

## **December 2001 Senate Meeting Minutes**

**November 2001 minutes approved without corrections.**

**Housing committee report:** Masa Prodanovic (GSO speaker)

- International housing issues and information dissemination discussed.
- Former childcare center suggested as a site for temporary housing.
- Schomburg rent issues: Pravin Nair volunteered to be on the housing committee as a Schomburg resident representative.

Pegine Walrad (GSO president) asked if there will be a more centralized location for the housing check-in of new grad students for the spring semester. Masa confirmed that Chapin will be open 24 hours a day to receive new students, and that they will then be taken by van to their new apartments.

**Budget committee report:** Jasmina Sinanovic (GSO treasurer)

- Committee revised guidelines. One can now submit a request for funding up to 1 week prior to the senate meeting. (Prior guideline stated 6 weeks prior....)
- Deadlines and budget committee meeting dates are posted online.

**lounge committee report:** Jasmina Sinanovic

- The holiday party is 12/14 at the Spot.

**Social Concerns committee report:** Tanya Smith (GSO Vice President)

- A primary concern is the lack of services off campus.
- Campus safety is also a concern.
- GSEU effectiveness and pay delays for RA's.
- A monthly social hour was suggested.

**Michael Klein** (michael.klein@sunysb.edu) from parking services was invited to discuss concerns about parking and bus services on campus.

- In the future: Buses may travel through underpass connecting HSC to main campus.
- The North and South local could get a bus stop shelter opposite the existing shelter.
- Free Parking policy: No new parking spots will be free. There are very little funds to maintain them. Dick Mann allocates funds generated from tickets (ex. to go towards light maintenance).

**GSEU Liason Committee:** Steve Preston

- Due to a contract, all TA's and GA's from Spring and Fall 2001 will be receiving a \$350 cash lump sum payment in January 2002. In March, they will receive a 3% increase.

Pegine asked about the 'Stop merger' with CWA posters seen on many bulletin boards on campus. Steve explained that the GSEU president tried to get NYS to not recognize the merger. The dues will increase from 1.15% to 2% following the merger.

Steve doesn't know whether NYS granted his request or not.

**Graduate Council:** Maureen Shaiman

- The limit of academic probation was discussed. A total of 3 semesters below 3.0 GPA is the new maximum allowed. (Prior, a student could go on and off of probation indefinitely, as long as 3 consecutive semesters below 3.0 did not occur.)

-A new rule of when a person can be hooded..... Prior, as long as the advisor said that the student was nearing completion, he/she could be hooded at the next ceremony. The grad council proposed a requirement that the student passed their verbal defense dissertation.

**Stony Brook Council at 401 Park Ave:** Pegine Walrad

-A 3% increase in professor salaries was discussed.

-A 4.5-5.0% cut in the total budget of SBU along with a hiring freeze is in the future.....

**Senator Appreciation awards:** Tanya Smith

The following senators received certificates in recognition of the large contributions they have made to graduate life and SBU:

Regina Alandy, Angeliki Field-Pollatou

Scott Graves, Ben Hirsch, Mustafa Siddiq

Jasmina also thanked the budget committee and lounge committee members.

Pegine thanked the News and Blues staff.

Masa thanked the housing committee.

**Standing Committee Bylaws:** (hand out) passed unanimously.

**Budget Items:**

**speaker series:**

1. *guilt: the culture of manipulation* organized by the English department. Abstract deadline is 12/21/01. The conference is 2/22/02. Stephanie Williams (sen. English Dept) requested \$1000. It will be a 2 day conference with 3 person panels, and keynote speaker Paul Openheimer. The speaker will require between \$550-\$750. There will be a brochure and advertising.

The budget committee recommended \$1000.

Approved unanimously by the senate.

2. Theresa Rebeck, a playwright and screen-writer will be coming on 2/6/02 from noon-2pm to discuss her work and hold a writing workshop. Ellada Evangelou (sen theatre arts dept) presented the request for \$350 to cover the speaker's fee and publicity expenses.

The budget committee recommended \$350.

Approved unanimously by the senate.

**Cultural and Social Events:**

1. *Confluence* Requested by the IGSA. \$3500 for artists (musicians). They will put their club allocation of \$250 towards this event and will request no further funding for the academic year. Jasmina will assist the IGSA in finding additional funding.

The budget committee recommended \$2000, due to budgetary constraints.

Ellada Evangelou suggested using \$1000 from the speaker series line to make it \$3000.

Approved by the senate. (13 yeas, 2 nays, 2 abstained)

2. *Christmas Party* Organized by the SBCSSA. To be held either at the Spot or below it in the Fannie Brice Theatre. Designed to give students staying on campus for the holidays a chance to unwind following exams and celebrate Christmas. Requested \$400 for dancing, music, drinks.

The budget committee recommended \$400.

Approved unanimously by the senate.

3. *Spring Fest Celebration of Chinese New Year's*. Annual event, previously sponsored by the GSO. Planned for 2/16/02. Request of \$2000 by SBCSSA. (Club will use \$250 allocation towards this event. No other events planned for the year.  
\$1400 for a singer, line dancers, dragon dancers, tai chi performers  
\$340 for a DJ  
The budget committee recommended \$1250, due to budgetary constraints.  
The senate approved \$1740. (14 yeas, 1 nay, 2 abstained)

4. *Korean New Year* Organized by the KGSA for 2/9/02. Annual event sponsored previously by the GSO. Requested \$650. (Club allocation used towards a previous event.)  
No other events are planned.  
The budget committee recommended \$650.  
Approved unanimously by the senate.