

Purdue Graduate Student Senate (PGSS)
Senate Meeting Minutes

Sixth Meeting

Wednesday, February 15th, 2023, 6:00 PM

Purdue Graduate Student Center (PGSC)

Guest Speaker from CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services)

- a. CAPS offers same day/ next day therapy appointments and walk-in hours.
 - i. Brief treatment services: 4-8 session framework typically.
 - ii. Range of weekly group therapy options.
 - iii. Drop-in Skill-based Workshops offered.
- b. Most services are offered at no cost. All therapy is free.
- c. Questions:
 - i. Most of CAPS work is at the individual level. Trying to grow group sessions.
 - ii. 4 psychiatrists on staff.
 - iii. CAPS can refer students off campus.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order**
 - a. 6:22 pm
- II. Roll Call***
 - a. Announcement of Newly Elected Senators and Alternates
- III. Approval of Minutes**
 - a. Minutes approved
- IV. Approval of the Agenda**
 - a. Agenda approved
- V. Officer Reports**
 - a. President reports that Grad School is working with students who may be affected by the earthquake in Turkey/Syria
 - b. University is working on a sustainability committee
 - i. Reach out with any concerns or questions
- VI. Committee and Team Reports**
 - a. None
- VII. Other Reports**
 - a. None
- VIII. Old Business**
 - a. **Consideration of Old Joint Legislation**
 - i. **SP23-R004/22-JR008** – *“Resolution in Support of Editable Gender – Inclusive Options Amongst Purdue Affiliated Websites”*
 - 1. PSG representative presents resolution. Editable options would be on Brightspace.
 - 2. President says this seems like a good piece of legislation.
 - 3. Parliamentarian deems legislation constitutional.
 - 4. Period of questions
 - a. Senator from Chemistry asks about what would be editable. Brightspace currently includes preferred names. The addition would be pronouns on Brightspace.

- c. Senator from ABE asks about the quote for cost in the bill. PSG Representative thinks the quote may have come from PUPD but is unsure.
 - d. Senator from MSE asks where bill originated in PSG. PSG representative thinks it was brought up by a student.
6. Period of discussion
- a. Senator from IBSC says that surveillance can also be used negatively and these recordings would be owned by police. Money may be better spent on Police escort services, for example. Recommends senators to vote against this legislation.
 - b. Senator from CS would like to echo concerns about the resolution but maintains that safety on campus is an important concern. Questions the usefulness of cameras on each of the blue light boxes.
 - c. Senator from Chemistry assumes that this bill might cover cameras to ensure safety in elevators and shares an experience where the camera was useful. Also shares an experience where other security cameras did not work.
 - d. Senator from MSE notes that the expected cost is concerning.
 - e. Senator from ASEC asks about other alternatives to updating these boxes.
 - f. Senator from AgEcon yields time to senator from IE.
 - g. Senator from IE notes that many blue light boxes are accidentally used by reading some statistics.
 - h. Senator from ECE motions to end discussion.
 - i. Second by senator from AgEcon.
 - ii. Motion carries
7. Period of voting
- a. Resolution fails
 - i. **Aye: 5, Nay: 32, Abstain: 9**
- c. **Proposed floor rules for Simultaneous Consideration; potential consideration as standing floor rules**
- i. PGSG Senate Chair notes that bills are often accompanied by resolutions. It may be more efficient to consider these that are similar, simultaneously. This would mean that the period of discussion and questions would be done at the same time for ideologically similar bills and resolutions. Motions to waive reading and voting on legislations presented together would be separate.
 1. Senator from MSE asks about voting for legislation.
 - a. Senate Chair notes that votes would be done separately, according to PGSG bylaws.
 2. Vote to use these rules for the remaining meetings of the semester (Spring 2023)
 - a. Vote carries
- d. **Consideration of New PGSG Legislation**
- i. **SP23-B002 – “Summer Food Pantry Donation Bill”**
 1. Motion to waive reading by senator from IE
 - a. Second by senator from EAPS
 - b. motion carries

2. President (author) asks for summer funding to stock the PGSC food pantry over the summer. The expected cost was quoted by a PGSC staff member.
 3. Parliamentarian notes that bill needs consent from president and treasurer to be constitutional. This has been done and is now constitutional.
 4. Period of questions
 - a. Senator from ASEC asks about the 500 dollar amount. This would cover the entire summer cost.
 - b. Senator from CS asks where campus food pantries are located and if there are resources displaying this. Chief of Staff notes that ACE campus food pantry is usually stocked by donations and there is not enough to cover the summer.
 5. Period of discussion
 - a. None
 6. Period of voting
 - a. Resolution passes
 - i. **Aye: 44, Nay: 0, Abstain: 2**
- ii. SP23-B003 – “Amendments to the Financial Code for Career Team”**
1. Motion to waive reading by senator from MSE
 - a. Second by senator from IE
 - b. Motion passes
 2. Author notes that this bill would amend the career team code.
 3. President says this bill will make things easier for career team to operate.
 4. Parliamentarian finds bill constitutional but has some suggestions to amend the bill.
 5. Period of questions:
 - a. Parliamentarian asks about the potential benefit of the title changes made in the bill. Author says the changes streamline the process of voting.
 - b. Senator from Chemistry asks if co-chairs will be paid per semester and if they will have the same workload. The payment will be for the entire year of service and the workload will be shared equally.
 - c. Parliamentarian asks if there are currently directors in these roles. There was no Fall semester director but there is currently a Spring director. These changes would take effect next year. People in these roles were elected to their positions.
 6. Period of discussion:
 - a. Chief of Staff notes that all other teams have vice chair positions. This would align the career team with the other teams. The pay for these positions is also in alignment with other teams.
 - b. Senator from Chemistry says the team was unable to have a fall career fair. Says the career team would benefit from this change. New positions would aid in more events in addition to the career fair.
 - c. Senator from ECE argues that the need for these positions is shown. The Vice Chair title would be more enticing for resumes and CVs. Senator supports the bill.

- d. Chief of Staff says that all other teams have Vice Chairs at this time.
 7. Legislation is tabled and moved to the next meeting because this bill requires amendment of the financial code of operations.
- iii. Simultaneous consideration of Legislation Package for Transitional Housing Grant**
1. **SP23-R006** – *“Resolution to Establish a Transitional Housing Grant”*
 2. **SP23-B004** – *“Funding of a Transitional Housing Grant”*
 3. **SP23-B005** – *“Amendments to the Financial Code of Operations”*
 - a. Motion to consider simultaneously, in accordance with new floor rules by the senator from Food Science.
 1. Second by Senator from IE
 2. Motion passes. These pieces of legislation will be considered together.
 - b. Motion to waive the reading on R006 by Senator from civil engineering.
 - i. Second by Senator from IE.
 - ii. Motion passes.
 - c. Motion to waive the reading of B004 by Senator from EAPS.
 - i. Second by Senator from Food Science.
 - ii. Motion passes.
 - d. Motion to waive the reading of B005 by Senator from History.
 - i. Second by Senator from Food Science.
 - ii. Motion passes.
 - e. Authors note that these pieces of legislation were inspired by a graduate student survey expressing need. Legislation aims to help with expenses related to moving and storage. This grant hopes to also be available in the summer. The grant would require some changes to the financial code. Justification for the grant comes from aiding in student success and reducing the burden to students. Maximum allocated amount is currently set to be 700 dollars. Initial funding for the grant would be \$10,000; this is similar to other current grants. Some money may also come from unused grants to support this grant over the summer. Review process would include demonstrated student need and budget and would be evaluated using current criteria.
 - f. President notes that the grant addresses a specific need and that the criteria are very clear.
 - g. Parliamentarian notes that legislation is constitutional but notes ambiguities. Reviews her comments on the documents and mentions some things that may be inconsistent.
 - h. Period of questions
 - i. Senator from ABE yields time to ABE Temporary senator who asks to clarify what pieces will be voted on. It will only be the resolution at this time. B004 and B005 will be tabled due to the financial code of operations amendment.
 - ii. Senator from IE asks about criteria of awarding funds. 8/15 points will be the base for awarding funds.

- iii. Senator from CS asks about 8/15 points- are all people who score above given funds? 8/15 points are required by the grant just to be eligible.
- i. Period of discussion
 - i. Senator from ECE motions to amend R006 to clarify the committee and to clarify the points required for eligibility. Senator also motions to amend B005 and add a grant mentioned in the list of current grants.
 1. Second by senator from food science
 2. Period of questions/discussion on motion to amend
 - a. Parliamentarian asks about the amendment that adds a mentioned grant in B005. Senator from ECE notes there is precedence.
 - b. Senator from MSE notes that senators have capacity to amend the Financial Code of Operations.
 - c. Parliamentarian notes concerns about using leftover funds from grants.
 - d. Senator from Chemistry asks about problems about moving money around from unused grants. Author does not foresee procedural concerns.
 - e. Parliamentarian discusses LRC procedure about amending the financial code of operations.
 - f. Senator from ECE mentions the rules to amend the financial code of operations. Discusses other GRAC grants.
 - g. Period of voting on motion to amend
 - i. Motion to amend carries
 - ii. Parliamentarian notes some concerns. The resolution will be the only piece voted on at this senate meeting. The bills will be tabled and moved to the next meeting because the bills require amendment of the financial code of operations.
 - iii. Senator from engineering technology mentions some grammatical errors in the document. Senate chair notes that clerical errors are fixed later.
 - iv. Discussion period ends
 - v. Vote that will be held now is *only* for the resolution.
 1. Period of voting for SP23-R006
 - a. Resolution passes
 - i. **Aye: 40, Nay: 2, Abstain: 4**
 2. Bills are tabled and moved to the next meeting because bill requires amendment of the financial code of operations. B005 will take place first. If it passes, B004 will be considered. Any

amendments to these bills requires a motion to reconsider. If a motion is made, at that time, amends could be made.

iv. SP23-R007 – “Resolution Concerning Graduate Staff Eligibility for Employee-based Car Rental Discounts”

1. Motion to waive by senator from IE
 - a. second by senator from food science
 - b. motion carries
2. Authors share purpose and reasoning for the bill.
3. President discusses that the discount is needed for graduate students who have limited budgets.
4. Parliamentarian finds legislation constitutional and has a few comments for clarification.
5. Period of questions:
 - a. Senator from CS asks about the raise in the per diem day for a rental. These prices are current.
6. Period of discussion
 - a. none
7. Period of voting
 - a. Resolution passes
 - i. **Aye: 37, Nay: 0, Abstain: 9**

e. Discussion on Starting the PGSG Accessibility Grant

- i.** Sponsors are considering this grant to be in conjunction with professional or travel grants. This grant could supplement those grants. This grant, like others, seeks to alleviate some of the burdens that students may face. This discussion will aid in creating legislation.
- ii.** Assistive technology could be obtained through this grant. The DRC will not purchase individual subscriptions to some of these aids. This grant could be used to help individuals.
- iii.** This grant would, if created, take effect next year.
- iv.** How could it be ensured that students get what they need in a timely fashion? These things will be considered as the legislation takes shape.
- v.** Could this grant work with making professors more aware of ways they can make their class materials more accessible? Sponsors note that this may be outside the scope of this grant.
- vi.** Professors may be unable to make all of their materials accessible without a student requesting it through the DRC.
- vii.** Could this grant extend to medical needs? Sponsors could consider this as it relates to professional development.
- viii.** Sponsors plan to make this a reimbursable grant beginning with 10,000 dollars in funds.
- ix.** Has the need for this kind of grant been observed in surveys? National data may be pulled to display need.

f. Consideration of Emergency Legislation

i. SP23-B006

1. Bill has already been read
2. President speaks and notes need.
3. Parliamentarian thinks the bill is important. Review is not required since it is emergency legislation.

4. Call for Sponsors
 - a. Senator from Econ
 - b. Senator from IE
 - c. Senator from ECE
 - d. Senator from EAPS
 - e. Senator from ASEC
 - f. Senator from Animal Sciences
 - g. Senator from Aviation and Transportation Technology
 - h. Senator from AgEcon
 - i. Senator from History
 - j. Senator from BPP
 - k. Senator from Chemical Engineering
5. Period of questions:
 - a. none
6. Discussion:
 - a. Senator from IE notes that a supply drive has already been held. Money will be very impactful due to the exchange rate.
 - b. Senator from Philosophy asks about clarifying the letter of support. The executive board would likely draft this letter at their discretion.
 - c. Senator from ECE motions to amend
 - i. Changes 2022 to 2023
 1. Second by senator from EAPS
 - ii. Period of discussion
 - iii. Discussion ends
 - iv. Period of voting on motion to amend
 1. Motion to amend passes
 - d. Senator from ECE says bill is important and motions to move to voting
 - i. Second by Senator from food science
 - ii. Motion carries
7. Period of voting
 - a. Resolution passes
 - i. **Aye: 42, Nay: 0, Abstain: 9**
8. Executive board will draft a letter and will discuss allocation of funds.

X. Reports of University Committees and Boards

- a. none

XI. Announcements

- a. Upcoming Career Fair Company Interest
 - i. Spring semester. Students can recommend local company representatives. Emphasis is on non-STEM companies.
- b. Parliamentarian Announcement
 - i. Asks for legislation authors to attend LRC meetings and perhaps make amendments at this meeting before the legislation is presented to the senate.

XII. Adjournment

- a. Motion by senator from MSE
- b. Second by senator from IE
- c. Adjourned at 9:10 pm