want to do.
- (Nicole) My schedule is pretty zoom heavy and it is pretty hard to get people involved anyways. We have other things on our plate as well.
- (Gustav) I agree. Being online makes it hard to engage students.
- (Cheyenne) This would be a fun gathering for graduate students who might be lonely and don’t have any avenues for social interaction outside of school/work commitments. Think “friendworking” event, game night, chopped competition, or talent show.
- (Michelle) I have done virtual happy hours and game nights with family and friends. We are not going to have anything that is every week but students, without family and kids are feeling isolated. They are struggling to feel a connection. We want to gather folks with similar experiences and tell them that “we see you and we hear you; we are in this together. How are you doing.
  o 1. https://www.seattleu.edu/get-answers/
  2. https://www.seattleu.edu/studentdevelopment/redhawks-united
- (Sarah) Having a space to connect sounds good.
  o (Michelle) How are things going for the college of nursing, specifically for connecting students?
  o (Sarah) We are scrambling: Nurses need to complete clinical hours but we have been asked not to do so this semester; administration is reorganizing the entire curriculum.
    ▪ There is no space for students to talk about the things that are really difficult. We are seeing it unfold on the ground and it is really taking a toll.
    ▪ (Michelle) Thank you for sharing.
- (John) School of Theology is doing community lunches every week from noon to one. Are other schools doing things like that? They are also doing a prayer popup and “sitting on the couch” events.
  o The need for interaction may be being fulfilled by each individual schools.
  o We could host a watch party for musical events/movies? Such, students don’t have to be visible and face expectations for participation. Trivia night? Covid -19 student survival tips. My favorite way of entertaining myself during quarantine. Tips for succeeding in online-classes

iv. **Spring Quarter Representation**

(Alex) Meeting biweekly with students to build community, share resources, and check in with constituents. How do representatives feel about these types of interactions?

(Clara) This is a great chance to hold space for constituents. There do not need to be set hours. GSC can use an app for constituents to schedule a time to meet with you. This system would make it easier to schedule one on ones. It would be like office hours. Representatives are required to give one hours a week to be available to support constituents, and bring struggles to administration’s attention. Luckily, we have Trish Henley here now as a direct connection. It would not be super time consuming but it would offer support to constituents.
(Michelle) Twofold: 1. Holding space to be seen and heard, build collective. 2. Making space available for one on one connections.

- (Sarah) This is a broad vision that is a good jumping off spot. I can work with it.
- (Nicole) We get complaints often that information is all over the place so we want to make sure that this info is centralized. I also want more clear direction for us and how to be virtually active in this role during spring quarter. Being online is an extra challenge and I don’t want to add a stress to students.
  - (Clara) one on ones like this will keep you engaged. Your responsibilities are the same: to meet with constituents. Before representatives built that in by going to events and committee meetings. So now the option is holding space online, whether with these one on ones or a zoom meeting.
- (Sayuri) If I was a student and there was platform for me to talk to representative I would only feel like there would be no actual change: aka not helpful for our constituents. What students want are not possible changes, such as daycare. Is this a burden or worth it?
- (Nicole) There is no sense of community because people can’t find eachother. I want to find space that is not limited to certain time or location so one on ones sound good!
- (Sayuri) if I was just alone, event would be fun; sharing skill or talent. Cook off. Trying to connect those groups of people. Learn something new or share something new.
- (Sarah) I will be in touch with Nicole to connect with student parents in school of nursing.

V. Reports

(Clara) Test optional policy passed. SU is now totally SAT & ACT optional institution.

Administration is wondering how students feel about commencement, whether to have a zoom commencement in June or postponing the event to fall. I assumed that people would not be happy with a zoom commencement but how would cohorts feel?

- (Donald) I am more favorable for a live commencement in the fall. Could have a fall commencement and still do a live broadcast for those that have moved and don’t live here anymore.
- (Sayuri) Would the fall event still be at Tacoma dome?
  - (Clara) That is unknown.
- (Nicole) Administration still needs to bring light to graduation, It may not be the experience that students wanted, but we need to find a feasible alternative; with some sort of recognition. Don’t want invisible graduates. Maybe celebrations could be school specific and down the road SU can try for a big celebration. Need acknowledgement: Could just be blurb with accomplishments on website this summer not even zoom.
- (John) I like program specific celebrations, balanced with a livestreamed big event.