

Meeting Minutes for General Meeting of UNH Graduate Student Senate  
May 5, 2015  
Mike Verney, President, Facilitating

**I. Call to Order:** Mike Verney, President, 12:41 pm

**II. Roll Call**

A. Executive Committee

Mike Verney	President
Tim Roemer	Programming
Kelly Nifong	Clerk
Mica Kurtz	Vice President
Madhav Baral	Treasurer

B. Senators Present

Ian Cohen	CEPS
Ezra Temko	COLA
Matt Smith	Grad School
Amanda Sobel	Forest Park
Kassie Sarr-Dietershagen	COLA
Morgan Crowley	COLSA

C. Executive Committee Members/Senators Not Present

Felicia Folwer	COLA
Tobi Afolayan	External Affairs

D. Members at Large Present: 7

E. Guests: None

F. Quorum (11 voting persons /18 filled voting positions): achieved with 11

**III. Appointment**

- A. Appointment of UNH- Manchester Senator
  - a. Mike Verney Appointed Tom Cronin

**IV. Approval of the Minutes**

- A. Motion to approve April 21st minutes:
  - a. Motion by Kassie Sarr-Dietershagen, seconded by Ian Cohen
  - b. Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Abstained: 1

**IV. New Business**

A. Constitution and Bylaws Amendments

B. All votes are recommendations to future voting body

- a. Motion to approve Amendment 1 to constitution
  - i. Motion by Ian Cohen, seconded by Matt Smith
- b. Discussion
  - i. Mica Kurtz – adding language to article 3
- c. Voting
  - i. Yay: 10, nay: 1, abstaining: 0
  - ii. Amendment did not pass
- d. Motion to approve amendment 2-4
  - i. Motion by Ezra Temko, seconded by Matt Smith
- e. Discussion
  - i. Mica Kurtz - Grammatical mistake fixes
- f. Voting
  - i. Yay: 11, Nay: 0, Abstaining: 0
  - ii. Amendment passed
- g. Motion to approve amendment 5
  - i. Motion by Morgan Crowley, seconded by Ian Cohen
- h. Discussion
  - i. Mica Kurtz – allows committees to choose own operating process instead of Robert’s Rules of Order.
  - ii. Member at Large – is it supposed to sound vague?
  - iii. Mica Kurtz - yes
  - iv. Member at Large - seems a little shady for votes
  - v. Mica Kurtz - any votes are just recommendations to next year’s GSS.
  - vi. Morgan Crowley - friendly amendment, we could say “such as modified feminist process”.
  - vii. Ezra Temko - we could just get rid of the sentence
  - viii. Mike Verney - doing away with sentence is more than a friendly amendment, so should table.
  - ix. Motion to table
    1. Motion by Tom Cronin, seconded by Ian Cohen
- i. Motion to approve amendment 6
  - i. Motion by Ezra Temko, seconded by Matt Smith
- j. Discussion
  - i. Ezra Temko – feminist process is similar to Roberts rules, but is geared more to checking feelings more often, allows a little more clarity.
  - ii. Kassie Sarr-Dietershagen – does it have to be called modified feminist process, why not inclusive process.
  - iii. Ezra Temko – it’s the official name. came out of feminism and trying to provide more inclusivity for women.
  - iv. Mica Kurtz – agree this implies something it’s not
  - v. Morgan Crowley – inclusivity is feminism
  - vi. Member at Large – so is theret a set definition for feminist process?

- vii. Mike Verney – so at the beginning of the year we handed out our version of Roberts rules that we use, so we would do the same thing for this
- viii. Member at Large – just trying to make things a little more clear
- ix. Ezra Temko – we could adopt a policy for explaining this
- x. Member at Large – it seems that it just needs to be capitalized since modified feminist process is what it's called.
- xi. Ian Cohen – could be.
- xii. Tom Cronin – agrees with Ian Cohen
- xiii. Ezra Temko - modified feminist process means we can modified things as we need to.
- xiv. Morgan Crowley – inclusivity is an issue, so by adopting this we are speaking to our goals.
- xv. Ian Cohen – if feminist process is noun we need to capitalize or put it quotes to speak on this
- xvi. Ezra Temko – proposed friendly amendment
- k. Vote
  - i. Yay: 11, nay: 0, abstaining: 0
  - ii. Amendment approved
- l. Motion to approve amendment 7 & 8
  - i. Motion by Matt Smith, seconded by Morgan Crowley
- m. Discussion
  - i. Mica Kurta - Amendment 7 clarifies process of removal of senator or executive committee member
  - ii. Mica Kurtz - Amendment 8 clarifies clause speaking to conflicting bylaws and that the constitution supersedes the bylaws. Contradictions/inconstancies will be submitted to Gov Comm for discussion
- n. Vote
  - i. Yay: 11, nay: 0, abstaining: 0
  - ii. Amendments approved
- o. Motion to approve amendment 9
  - i. Motion by Ezra Temko, seconded by Ian Cohen
- p. Discussion
  - i. Mica Kurtz - Amendment clarifies senator responsibilities regarding committees
  - ii. Kassie Sarr-Dietershagen – so does this mean senator doesn't have to sit on the committee
  - iii. Ezra Tekmo – That is addressed in a different bylaws. This is for committees that have people already assigned, so that would be the senators' proxy.
- q. Vote
  - i. Yay: 11, nay: 0, abstaining: 0
  - ii. Amendment approved
- r. Motion to approve amendments 10 & 11
  - i. Motion by Mica Kurtz, seconded by Ian Cohen
- s. Discussion
  - i. Mica Kurtz – amendment 10 speakers to committee charters, which we don't have

- ii. Member at large – committee charters only speaking to internal committees?
- iii. Mica Kurtz - correct
- iv. Mica Kurtz – amendment 11 speaks to clarifying when committee meetings are private and not public
- t. Vote
  - i. Yay: 11, Nay: 0, Abstaining: 0
  - ii. Amendments Approved
- u. Motion to approve amendment 12
  - i. Motion by Tim Roemer, seconded by Matt Smith
- v. Discussion
  - i. Mica Kurtz – amendment restructures the governance committee by removing the external affairs officer from being required to sit on the governance committee, and seeks to maintain a balance between Exec Comm and senators
  - ii. Tom Cronin – average committee size?
  - iii. Mica Kurtz – this is the only committee with a specific number. This was to help make sure a couple people weren't running the GSS
- w. Vote
  - i. Yay: 11, nay: 0, abstaining: 0
  - ii. Amendment approved
- x. Motion to approve amendment 13
  - i. Motion by Matt Smith, seconded by Tim Roemer
- y. Discussion
  - i. Mica Kurtz – amendment speaks to external committees, removes requirement to attend both committee and GSS, but leaves requirement to communicate what happens at the external committees to the GSS
  - ii. Mike Verney – this is something we do in a manner already.
- z. Vote
  - i. Yay: 11, nay: 0, abstaining: 0
  - ii. Amendment approved

## V. New Business

### A. Awards from Executive Committee

1. Senator of the Year – Ezra Temko
2. Executive Committee Member of the Year – Kelly Nifong
3. Excellent and Sustained Service– Ian Cohen

### C. Survey – Ezra Temko

- a. 398 total survey
- b. is officially over but will remain open for a short time
- c. college wars – COLSA and Grad School are the winners
- d. Pieing!
  - i. Matt Smith – Grad School: 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday Mike Very
  - ii. Morgan Crowley – COLSA: today – pieing Mica Kurtz
- e. Prize winners – Ian Cohen
  - i. All prizes will be at 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday

### D. Programming

- a. Wednesday ice cream

- b. Thursday first Thursday
- E. Brief Orientation – Mica Kurtz
  - a. For new members, will get a more formal orientation at beginning of next year
  - b. Org chart for how GSS next year stands as of right now
    - i. Note: General members is the top
    - ii. 16 Senators for next year
      - 1. 3 CEPS – full
      - 2. 3 CHHS – 2 open
      - 3. 4 COLA – 1 open
      - 4. 1 COLSA – full
      - 5. 1 Paul – full
      - 6. 1 UNH-Law – full
      - 7. 1 UNH-Manchester – full
      - 8. 1 Housing – open
      - 9. Grad School – full
    - iii. ExecComm
      - 1. Clerk is open
    - iv. Ezra Temko – one member present will take either COLA or Housing, depending on what seat gets filled
  - c. Quick Guide to being a good senator
    - i. Points from previous senators
    - ii. Most important is getting in touch with constituents
      - 1. Amanda Sobel – committees over the summer? Do we still have to serve?
    - iii. Mike Verney – yes technically turn-over happens in June
    - iv. Ezra Temko – please do, if you'd like to turn over to the new person let us know.
    - v. Member at Large – how are the departments assigned
    - vi. Ezra Tekmo – will determine next year, but will try and assign to own department

**VI. Adjournment** – 1:50 pm

- A. Motion by Ian Cohen, seconded by Matt Smith.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kelly Nifong, Clerk  
Graduate Student Senate  
University of New Hampshire