

GSA Senate Meeting  
October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Roll call (7:31)

- At quorum (just over 50%)

Opening prayer

Officer reports

- President – academic senate meeting
  - Concerns about budget cuts for the libraries, especially the satellite libraries
  - Nursing, architecture, and physics libraries shut down; music up in the air
  - Emily met with the head librarian – what are some general concerns and needs of grad students, with respect to the libraries?
    - Let her know what kind of services you need from the libraries
  - Music senator – 23% reduction in hours of availability, and they're concerned about further reductions in access
    - They need ready access to pianos in order to use some of the scores that are not able to be removed from the library
  - Form a committee?
    - Music senator is interested
  - Other issues – Sen. Djain: one of the databases that English grad students frequently use has been cut
  - Kyle – rules of forming a special committee
    - Need a motion
  - Motion to have a committee addressing graduate issues
    - They'll draft a letter to send to the libraries
    - INCLUDE THEIR E-MAILS in the minutes, for people who
  - Politics – the library isn't finished cutting things either
    - Cutting more journals, especially the discipline specific areas
  - Physics senator – the physics library was their main study space
    - The senators drafted a letter to send to the provost, asking for a space
    - They didn't know ahead of time the library would be closing
- VP
  - Dissertation research grant information
    - Start getting the word out in your departments
      - This year: one \$3,000 grant, and two \$1,000 grants
    - Need people to serve on the committee
- Treasurer
- Academic Senator
  - Still working on tech services fee
  - Update about career fair and career services
    - There was a career fair last Friday – geared more toward undergrads

- Working to make sure career services has events geared towards grad students
    - Work on the communication between career services and grad students
  - Politics senator – ask the head of career services for a list of alumni from the various schools, and what they’re doing
  - Other things you’d like to see from career services: email [95holdsworth@cua.edu](mailto:95holdsworth@cua.edu)
- Secretary

#### Committee Reports

- Events
  - Written report on Crabfest
    - Be in the official GSA documents
    - He can share it, if you ask
  - RSVPs are flowing in for the different events
    - RSVP policy is a bit different this year
  - Other suggestions for events – let Matthew know
- Conferences chair
  - No money (but there is still money for the spring)
- Lectures chair – not here
- PR – no person (new business)
- Parliamentarian – news in new business
- Public relations chair – not here

#### New Business

- Professional development committee discussion
  - EC has discussed leaving the position open this year to help save money, and the EC, along with senator volunteers, will pick up the slack
  - We would need to amend the bylaws, to be able to do this
    - Exact wording – check with Kyle
  - Motion to discuss the committee – there will be discussion
  - Philosophy senator – where would the “extra” salary money go?
    - Part could go to the volunteers who help run the events, and then the rest could be voted upon, to see where it goes
  - Only this year? Yes, and then reconsider it next year
  - Treasurer – position was created for a reason, so maybe we shouldn’t eliminate it
  - Kyle – clerical issues (have the actual situation be reflected in the by-laws)
  - Psychology senator – not just creating a law to justify our action, but creating a law to remedy for this situation and provide guidance if this should happen in the future
  - English can help out with the writing workshops, since the English grad students are part of the writing center

- MSPS senator – interested in volunteering to coordinate a professional development day
- Motion to amend the amendment – move the professional development’s fall salary to conferences, and leave the spring money
  - Vote passes
- Motion to put it in conferences – seconded
  - Let’s vote next week – motion to table it
  - Concern that people won’t get money in time
    - That isn’t an issue; most of the people on the wait list are going to conferences in Nov./Dec., and so they’ll still be helped if we wait a week to vote
  - Vote passes
- Motion to vote, to pass the by-law
  - Reading the by-law again
  - Last chance for discussion
  - 2 opposed, 1 abstentions, 18 vote for it
  - Passes (needed 2/3 of total here)
- Politics sen. – new business about Dufour Center
  - Concern about getting rid of the racquetball courts
    - Lots of grad students use the racquetball courts – can’t we get them to keep at least one?
  - Motion for a racquetball investigation committee?
  - Academic senator brings up the issue with the provost
  - Sit-in on the racquetball courts?
  - Stan – check in with the head at Dufour, to see what is going to happen with the racquetball courts

Announcements – none

Motion to adjourn – passes (8:27)