GSA Minutes

September 19, 2012

Swearing-in of new senators

Roll Call

Approval of minutes from September 5th

Approval of agenda

Officer Reports

**Academic Senator:** Nothing to report

**Secretary:** Survey forthcoming. Turn in appointment forms.

**Treasurer:** Information about purchase requests. Vernice is the go-to person for all

Carol: Could we have a tutorial of the nest?

Larry: I have written up something to help.

Homer: perhaps we can work on getting a tutorial session soon.

**VP & President**

First up: we need a VP.

Secondly, we need a VP. Please send in recommendations and nominations to Joe Forte.

Next: “Murphy’s” is coming to campus! We need to decide if and how much we’d like to participate in the building of this, contributing financially. Can we give 2.5% of our budget towards what will become an epicenter of Graduate community fostering? We want this to be a place where we would really be “owners” of the establishment.

Thad: Will there be students jobs available? Joe: Might be, though there’s nothing wrong with how Aramark has ever taken care of us. These guys are professionals.

Larry: Where will the money come from? Rebates? Conferences account? Joe: it would come off the sum total of our GSA allowance.

Next: Let’s work for SIP! Consider a date in which we can substitute a GSA meeting to help them. It would be a great way to give back to the alumni by serving with SIP.
Lastly: Crabfest budget. We managed to pull in about an extra 7K. Whoever comes into the events coordinator position is going to have a sizable chunk of money.

**Conferences Report**: Sign up! We have plenty for now, due to the $400 max that was set last semester.

**Lectures**: Standing by. Apply! Because it takes 4 weeks, and nobody has filled out an application, we really don’t have any GSA lectures planned for the next month.

**Parliamentarian**: Nothing to report.

**Public Relations**: We have a full roster for the Nats game! If you have an event coming up that you want promoted, let me know. We are also working on some GSA promotion on Facebook.

**Senator Reports**

Nothing to report.

**New Business**

Joe: we are working on a check on the officers of the various committees. Joe asked for recommendation of legislation on a further check to officer accountability.

John Mickey: There’s nothing in the constitution or bylaws about officers having ‘exclusive’ rights to an account.

Rice: And yet, one person taking care of a committee is the only person who needs to sign off on any funding request. There’s nothing that stops a certain person from spending $20k.

Vernice: I already have to sign off on everything except for conferences, lectures and events purchase requests. So maybe we can just make it so that I DO sign off on those things.

Mike: My concern is whether or not this “fixes” the problem. If the issue is accountability, then the person who should take care of it is the president. He’s the boss. Plus, is this a legislation issue?

Mickey: Perhaps we could just take care of this by adding “fiscal oversight of the EC committees” to the list of treasurer responsibilities.

Joe: Next, we need to work out a compromise between the current wording in our bylaws which forbits administrators/faculty from using GSA monies for funding their ideas, and the fact that faulty have been reaching out to us for partnership. [discussion]

Mickey: A good solution might be just to qualify the sub-paragraph in section II about the funding. Dan Petri will write up the clause for the next meeting.
Joe: We need to overhaul the honorarium system. The weighted system is working against the smaller programs. [discussion]

   Meinert: A solution might be to just adjust the honorarium and reception funds.

Tony Purcell: Motion (see memo in packet) proposed concerning clarification on committee members.

   Motion to amend, passed.

   Motion changed as such:

   “The Executive Committee are elected members of the graduate student body. Members of the Executive Council, consisting of the Parliamentarian, Social Coordinator, Lectures Coordinator, Conferences Coordinator, and Public Relations Director, serve at the pleasure of the elected Executive Committee, and may be removed by a 2/3 vote of the Executive Committee.”

   Motion passes.

   Closing Announcements

   Joe thanks the following people: Amanda Bono*, Hannah Bormann, John Brungardt, Elise Forte, Ann-Therese Gardner, Erikk Geannikis, Vernice Grajeda, David Grothoff, Lea Harrison, Fr. John Mellein, John Meinert, John Mickey, Louise Mundstock, Lanny Newton, Eduardo Passos, Dan Petri, Tony Purcell*, Hadiar Rahman, Brian Rice*, Mike Stell, Jessica Schnepp, Homer Twigg, Kristen Wright*

   Motion to adjourn. Passed with gusto.

   Homer L. Twigg IV, Secretary