MINUTES
The Graduate Student Association
The Catholic University of America
Senate Meeting - Regular
November 2, 2011 – 7:30 pm –McGivney 014

Members present:

Emily Alianello    Elizabeth de Mahy    Bridget Ledford    Carter Rawson
Carol Anderson    Chris Dwyer    James Lewis    Brian Rice
Fr. Charles Benoit    Peter Furlong    Pablo Martinez    Donald Sifuentes
Angelique Brown    Thad Garrett    John Mickey    Rodney Still, Jr.
Chloe Canton    Erikk Geannikis    Megan Mooney    Jufang Tseng
Joshua Canzona    Vernice Grajeda    Louise Mundstock    Edmund Walsh
Nicole Clery    Jennifer Gullickson    Ryan Norris    Jonathan Zappala
Ryann Craig    Lawrence King    Daniel Petri    Special Guest:
Philip de Mahy    Margot Lamson    Nathan Ponzio    Anthony Chiappetta

I. Meeting was called to order by President James Lewis at 7:31 pm.

II. Roll was called by Thad Garrett, Secretary.

III. Minutes from October 19 and Agenda approved.

IV. Prayer was offered by Joshua Canzona.

V. Anthony Chiappetta, Director of Career Services, lead an open forum on what his office currently provides for graduate students as well as took suggestions for what grad students would like to see offered. Mr. Chiappetta may be reached at chiappetta@cua.edu.

VI. Officer Reports

a. Academic Senator
   i. Gave brief summary of discussion of Strategic Plan.
   ii. Gave updates on conference and retreat planning.

b. Secretary
   i. Reminded senators that appointment forms must be turned in for attendance to count toward rebate.

c. Treasurer
   i. Regular budget report; Balances as follows:
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GSA Senate $29,164.00
Executive Committee $9,485.98
Events ($1,350.44)
Lectures $12,598.45
Conferences $11,211.59
Public Relations $1,333.68

d. Vice President
   i. Gave summary of Open Forum on Strategic Plan held November 1.
   ii. Noted that President Garvey had acknowledged the Health Insurance resolution, and that his council would be meeting to discuss the issue.

e. President
   i. Reported that the referendum to increase the graduate student activity fee by $5 passed with 58% in favor. Sue Pervi had been notified, and thus the new fee, $45, should be in place for the 2012-2013 academic year.
   ii. Announced plans to form an ad-hoc committee for Philanthropy to plan two major service projects for the 125th anniversary campus-wide service effort.
   iii. Announced that Housing Services is looking for two graduate work studies.

VII. Committee Reports

a. Conferences
   i. Reported that the new emergency fund guidelines had been posted and advertised.

b. Lectures
   i. Reported that the revised guidelines had been posted, and now include electronic forms. The lecture committee now sponsors two types of lectures: GSA (broad appeal) and departmental (narrow appeal). For more information, visit http://gradstudents.cua.edu/lectures.cfm.
   iii. Asked for volunteers to form new lecture committee.

c. Parliamentarian (no report)

d. Public Relations
   i. Announced that newsletters will henceforth be issued on the first weekday of each month.

e. Social
i. Reminded senate of available tickets for upcoming events: George Washington Masconic Memorial and “A Christmas Carol.”

VIII. New Business
   a. Daniel Petri moved and Rodney Still, Jr. seconded that an ad-hoc committee on philanthropy be created to plan two major service events for the 125th anniversary service effort. Motion passed.

IX. Closing Announcements
   a. Joshua Canzona remarked that the GSA will focus on the following advocacy issues: University support for conference attendance, graduate student housing, and a more family-friendly campus (day care, changing stations, etc.).
   b. Rodney Still, Jr. reported that the Department of Business and Economics will be hosting a lecture series. All are welcome to attend.
   c. James Lewis announced that the last meeting has been cancelled, and that a Christmas party for the senate will be held in its place at the Black Fox in Dupont Circle. More information to come.

X. Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm. Next regular Senate meeting will be held in McGivney 014 on November 16, 2011 at 7:30pm.

Thad E. Garrett
Secretary