Assembly Speaker, Dylan Card called meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

April’s Assembly meeting was very vibrant, it was visited by the President of UAlbany Havidan Rodriguez, Vice President for student affairs Michael Christakis, Provost and senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Edelgard Wulfert and Dean of Graduate Studies Kevin Williams. President has spoken about various initiatives in the University and also they have interacted with the students on various topics such as Grants, Fundings and Fees.

There was a motion to Approve February and March Meetings minutes. It was approved unanimously.

New Business:

Plastic Straw Resolution

The issues of plastic has been discussed broadly and the initial measures we can start from our University to control the plastic usage has been discussed. As a part of that, replacement plastic straw usage by alternate wooden and paper straws were discussed.

It is resolved that the Graduate Student Association calls upon the University at Albany officials phase out plastic straws in all facilities by the fall semester 2019, and replacing such items with paper or other alternative straws available upon request to students, faculty, staff, or visitors. In rolling out this effort there is maintained coordination with the Disability Resource Center.

There was a motion to approve the resolution.

Voting : Yes-17 , No- 0, Abstained-1

Motion was approved.

Fair Trade Resolution

It has been said that most of the products we use day by day are bought from places where workers are paid less than a living wage and force child labor may be involved. Having said that, Fair trade ensures fair wages and environmental sustainability and prohibition of forced labor. Also by becoming a Fair Trade College/University, The University at Albany will demonstrate a commitment to sustainability, more effectively educate the campus community about Fair Trade, inspire other institutions and organizations to support Fair Trade, and enhance our image as a leader in sustainability and social justice issues.
It is resolved that University at Albany should dedicate itself to be a Fair Trade College/University, by strictly following fair trade methods in the categories such as Dining Facilities, Catered Events, Offices, Education and many more.

There was a motion to approve the resolution.

Voting: Yes-19 No-0 Abstained-1 – Resolution passes.

GSO member speakers President of GSA (Amani Edwards), Vice president of GSA (Winston Heslop), Treasurer (Onur Bugdayci), Equity Inclusion Chair (Wenqian Wang), Programming Chair (Jeremy Berman), Grant Chair (Lizzie O’Rourke), Lead Senator (Kaylynn Enright) spoke their respective reports in the meeting.

- Dylan started the meeting asking for the approval of the agenda.

Officer’s Report:

- Amani Edwards (President):

  Liaising:

  Attendance at the President’s Council on Diversity and the Conversations for Change committee
  Spoke with Dr. Christakis about how Student Affairs can better service graduate students
  Working with Dean Williams on a grad student handbook to address issues of diversity and inclusion

  Oversight:

  Approved PR’s and made sure all bills were up to date and paid for in coordination with the Treasurer
  Spoke with vendors and suppliers regarding invoices; everything should be updated
  Looking to get the Health Sciences campus a new printer
  She said that the biggest push is making sure that the fee is approved for next year to continue to offer services to the students.

- Onur Bugdayci (Treasurer): He said there is nothing unusual occurred in this month except having over due payments from Office Depots for GSA printing room and office invoices. paid bills, reconciled the ledger and responded to questions.

Meetings
Held office hours and answered questions on financial issues and general GSA topics.
Helped RGSO treasurer to solve their problems and gain access to their funds.

Financial Activity

- Reconciled ledger to my involvement report
- Reviewed all the payrolls and received the payroll records from UAS.
- Approved that Eboard budget lines are up to date.
- I have made necessary money transfer between the budget lines and GSA income.
- Motion to approve the treasurer report. Motion seconded.
  - Vote: 16 – Yes, 0 – No, 3 – Abstain

- Winston Heslop (Vice President): He said Graduate Student Life at the University at Albany has been growing and changing in meaningful ways this month. Overall there has been an uptick in event funding request and reimbursements. On the University side there have been many policy resolutions that have been voted on that could change campus in small but meaningful ways.
- Wenquian Wang (Equity & Inclusion Chair): She said she is waiting for SUNY SA meeting.

Oversight

- Make sure all e-board members have information of EI events and attend EI event.
- Also, all RGSOs do not forget to hold your own EI event.
  - need to be approved.

- Jeremy Berman (Programming Chair): He spoke about the GSA End of the Year Event and the GSA Award Ceremony.

Meeting(s):

- The main meeting was with my programming committee to reserve and plan the GSA Game Night event as well as meetings with the RISE organization committee.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:40 pm.