

# UConn Hartford - Undergraduate Student Government (USG) Minutes

Wednesday, February 27th 2019 Room 216

## I. **Call to Order** (*President Quiles*)

- a. President Quiles calls the meeting to order at **4:33 PM**. Senator Rosario So Moves. Senator Ellis Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.

## 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. Members Absent:
- c. Visitors: July Leon, Erica Day, Madison Vene, Ryan Nur, Chelsea Baidya, Irin Mathew, Fatima Boumargoud, Erica Arhin, Amanda Carducci, Sahar Amjad
- d. Quorum: **4/4**

## III. **Approval of Prior Minutes**

- a. Prior Minutes of February **13<sup>th</sup> 2019**
  - i. President Quiles suggests a motion to approve the prior minutes of February **20<sup>th</sup>, 2019**. Senator Rosario So Moves. Senator Ellis Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.

## IV. **Old Business**

- a. Treasurer Naqvi brings up the weekly budget report. He states that there is about **\$3500** for clubs for the rest of the semester. He discusses combining funding from USG and clubs. President Quiles asks how much money will remain after today's requests are passed and Treasurer Naqvi says there will be about **\$1100** left for the rest of the semester. Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to amend prior minutes of January **30<sup>th</sup>** for Ben and Jerry's event from **\$1000** to **\$1,029.25**. Senator Ellis So Moves. Senator Rosario Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.

## V. **Visit from the Director's Office**

- a. Senator Campbell thanks Director Mark for attending and thanks the office for the new space. she gives her team the opportunity to introduce themselves. Visitor July Leon mentions his "Queer, Here and Everywhere" event, Visitor Erica Day mentions that she is in charge of the Brown Girls Brunch. Senator Campbell also mentions the upcoming elections for USG. Moving forward, she brings up two major concerns the students have, one being the breakout rooms. Students are unaware of the policies and procedures of getting access to the breakout rooms. She says they would love to be part of the decision making process on what happens for students and space. Director Mark Overmyer mentions that the library is reconfiguring their space to create quite study space for students there. He also mentions that the school is maxed out with space; classroom capacity is at **90%**, the

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enrollment is up 20% this year. They are looking to lease other spaces in the building to create more classroom space. Treasurer Naqvi mentions having people card swipe in there. President Quiles mentions that even though there are people who may use the space in the wrong way, the space cannot be cut off from everyone. Visitor Ryan Nur mentions having people reserve the space online and that time is posted on the iPads outside the door. Chief Communications Officer Llabani mentions that they want him to know that this is not only an internal problem so a poll was done and **90%** of the students who voted do not know how to access the breakout rooms and that is a problem. Visitor Sahar Amjad mentions that the **4th** and **5th** floors have conference rooms that are empty so the faculty do not need breakout rooms. Treasurer Naqvi mentions that if there are breakout faculty rooms that are not being used they should be open to students. Advisor Young brings up the rooftop lounge and asks why it is not open to students when the weather is nice. Director Mark Overmyer mentions that it has not been utilized because it is fairly new and they want to figure out a way for students to access it. aaliyah also brings up parking. He also mentions that the university itself has an agreement with LAZ parking and he can only put so much pressure on the director of parking for the university. Senator Ellis mentions that it would be great if they can be put in contact with those in charge of parking and negotiations. She also says that it would be helpful if the shuttle for the flower convention just came to the Hartford Times Building instead of dropping student off at the Convention Center and then having to walk after already having dealt with the inconvenience of being relocated. Director Mark Overmyer also says he can help Senator Ellis craft a list of concerns and ideas to provide to those in charge of making decisions regarding parking. Senator Campbell also brings up Husky OneCards and how we are charged a fee. Visitor Sahar Amjad mentions that Storrs has **two** locations where students can load their Husky Cards to use to print, buy things, etc. without being charged a fee. Most students stop using their OneCard because of the fee and if there was no fee they would be using them to print. Advisor Young brings up the India-Pakistan debate and thinks it would be a great idea to educate students on what is going on.

### **VI. 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.**

### **VII. President Report** *(President Quiles)*

- a.** President Quiles mentions she only has to meet with BSU for clubs.
- b.** She will be sending out a ListServ to all the students about what clubs the campus has to offer.

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- c. Elections are coming up next week and she says all the candidates are very strong and wants every single person to stay in USG regardless of the results because their involvement is important. She passes the floor to each candidate to give them the opportunity to introduce themselves. Visitor Sahar Amjad mentions that the most important thing to her as senator is diversity and inclusion and making sure that everyone is treated fairly. She also wants to make sure that students know what USG is and that someone is advocating for them and speaking up for them. Senator Erica Day mentions that after experiencing her first meeting at USG she feels that she is perfect for the position. She is confident, understanding, and hard working, all qualities that the position demands. She is on the Advocacy Committee and has experience in how things work for USG. Visitor Ryan Nur mentions that he was to be another voice for the student body and bring up issues to those who need to hear it. He also wants to see more events on campus. Visitor Madison Vene mentions that her first semester here she leaped into everything on campus at once because she really wanted to get involved. She says that she loves the way everything in USG is structured and what USG does for the students. She says that she wants students to realize that although we are a commuter campus she wants students to feel at home.

### VIII. Financial Standing *(Treasurer Naqvi)*

- a. Budget Update
  - i. Treasurer Naqvi mentions that the club budget and USG budget will combine effective March **1st** because of low funds. It will be first come first serve. Senator Campbell mentions that the change was very sudden and she would like an extension. President Quiles agrees and says it should be effective March **8th** when the funds combine. Senator Ellis mentions that it should stay the same because by the next time there will be no money and clubs will have to be denied and that is not what we want to do.

### IX. Budget Request *(Treasurer Naqvi)*

- a. Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$600** for the Art Club for food for their meetings. Senator Ellis So Moves. Senator Rosario Seconds. Treasurer Naqvi mentions that the amount is for pizza from Blind Pig for the rest of the semester for **three** more meetings. Motion passes **4/0/0**.
- b. Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$2000** to Soccer Club for their evening meetings on Sundays. Senator Ellis So Moves. Senator Rosario Seconds. Treasurer Naqvi mentions that the Finance Committee suggests that they make the amount **\$1000**. Senator Ellis and Advisor Young mention that the Director's Office did agree at one point to help fund rental spaces so they may be able to assist. Treasurer Naqvi amends the motion to allocate **\$1000** to Soccer Club. Senator Rosario So Moves. Senator Ellis Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.

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- c. Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$200** to MSA for food for bi-weekly meetings. Senator Rosario So Moves. Senator Llabani Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.
  - d. Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$440** to World Club for supplies for Rio de Janeiro Carnival on March **7th**. Senator Rosario So Moves. Senator Campbell Seconds. Treasurer Naqvi mentions that the supplies can be used by USG as well for programming events. Treasurer Naqvi restates the motion. Senator Ellis So Moves. Senator Rosario Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.
  - e. Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$85** to UHarts for cards for the Connecticut Children's Medical Center. Senator Ellis So Moves. Senator Rosario Seconds. Senator Ellis mentions that she works at the hospital on Fridays and although they say they accept cards they do not give them to the kids so if UHarts would like to send blankets or stuffed animals they would accept those. Visitor Natalie Daoud mentions that they would still like to order the cards and they will use them for a different event. Treasurer Naqvi restates the motion to allocate **\$140** to UHarts. Senator Ellis So Moves. Senator Rosario Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.
  - f. Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$380** poetry and painting for Art Club on March **13th** Senator Ellis So Moves. Senator Rosario Seconds. President Quiles mentions that it is in collaboration with the Writing Center. Motion passes **4/0/0**.
  - g. Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$180** to Pre-Health Society for food for meeting on March **13th**. Senator Rosario
  - h. So Moves. Senator Llabani Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.
  - i. Treasurer Naqvi suggests a motion to allocate **\$50** to USG for stickers and pins for International Women's day on March **12th**. Senator Rosario So Moves. Senator Campbell Seconds. Motion passes **4/0/0**.
- X. Final Thoughts**
- a. Senator Campbell mentions that the Anti Oppression Workshop, Black History Month Jeopardy and Poetry Reading event is from **1-4** and tabling for the election is **11-1**.

President Quiles adjourns the meeting at **6:34 PM**.

## **XI. Committee Reports**

- a. Communications Report
  - i. Chief Communications Officer Llabani mentions that during the Communications Committee meeting last week, the group decided that to get the Instagram more engaging we would begin doing daily themes on the stories. The days are going to be Shoutout Saturday, Survival Sunday, Music Monday, Tip Tuesday, Wisdom Wednesday,

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Throwback Thursday, Funny Friday. Each member of the committee is assigned to one day and has to send their final story flyer to CCO Llabani by midnight the day before for confirmation. However, the members will be given access to the Instagram account to post on their day themselves. In addition, she mentions that it is important that everyone in USG comment, tag, like, and respond to USG posts, stories, surveys, etc. because if our members aren't interacting with the account, then our student obviously will not.

- ii. Chief Communications Officer Llabani states that she is going to figure out with President Quiles how to upload a Committee tab to the website.
- iii. Chief Communications Officer Llabani that at the meeting tomorrow we will decide who is in charge of what in communications.

**b. Programming Report**

- i. Senator Ellis
- ii. Senator Ellis
- iii. Senator Ellis

**c. Advocacy Report**

- i. Senator Campbell
- ii. Senator Campbell
- iii. Senator Campbell

**d. Finance Report**

- i. Treasurer Naqvi
- ii. Treasurer Naqvi
- iii. Treasurer Naqvi

**XII. New Business**

**a.**

**XIII. 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.

**XIV. Advisors Report**

- a.** Advisor O'Reilly
- b.** Advisor Young

**XV. Adjournment (President Quiles)**

- a.** President Quiles adjourns the meeting at

*Created by Chief Communications Officer Llabani*