



## ***Council Meeting Minutes***

**GSA Office, 355 Commons  
2/13/08**

1. Call to order at 6:13 pm
  - a. Present: Alex, Louise, Erik, Kristy, Tony, Joe, Irene, Henry, Vanessa, Gary, Ching-In, and department reps.
  - b. Absent: Laura, Eric, Richard, Susan, and Anirban
  - c. Motion to add bylaws to the agenda, seconded, no objections, motion carries. Motion to approve agenda as amended, seconded, no objections, motion carries and the agenda is approved.
  - d. Motion to approve minutes from last council meeting, seconded, no objections, motion carries and the minutes are approved.
2. Presentations
3. Reports
  - a. **President** (Alex Cortez)
    - i. **Chancellor's Search** - The committee met last Thursday Feb 7<sup>th</sup>. A tentative conference call has been set up for Feb 28<sup>th</sup>. Meetings with individual candidates will be held March 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>
    - ii. **Graduate Council** - Graduate recruitment: next year's enrollment target will not exceed this year's due to limitations in funding.
    - iii. **GSA Research Awards** - need to start putting this together. We should try to have an announcement (proposed date) ready by council meeting.
    - iv. **Seminar Series** - Dr. Hayashi agreed to present next quarter, not available this quarter.
    - v. **AAll Position** - We held interviews on Friday Feb 1<sup>st</sup> Based on subsequent discussions, we have decided to reopen the process to hire someone more qualified. In addition we recommend that we push for a increase in the appointment % (from 75 to 100) which will be discussed under new business
    - vi. **Homecoming** - HEAT tickets: 2 discount ticket limit per UCR student will be removed, no limit while supplies last. More free tickets to be released Feb 13<sup>th</sup> Bonfire, Tailgate (alternate), Game, Music Festival
  - b. **Executive Vice President** (Louise Hendrickson)

- i. **UCSA Lobby Conference** - We have one spot open in the GSAUCR Delegation going to the UCSA Lobby Conference March 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>. So if you missed the deadline, and are still interested in going to the conference and to lobby at the State Capital, please contact our Legislative Liaison, Gary Coyne, at [UCRsociologyTA@gmail.com](mailto:UCRsociologyTA@gmail.com)
- ii. **UCSA Postcard Campaign** - UCSA Postcard Campaign, about rising student fees, will have them at the GSA events, please sign one. For more information please contact the GSA Campus Organizing Director Ching-In Chen at [echen014@student.ucr.edu](mailto:echen014@student.ucr.edu)
- iii. **UC Students to UCOP grassroots coalition** - UCOP recently met with UC Students in an effort to build a grassroots coalition and to establish more lines of communication between UC students and UCOP. UCOP wants to register as many students as possible at [www.ucforcalifornia.org](http://www.ucforcalifornia.org). Please sign up, so you can let UCOP know what issues are of importance to you, how you feel about rising fees, and anything else you want them to know about. Pass the link on to your friends, parents, and fellow students. In addition, as more students get involved, a blog will be created so that students can comment directly to UCOP about how they feel regarding rising tuition costs, etc. There is also a Facebook page...so again...sign up! [www.ucforcalifornia.org](http://www.ucforcalifornia.org) , <http://uci.facebook.com/group.php?gid=6756592601> , [www.universityofcalifornia.edu/advocacy](http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/advocacy)
- iv. UC, CSU, CCC Sustainability Conference@ CalPoly San Luis Obispo. Have you been working to make your campus environmentally or socially sustainable? We would like to hear your story! The Seventh Annual **UC, CSU, CCC Sustainability Conference** at CalPoly San Luis Obispo is looking for student leaders who are reducing their campuses and their own environmental impact and working towards a more environmentally, socially and economically equitable world. Examples could include:
  1. Student Leaders working with staff and/or faculty to reduce their campuses' environmental impact.
  2. Stories of successful projects where a student initiated project resulted in a positive impact on environmental, social and/or economic issues. This year, we added a series of workshops on "Green Economy and Social Equity" and especially encourage proposals that address environmental equity.
  3. Student Governments taking a stance on sustainability via resolutions and/or campaigns

4. Student governments institutionalizing sustainability through the creation of environmental committees, new student leadership or staff positions, etc...
5. Student initiated curriculum and service learning initiatives.

For more examples, please view last year's presentations at:  
<http://sustainability.ucsb.edu/conference2007/track-sessions.php#student>

We are especially excited about submittals which tie to this year's conference theme: "Putting Sustainability to Work" which has two interpretations:

- 1) Building a Green Economy and connecting with the Green Jobs for All Campaign <http://www.greenforall.org/>
- 2) Putting Sustainability itself to work through institutionalizing sustainability and broadening the movement.

Please review the call below and last year's site:

<http://sustainability.ucsb.edu/conference2007/track-sessions.php#student> and let us know if you have any other questions [sustainability@calpoly.edu](mailto:sustainability@calpoly.edu) or 805-893-2003.

**Presentation proposals are due Feb 26, 2008.** Poster proposals are due June 1, 2008.

- v. The UC/CSU/CCC Sustainability Conference was established in 2001 for the exchange of best practices between people engaged in, or seeking to learn more about, campus sustainability—from teaching and academic research to all aspects of campus operations.

This year's conference seeks to highlight innovative examples and implemented works in the following areas:

### **Poster and Presentation Topics**

Curriculum and Research

Energy

Food Systems

Green Building - New Construction

Green Building - Operations, Maintenance, and Renovations

Institutionalizing Sustainability

Procurement and Sustainable Business Practices

Student Affairs

Transportation

Waste Reduction and Recycling

Water, Agriculture and Landscaping

(new in 2008) Medical Centers , Nursing Schools and Student Health Facilities

(new in 2008) Green Economy and Social Equity

### **Who Should Submit?**

In order to foster a peer-to-peer network between and within the three California college and university systems, we are seeking presentations, micro-workshops, and posters from:

- campus operations and planning staff
- faculty and academic researchers
- campus administrators
- college and university students
- providers of the products and services delivered to colleges and universities in teams *co-presenting* with any of the above members of the campus community

We are primarily looking for presentations from universities and colleges in California, though are open to presentations from other campuses who are piloting projects more ambitious than any of the schools in California. Anyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

### **Deadlines**

Presentation proposals due **Feb 26, 2008**.

Poster proposals due **June 1, 2008**.

Registration opens in **March 2008**.

Conference dates **July 31-Aug 3, 2008**.

**For more information, visit**

<http://sustainability.calpoly.edu> and click on the **Call for Proposals**.

- c. **Vice President of Academic Affairs** (Erik Kolb)
  - i. **New GSA Officers** - Big welcome to Jeff Powell from the school of education. He represents the final position filled in academic affairs. This is the first time all the positions have been filled.
  - ii. **Mini-GSAs** – have 15 mini-GSAs, please send him an email if you're mini-GSA hasn't already. Erik reads off a list of all mini-GSAs. Please turn in expenditure forms if you have spent money on your mini-GSA. No alcohol from the money and gift cards are questionable. We can't reimburse those. More thorough description will be put up on the website.
  - iii. **Reg Fees** - he is on Reg Fee committee about how those reg fees are spent. Alex and Caroline ridley are also on the committee. They have apportioned out funds for mental

health. There is now a full-time psychiatrist on campus and now pay parity with psychologists out there. He is vice chair on the committee.

- iv. **Committees** – consider during open forum giving a little spiel on your committee to inform the other grad students. Sign up sheet for GSA conference committee.
- d. **Public Relations Officer** (Kristy Richardson)
- i. **Alex passes his quals!** – congratulations to Alex for passing his quals.
  - ii. **Coffee Social** - Feb 21<sup>st</sup> – coffee social (with snacks) from 11-1pm.
  - iii. **Pre-Game Grad Bash** - Sat Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> pre-game grad bash from 3-4:45pm. Free pizza at the Getaway then homecoming game and then heat. We have blue flyers to post in your department. 200 grad students got tix to heat. Thanx to student life for the pizza.
  - iv. **Grad student experience survey** – green flyers. Kristy explains on the projector showing her the email. It's for us to get feedback so we can advocate on issues that concern us. We will give the info to the officer or committee so we can go to grad division etc. to get things changed. Give us data to back up what we say. Please everyone fill it out. To encourage everyone to fill it out, you will be entered in a drawing to win an ipod shuffle or an external hard drive. We're hoping to get as much feedback as possible. At the end of survey, we can compile a list of respondents and out of those people we will randomly pick the winner of the prize. Please take the flyers. Will the data themselves will be publicly available? Patrick would like the excel file. The committee would have to get back on that. Alex is emphasizing the importance of the survey. This is the ultimate way to know what grad students think. We can take this to the committees that we sit on. We will send the links out tomorrow to the UCR email address. Please encourage all that you know to take the survey. It's anonymous, completely. Your email address will not be linked to your response.
- e. **GSHIP Chair** (Laura Bellew as reported by Tony)
- i. **Health Plan Options**- there are menu options for the health plan and they are getting prices and waiting for numbers before continuing.
  - ii. **FAQ** - they are working on a FAQ sheet. IF you have questions that you want answered regarding health care, they will come up with a brochure with student health center, broker, and GSA.
  - iii. **Health Insurance Contract** - the contract that we were fighting for got signed for a 2 year contract but there is room to

negotiate for more things. One of the options they are looking at is for people doing fieldwork having a emergency evacuation and the company can get you out of any location.

- iv. **GSHIP questions on survey** - there should be some healthcare questions on the survey. Any more questions, please email Laura.

f. **Finance Officer** (Tony Yang)

- i. **Budget** – There is a budget projection. Everything is on pace or running under except accounting fees with ASUCR. But this is beyond our control because they already took the money. He envisions a finance committee to oversee the budget and oversee the budget process so that there is more transparency. If you are interested in that, please let tony know.

g. **Conference Travel Grant Chair** (Joe Steirer)

- i. **Deadlines** - if you know people going to march conferences, it's too late to turn in applications. He has flyers for you to take to hang up in your department with updates on the cap amounts and deadlines for the next upcoming conferences. Please hang them up in your departments.
- ii. **CTG committee** - he is still looking for 2 new members on the CTG committee. If you have input to the committee, you can visit us at the next meeting Friday at 1pm. Please send him an email if you will come [gsagrant@yahoo.com](mailto:gsagrant@yahoo.com). He wants someone from CHASS and any college except engineering.
- iii. **Payouts** - We had almost 80 applications for the month of march. We will give out a max of \$27,000. A little over \$10,000 to be paid out for January. We will be able to use a significant amount of money of our CTG funds. More questions or you want to join his committee, see him after the meeting.

4. Discussion

a. **UCSA Report** (Gary Coyne)

- i. **Voter Reg:** GSA/ASUCR 900, UCSA 13,000
- ii. **Messaging for SLC, and Regents meeting** - going to support a fee freeze, take a strong stance in opposition to cutting student services, especially mental health

5. Presentation

- a. ME Graduate Student Symposium (Stephen Fang) - MEGSA, proposing the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual ME Grad student symposium. The flyer has the budget and it was passed out. It will be held on March 7<sup>th</sup> 2008. It is a research conference organized and hosted by MEGSA. It is open to all UCR graduate students. All other students from other departments are welcome to submit abstracts. Estimated total attendance is 110. Tentatively they will have an introductory

presentation, keynote presentation, one alumni presentation related to research and professional development, industrial speech which will focus on how to relate research to industry. They will have 14 oral presentations from ME grad students and over 40 poster presentations. They will have 15% presentations from other departments. They need \$2,300. They got \$300 from ASME and \$1000 from their department and they need \$1,000 from the GSA. MEGSA has gone through the steps required for the process thus far. Question about the amount in the budget for speakers and conferences. We should have \$6,500 left in the budget. We have more than enough. Today we won't vote on this, we will vote next time. We encourage questions and to be critical.

6. New Business

a. **Confirm new officers:**

- i. New AAO Jeff Powell from grad school of education. Motion to approve, seconded, motion passes 19-0-0.
- ii. New conference chair Vanessa miller. Motion to approve Vanessa as conference chair, seconded, motion passes 19-0-0.

b. **Bylaws** (Joe Cresotti) - Proposed changes shown on the projector.

- i. Make explicit that COD and LL must have one office hour. Friendly amendment to make it one hour per week instead of just one hour. Motion to not bundle the amendments, seconded, motion passes. Motion to approve this bylaw as it reads, motion passes 18-0-0.
- ii. At the end of each quarter, the president must compile a report of each of the officer's activities. This is to inform the president of next year so that they know what should go on each quarter. Would this not create more busy work for the president? One council member says that about 10 people's jobs will have to be summarized by the President. That's a lot of work. This will involve each of the officers in compiling this report, thereby tying up the time of 2 people's extra work. When we had e-board meeting last week, it was that the officer would have to submit a report to the president at the end of each quarter. But with 2 meetings a month, we are reporting what we have done and it is recorded by the secretary and put in to the minutes. We could stick all our reports together and give them but this is redundant. We finally came to this language because the president could take the minutes and put it all together. He can request reports from everyone still. There's a lot of flexibility in how to compile the reports but it helps planning from quarter to quarter. If it's just pulling them out of existing minutes, then it wouldn't impact the president as much. This report would tie in how everything is working as a whole body not just the separate

divisions of the GSA. How is this useful if this is already in the minutes? It seems more like a management thing. There is a lot of discussion on this, we can still discuss this item. Motion to reject this bylaw amendment, section xiv item D) seconded, vote 8-4-6 and the motion fails and it's not rejected since too many people abstained. Motion to return to bylaws committee for further discussion, seconded, no objections, motion passes 18-0-0.

- iii. Stipends: make explicit how the AAO's are paid (\$50 vs. \$100 per month). The rule is that 25% or more representation would get \$100 and less than 25% would be \$50. Motion to approve this bylaws ammendment, seconded, motion passes 16-0-1.
  - iv. Standing committees: funding criteria for allocations committee. Criteria is laid out by the allocations committee. Motion to approve these, seconded, motion passes 17-0-0.
  - v. Term limits for all officers. People are restricted to 2 terms period for any one office. Motion to approve, objection made. The term limits were changed at the e-board meeting. If you are a grad student for 6 years, you can be on the exec. board the whole time serving in different positions but won't be able to serve 3 years as PR officer. You should be able to be in your position as long as you're re-elected/re-appointed or go back to your position. With this bylaw, you can be a part of the controlling board of the GSA for 6 years but you can't serve in the same position after 2 years. Point of clarification, this was already the case in the bylaws, there is no real fair way to limit people running for other offices, but you can limit how long a person can hold one office. Currently the elected board members can't serve more than 2 consecutive terms, but you can go back to your position after a year away from it, this is what the bylaw changes. Question is called, objection to question, vote to see if we will vote on this bylaw 16-2-1, motion carries, thus we will vote on this bylaw. Motion to approve the bylaw as stated 14-3-4. There was some confusion on the count. Revoting 12-5-2, motion carries.
- c. AAIll Appointment Percentage (CTG Coordinator & Finance Officer)- they are asking to up the appointment of the AAIll to a full time appointment so that we can get a highly qualified person. We need a full time staff to help with GSA admin and CTG duties to alleviate the additional workload for our CTG coordinator. We've had no AAIll for 6-7 months so we would still have rollover. Accounting fees have tripled because we have no AAIll and they are doing all of our accounting. The accounting fees will reduce with a new AAIll. We used to pay \$200/month and now they tripled our fees to \$600/mo. If we re-establish an AAIll, it should drop down to a more reasonable amount.

They increased our fees before we lost our AAIll. We are hiring for better accounting fees. Our AAIll would be able to cut our checks for us. So last week at e-board meeting Kristy wants to know why they are increasing our fees, by line item. We need justification for the increase so we could predict how much they would go down but without that info we can't really tell comfortably. ASUCR should be held accountable and they should give us a budget for paychecks, reimbursements, etc and how it will drop once we get our own AAIll. They have already taken the money because they have access to our account, that's why we need a new AAIll full time. We have asked for more information from them. It's ridiculous that they don't have accountability. Is there a motion that the council ask that ASUCR be required to give us a breakdown of what they are charging for. Motion that we ask ASUCR, seconded, we will be asking asucr where this money went to. Point of clarification, Alex said he would talk to asucr. Motion that GSA board request asucr provide us with a full breakdown for the monies that they are charging us, seconded, 17-0-1. Motion to approve AAIll be a full time position, 16-0-1 motion carries.

7. Public Forum

- a. Please take flyers and post them.
- b. James Young conference. They have a poster. It is saturday at 8:30am to 5pm. Register in Humanities 1500. Panels in Hum 1501/1503. GSA logo were on the poster. They will have a bulletin online for a webpage if they have a pdf version. Calendar is online, give Alex your event and he will put it on the calendar. Electronic doesn't always work so also post flyers as well as electronic. It never hurts to do it in more ways then one.

8. Adjournment – motion to adjourn, no objections, meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.