Minutes
Graduate Student Senate Meeting

Date: Thursday, February 14, 2019
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Location: Clemson University Student Senate Chambers
Attendees: Senators and general public

1. Call to Order—Cody A. Woods, President of the Senate
   a. Meeting begins at 8:05 pm

2. Call of the Roll

3. Approval of Previous Minutes – Tabled because we don’t have quorum

4. President’s Report—Bryce Conti, Graduate Student Body President
   a. Great work on committee work and thanks for working hard on Discord. If you mention my name, please @ me so I can be tagged in the message and get notified
   b. Committee chairs, please invite me to your meetings so that I know when they’re going on.
   c. To the committees: feel free to take the reins and go do what you want to do. I have ideas, but I want you to do what you want to.
   d. I’m moving forward with restructuring
   e. It’s almost time for elections so please reach out to Cody and me
   f. Senator Pham: is there a way on the GSG structure spreadsheet to add which seats have voting power?
      • Not many of these seats have voting power, but being at the table and having that face-to-face time is just as important

5. Executive Reports
   a. Chief of Staff, Chris Egan
      • Those student affairs committees typically don’t have voting power in general and being at the table can be very important
      • If you’re on a campus-wide committee, you should also sit on a related committee within GSG so that you can report the goings on to someone in GSG.
      • GSG achievement awards are coming up and will need to form a small committee to review nominations and manage the award system. We’ll send out information on the committee and the award descriptions shortly.
      • We’ve worked on our legal aid program and have that up and running now.
      • Senator Pham: If a person sits on the SAAB which GSG committee should they sit on?
         • That’s separate from GSG and not every student who sits on the SAAB should be a senator.
         • What is the legal aid program? Who do I reach out to get in touch?
            • It’s a program where Clemson will cover much of the cost of a 30-minute session with a lawyer for you to get advice on legal matters. Please contact Chris if you need this program. All you need to do is submit a small form with your contact information and he’ll forward you the list of lawyers that will accept the Clemson voucher.
   b. Deputy Chief of Staff, Katie Juriewicz
   c. Director of Communications, Gray Lee
      • Send announcements to Gray to get included on the weekly GSG email
Community Outreach, Courtney Allen

- Tuesday, February 12 – Homework Help from 3 – 5 pm at the Little John Community Center (644 Old Greenville Hwy, Clemson, SC 29631).
  - Contact: Ms. A
- Wednesday, February 13 – Homework Help from 3 – 5 pm at the Little John Community Center (644 Old Greenville Hwy, Clemson, SC 29631).
  - Contact: Ms. A
- Thursday, February 14 – Valentine’s Party at 2 pm at the Clemson Down-Senior Living Center (500 Downs Loop, Clemson, SC 29631). Contact: Ms. Kathy
- We’re trying to create some individual community service events for those of you who can’t make the group events. We’ll be updating that soon.
- Due to low interest, the alternative Spring Break Trip has been cancelled. If you had signed up, you should have already been contacted by the alternative break office
  - Even though we can’t go to Memphis, I’m hoping to do a one-day service event during Spring Break for those of you who will still be around.
- Please contact Courtney Allen (callen7@clemson.edu) to sign up for these events.

Research Initiatives, Shraddhaa Narasimha and Jaime Idarraga

- GRADS is coming up in April 3rd & 4th. Be sure to sign up to participate by February 20th here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScYE1gBaB_GJ7-j71uVX4rwvRYp21NtdKHagJ4cr4wl-OypWg/viewform?usp=sf_link
  - Also encourage your colleagues to sign up.
  - Lots of ways you can participate and talk about your research.
  - We found that people are more likely to participate if they get encouragement from their peers and others they know and trust so please spread the message and encourage them to participate.
  - What kind of judges are you having again?
    - We’re trying to increase participation by providing awards for some of the events. We’ve got judges for the poster competition coming from all campus. With the Ignite talks, we’re planning on having a “fan favorite” award. For the 12-minute talks, we’re considering reaching out to Toastmasters to evaluate the speeches for ums, pauses, likes, etc.
    - The deadline is Feb. 20th?
      - Due to low participation rate so far, we will most likely extend the deadline to March 5th.
    - How far away are we from previous years?
      - Two years ago, we had about 100, last year we were around 120, and the goal for this year is to reach 170.
      - We’re also going to be turning all the posters into PDFs and then publishing the posters into Tiger Prints so you’ll be able to claim that on your CV.
    - Senator Blood: If we don’t want our poster to be published, can I retract it?
      - Yes.

Director of Finance, Amir Malek

- Minutes will be posted to the website and are located here: https://gsg.people.clemson.edu/resources.php?
- If you have questions or problems with the GSG website, please email Courtney at clinder@g.clemson.edu and she’ll gladly work with you.
- If you don’t see yourself on the Legislative tab (https://gsg.people.clemson.edu/legislative.php) send Courtney an email
6. Vice President’s Report - Cody A. Woods, President of the Senate

   a. I’m overwhelmed with emails
   b. Bryce said this and I’m going to restate this as well. You have the power to make change just keep me posted because I don’t want to be blindsided.
   c. If you have a meeting with a university member as a GSG senator, please remember that when you have that meeting, you are representing the entire student body, especially GSG. Please don’t take your personal problems to these meetings.
   d. You don’t have to pass bills if you don’t like them. It’s ok.
   e. Committees – I’d like to have the committee chairs contact me so that the message is condensed in a single email instead of dozens from each individual member
   f. We will not be meeting on April 4th. Maybe you can use this extra time to meet with your committees?

7. Steering Reports

   a. GTG Committee, Stephanie Schenck, Awards Chair and John Sherwood, Applicant Reviewer Chair

      • We’ve sent out a feedback survey to everyone who applied in Fall 2018 and Spring 2019. We’re still collecting results. Outside of a few pointed complaints, the general trend is positive feedback for the GTG system. We’ll be working on addressing the complaints through email (as in Fall 2018) and potential drop-in complaint sessions in the next week or two.
      • We found out that one person misrepresented themselves on their application. We’re in an on-going dispute to resolve that issue. You all should know that if you say you are going to present, then we need proof of presentation. If you don’t have evidence of at least applying to present and getting rejected, we will find out and will not award you the money.
      • We implemented a reviewer feedback box in applications to provide constructive feedback to help them grow. We found out an instance of extremely negative and aggressive feedback and that student has been banned from the system.
      • Long story short, we monitor things and take GTGs seriously. If you behave poorly, you will suffer consequences.
      • I’m not going to be in this role next year. I need to write my dissertation and teach a class. If you are at all interested in joining the graduate travel committee, please join sooner rather than later. It’s important for continuity and to make sure that details don’t get lost in the transition.
      • Please tell your departments about these updates. It’s important that you communicate what we report here so that your constituents know what kind of changes are happening with the GTGs.

   b. Activities Committee, Sruthy Orozhyyathumana Agnisarman

      • Thursday, February 21 - Underground Recreation Center rented out from 6 – 9 pm for FREE, unlimited, and exclusive access to all activities and equipment in the recreation center (including bowling lanes, table tennis and billiards equipment and arcade games). The game, equipment, and shoe fees are included in that price.
      • Friday, March 8 – Wine and Paint at Uptown Art, Clemson, at 7:00pm. Register at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScMp7801ZFExuN02tXV2uciRLnFza_TsERLTVPfMAQjr9sw/viewform?usp=sf_link (no walk-ins, you need to register to attend. They can accommodate only 20 people).
      • Saturday, April 6 – White water rafting. More details to follow.
      • Friday, April 26 – End of the year party at Palmetto’s Event Center and Catering. More details to follow.
      • Please Sruthy is working on the events for the semester. If you have ideas or suggestions, please contact her at sorozhi@clemson.edu

   c. Finance Committee, Anastasia Frank-Kamenetskii
• Next funding meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 5th at 8 pm in Student Union. Funding
• I have some issues with TigerQuest because some student organizations have still not been recognized. This is a major issue because I can’t fund organizations that aren’t recognized. I am working to deal with this problem and plan on having everything resolved by the next senate meeting.
• If you have suggestions on how to address this issue and get new student organizations recognized, please help me.

d. Rules and Procedures Committee, John Porter III
  • Collaboration sheet is live on the GSG website and can be found on the main GSG webpage in the “Senate Updates” box
    • This is for bill ideas or to seek help to build out bills
  • Legislation that is up for debate is also located there
    • This is for commentary on bills that have been reviewed and ok’d by the Rules and Procedures Committee.
  • We have set it that only students with Clemson emails can sign in. This is done by design so please use your Clemson credentials.
  • We have a new email address! Email is gsgrules@g.clemson.edu (yes, GSG does rule 😝)
    • All questions regarding bills or rules should be sent here.
  • Please email any bills to the email address

8. Old Business

9. New Business
  a. GB 339 - A Bill to Approve Allocation of Funds – Tabled because of a lack of quorum
  b. GR 87 - A Resolution to Establish Special Committees – Tabled because of a lack of quorum

10. Other Announcements and Open Remarks
  a. Senator Antonio: Let’s get the sustainability taskforce back into play. Please come talk to me about getting involved. There are monthly meetings and anyone is welcome.
  b. Senator Schenck: Hey everyone! I’m organizing a group from Clemson to participate in humanitarian visits with the men at Stewart immigrant Detention Center through an organization called El Refugio. We are heading down Wednesday, March 6 and it is an all-day event. Please let me know if you are interested, as I have to turn in the final list two weeks in advance to get approval from the detention center. Check out the organization here: https://www.elrefugiostewart.org/
  c. Senator McTernan: The Clemson Biological Sciences Annual Student Symposium is coming up. It will be held on Saturday April 6th from 10 am – 4 pm. This is a symposium for all Life-Sciences related student research. Deadline to register is March 15th and all are welcome to attend. There will be a poster session in the morning (10 – 12) and then lightning talks (12:30 – 3:20). An award ceremony will follow from 3:30 – 4. For all the information, go to https://gocbass.weebly.com/
  d. Senator Samons: Let’s Talk About It Session hosted by GSG: March 8th and March 11th at McKissick Theater: There will be a screening of Race—The Power of an Illusion. We hope to livestream the post-film conversations and will also try to field online questions. Currently, we have the theater booked, food will be provided and funded by the Diversity, Inclusion and Equity department based on the verbal agreement with Moryah Jackson, and the film rights. 4-6:00 pm.
  e. Senator Colon-Reyes: There’s an off-campus student weight lifting club (Clemson Weight Club). There is a $100 membership fee, but the space is accessible 24-7 and more accessible than Fike can be. Come talk to me with questions.
  f. Senate Secretary Ehler: If you have events that you would like to share with the Graduate Student community, I WILL ADD THEM TO THE MEETING AGENDAS! Please email me at kehlert@g.clemson.edu with what you would like to include, and it will be placed in this section. During the meeting, you can give more details and answer any questions. Items received by Tuesday at 8 pm will be included
in the agenda that will be distributed on Wednesday. Other items will be included in the meeting minutes.

g. Gantt Multicultural Center Events
   • Ally Training – Mondays, February 18th, March 25th and April 22nd at Various Times in Daniel Hall 213
   • Sunday, April 7 – 26th Annual International Festival from 12:00p.m. to 4:00p.m. at Bowman Field
   • Black History Month (February 1 – February 28). Events below are only the events that will occur between Senate Meetings. For the full calendar, see https://www.clemson.edu/centers-institutes/gantt/multicultural-programs/blackhistorymonth.html
      • Saturday, February 16 – Spoken Word Performance: Kai Davis (https://www.kaidavispoetry.com) at 10:00p.m. at the Barnes Center
      • Monday, February 18 – Finding your Ancestors with Ancestry from 3 – 7 pm in Cooper Library, Brown Room
      • Monday, February 18 – More than an Athlete in the Recruiting Space, West End Zone, Memorial Stadium at 7 pm
      • Saturday, February 23 – Researching African-American Ancestry Workshop from 2:30 – 6:30 pm at the Central Clemson Public Library (Instructional Session from 2:30 – 3:30 pm)
      • Monday, February 25 – Researching African-American Ancestry Keynote: LaBrenda Garrett-Nelson at 6:30 pm in the Self Auditorium, Strom Thurmond Building
      • Tuesday, February 26 – Black History Month Keynote: David Banner (https://www.imdb.com/name/nm1755886/) at 6:00p.m. in Memorial Auditorium, Old Main (Tillman) Hall
      • Wednesday, February 27 – Global Awareness Film and Discussion Series: Mariannes Noires (https://www.mariannesnoires.com/) at 6:00 pm in McKissick Theatre, Hendrix Student Center

11. Good of the Senate
   a. Senator Blood: Next Senate meeting, February 28th, Dan Hoffman will be presenting. So he’s not blindsided, please email me concerns so that he can be prepared to address them. Email me at blblood@g.clemson.edu.
   b. Senator Colon-Reyes: with regard to the Grad Student Life Taskforce, there are some issues that we would like to address which will most likely need to go to the Deans of the Colleges with regard to student fees. I will most likely be coming to the next Senate meeting to get volunteers to talk with your respective Deans. Be prepared.
   c. Senator Sherwood: I’ve posted 5 quick bullet-points to have a successful team. I know that you must be thinking “I’m a graduate student I’ve had to do a lot of team projects” but sometimes it’s good to go back to basics.
   d. Senator Antonio: Jaime and I are trying to build a Hispanic Grad Student group. Find us on Discord to talk about joining.

12. Adjournment – Meeting adjourns at 9:16 pm