Graduate Student Senate
General Meeting
28-Mar-2011

Minutes

I. Call to Order – 6:00 pm
   o Approval of Agenda and Minutes (~1 min)

II. Introduction of Senators (~1 min)

III. 222: 2 Senators, 2 Departments, 2 minutes (~2 min)
   o Mike Palermo, Urban and Regional Planning
   o Julie Hoegger, Nursing

IV. Graduate College Report (15 min)
   o Dean Keller: The Dean offered his thanks and congratulations for the organizing and successful completion of the Jakobsen Conference. He also offered his congratulations to Donna Lacianese who will receive a Leadership Certificate at the Hancher-Finkbine Dinner. The Dean updated the Senate on the Fellowship process for the Graduate College Summer Fellowship (170 applications, 133 awards), and the Ballard and Seashore Fellowship (48 nominations, 30 awards). He reminded the senators that the deadline for the Cleary Fellowship is April 4. Finally, he reported that commencement will feature 169 Doctoral students, 714 Masters’ students, and will take approximately 2 hours and 20 minutes.

V. Guest Speakers
   o Anne-Marie Ericson, Program Assistant with the Graduate College's Network Series: Ms. Ericson explained that the series has focused in four areas - professional development, writing for professional success, managing relationships/resolving conflict, division of sponsored programs. Unfortunately, attendance has been low at some events, and at others the discrepancy between those registered and those that actually show has been very large. She asked that senators continue word of mouth advertising and to encourage their constituents to notify the organizers if they cannot come after having registered. Finally, Ms. Ericson solicited ideas from the senate for ways to improve participation. These included: Advertise during orientation to incoming students/to students earlier in their careers; Advertise in pro-seminars or intro to graduate studies courses – in tandem with these curriculums; switching up days and times to offer variety; dropouts might be due to scheduling changes; allowing people to Skype or ICON Illuminate; taping sessions to put them online; incentives and punishments for registering and missing.

VI. Voting Issues
   o Constitutional Amendment Changes
     ▪ Change President to non-voting ECGPS delegate
     ▪ Change Vice-President to voting ECGPS delegate

   It was moved and seconded to treat the first two changes in tandem. Motion carried. After discussion, the question was called to a vote and seconded. The motion carried and the changes were approved.

   ▪ Puts power in hands of Executive Council to remove Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs/Vice-Chairs

   The wording of the proposal was changed by friendly amendment. The friendly amendment was seconded, and the motion carried.

   v. Removal of Chairs/Co-Chairs/Vice Chairs of Standing Committees
   In some situations, the removal of a chair, co-chair, or vice-chair of a committee is necessary. The Executive Council of GSS may remove Chairs, Co-Chairs, or Vice-Chairs of a Standing Committees by a 2/3 proxy vote.
After discussion, the question was called to a vote and seconded. The motion carried and the change was approved.
  - Merge Social & Service Committee

The wording of the proposal was changed by friendly amendment. The friendly amendment was seconded, and the motion carried.

5. The Social & Service Committee
   The Social & Service Committee is charged with sponsoring recreational events that foster a sense of graduate community campus-wide and planning events of a philanthropic nature for the GSS and the graduate community as a whole.
   a. The Social & Service Committee shall usually plan an event in conjunction with Graduate College Orientation at the beginning of the Fall Semester.
   b. The Social & Service Committee shall plan at least one large-scale event per semester. Normally this shall consist of a formal Fall Ball and an informal Spring Bash.
   c. Additional events may be planned at the discretion of the Social & Service Committee.
   d. The Social & Service Committee will have two co-chairs.

After discussion, the question was called to a vote and seconded. The motion carried and the change was approved.

VII. Executive and Committee Activities
   o Announcement of New Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Action (~ 5 min.)
     Changes to the website were demonstrated. There will likely be a vote on constitutional changes to make the Ad Hoc committee a permanent committee at the May meeting.

   The first event in relation to legislative agendas is the Hawkeye Caucus on April 5. It will entail a trip to the capital to lobby for UI – more information will be distributed via mass e-mail. There will be lunch and an ECGPS table at which GSS can be represented. This is first year the UI has done this. Senators are encouraged to note their ideas to pass on as suggestions for future years.

   o Review of Committee Activity and Membership
     o (Please review Reports that follow. * Reports included)

Executive Reports
   A. President’s Report – stef shuster*
   B. Vice President’s Report – James Skretta
   C. Treasurer’s Report – Brian Borchers
   D. Membership Officer’s Report – Ulrike Carlson
   E. Parlimentarian’s Report – Juan Carlos Herrera Mujica
   F. Graduate Council Report – Kristi DiClemente, Kristina Rogers, Maneesh Kumar, stef shuster*
   G. Graduate Student Organizations – Meggie Aube
   H. ECGPS Delegate Report – Senthilkumar Perumal Kuppusamy, stef shuster, Meggie Aube (alternate)*
   I. DGSAC Chair Report – Nirmalla Barros*
   J. Webmaster Report – Maneesh Kumar*

Committee Representative Reports
   A. Academic Mentoring Committee – Tracy Morgan, Meryl Irwin*
   B. Computer Resources Committee – Brian Borchers
   C. Education Outreach Committee – Ulrike Carlson, Donna Lancianese*
   D. International Student Committee – Joseph Steinitz, Chris Harris, Nikhil Sikka
   E. Jakobsen Conference Committee – Kyle Moody; Lauren Rosales; stef shuster; James Skretta*
   F. Jakobsen Conference Review Committee – Kristina Rogers
G. Service Committee – Kimberly Hoppe, Katie Benson*
Wiffleball Tournament is this Saturday, April 2, from 12 – 5 pm. The committee will just make teams if there are not enough participants from individual departments. Relay for Life takes place in June.

H. Social Committee – Mike Palermo
May 6 is the Spring Bash at the Hotel Vetro. There will posters available at the next meeting.

I. Travel Funds Committee – Kristi DiClemente, Alissa Hulstrand*
Applications for travel awards and research awards are now open, deadline is April 14 @ 11:59 pm. Scoring session on 4/20.

J. GPAC Representatives – Kelli Todd, Mike Palermo, Brian Borchers

VIII. Announcements
- Next meeting April 19, and elections will be held. It is important that we have full attendance. Senators are encouraged to recruit people to run for office and/or to self-nominate. People should prepare a statement yourself/on your behalf/on behalf of another. There will likely be snacks.
- Don’t forget to recruit your successor for next year in your department.

IX. Open Discussion
- Next Friday After Class (FAC) event will be held on April 1, 6pm at Coaches’ Corner (749 Mormon Trek Boulevard). The establishment does have food available to order.

XI. Adjournment (~1 min)
Agenda and Reports

I. Call to Order – 6:00 pm
   o Approval of Agenda and Minutes (~1 min)

II. Introduction of Senators (~1 min)

III. 222: 2 Senators, 2 Departments, 2 minutes (~2 min)
   o We need 2 volunteers from the membership

IV. Graduate College Report (15 min)
   o Dean Keller
   o Dean Berkowitz

V. Guest Speakers
   o Anne-Marie Ericson, Program Assistant with the Graduate College's Network Series

VI. Voting Issues
   o Constitutional Amendment Changes
     ▪ Change President to non-voting ECGPS delegate

Proposed Constitutional Changes
Submitted by: Senator Lancianese, President shuster

Article V: A. 1.f shall be replaced with the following:
The President shall serve as an ex officio delegate to the ECGPS.

* Constitutional Amendments – GSS-A-2011-02

Proposed Constitutional Changes
Submitted by: Senator Lancianese, President shuster

Article V: A. 2.d shall be replaced with the following:
The Vice-President shall serve as voting delegate to the ECGPS.

* Constitutional Amendments – GSS-A-2011-03

Proposed Constitutional Changes
Submitted by: Senator Rogers, President shuster

Article VI: A. 2.e.v. shall be written as the following:

v. Removal of Chairs/Co-Chairs/Vice Chairs of Standing Committees
In some situations, the removal of a chair, co-chair, or vice-chair of a committee is necessary. The Executive Council of GSS may remove Chairs, Co-Chairs, or Vice-Chairs of a Standing Committees by a 2/3 vote at the executive council meeting in which the vote is being held.


Proposed Constitutional Changes

http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu

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grad-senate@uiowa.edu
Article VI: A. 2.5 & 6. shall be replaced with the following:

5. The Social & Service Committee
   The Social & Service Committee is charged with sponsoring recreational events that foster a sense of graduate community campus-wide and planning events of a philanthropic nature for the GSS and the graduate community as a whole.
   a. The Social & Service Committee shall usually plan an event in conjunction with Graduate College Orientation at the beginning of the Fall Semester.
   b. The Social & Service Committee shall plan at least one large-scale event per semester. Normally this shall consist of a formal Fall Ball and an informal Spring Bash.
   c. Additional events may be planned at the discretion of the Social & Service Committee.

VII. Executive and Committee Activities
   o Announcement of New Ad Hoc Committee on Legislative Action (~ 5 min.)
   o Review of Committee Activity and Membership

Executive Reports
A. President’s Report – stef shuster
   Hello hello! If you haven’t already heard, our next general meeting is Tuesday April 19th at 6pm in the IMU Illinois Room. This is our BIG elections meeting! If you are unable to attend this meeting, you must send your alternate in your place. Expect that it will be a slightly longer meeting but we will have some sort of food as a mini end of the semester and thank-you-for-your-service party. All of the Executive Council Leadership positions will be open and we need people to volunteer to take on those roles for next year. If you are interested in running for one of these openings, please contact Meryl Irwin (meryl-irwin@uiowa.edu) as she is in charge of taking nominations. Here is a list of openings: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Membership Officer, Executive Associate, and Parliamentarian.

Graduate Council Positions will be open for vote during our last meeting of the semester.
1 from Fine Arts & Humanities
1 from Physical Mathematical, and Engineering Sciences

If you are interested in chairing or co-chairing one of our many committees (or know someone from your department who would make a good candidate, please contact the outgoing chairs directly and they will forward on your name to the incoming President).

B. Vice President’s Report – James Skretta
   Nothing to report at this time.

C. Treasurer’s Report – Brian Borchers
   Nothing to report at this time.

D. Membership Officer’s Report – Ulrike Carlson
   Nothing to report at this time.

E. Parliamentarian’s Report – Juan Carlos Herrera Mujica
   Nothing to report at this time.

F. Graduate Council Report – Kristi DiClemente, Kristina Rogers, stef shuster*
   At the recent meeting of the Graduate Council, we considered the proposal for a new Graduate Certificate in Biostatistics. All signs point to this new certificate passing through all of the necessary channels in the UI system. We also voted on the closure of the Costume subtrack of the MFA in Theatre Arts.
G. Graduate Student Organizations – Meggie Aube
Nothing to report at this time.

H. ECGPS Delegate Report – Senthilkumar Perumal Kuppusamy, stef shuster, Meggie Aube (alternate)
While the ECGPS-GSS delegates were unable to attend the last meeting, we know that one major position is opening up on ECPGS. Every other year, a graduate student is voted in as President of ECGPS. If you are organized, enjoy working with graduate and professional students, can work with higher administrators, then this might be a good fit for you! Please contact the current president, Lyndsay Harshman for more information about this opening and how to submit your name for this position. As always, if you know of someone who would be a good fit, tell them about this opening and send them Lyndsay's contact information. Elections will be held April 26th.

I. Dean’s Graduate Student Advisory Council Chair Report – Nirmalla Barros
The minutes are now available on the GSS website from our February meeting with CLAS Dean, Linda Maxson. They can be viewed at:

http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu/sites/gss.grad.uiowa.edu/files/DGSACMeetingMinutesSpring2011.pdf

The DGSAC will be looking for a new Committee Chair for the 2011-2012 year. Feel free to contact the Chair with any questions about the position.

J. Webmaster Report – Maneesh Kumar
There is a new page on the GSS website for tracking information on legislation affecting higher education. It can be found here: http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu/legislative-action

On the left, in that gray box above the search box, I intend to have a link to “Proposed Bills” which will take you here: http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu/legislative-action/proposals

On that page there will be a list of the proposed legislation available to comment on (right now there is just one). You can click on that and then there is a link to the full bill, as well as the explanation, with a place to comment below.

Committee Representative Reports
A. Academic Mentoring Committee – Tracy Morgan, Meryl Irwin
The Academic Mentoring Committee has been very active over the past month. The committee administered the awarding of the Sandra H. Barkan Outstanding Graduate Student Mentor Award at the Jakobsen Conference to 8 recipients. Also in conjunction with the Jakobsen the committee hosted a luncheon with nearly a dozen undergraduate and post-undergraduate participants interested in graduate school. Members have also supported campus initiatives to help undergraduates develop skills in conference presentations through collaboration with ICRU.

The application forms for the campus-wide Academic Mentoring Program are now ONLINE! They can be found here: http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu/committees/academic-mentoring. The program was introduced via flyers to graduate students at the Jakobsen Conference and undergraduate students at SURF.

Participation as Mentors and Mentees is open to all graduate students. Additionally, participation as Mentees is open to undergraduate students seeking guidance with plans for graduate education. Please spread the word among the graduate students in your departments, and provide this information to your departments’ Undergraduate Advising staff as well.

Our committee is always happy to take new members. If you are interested in joining please email the chair (theresa-morgan@uiowa.edu).
B. Computer Resources Committee – Brian Borchers
Nothing to report at this time.

C. Education Outreach Committee – Ulrike Carlson, Donna Lancianese
We are well on our way to preparing for our big high school student event at the Jakobsen Conference, even though sign-ups have been somewhat sluggish. If you know of any high schooler or parent of a high schooler, who might be interested in our event, please let us know and we will give them more information on this great event: Attending the Jakobsen Conference and learning more about what college and graduate students do - not just from a recruitment talk, but from experience. Please help us make this great event known to the public.

D. International Student Committee – Joseph Steinitz, Chris Harris, Nikhil Sikka
Nothing to report at this time.

E. Jakobsen Conference Committee – Kyle Moody; Lauren Rosales; stef shuster; James Skretta
On behalf of the entire Jakobsen Conference Committee, we'd like to thank you for your help at the 2011 Jakobsen Graduate Conference. The event was a success, with over 200 graduate students attending and viewing presentations of fine research done right here on the Iowa campus. Thanks to everybody who participated and organized materials for us, and a huge thank you to Dean Keller, the Graduate College, and all our sponsors for providing us with backing to put on the best conference possible.

F. Jakobsen Conference Review Committee – Kristina Rogers
Nothing to report at this time.

G. Service Committee – Kimberly Hoppe, Katie Benson
The Annual Wiffleball Tournament is this Saturday April 2nd from 12-5 PM. Please register a team!! If you do not have enough players to form an entire team (minimum of 8 people) send Kimberly Hoppe an email (kimberly-hoppe@uiowa.edu) and she will try and get everyone on a team! This is an important event that aims to donate money to the UI Center for Human Rights and canned goods to the Johnson County Crisis Center.

Thanks and we hope to see you on Saturday!!

H. Social Committee – Mike Palermo
Nothing to report at this time.

I. Travel Funds Committee – Kristi DiClemente, Alissa Hulstrand*
A big “Thank you” to everyone who came to the scoring session last month. We had record turnout and finished in record time. We had around 90 eligible applications and funded more than 50% of them. Thank you all for your hard work.

The April cycle is now open, this is both for the Travel Funds and the Supplemental Travel Award. The deadline is April 14 at 11:59 pm and the scoring session will be Wednesday April 20 at 5:30 in the ITC in Schaeffer Hall. If you are unable to make that date, please let Kristi or Alissa know. We are also looking for a new chair for next year, though Kristi plans on remaining as vice chair. If you are interested or would like more details about chairing this committee, please Kristi me or Alissa know and we will meet with you to talk about it.

J. GPAC Representatives – Kelli Todd, Mike Palermo, Brian Borchers
Nothing to report at this time.

VII. Announcements

http://gss.grad.uiowa.edu

grad-senate@uiowa.edu
IX. Open Discussion
   o Next Friday After Classes (FAC) event: Date/Time, Location (Suggestion: Coaches' Corner)

X. Adjournment (~1 min)
Executive Officers:
President            stef shuster          stef-shuster@uiowa.edu
Vice President       James Skretta        james-skretta@uiowa.edu
Parliamentarian      Juan Carlos Herrera Mujica juancarlos-herrera@uiowa.edu
Treasurer            Brian Borchers       brian-borchers@uiowa.edu
Executive Associate  Meryl Irwin            meryl-irwin@uiowa.edu
Membership Officer   Ulrike Carlson       ulrike-carlson@uiowa.edu
ECGPS Delegates      Senthilkumar PK      senthil-kumar-pk@uiowa.edu
                      stef shuster          stef-shuster@uiowa.edu
                      Meggie Aube (alt)    meghan-aube@uiowa.edu
Graduate Council     Kristi DiClemente    kristi-diclemente@uiowa.edu
                      kristina-rogers@uiowa.edu
                      Maneesh Kumar       maneesh-kumar@uiowa.edu
                      stef shuster          stef-shuster@uiowa.edu
Webmaster            Maneesh Kumar       maneesh-kumar@uiowa.edu

Committee Chairs:
Academic Mentoring Committee Tracy Morgan          theresa-morgan@uiowa.edu
                                      Meryl Irwin            meryl-irwin@uiowa.edu
Computer Resources Committee    Brian Borchers       brian-borchers@uiowa.edu
                               Ulrike Carlson       ulrike-carlson@uiowa.edu
Education Outreach Committee    Donna Lancianese    donna-lancianese@uiowa.edu
                               Joseph Steinitz      joseph-steinitz@uiowa.edu
International Student Committee Chris Harris          christopher-harris@uiowa.edu
                               Nikhil Sikka         nikhil-sikka@uiowa.edu
Jakobsen Conference Planning    Kyle Moody           kyle-moody@uiowa.edu
                               Laura Rosales        lauren-rosales@uiowa.edu
                               stef shuster          stef-shuster@uiowa.edu
                               James Skretta        james-skretta@uiowa.edu
Jakobsen Conference Review      Kristina Rogers      kristina-rogers@uiowa.edu
                               Kimberly Hoppe        kimberly-hoppe@uiowa.edu
                               Katie Benson         katherine-f-benson@uiowa.edu
Social Committee                Mike Palermo        Michael-palermo@uiowa.edu
Travel Funds Committee          Kristi DiClemente    kristi-diclemente@uiowa.edu
                               Alissa Hulstrand     alissa-hulstrand@uiowa.edu

Additional GSS Representatives:
Dean's Graduate Student Advisory Committee (DGSAC) Nirmalla Barros nirmalla-barros@uiowa.edu
Graduate Student Organizations Liaison  Meggie Aube meghan-aube@uiowa.edu
GPAC                            Brian Borchers       brian-borchers@uiowa.edu
                               Kelli Todd           kelli-todd@uiowa.edu
                               Mike Palermo        michael-palermo@uiowa.edu
                               Alexandra Nica (alt.) alexandra-nica@uiowa.edu
                               Tim Paschkewitz (alt.) timothy-paschkewitz@uiowa.edu