Minutes

Graduate Student Senate Meeting

Date: Thursday, December 5, 2019
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Location: Hardin Hall, Room 100
Attendees: Senators and general public

A. Call to Order— 8:02 PM
   a. Meeting begins at 8:02 PM

B. Call of the Roll

C. Special Guest – Adam Baker of Campus Life Committee, and Clemson Miracle’s, Katharine Kitzen
   - **Adam Baker**: Looking at stipends- survey to get data on what students are being paid-
   - 20% of grad students are below the poverty line. Some students are living under desks and showering in Fike. We are trying to collect this information ourselves in hopes of launching university wide survey. This is about paying people’s bills.
   - Because we are not getting specific identifiable info, we can identify some graduate students with this survey. We will not allow this info to get out to people who can get you in trouble.
   - This information will remain private. Next semester we will share anonymous results.
   - Appended survey- the full survey is 16 questions

Katherine- Clemson Miracle
   - Multiple events throughout the year- ex. Child health day back in October
   - Mama Rays fundraiser tomorrow- Ugly Sweater Contest
   - Funds go to non-medical attributes of hospitals- therapy dogs, fun decor, beds for parents
   - FTK- For the Kids AND For the Families
   - Money from last year funded a camp that kids can go to
   - Dance Marathon is March 28th
   - Text “Clemson” to 51555 for more info or go to clemsonmiracle.com to register as a group or individual
D. Executive Reports- President Miles Maynard, Vice President Kaitlyn Samons, Chief of Staff William Everroad, Pro-Tempore John Porter III

a. President, Miles Maynard

Thank you to everyone for your efforts with the first semester. We have been able to accomplish a lot and it wouldn’t be possible without everyone giving what extra time they have on top of their studies and research.

A shout out to the activities committee and all who have assisted for setting up the End of the Year Party tomorrow and it is going to be a huge success! Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Good luck on your finals next week and have a Happy Holiday season!

b. Vice President, Kaitlyn Samons

c. Pro-Tempore, John Porter III

- If you are graduating, please notify me so I know what committee spots need to be filled.

d. Chief-of-Staff, William Everroad

E. Internal Committee Reports

a. Communications, Hillary Smith

b. Graduate Travel Grants, Bridget Blood and Kathy Elhert
   1. Spring 2020 Application is CLOSED
   2. >220 emails about the application and awards process
   3. 96 applications were funded (~36%)
   4. Few students disqualified for faulty reviews
   5. Reaching out to the applicants for feedback and comments from the latest application period
   6. Working with Grad School to advocate for more money to allocate more funding
   7. 50 more applicants than last period- keep on applying!
   8. 50% of people who attended the essay help session received funding; 45% of people who attended application help session were funded
   9. New website will be up and running in August- summer applications will run as before
c. Activities, Laura Huff and Murwan Siddig
1. Thank you to everyone for a great semester! We have loved having y'all at all of our events and it has been so much fun getting to plan everything and hang out with y'all.
2. Only 2 people completed our survey about suggestions for next semester, so if anyone else has anything they would like to contribute, please email or text me (llhuff@clemson.edu, 706-424-6716). Someone in the survey did ask why we moved Trivia from Backstreets to Charleston Sports Pub this year. I just want to clarify that I was not a part of Activities last year, but evidently the management at Backstreets was very rude and derogatory towards our members so we chose to take our business elsewhere moving forward.
3. End of the Semester Party is tomorrow! This is set to be the biggest GSG event (at least in recent history) and is definitely the biggest one this year. 380 people registered to attend, and we are looking forward to a great night! We have a bus picking up almost 50 students from Greenville! I sent out an email to all attendees with details, but let me know if you did not get it or need it sent again!
4. Activities will resume in January. We have reviewed our successes and shortcomings this semester and look forward to offering highly desirable events this spring!

d. Rules and Procedures, Grant Allard
- Working on combined bylaws- bill will be presented at the next meeting on January 9th
- Non-compliance with the Supreme Constitution where we can effect and represent our peers- must make change that fixes this

e. Research Initiatives, Apurva Patel and Erik Antonio
- Sightlines Sustainability Report: December 10th, 2:00 PM in Freeman Auditorium
Come if you are interested in seeing how Clemson ranks in sustainability compared to peer institutions or sustainability generally!

f. Finance, Amir Malek

F. External Committee Reports

a. University Services, Miles Maynard
   - Book drive for end of this semester was unsuccessful. Library needed more time to set things up and prep for the event.
   - End of the semester Spring Book drive is going to happen. With more time to plan and promote it will help GSG and the library logistically.
   - If you have any student services that are not featured on the GSG website tab please send them to mcmayna@g.clemson.edu

b. Diversity and Inclusion, Emmanuel Adjei
   - Study abroad opportunity in Havana, Cuba during mid-May. The program cost and logistics could be found at: https://terradotta.app.clemson.edu/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgramAngular&id=12332.
   - The total cost for a graduate student is $3632.
   - Contact Jared Green at jaredg@clemson.edu for additional information.
   - Bradon Rodriguez is actively seeking graduate students to join the LGBTQ+ association. You can reach him at bjrodri@g.clemson.edu

c. Graduate Academic Affairs, Robert O’Hara

d. Health and Human Services, Rose Sommers

e. Graduate Campus Life, Emily Knight

f. Parking and Facilities, Qianyi Gao

G. Old Business

- Investigative Committee Resolution and Final Report
  - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1RgQv8Geunni1gbhrwLWVahzKfJbK-CpZCyRGbfPlyKQ/edit?usp=sharing
  - Spent at least 200 hours on this investigation
  - Debate
  - Moses: Was the President afforded the opportunity to speak to the committee?
  - Travis: Requested written statements from those who submitted the resolution, we followed this with a first and second interview with President Maynar. He received 2 chances to speak verbally.
  - All actions surveyed for the entire semester were considered
  - Grant Allard: today is very sad for our institution- the committee served to find if there was enough merit to impeach or remove an individual, thus we must go to trial. The recommendation is to move to a trial- not to
remove the president today. There can be no secret ballot. Move to adopt the report and then send the recommendations to send to the Rules and Procedures to fine tune.

- We are hoping to have this concluded by the end of the semester- can Rules and Procedures do this in time?

- **amendment to change to not secret ballot accepted by Chair Travis Roberts**

- **Pass: 48 Fail: 2 Abstain: 1**

- Each committee will offer up a member for the trial- does not need to be someone different from Investigative Committee

- Open floor to debate on who can serve on this committee- motion to finalize who can be on this committee

- What is the proposed timeline? Once the members are selected, the trial will take no more than an hour or two.

- Floor opened for debate:

- If each committee comes up with a person today, then we will move forward.

- There is no perfect way to do this, and we have already used 13 people and exclude 20 people in executive- move that investigative committee cannot volunteer, but can fill the position should there not be enough volunteers.

- Committee chairs are not excluded from sitting on the trial

- Heavily discourage executive member from sitting on the trials- focused on committee members, not leaders- order of priority: new member, investigative committee, then executive

- Move to name chair of investigative committee (Travis Roberts) will select the jury for the trial.

- The committee was selected on the notion of being unbiased- being on this committee has not changed this reality- the chair should be free to choose the former investigative committee members to serve on jury

- Trial will be held on January 8th or prior to the first Senate meeting in the Spring

- Motion to select 13 members of jury selected before the adjournment of the Senate meeting

**H. New Business**

- **G.B. # 2020-08B: A Bill to Make An Emergency Fix to the Constitution (see below)**

  Pass 52 Fail 0 Abstain 0

- **A Bill to Approve Allocation of Funds (see below)**

  Pass 47 Fail 0 Abstain 1

- **G.R. # 2020-09R A Resolution to Define Academic Bullying, and Adopt Policies to Protect Graduate Students (see below)**
- Move to add clause that committee add action to deliver this bill to specific individuals  
  Pass 51  
  Fail 0  
  Abstain 0  
- Select members for jury  
- Call for volunteers-  
- Graduate Student Life (2nd year) Jessica Jones  
- GTG (1st year) Vishal Thomas  
- Finance (1st year) Stephen Vicchio  
- Rules and Procedures (2nd year) Grant Allard*  
- Kayln Craig (2nd year) Health  
- Laura Huff (1st year) Activities  
- Hillary Smith (1st year) Communications  
- Research Initiatives- Cody H. (research initiatives)  
- Bailey Troutman (2nd year) Graduate Academic Affairs  
- Parking and Facilities Daniel M. (1st year)  
- Diversity and Inclusion Nave B. (1st year)  
- University Services- TBD  
- Kyle S. (1st year) additional member  
- Unanimous consent  
- Trial will be held Friday, December 13th, 2019 sometime in the morning or midday- partially open to public- results will be released approximately 2 hours after the trial  

I. Other Announcements and Open Remarks  
   a. Committee Sign-Ups Google Form:  
   https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdooEL4v0x8cqBxzdBCTlnau-O7O0CYmxu4tej9LFjD82bew/viewform?usp=sf_link  
   b. ALL SENATORS MUST SERVE ON AT LEAST ONE COMMITTEE  

J. Good of the Senate  
- ITSAB- rolled out student apple access- android users are not able to use this function- Apple phone users are the majority of users on campus  
- CCIT is renovating the student printing system- there will be mobil printing capabilities  
- CORE campus dining hall is getting rid of their plates- if you would like plates for yourself, committee, etc-  
- Many of the people on the GTG committee are graduating and we are in need of new leadership- we are willing to give it up if we cannot find new leadership (shadow the current leadership)  
- Graduate School has approached Research Initiatives about absorbing the committee- if there is no new leadership, we will give this up
- Continue the momentum exhibited in this trial and creation of the investigative committee with external issues and making a difference for graduate students

11. Adjournment – 9:53 PM

12. Senate Secretary Katherine Allen: 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 kallen5@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.

Date Filed:

Date Enacted:

Sponsor: Grant A. Allard

Co-Sponsors: John J. Porter

**G.B. # 2020-08B**

A Bill to Make An Emergency Fix to the Constitution

**Whereas** the Senate in Spring 2019 resolved to become a unicameral body;

**Whereas** there is an issue that came to Rules and Procedure’s attention that we are currently not in compliance with the Supreme Constitution, which gives us our mandate to make and pass bills;
**Whereas** non-compliance with the Supreme Constitution puts the organization at risk and limits our ability to pass bills because we are out-of-compliance with our charter;

**Whereas** amending Clemson Graduate Student Government’s constitution with a temporary fix by creating an executive branch;

**Therefore, be it enacted** by the Clemson University Graduate Student Senate assembled,

**That** Clemson University’s Constitution be amended to add:

**Article V – Executive Branch**

The executive branch shall consist of a president and vice president. Their duties and responsibilities shall continue to be outlined by Section 4.2.2 (President) and Section 4.2.3 (Vice President).

**Date Filed:** November 05, 2019
Date Enacted: November 07, 2019  
Sponsor: Amir Malek  
Co-Sponsors: Laura Huff, Alexander Joyce, Faraz Ashtiani, Stephen Vicchio  

G.B. ***

A Bill to Approve Allocation of Funds

Whereas, the Clemson Indian Association has submitted all paperwork required to request funding for the event titled “#1170 Navratri,”

Whereas, the Clemson Indian Association has submitted all paperwork required to request funding for the event titled “#1177 Meet and Greet,”

Whereas, the Clemson Indian Association has submitted all paperwork required to request funding for the event titled “#1184 Diwali,”

Whereas, the Clemson Indian Association has submitted all paperwork required to request funding for the event titled “#1191 India Day,”

Whereas, the Natural Resources Graduate Student Association has submitted all paperwork required to request funding for the event titled “#1205 Friendsgiving,”

Whereas, the Clemson Mappers has submitted all paperwork required to request funding for the event titled “#1107 GIS Day Mapathon competition with Texas Tech University,”

Whereas, the Food, Nutrition, and Packaging Science Graduate Student Association has submitted all paperwork required to request funding for the event titled “#1149 Food Nutrition and Packaging Science GSA Thanksgiving Potluck,”

Whereas, the American Society of Civil Engineers Geo-Institute Graduate Student Organization has submitted all paperwork required to request funding for the event titled “#1142 Annual Exhibition of ASCE Geo-Institute Graduate Students Organization,”

Whereas, the International Student Association has submitted all paperwork required to request funding for the event titled “#1114 Coffee Social,”
Therefore, be it enacted by the Clemson University Graduate Student Senate assembled,

That the following $6067 be withdrawn from funds earmarked for organizational funding and allocated to organizations in the amounts as follows:

- Clemson Indian Association
  - $1200 for food, contingent on the submission of an Excel list with names and CUIDs of attending graduate students
- Clemson Indian Association
  - $450 for food, contingent on the submission of an Excel list with names and CUIDs of attending graduate students
- Clemson Indian Association
  - $1500 for food, contingent on the submission of an Excel list with names and CUIDs of attending graduate students
- Clemson Indian Association
  - $800 for food, contingent on the submission of an Excel list with names and CUIDs of attending graduate students
- Natural Resources Graduate Student Association
  - $95 for food, contingent on the submission of an Excel list with names and CUIDs of attending graduate students
- Clemson Mappers
  - $1500 for food, contingent on the submission of an Excel list with names and CUIDs of attending graduate students
- Food, Nutrition, and Packaging Science Graduate Student Association
  - $100 for food, contingent on the submission of an Excel list with names and CUIDs of attending graduate students
- American Society of Civil Engineers Geo-Institute Graduate Student Organization
International Student Association

- $200 for food, contingent on the submission of an Excel list with names and CUIDs of attending graduate students
- $222 for food, contingent on the submission of an Excel list with names and CUIDs of attending graduate students

Date Filed: 25 November 2019
Date Enacted:
Sponsor: Calvin Norman
Co-Sponsors: Graduate Student Life Committee

G.R. # 2020-09R
A Resolution to Define Academic Bullying, and Adopt Policies to Protect Graduate Students

Purpose: To define academic bullying and call for the Graduate School to adopt policies based on this definition to protect students

Whereas, It is the responsibility of Clemson University to foster a supportive and safe environment for all students.

Whereas, It is incumbent upon Clemson University to provide means by which students that feel abused or harassed by faculty or fellow students can seek institutional assistance. While policy exists to protect students from harassment based on their gender, race, nationality, or sexual preference, no policy exists to address cases of “academic bullying”

Whereas, Many peer institutions have a definition of academic bully to protect graduate students, undergraduate students, university staff, and faculty, and this document seeks to set forth such a definition

Whereas, Academic bullying is any abusive conduct that may include verbal abuse: derogatory remarks, insults or epithets, intimidation, threats or humiliations, both verbal and physical, sabotaging a person’s work or ability to perform their work, repeated inappropriate comments regarding a student’s appearance, lifestyle, family or culture, spreading misinformation or
malicious rumors, language or behavior that frightens, humiliates, belittles or degrades, including feedback that is delivered by yelling, screaming, threats, or insults

Whereas, Purposefully excluding, isolating, or marginalizing a person from their normal work activities constitutes academic bullying

Whereas, Not crediting a student for data or results produced by them during their graduate research/work constitutes academic bullying

Whereas, Forcing students to sign additional contracts and documents between them and their principal advisor without Departmental or Collegia approval, constitutes academic bully

Whereas, A single act shall not constitute bullying, unless especially severe and egregious

Whereas, this document does not provide an exhaustive list, and any abusive conduct not covered in this document may also be considered as academic bullying,

Therefore, be it resolved, by the Graduate Student Government Senate assembled,

That, the Graduate Student Government calls for the adoption of the above definition of academic bully, and

That, the Graduate Student Government wishes to engage with the university in a manner to combat this issue