The meeting began at 5:02pm and started with RGSO attendance. The agenda then proceeded.

1. Approval of the February 2021 meeting minutes

Discussion on this motion included:
- It was raised that a question asked at the February meeting was missing from the meeting minutes. The question was asked to the treasurer about what would happen to the likely large amount of money that may not get spent this year. The question and corresponding answer has now been included in the February meeting minutes, which is on the GSA website.

Vote results:

Yes: 17  No: 0  Abstain: 2

Therefore, the motion on the approval of the February 2021 meeting minutes has passed.

2. The Assembly Speaker then asked if anyone wanted to add anything to the agenda, likely for a Public Comment Section. There were four items raised for a Public Comment to be addressed at the end of the meeting:

1. Issues with the current Programming Chair/possible impeachment
2. General issues of certain E-board members not fulfilling their duties
3. GSA Assembly Meeting announcements
4. Emails from the University regarding COVID-19 surveillance testing

3. Confirmation of the Elections Committee

Discussion on this motion included:
- The Assembly Speaker first emphasized that being on the Elections Committee is not a huge time commitment and is necessary for a fair and proper GSA Elections to take place
- Three Assembly members volunteered for the committee: Emily Petersen, Zhaoxiangrui He, and Sarah Crosky
- No one had any specific questions or comments for those that volunteered for the committee

Vote results for the confirmation of the Elections Committee:

Yes: 16  No: 0  Abstain: 1

Therefore, the motion on the approval of the confirmation of the Elections Committee has passed.

4. Confirmation of the revisions to the GSA Constitution
The GSA President led the discussion on with along with input from other members that were on the committee to work on revisions. The main highlights were discussed, but Assembly members can see all tracked changes. Discussion on this motion included:

- There were a few items that were edited live during the Assembly Meeting, which include:
  - Article 3 Section 2: “any other basis” changed to “any other factor unrelated to merit or qualifications”
  - Article 8 Section 1: added in language to make it abundantly clear that no J-board member shall also serve on the E-board
- Other items:
  - A question asked about Article 9 Section 1 about special elections and how it seems vague. This will be clarified in the revised Bylaws
  - It also seems unclear about methods to follow if the Assembly Speaker leaves the position if unable to make a meeting for an emergency reason. Language will be added in to clarify this.

The revised Constitution went to a vote, pending the committee revises the Assembly Speaker clarification when they meet next.

Vote results for the confirmation of the revisions to the GSA Constitution:

Yes: 14  No: 0  Abstain: 1

Therefore, the motion on the approval to the revisions of the GSA Constitution has passed.

5. Officer Reports

Discussion included each officer briefly highlighting a few items from their reports. Some discussion specifics include:

- COVID-19 surveillance emails: the GSA President reached out the lead of the COVID-19 Risk Management team and did not get an adequate response concerning surveillance testing procedures for graduate students. She will go to the Provost directly to discuss this.
- The mental health videos will be sent on the GSA listserv soon
- A new office manager has been hired than will go to campus in 3-hour blocks (uptown, downtown, and east) to allow students to print
- There will be a PR training next week for any RGSO that still needs it
- Since the grant deadline was March 1, but the University has extended the fee deadline to March 15 and there is a campaign by GSEU to withhold paying fees until the last day possible, many who have submitted a GSA grant have not paid the GSA fee, which is a requirement for applying/receiving a GSA grant. The Grants Chair suggested that this is fine, but students will need to submit proof of payment of the GSA fee prior to the disbursement of GSA grant funds. Any Assembly member that voiced an opinion agreed that this sounds reasonable. This will be the procedure followed by the Grants Chair.
- The University Council met the day of the Assembly meeting. The main update related to graduate students is that there is a consideration to raise tuition – this would need to be
approved by the SUNY Board of Trustees and an estimate right now would be a $200 increase. It was determined that GSA should find out more information about this.

- At the University Senate meeting, the fees issue was brought up and the Senate would like an official stance on this. The Wages and Benefits Committee was hoping to draft a resolution about fees given it is similar to a pay-to-work policy, which is illegal. Given the next Senate Meeting is March 24, the GSA cannot wait until April to vote on a resolution. Therefore, a special Assembly Meeting will be held on March 19 from 5pm-5:30pm.

6. Approval of the Treasurer Report:

Discussion on this motion included:

- The official contract with UAS has been signed that they are GSA’s fiscal agent
- Seems strange that less than half of the expected income is in so far. Despite the fee deadline being extended and the GSEU campaign, we should still have close to half of the expected income since we are more than halfway through the academic year. The Treasurer will work with UAS to find out why.
- The question was raised about why discretionary budgets were high. It was stated that the President’s budget is sort of a fund for unexpected expenses and will likely be used to pay for the GSA lawyer. The VP fund is for if an RGSO wants more funding and can make a proper case. The EI and Programming budget were left high since we were trying to be optimistic in the Fall that maybe COVID conditions would improve and a return to more normal conditions of in-person programming could take place.
- Total remaining balance was clarified – the amount of money in GSA’s bank account with UAS

Vote results:

Yes: 14  No: 0  Abstain: 0

Therefore, the motion on the approval of the Treasurer’s report has passed.

At this point, the formal agenda was finished and the Public Comment Section began.

7. GSA Assembly Meeting Announcements

- It was raised that GSA Assembly Meeting information should be sent to all graduate students so that they can attend and also ask questions/raise issues
- The Assembly Speaker agreed this is fine for an in-person setting, but changes will need to be made to procedures in a virtual environment to make sure only representatives are voting in Zoom polls. The Assembly Speaker will think of a way to comply with this.

8. University Emails about Surveillance Testing

- There is still general frustration over communication about surveillance testing. However, from the President’s officer report, there is a plan in place to hopefully alleviate this soon.

9. Issues with Programming Chair/General Concern of E-board Members Not Fulfilling Duties
• There is a general concern that E-board members are not performing the duties of their role, submitting officer reports, and/or attending Assembly meetings.
• This concern is mainly about the Programming Chair since there has yet to be a programming event, often times an officer report is missing, and the Programming Chair is rarely at the Assembly Meetings.
• It was raised that the Programming Chair should be impeached
• It was also raised that perhaps the Programming Chair should be spoken to about this first in attempt to have a softer approach given we are still in global pandemic
• After hearing this, the Assembly Speaker summarized stating that the E-board as a group or a single E-board member should speak with the Programming Chair about the Assembly concerns, which should either trigger a resignation from the position or a call-to-action to perform all duties of the Programming Chair position. If neither of those things occur and a status-quo situation persists, then impeachment can be the path forward.
• It was decided the GSA President will speak with the Programming Chair

The meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.