

**UNITED GOVERNMENT OF GRADUATE STUDENTS
AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT BOULDER**

ASSEMBLY MEETING AGENDA – April 16, 2014
ATLAS 229
5:00 PM

- I. 5:00 Welcome / Food**
- II. 5:00 Call to Order**
- III. 5:04 Approve 4/02 minutes**
 - 1. Change Allen from Chem to Alan from CHBE
 - 2. Dmitri – should be from CSCI
 - 3. Minutes approved
- IV. 5:06 Open Forum**
 - 1. Alan – CHBE – meeting from transportation committee. Talked about RTD changes to try and ease traffic. There may be some new bus lines through foothills. More pressing, we need more traffic from East to Main campus because more classes will start on East campus soon. Right now RTD can't do more stampede busses, so we are proposing the buff bus to do this (right now the Buff bus is through housing, not just transport so there is a proposal in the works). There may be talks of increasing fees etc. to make this work. There is also talk of a light rail from Foothills to Folsom.
 - 1. Kate – EDUC - Is this the committee that sent out a transportation survey
 - 1. No this is different. East, Main, transportation committee and city of Boulder
 - 2. Richard – ATOC – just to clarify, a light rail from foothills to folsom? Is this CU or RTDs plan?
 - 1. CU's plan.
 - 3. John – PYSC – for the temporary plan, would these be the same buff busses that already go to Williams Village>
 - 1. There are a few options from extending some of the lines, to reducing the main loop and adding an East campus loop.
- V. 5:10 CUSG Bill - Colin**
 - 1. Colin – CUSG Leg council – I think it's important we have CUSG reps at these UGGS meetings. This bill specifies that UGGS is one of the committee's CUSG representatives have to attend. We want to make sure future administrations keep in contact with UGGS. We have some co-senators but they only have one vote, and it would be great to have more communication between UGGS and CUSG
 - 1. Laura – PSYC – the officers agree this is a great idea. We'd like to formally endorse this bill
 - 2. Alan – CHBE – as long as we see the final bill
 - 3. Motion to endorse the bill approved
- VI. 5:20 Budget Review**
 - A. Major Changes - Danny Poochigian**
 - 1. The budget is proceeding as planning, which is great but the point of the budgets for the past few years was to spend our surplus. So now we cannot sustain our

expenditures and need to make some cuts. This info is on google drive if you want to see these specific numbers

1. First, we are planning to cut the office coordinator position, which is the only one who was paid hourly. Kate has taken on these duties
2. We are also cutting outreach grants entirely. Travel grants will remain untouched
 1. Outreach grants can still be awarded as part of the group grants. We are just combining them together
3. We've reduced some of the cost to the fall picnic with help from HungryBuffs
4. We're also cutting a bit from Grad student appreciation week and the round table dinner
5. Joey – EBIO – if we get higher enrollment than we expected we have some options (more UGGS water bottles, merchandise, etc.)
6. When we project we use the Spring enrollment, which was down quite a bit this year. SOFO also charges a tax for expenditures and are increasing this rate slightly
2. John – PSYC – what is the total we are trying to cut?
 1. About 20k – almost half of which is the office coordinator position
3. Xi – ENV5 – do we know how effective group grants are?
 1. Joey – EBIO – yes we do get a report from them, and we are trying to find a good way to present this back to UGGS.
 1. Laura – PSYC – they do get other sources of funding as well, but this small amount of money we contribute does help quite a bit (e.g., serving food). Also, combining group and outreach grants will make the whole process a bit more competitive.
 1. Xi – it would be nice to have a good amount of concrete accountability
 2. Megan – ATLAS – maybe we could put some of the outcome measurement into the application process
4. Chris – CSCI - Are all of the Legislative Action Days (LAD) getting cut?
 1. Laura – PSYC – it is one instead of two
5. Laura – PSYC - there are 4 NAGPS events that we have been funding. The national one is the most important where we vote for representation the following year. We think this the most important to keep, though there is some opportunity to go to the other events depending on the interest
 1. Chris – having at least 1 is important
6. Joey – EBIO - We will have another brief discussion about this on the 30th and then vote to approve this budget

B. [Fee change proposal \(draft\)](#) - Joey Hubbard

1. We also talked about this early in the year. We would like to be able to maintain our level of service to grad students.
 1. We are proposing a 1 dollar per semester increase. This would give us about 10k more. We were working at a 20k deficit, but we think we can function well without an office coordinator so we really only need to make up 10k to keep spending what we have been the past few years.
 2. We have to get this done by the beginning of September and it does not go into effect until Fall 2015. Then we would be able to bring back some

of the cuts we just talked about. So we will discuss this the 1st meeting of the fall.

3. Make sure to look at this before next meeting so we can have a tentative approval before the first meeting of the fall
2. Josh – It didn't seem like we made 10k cuts that would affect grad students as a whole
 1. The cuts we made are not going to help everyone directly. The events like NAGPS do have indirect influences on graduate students as a whole
 1. Maybe we should have a bigger discussion about where this 10k should go when we get it back
 1. Joey – EBIO - Yes we definitely will
 2. Kate – EDUC – we want to increase travel grants as well and think this is a great place to put this extra money
 3. Laura – PSYC – some of this is also to anticipate inflation for things already in the budget. We don't know when the next increase will even happen.
 4. Joey – our fee has been stable since the 90s and this fee has not been raised. This is still not even keeping up with inflation from the original feels
 5. Alan – CHBE – people have mentioned they don't mind keeping up with inflation but are interested in trying to reduce other fees.
 3. XI – ENVS – how much influence do we have with other fees?
 1. We do work a bit with CUSG, and the officers sit on some committee's, but as a whole we don't have much influence, though we do have a voice (e.g., 1 vote out of 7-10)
 4. We will return to this next week. Send us comments or questions so we can streamline our discussion next week

VII. 5:41 Constitution and By Laws Changes Review

1. We have to do a thorough review each year

A. Constitution

1. There are a lot of wording changes, and a change to Kate's position title that was approved last year
 2. Change - add apostrophe to Preamble
3. We did not take out the Office Administrator position because we could need one in the future, but for now we will leave it unfilled
4. Why is the liaison gone?
 1. We needed it when we hosted the NAGPS conference and needed full time help but now can put these duties in the other officer positions
5. We added a "special order" to help deal with some things quickly. Any proposed changes here?
 1. No
6. Xi – Grammatical changes (hyphen and comma before quote)
7. We added a fee review because we want this issue to be brought up and addressed every few years (we propose 3 years). We think this is a good idea to not end up where we are again
 1. Will – PHYS – change the word 'increase' to 'change'
 2. Richard – ATOC – is three years too long? I would suggest 2 years

3. John – PSYC – do we want to say we need to increase it by at least inflation
 1. Many people said no
8. Will – PHYS – why do the officers have a vote?
 1. Laura – PSYC – we represent ourselves being very involved.
 2. What is it about an officer's position that make them qualified to represent the amount that an entire department does?
 3. Joey – We are representing grad students as a whole through our representation as a whole. Maybe even in some ways the administration who we meet with in various committees.
 4. Kate – EDUC – what is the main concern?
 1. There is a lot of power for the officers and we don't really have an explanation. The constitution doesn't justify why the president doesn't get a vote but all the other officers do.
 5. John – PSYC - it seems the issue is that does the knowledge the officers have justify their votes
 1. Will – PHYS – I've been here for 3 years, does that mean I should have a bigger vote than newcomers
 2. Xi – ENVS – I can understand this point from an equality standpoint. Your knowledge is useful which is why we have discussions, so it does make sense that the executive who already set the agenda don't need to vote. Experience can get relayed without having to have the officers vote.
 3. Josh – APS – if the rational is party because they sit on committees, do they all sit on committee's?
 1. Yes one or more
 4. Michael – LING - Sarah and I sit on undergraduate boards as well and voice undergrad and graduate opinions.
 5. Lauren – ASEN – we elect the officers as well, so it is valid to say the officers do represent everyone
 6. Megan – ATLAS – the NAGPS system is set up like this and I think it is a good idea to follow this
 7. Kate – EDUC – it is important to think of worst-case scenarios (e.g., like a few years ago with 7 officers and 2 reps). Before we change things we need to think carefully about what could happen.

B. By Laws

1. Again, a lot of wording changes, coordinator position is suspended etc.

VIII. 6:03 Position Descriptions and Nominations:

1. Nominations stay open until the next meeting so you can email them
2. All officers go to assembly meetings and officer meetings on non-assembly weeks. They also have 1-2 hours of office hours

A. President

1. Manage assembly meetings, sit on Boulder Faculty Assembly (BFA) and a few other committees, fee advisory board, tuition aid advisory board, a student health committee, create the agenda and emails it out
2. John Lurquin nominated - Accepted

B. Executive Vice President

1. Support the president in every way possible and stand in if they are not there, a few BFA meetings, many of the office coordinator duties, help with the fall picnic and some social events, meeting with the dean of the grad school every month, specific initiatives (open access, attendance, whatever other big platform UGGS is involved in etc.), NAGPS
2. Laura Michaelson Nominated - Accepted
3. Sarah Alcorn Nominated – doesn't accept

C. Vice President of Student Affairs

1. Any issues that have to do with students in general (many individual requests, administrative situations, etc.), sit on student affairs BFA, meet with dean of students and some other small ad-hoc committees, all NAGPS things, other support for the president
2. Kate Nominated - Accepted

D. Vice President of Finance

1. Signing all allocation forms, updating and proposing budget, tabulate monthly budget, tuition advisory and fee advisory board, BFA budget and planning, some email duties about travel grants, setting up travel grant meetings
2. Dan Gustavson Nominated - Accepted

E. CUSG co-Senator

1. Michael up for reelection. Sit on 2 boards, oversee funding proposals, go to legislative council, oversee call centers and review budgets for call centers, graduate family housing meetings (not permanent yet)
2. Michael Gillis Nominated - Accepted

F. Next week (if current officer is elected for different position)

1. **Communications Chair**
2. **Social Chair**

IX. 6:17 Announcements:

1. Make sure you RSVP for the roundtable on April 29th by Friday

X. 6:18 Meeting Adjourn

UGGS REP	DEPT
Sara Cullen	ANTH
Joshua Moloney	APS
Lauren McManus	ASEN
Megan Kinney	ATLAS
Richard Bateman	ATOC
Alan Izar	CHBE
Daniel Poochigan	CLAS
Dmitry Duplyakin	CSCI
Chris Schaeffbauer	CSCI
Joey Hubbard	EBIO
Kate Allison	EDUC
Xi Wang	ENVS
Joel Correia	GEOG
Emily Rath	GRMN/GSLL
Patricia Helfenbein	HIST/ALAC
Chelsea Daggett	JMC
Evan Coles-Harris	LING

Sarah Alcorn	LING
Michael Gillis	LING
Carlos Vera	MCDB
Justin Whiteley	MCEN
Allison Vitkus	MUSM
Nicole Ridgwell	MUSM
Al Johnson	PHYS
Will Ames	PHYS
Angela Li	PSYC
Dan Gustavson	PSYC
John Lurquin	PSYC
Laura Michealson	PSYC
Brianna Chai	SLHS
Raphael Nawrotzki	SOCY