GSO Assembly Meeting
December 7th, 2012
Meetings Minutes

5:17pm Meeting convened

Vice President Report
- Thanks to community service over 300 hours
- Future plans for fundraising for Sandy will be posted on LISTSERV
As a part of Sandy relief, GSO will accept donation and hold a book drive for NYC libraries.
-3 positions are open for Community Service Committee.

Treasurer Report
- Treasurer indicated total debt has been paid off.
- As December 1st, the GSO had spent $31,746 out of its $96,400 budget.
- General finances seemed good, on track to stay on budget.
- Information was given about links to budget request on GSO website.

Grants Chair Report
- $4,800 was awarded for the Spring semester.
- Approximately $4,000 will likely be awarded for the spring semester.
- The deadline for the spring semester is January 30.
- GSO office will be open for Fridays next semester.

University Counsel Representative
- University Counsel meeting discussed farewell to UAlbany President Phillip.
- UC approved the solvency of the GSO.
- Thanks to community events, particularly Project Sandy.

Constitutional Committee Report
- Reports will be posted online on following Monday.
- Committee had one meeting so far and established its own rules. The Committee focused on how to approach greater problems as some clauses are contradictory or controversial.
- Bylaws require more specific guidelines and procedures and must include all financial guidelines including major committee roles.
- The majority agreed with the approach to Bylaws by far and Gary will report to the Committee.
- More than two signatories for financial documents and the 3rd signatory will rotate depending on expenses.
- If motion is not time sensitive, the Committee will move the agenda one week in advance. A question is raised as to why the requirement of more than two signatories is accountable when it might cause a delay. Depending on the type of document, the Committee will accept the recommendation on how to increase accountability in the future and it will be codified in the constitutional Bylaw.
- There has not been Judicial Review or Judicial Board. Email will be distributed to ask if anyone is interested in serving Judicial Board.
- When Bylaw was discussed in the Committee, there was no specific stipulation yet. For issues that are not time sensitive, a week and a half will allow enough to provide feedback.
- The Committee planned to complete Constitution by mid-February.
- The Committee representative was concerned that GSO reports should be posted a week before the GSO meeting so that he can make it to the Assembly Bylaws. He suggested to make reports available in advance as a way to increase transparency and communication. He preferred the format similar to the GSO President's reports.

**Discussion regarding a ban on smoking**
- Debates over no action or designated area smoking: Some argued why should the university take actions while the government do not have regulations yet. Even if there is a designated smoking areas, students in nearby building would suffer second-hand smoking through windows. There has been a lack of responsibilities of agencies and a lack of comprehensive policies that can help educate quitting smoking. In conclusion, no further action will be required due to the difficulty in enforcing a new policy if taken.

**New GSO office location**
- Next year, the GSO office will temporarily move for three years due to the construction in Campus Center. The new location was voted for the 3rd floor against Terrace Lounge.

**Senate Meeting**
- The Senate voted in favor of the new department, the Department of Art and Art History.
- School of Public Health is in the process of developing a new global health certificate.
- Governing Council is currently making changes to Bylaws.
- The Senate will open new Committees and it will be announced later.
- The University plans to implement a new writing requirement for first year undergraduate students. They aim to have no more than 25 students per class and hire 14 lecturers in the English Department. This might have an impact on Teaching Assistants, but it has not been finalized yet.

**Other discussion points**
- Some issues were raised by assembly members about reports not being posted online on time.
- E-board members indicated they would start putting reports a week before the assembly meeting.
- One assembly member had a discussion with the treasurer about budget information being available in particular file type.
- Treasurer insisted that files were provided online in common format, easily available for those interested to see.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:38pm**