Meeting Minutes
March 15th, 2021

I. Call to Order
6:04pm

II. Roll Call
Secretary Guerrero has excused absence
Secretary Thnaibat has excused absence

III. Reading and Approval of the Minutes
Approved

IV. Reading and Approval of the Agenda
Motion to add resolution 2021-S8-601 to new business
Motion voted

Agenda voted
Agenda approved

V. Public Comment
No Public Comment

VI. Guest Speakers
a. President Nizar Quafisheh
- President of the Pre-Law society
- President asks funding for certificates and graduation cords
- President asks for around $70 for this initiative, this includes shipping.

VII. Old Business
No Old Business

VIII. New Business
a. Resolution 2021-S8-404
Amendments for Resolution 2021-S5-403
President moves executive order to vote on this resolution tonight
Resolution Voted
Resolution Passed

b. Resolution 2021-S8-601
Student Leadership Training
Resolution will be voted next week

IX. Items for Discussion
No Items for Discussion
X. Ex Officio Reports
a. Report of the Advisor
No report
b. Report of the Student Trustee
-Focusing on working with support programs to better understand student needs
-Student Trustee Bravo states that after long research, she has identified the lack of funding as a main issue affecting UIC.
-Student Trustee Bravo has been working with the Mental Health Task Force and is working to invite leaders to attend a Board of Trustees meeting to present initiatives and research.
-Student Trustee has been working on expanding the MENA category for UIC, however, explains that at the higher education levels there are pre-set categories that complicate the addition of new race and gender categories.
-Student Trustee informs the body that regarding the student’s push for the renaming of certain buildings, this will not be possible until 2025 due to existing contracts.
-Student Trustee Bravo encourages members to run next year to be Student Trustee.
-Student Trustee Bravo shares her email, jbravo7@uic.edu.

XI. Officer Reports
a. Report of the President
-President presented to the Student Affairs Department Leadership USG’s initiative that seeks to implement a CAN gender-based violence prevention training to all student leaders. The goal is to pilot this initiative next Fall. Please see further information along the president’s report.
-President met with JACSW to discuss the hiring of a social worker, job description can be found along the President’s report.
-President met with the graduate student council, the council offered to provide USG with $80,000 to fund our Housing Project.
-President informs the body that the meeting with the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor Tolliver and the student councils was rescheduled.
-President is working to get a letter of support from the Chancellor on mental health days and CEGS Gen Ed requirement to facilitate the process of implementing these initiatives.

b. Report of the Vice-President
-Vice-president is working with the Mental Health Coalition to create a prototype for a triage survey.
-Vice-president is working on understanding what it takes to house something on UIC webpages.
-Vice-president is working on creating a comprehensive list of recommendations for updating counseling center website.
-Vice-president is working on getting the IRB approval so that the data collected can be published.
-Vice-president met with code red regarding the menstrual hygiene initiatives.
-Vice-president is working on creating an interest form for the Bonfire liaison position.

c. Report of the Treasurer
-Treasurer was able to transfer all the necessary funds to the UIC Library.
-Treasurer is working with Chess Club to complete the RFF and ensure all values are correct.
-Treasurer is waiting for an update from the sustainability department regarding upcoming collaborations.
-Treasurer met with Red Shoes Review @ UIC as they are asking for funds for merchandise and other materials.
-Treasurer informs the body that the RFFs for USG Merchandise have been sent to the DOS office.
-Treasurer is planning to draft an Uber Eats voucher resolution, for suggestions please contact the treasurer.

d. Report of the Speaker
-Speaker thanks all representatives for taking the time to meet with her.
-Speaker thanks the Diversity and Inclusion Chairwoman and Campus Life Chairwoman for meeting with her and working on the bidet initiative.
-Speaker informs the body that at the moment it doesn’t look like a bidet attachment is possible for UIC toilets, therefore, the speaker is considering buying reusable ones.
-Speaker met with the Chief of Staff to complete the Strike Policy which will be presented next week.
-Speaker informs the body that the new layout for the meetings has been implemented.
-Speaker informs the body that after the UIC elections, USG will hold internal elections for the positions of Speaker and Treasurer for the next academic year, those interested need to be nominated by another USG member and accept the nomination. Each candidate will need to present a short speech for why they should be elected, voting will happen on the same day and results will be announced.

e. Report of the Chief of Staff
-Chief of Staff informs the body that USG completed the Student Organization Award Nomination application.
-Chief of Staff informs the body that all USG committees are doing well.
-Chief of Staff met with Speaker Stancheva to discuss the Strike Policy and the restructure of the USG meetings.
-Chief of Staff is working on obtaining access to a student Listserv.
-Chief of Staff informs the body that e-board members are working on the USG Executive handbooks.
-Chief of Staff is working on contacting department heads about a policy for open-source textbooks.

f. Report of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair
-Chairwoman is working on the next Know your rights event.
-Chairwoman informs the body that the previous Know your rights event was a success, the recording of the event will be soon uploaded to box.
-Chairwoman informs the body that the Interfaith conversation hour will be on Thursday at 5pm.
-Chairwoman is working on supporting the Counseling Center Podcast.
-Chairwoman informs the body that the previous committee meeting went well, the members discussed the portable bidet’s initiative.
-Chairwoman informs the body that the interim speaker Taylor released USG’s newsletter, please encourage your friends and organizations to join.

g. Report of the Legislative Affairs Committee Chair
-Chairwoman got response form the IRB and the results will be able to be shared publicly.
Chairwoman is working on creating a Mental Health Coalition report for Vice Chancellor Toliver. Chairwoman attended the CORE meeting with Vice Chancellor Pallares to discuss Civic Engagement efforts. Chairwoman attended meet the candidates. Chairwoman informs the body that the Army ROTC Fights Sexual Misconduct SP’21 event has been approved. This event is led by representative Villagomez. Chairwoman informs the body that the next committee meeting will be at 9PM on Wednesday. Chairwoman gives the rest of the report’s time to Deputy Chair Michael Fernandes. Representative Fernandes will be working on ensuring everyone has a space on campus to participate in their synchronous classes.

h. Report of the Public Relations Committee Chair
Chairwoman uploaded the YouTube video for GBM No.7. Chairwoman filed RFF for Resolution 2021-S5-403. Chairwoman informs the body that new USG representatives received a “Get to Know Me!” and “Profile Picture” form, please complete this so the website can be updates. Chairwoman helped with the creation of a video for the organization awards nominations.

i. Report of the Student Affairs Committee Chair
Chairwoman informs the body that the COVID-19 Vaccine Survey has received over 200 responses so far. For more information regarding results, please refer to the chairwoman’s report. Chairwoman is working on infographics to promote vaccination, these should be ready by Wednesday. Chairwoman will be working on acquainting the student body with MyChart so students better understand how to schedule a vaccine appointment. Chairwoman met with the president to discuss strategies to approach the GPA recalculation meeting the Vice-provost on April 8th. Chairwoman is working on creating a letter addressed to the deans regarding textbook affordability and close captioning for classes. Chairwoman is waiting for a response from the Office of First-Year initiatives regarding the expansion of First-Year Seminars.

j. Report of the Campus Life Committee Chair
Chairwoman attended the UA meeting to discuss the Art Drive, chairwoman will be forwarding marketing material to PRC for promotion. Chairwoman informs the body that regarding the Bidet initiative, the body has decided to switch to portable handheld bidets for now instead of toilet installations. Chairwoman is working on some infographics for the Commuter Resource Center to support their Carpool Initiative. Chairwoman is planning an event for May regarding the resources of the Commuter Resource Center.

XII. Announcements
President asks e-board members to stay after the meeting. Chairwoman Hammad encourages students to attend the Interfaith conversation hour event on Thursday at 5pm, please register at go.uic.edu/Interfaithconversation
Chief of Staff wishes all members a good Spring Break.
-Speaker encourages all members to vote on student elections.

XIII. Adjournment
-7:46pm