

UConn Hartford - Undergraduate Student Government (USG) Minutes
Wednesday February 13th 2019 Room 216

I. Call to Order *(President Quiles)*

- a. President Quiles calls the meeting to order at **4:37** PM. Senator Rosario So Moves. Senator Ellis Seconds.

II. Attendance *(President Quiles)*

- a. Members Present: Olgui Quiles (President), Syed Naqvi (Treasurer), Ariana Llabani (interim Chief Communications Officer), *Angelica Marie Ellis* (Senator), *Milton Rosario* (Senator), *Ariana Llabani* (Senator), *Aaliyah Campbell* (Senator), Paul A. Young (Advisor), Daniel O'Reilly (Advisor)
Denotes voting members
- b. Visitors: Sahar Amjad, Ekramud Kariban, Joleen Nevers, Erica Day, Ryan Nur, April Saynganthone, Chelsea Baidya, Irin Mathew, Hunzla Sajjad, Emily Luqo, Erica Arhin, Amanda Carducci
- c. Quorum: **4/4**

III. Approval of Prior Minutes

- a. Prior Minutes of February 6th, 2019
 - i. President Quiles suggests a motion to approve the prior minutes of February 6th, 2019. Senator Campbell So Moves. Senator Ellis Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.

IV. Old Business

- a. Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to amend prior minutes of January 17th, 2019 from **\$400** to **\$401.63**. Senator Rosario So Moves. Senator Ellis Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.

V. Public Comment *(all)*

- a. *Limited to ~2 minutes/person—this is an opportunity to introduce yourself to the group, reason for attending, and address any questions, concerns, and/or recommendations...*
 - i. Visitor Joleen Nevers works for health and wellness for UConn regional campuses and is working at the Hartford campus. She mentions that she is the one who made alcohol edu mandatory and is a certified sex educator. She states that she will be here at least **one** day of the week. She has an idea to start a Healthy Husky program with things such as aromatherapy days and motivating students to get active. President Quiles mentions that she thinks educating people on mental health at the campus is extremely important because a lot of

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college students struggle with those issues. Visitor Madison Vene also mentions that it is important to have a space where students can go to talk about health issues especially sexual health or sexual violence. Advisor Young suggests doing a health and wellness fair where multiple topics can be discussed and different guests can be brought in. Visitor Ryan Nur suggests sending out a poll asking students what kind of health and wellness things they would like to see on campus.

Visitor Brittany Diaz enters.

Advisor Young mentions body image and talking about issues that surround that topic.

VI. President Report *(President Quiles)*

- a. President Quiles discusses that she will be sending out a ListServ about the elections and a couple of applications have already come in. February **18th** through the **22nd** will be orientation days and students can start campaigning after the **22nd**.
- b. President Quiles mentions that today her and Treasurer Naqvi had their Student Fee Advisory Committee meeting today and it went well. She says that their goal is a minimum of **250** votes. The vote will be March **5th** to March **7th** during the Senator Elections. Students will have to vote on the referendum before voting for student government.
- c. President Quiles also states that cabinet meetings will be Tuesdays **11:15** to **12** and the room will be determined.
- d. President Quiles mentions that she has been meeting with clubs and it has been fairly successful. There are also a number of clubs that are starting up this semester such as Dance Club and Art Club.

VII. Financial Standing *(Treasurer Naqvi)*

- a. Budget Update
 - i. Treasurer Naqvi mentions that the remaining budget for USG is **\$17,988.92** and the remaining budget for clubs is **\$6,594.30**.

VIII. Budget Request *(Treasurer Naqvi)*

- a. President Quiles suggests a motion to allocate **\$280** to Tennis Club for **three** tennis courts in Newington. Senator Rosario So Moves. Senator Ellis Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.

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- b.** Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$600** to World Club for their event on February **28th** to buy food from Black Eyed Sally's. Senator Rosario So Moves. Senator Ellis Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.
- c.** Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$230** to MSA for their first meeting of the semester to buy pizza. Senator Rosario So Moves. Senator Ellis Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.
- d.** Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$55** to USG for candy for election tabling. Senator Campbell So Moves. Senator Ellis Seconds. Advisor Young suggests increasing the amount. Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$150** for elections tabling. Senator Rosario So Moves. Senator Ellis Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.
- e.** Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$40** to USG, **\$10** each for **four** gift cards from Bear's for Black History month event. Senator Rosario suggests raising it to **\$15**. Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to amend the motion to allocate **\$60** to USG. Senator Ellis So Moves. Senator Rosario Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.
- f.** Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$175** to Henna Club for kickoff meeting. Senator Campbell So Moves. Senator Rosario Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.
- g.** Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$400** to USG for Black History month event on February **28th**. Senator Rosario So Moves. Senator Campbell Seconds. Treasurer Naqvi mentions that the only concern is that the facilitator is an approved vendor that needs to be looked into. Motion passes **4/0/0** pending approved vendor.
- h.** Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$970** to USG for wood signage class on the February **20th**. Senator Rosario So Moves. Senator Campbell Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.

IX. Committee Reports

a. Communications Report

- i.** Chief Communications Officer Llabani mentions that advertising for Black History Month has been going well and that a large number of people are participating, which is great. Our following has also been going up since we started the interactive trivia on social media, going from **764** to **771**, which is a good amount coming as a result of the trivia this month. She says that because the event has been so successful thus far, we should try doing more interactive things on

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Instagram to increase our following such as the giveaways and scavenger hunts.

- ii. Chief Communications Officer Llabani also mentions that there was no Communications Committee meeting last week. However, there is a meeting tomorrow at **11:15** AM in room **209**. We will discuss the giveaway for this month that we could not discuss last week and also
- iii. Chief Communications Officer Llabani also mentions that her and President Quiles have a meeting with IT tomorrow for training.

b. Programming Report

- i. Senator Ellis mentions that they had a programming committee meeting today and it was very productive. They also came up with a lot of ways to improve the logistics behind planning events and having a checklist prepared.
- ii. Senator Ellis also discusses that there will be a sunglasses event in march and there will be an **80s** themed roller skating event as well. President Quiles mentions that for her event there will be an RSVP and the location will be outside of room **150** from **12-2** on Wednesday, February **20th**. There is a maximum of **40** spots open and if anyone does not show up they can get a voucher to go to the shop and finish there.

c. Advocacy Report

- i. Senator Campbell mentions that she was told her Brown Girls Brunch will have to move to another day because the Director's office is funding an opening day for the MLB and a hot dog food truck will be there. However, she decided she will not be moving the event. Advisor Young mentions that there will be a college night at the Hartford Yardgoats in April where UConn and other universities will be given free tickets and food vouchers to the event.
- ii. Senator Campbell also mentions that she attended an event at UConn Storrs where Yara Shahidi was a guest speaker. She states that Advocacy Committee wants to do something to bring awareness to transphobia.
- iii. Senator Campbell discusses the breakout rooms. She says that they will start by sending out an email to Kim Schwarz about the breakout rooms and opening up the space to students. Visitor Madison Vene mentions that we should still be mentioning this issue to Director Mark Overmeyer Velasquez when he attends our next meeting

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because the more we bring it up the more they will understand our concerns and that we are demanding them for the student body.

d. Finance Report

- i. Treasurer Naqvi mentions that the finance committee wants to make changes to the budget request form upon approval from an advisor.

X. New Business

- a. Senator Rosario mentions Programming would like to collab with GSA to do a tie dye t-shirt event and the details will be worked out soon.

XI. Final Thoughts *(all)*

- a. *Limited to ~2 minutes/person—this is an opportunity to address any questions, concerns, and/or recommendations before the formal end of the official meeting.*
 - i. Senator Campbell mentions that World Club and Advocacy Committee will be doing an anti-oppression event on February **28th**.

XII. Advisor Report

- a. Advisor O'Reilly mentions that after being at the Hartford campus for many years, he believes that USG is doing the most it has ever done especially in advocating for the students.
- b. Advisor Young states that we have given a voice to the students who feel as though the school does not hear their concerns. He also mentions to come prepared next week for the Director's attendance at our meeting to present our concerns and ideas. Advisor Young also brings up the bicentennial budget and the state of Connecticut is in the process of developing the budget for the next **two** years. Part of that budget is funding higher education like the University of Connecticut. He states that it is important to show up to the meeting to advocate for further funding higher education especially UConn. The meeting is March **7th** from **5-7:30 PM**.

XIII. Adjournment *(President Quiles)*

- a. President Quiles adjourns the meeting at **6:29 PM**.

Created by Chief Communications Officer Llabani