

April 15th Senate Meeting Minutes

The Senate meeting starts at 5:45 PM with 15 senators and all the executive members present in the meeting.

The agenda for the senate meeting is unanimously approved after the addition of Social Concerns Committee report in the Committee reports.

Welcome Remarks by Susan Di Monda, Director of Campus Recreation:

Susan informs the senate that many universities have recreation facilities unlike us sharing the facility with Athletics department. She informs that they are getting closer for the approval from the state to build a new facility and if everything goes well it will be up by 2005. She adds that for the graduate students to use the facility they can go for a mandatory \$75 per semester fee for the next 30 years through a referendum or leave it as optional in which case students may have to pay more to use the facility. The fee will be charged only after the doors are opened. She gives a small presentation on the architecture of the facility.

Committee Reports:

Budget Committee Report: Treasurer, Rong Su requests the senators to go through the budget document and feel free to ask any questions they have.

Funding proposal by Campus life awards: The Recommendation from the budget committee is not to fund this event for the reason that they submitted the proposal late. They also gave the application forms for the awards after the deadline to submit them passed. Masa moves a motion not to fund the event and it passes unanimously.

Senators raise questions about the proposed increase in the FSA administration fee by \$9,600 for the next fiscal year. C&D agent Ron Willa answers the questions that there is a far difference between the amount of the services they provide and what they charge.

Proposal to put the increase in student activity fee from the present \$20.50 to \$22 per semester for full time graduate students and from the present \$6.25 to \$7 per semester for part time graduate students to a referendum is taken up for the discussion. Maria Squire moves a motion not to put the referendum on the ballot. No unanimous consent on this motion. Masa moves a motion to end the discussion and it passes unanimously. The voting on the motion by Maria is taken up and it fails by oppose 4, favor 12 and abstain 1.

Motion to put the referendum to increase the student activity fee on the ballot is made by a senator and the senate takes it for discussion. Various view like putting a paragraph explaining what the student activity fee is used for, a paragraph explaining the possible outcome of not increasing the activity fee are expressed by senators. A friendly amendment to have a paragraph explaining the possible outcome of not increasing the student activity fee is not accepted by the senator who made the motion. Motion to end the discussion is made by Masa and it passes unanimously. Voting on the earlier motion is taken up and it fails by oppose 7, favor 4 and abstain 5.

Maria Squire, Mike Mc Curdy and Tarah Dame volunteer to be in the committee to work on the wording of the activity fee referendum to be put on the ballot and submit it to the senate before the end the meeting.

Quorum exits in the meeting.

Rules and Constitution Committee Report: Chair of RCC, Prasanna informs the senators that they can vote on the amendments in the constitution by filling out a hard copy of the ballot or by an email to Secretary, Venkat or by leaving the ballot in the GSO office.

Elections Committee Report: Secretary, Venkat informs the senate about the nominations received for the GSO executive council elections for the year 2004 - 2005. He also informs that two nominations are submitted late and requests the senate council to take a decision whether to accept the late submitted nominations or not. The senate unanimously agrees to accept the late nominations.

The nominations are

President : 1.Prasanna Kumar Thoguluva Santharam

Vice - President: 1.Monicca Shanthanelson
2. Jay Goyal

Secretary : 1.Satprem Reddy Pamudurthy

Treasurer : 1.Rong Su
2. Andrei Antonenko

Jay Goyal withdraws his nomination for the Vice President position and all the other candidates introduce themselves to the senate council.

The meeting adjourns at 8:00PM as the meeting loses its quorum.