

USG

Spring Meeting 1

1/23/2023

****Minutes taken by Chief of Staff Pettineo**

I. Call to Order

- 6:02 PM

II. Roll Call

- Members not present at time of roll call
 - Aminah Ahmed
 - Diya Sharma
 - Felix Giron

III. Reading and Approval of the Minutes

- Minutes approved→ no changes

IV. Reading and Approval of the Agenda

- Pres Almendras motions to remove Resolution 2023-S1-3001
 - Seconded, and favored
 - Motion passed
- Minutes approved

V. Public Comment

- No public comment, next order of business

VI. Guest Speakers

- No guest speakers, next order of business

VII. Old Business

- No old business, next order of business

VIII. New Business

- Resolution 2023-S1-5001
 - Read by Treas. Basta
 - USG GBM Catering and Room Reservations
 - Comment: Treas. Basta: \$550 per meeting/ \$13 per person is very reasonable
- Resolution 2023-S1-1001
 - Read by Pres. Almendras
 - USG 34th Ward Alderman Candidate Forum
 - Question: Chair Chaudhari: what room
 - Response: Pres. Almendras: SCE 605
 - Comment: Pres. Almendras: will be using executive order due to last minute need and expected attendance is 40-60 students
 - Question: Chair Alvarez: room fee?
 - Response: Pres. Almendras \$90 for equipment and no room fee
 - Voting- PASSED

IX. Items for Discussion

- Robert's Rules Review presented by Speaker Zhou
 - Raise hands to be called upon by Speaker
 - Every member has right to speak before others speak again
 - Motions are used to introduce business and need second and majority rule
 - Alter agenda
 - Recess or table discussion
 - Amend resolution
 - Amend a motion
 - Point of order

USG

Spring Meeting 1

1/23/2023

- Object to procedure
 - Point of information
 - Want more info on a topic
 - Point of privilege
 - Complain about room conditions
 - Division of house
 - Aren't sure of voice vote and want to verify voice vote
 - Consider something out of schedule
 - To reconsider something already moved passed
 - Discussion conduct
 - Be respectful, kind, and professional
 - Respect authority of Speaker
 - Refer to Robert's Rules sheet for anything you are confused on
- SAC Lobby Day Training presented by Rep. Slaughter
 - SAC presented about who they are last semester
 - Feb 22 is lobby day
 - Need 8-10 people to be student leaders throughout the day; training is this Friday 1/27/23
 - Train to Springfield and get to tour; Cost is reimbursed and a letter of excuse provided to professors
 - Not sure how many slots are filled
 - Sent info to Pres. Almendras to send to body
 - Email Theresa by tomorrow at 10 AM if interested
 - Message Melodie if any questions
 - Chair Alvarez: want to get reps involved as leaders, if interested in meeting legislators then great opportunity, feel free to talk after meeting
- Faculty Union strike presented by Chair Alvarez
 - Professors told students they should be caught up and some students do not think that is fair
 - Professors need a fair contract and selfless action to implement mental health resources
 - Want to hear frustrations or comments from students
 - Comments
 - Rep. Slaughter: unfair to expect students to have to understand their material when classes were not in session right from the start of the semester, unresponsive professors made it difficult to understand. Concern of raising tuition and that causing it unaffordable to go to school in order to pay professors
 - Chair Celestino: spoke at rally, understand why strike happened, there should be safeguards for students and many were forced to complete quizzes and exams during strike and should look into how that negatively impacted students. Agree with disability support and mental health resources and pay increase but students were also affected and many grades could have dropped
 - Chair Thumu: strike happened during add/drop period so students were not able to talk to professors about how to succeed in a course during the second week. A student may fail a class because they did not drop in time
 - Rep. Zafar: international students pay a large amount of tuition already. How can we protect the time we lost? Already a lot of lectures and discussions lost and grades may have dropped
 - Pres. Almendras: in touch with the union to ensure student grades are not negatively affected. Union has a lot of pull over professors so important that they are part of this discussion. Will follow up this week to make sure that professors are more lenient and understanding for that lost time of education

USG

Spring Meeting 1

1/23/2023

- Rep. Heybeli: international students are worried. Paid without education, and friends are worried about tuition increases especially for international students they are concerned about how much tuition will increase. International students have told their parents about the issue and how they may not be able to afford tuition anymore
- Student Trustee Haq: tuition is frozen for those currently enrolled, for new students or those who stay more than 4 years, the cost will be increased. Students fees for everyone will be increased
- Chair Alvarez: UIC has a lot of international or out of state students. Many in state who have scholarships but that is not the same for everyone who is paying a lot because they don't qualify for FAFSA but also tuition goes to paying for an education and not only practical things. There have been 2 strikes in the past two years and 8 strikes in the past 10 years and students are missing out on their education
- Rep. Dinh: strike has ended, so there's a bright side. Professors know what to do and can cover or skip material or assignments. International students thought about paying a lot of money before coming to UIC
- Rep. Peredruk: on behalf of my organic chemistry class, the already fast paced class has permanently changed the course. Unfair that full tuition was paid when questions went unanswered
- Chair Celestino: pretty sure that law states there is a fixed add/drop period due to funding. Research done by faculty showed that that period cannot be extended. LAC can look into the legality of extending the period and financial aid. Faculty said this will not affect the students, but it is. Should meet with the union again to hear about what is going on
- Chair Thumu: a comment about international student affairs, though there are a lot of opinions regarding resources for those students, I am trying to create an international student advisory board in order to provide resources for these students. If you guys are interested in ensuring these students have such resources, reach out to me
- Rep. Zafar: What does the student fee entail?
- Student Trustee Haq: voted to increase tuition by 2% for new students and 1.8% for student fees. This was made by UIC themselves who said they would like an increase in fees. This falls after 8 years of no increase so we are subpar and increasing due to inflation. This is a needed cost to keep things running

X. Ex Officio Reports

a. Report of the Advisor

- Welcome back, it is good to see everyone! It was good to hear your opinions and discussion during this time of difficulty. Moving forward, starting next week Fred McCall will be taking on my role as I will have another role in UIC and Fred will be taking over USG as of tomorrow afternoon
- No questions, report filed

b. Report of the Student Trustee

- No report this week

XI. Officer Reports

a. Report of the President

- Welcome back!
- Speech
- Report filed

USG

Spring Meeting 1

1/23/2023

- b. Report of the Vice-President
 - Matthew and I are meeting with Rob Dixon this Friday
 - COS Abbey and Pres. Matthew discussed spring agenda
 - Campus care letter drafted
 - Working group for reading and review day set
 - Met with Pres. Matthew and Speaker Michelle to discuss mental health resources
 - Report filed
- c. Report of the Treasurer
 - Corresponding with Dean of Students office to check in on purchases
 - Contact with UIC catering just ensure things are seamless
 - Working on winter wear, spring supply, and hygiene initiatives
 - Attended first eboard meeting
 - Spring GBM budget update (same from last GBM meeting)
 - Just under \$50,000 able to be spent
 - Report filed
- d. Report of the Speaker
 - USG applications are open
 - Form is available on our website and linktree on Instagram
 - Due Feb 3rd
 - Speeches Feb 6
 - Involvement fair going on right now! Help Wednesday if you can
 - Reading days working group is on! Meeting with Pres. Matthew and VP Michael to discuss
 - Questions/Discussion
 - Chair Thumu: will the representative point system go into effect this semester?
 - Response: Speaker Zhou: yes, it is in our bylaws
 - Question: Rep. Zhang Do current representatives need to rerun
 - Response: Speaker Zhou No, goes through spring semester. There are student elections though but your term goes the entire year
- e. Report of the Chief of Staff
 - First eboard meeting was on Friday, it was great to kick off this semester discussing important things and how we want to handle this year biweekly meeting
 - Director meetings begin this week, I messaged you all your respective times biweekly meetings
 - Involvement fair this week! Please sign up to get involved
 - Working on 100 Day Report for the State of the Student
 - Can't wait to see what we do this semester! Please reach out if you have any ideas you want my help with
 - Report filed
- f. Report of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair
 - Diversity & Inclusion Town Hall passed Resolution Last Semester!
 - Date set for Monday, February 6th from 3-5 pm in Room 302
 - Will be hosting panel style town hall, reaching out to admin to confirm attendance
 - Please reach out to your friends and any student orgs that are interested in showing support, it's their chance to get questions answered!
 - Make sure to book out the time in your calendars and attend as Town Halls are required
 - For USG reps to attend, we want to have a strong showing!
 - We will be have some coffee, hot chocolate, and light refreshments
 - Public Comment Section Improvement- Worked with Director Chaudhari to put up flyers in SCE

USG

Spring Meeting 1

1/23/2023

- Other Initiatives: Jiya & Brina: Mental Health Week events planning: discussing ideas like therapy dogs,
- Report filed
- g. Report of the Legislative Affairs Committee Chair
 - Welcome back, everyone! The semester started off with a few uncertainties, but I am hopeful you are all adjusting with your courses and coursework!
 - In the previous weeks, I attended a few bargaining sessions to further understand the situation with the Faculty Union and management. In the second session, I was accompanied by Nazra and Lauren, so I am glad we were able to include a few more members from USG.
 - We will be hosting the Chicago Mayoral Candidates on February 8th.
 - The candidate forum event will be managed by WBEZ and will have different locations during a three day period. Because there are nine total candidates, they will be evenly dispersed among the three participating university and community college institutions: Wilbur Wright College, the
 - University of Illinois Chicago, and the University of Chicago. For security purposes, we do not know which candidates will be at each location.
 - Report filed
- h. Report of the Public Affairs Committee Chair
 - Merch delivered and committee organizing it in the office
 - Water bottles and bags unable to be purchased and Kenvi created new designs on another website but everyone will receive what they wanted
 - Zaina has been working hard on graphics
 - Web Admin Mauricio keeping website up to date and will be launched in about 2 weeks after feedback from a focus group
 - Report filed
- i. Report of the Student Success Committee Chair
 - Will be meeting with Dr. Kotche this week
 - Will be setting up meeting for committee
 - Prospective members have begun reaching out about joining
 - Report filed
- j. Report of the Campus Life Committee Chair
 - On Friday 01/13/2023, I met with UIC United Faculty (UIC UF) with President Matthew to find out the state of bargaining.
 - On Monday 01/16/2023, President Matthew and I attended the final bargaining session before the faculty strike.
 - On Wednesday 01/18/2023, I gave a speech at the UIC UF Rally since President Matthew was unable to attend.
 - On Friday 01/20/2023, Commissioner Felix Giron reached out asking for contact information regarding the UIC NightRide and to give an update on the first Campus Safety Committee meeting.
 - On Friday 01/20/2023, I attended the first USG E-Board meeting. We discussed the status on the UIC UF strike, Lobby Day, and other housekeeping topics.
 - Report filed

XII. Announcements

- None, next order of business

XIII. Adjournment

- Motioned, seconded, accepted
 - Adjourned at 7:03 PM