

March 8, 1990

32 Legislative Council Bill #46

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

STUDENT UNION

Sponsored by:	Law School Representative	Doug Young
	Law School Representative	Meg Brown
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BILL HISTORY

This bill proposes to place a referendum question on the upcoming Spring ballot which would ask the students if they are willing to increase their student fee by \$.30 per semester to fund a graduate student governmental entity (tentatively titled Unified Government of Graduate Students or UGGS).

For the past several years, graduate student leaders have been interested in the creation of a separate student government that can address graduate student concerns. Graduate students have particular concerns that they feel are not adequately addressed by UCSU.

It is also the feeling of graduate student leaders that graduate students cannot complain about UCSU if they do not take advantage of the system and run for office, vote, or participate on UCSU's managing boards. UCSU was designed to operate so that all student constituents can get involved to express their views and achieve their objectives. If a particular student population is not represented in UCSU, the solution for the underrepresented is to compete for seats and positions on Council and the governing boards.

However, for a number of reasons, graduate students have been unwilling or unable to get involved with UCSU -- in most cases they are not involved because they have a particularly limited amount of free time to spend on student government. What little free time they do have to spend, they wish to see spent effectively. Consequently, the time and effort required of graduate students to assert their views within UCSU is unappealing, unreasonable, and nearly impossible to assume.

Graduate students thus wish to create their own unified governmental entity so that their concerns can be adequately and fully addressed. Through the creation of an independent graduate student government, graduate student leaders aim to get their constituents involved in a student government that more adequately corresponds to their view of how one should be run.

Graduate students are thus asking for the creation of a referendum account so that this entity can be created and staffed.

The revenue generated also will be used to promote graduate student affairs.

The promotion of graduate student affairs via this entity directly benefits the entire student body in a number of ways. More graduate students are likely to participate on UCSU Joint Boards providing input and creating less of a burden on undergraduates; graduate students also teach undergraduate courses and help promote the University through research; the strides that UGGS can achieve for graduate students also benefit the entire student body through the interests graduate students are likely to pursue such as better health coverage, day-care facilities, and more equitable working conditions.

Notwithstanding the creation of UGGS, graduate students will continue to pay student fees and thus still participate in UCSU. UGGS will simply provide a unified graduate student voice and act as an additional funding source for graduate student affairs.

There is a great need on this campus for united graduate student action on graduate student concerns. Since graduate students have very different policy objectives than undergraduate students, and since UCSU is mostly concerned with issues that face undergraduates (due to a combination of factors including the disinterest of graduate students), graduate student concerns remain unaddressed. The creation of UGGS provides an opportunity for graduate student empowerment through concerted action.

BILL SUMMARY

This bill proposes to place a referendum question on the upcoming Spring ballot which would ask the students if they are willing to increase their student fees by \$.30 per semester to fund a graduate student governmental entity (tentatively titled Unified Government of Graduate Students or UGGS).

BE IT ENACTED by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Student Union, THAT:

SECTION 1: The following referendum question shall be placed on the ballot of the upcoming Spring election to be held on April 10 and 11:

"Shall UCSU assess the students of the University of Colorado, Boulder, \$.30 per semester for the next four years, as part of student fees, to fund the Unified Government of Graduate Students, for the promotion of graduate student affairs?"

SECTION 2: The provisions of this bill shall take effect on passage.

ADDENDUM

The Referendum Account

Projected yearly revenue for UGGS if the referendum passes:
46,000 students x \$.30 = \$13,800

Projected yearly expenditures:

- Staff Support (salaries)
- Office Expenses (such as rent for office space, phone rental, office furniture, etc.)
- Administrative Expenses (such as office supplies, paper, photocopying, etc.)
- Committee support (cost of various committee projects)
- Travel Requests
- Discretionary Funds

The Organization of UGGS

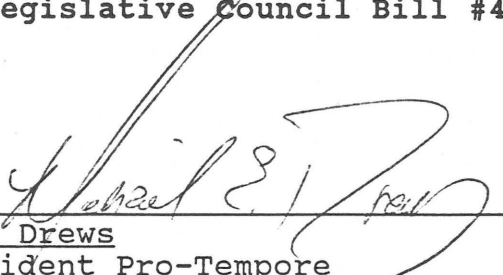
UGGS will be composed of graduate students from the Graduate School, the Law School, and MBA students. The members will be chosen by the Graduate Student Advisory Council (GSAC), and the Student Bar Association (SBA).

GSAC and SBA will continue to get their proportionate share of the approximately \$61,000 allocated to the Schools and Colleges, which for the 1990-91 fiscal year equals about \$9,000 for GSAC and \$1,000 for SBA. Additionally, as graduate students will continue to pay student fees, they are entitled to access Legislative Council's Central Reserve account for student group activities.


UGGS will then select individuals to occupy the Graduate and Law School seats on UCSU's Legislative Council. Additionally, UGGS will appoint graduate students to the various boards and committees of UCSU. UGGS will also work directly with the campus administration for appointment of graduate students on university and system-wide boards and committees. UGGS will communicate regularly with top administrators about issues that concern graduate students. UGGS will also regularly send members to attend the Board of Regent meetings to directly represent the graduate student perspective.

UGGS will be governed by a constitution and by-laws which will create and define the various positions, committees, and functions. The use of UGGS's referendum monies will be governed by the applicable student fee guidelines and State Fiscal Rules.

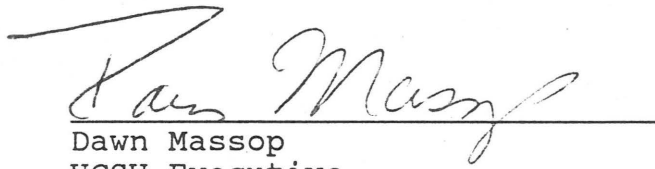
3/08/90 - PASSES - LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - 1st Reading - Acclamation
3/15/90 - PASSES - LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL - 2nd Reading - Acclamation



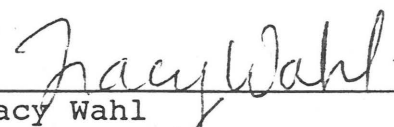
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