

# Minutes

## GSO Business Meeting

February 18, 2015

Eggers 010

5:30 pm

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Confirmation of Minutes
- IV. Executive Reports
  - a. President's Report
    - i. Survey
      1. Wrapped up last Wednesday
      2. 866 responses; good response rate
      3. Analysis is being done and will be reported
      4. There was an even distribution between Masters and Doctoral students
      5. The survey will be available on the Website
      6. Stats
        - a. 96% had heard of the GSO
        - b. 40% could identify if their dept. had a senator
        - c. Student and Career services are the most like; 70% of respondents said
        - d. Advocacy was scattered; sexual assault, TA/GA pay were the most popular
        - e. 51% of students were satisfied with the GSO
        - f. Qualitative answers will take time to analyze
    - ii. Fast Forward
      1. Academic strategic plan is moving forward; groups have submitted reports
      2. Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> a forum will take place in Goldstein auditorium about the strategic plan and groups will present their plans
    - iii. Campus Framework
      1. March 2<sup>nd</sup> is having a forum at Hendricks Chapel
    - iv. E-harassment policy
      1. Resolution was passed
      2. Task force has been assembled by Prof. Rubin in Newhouse
      3. There are slots for volunteers
      4. If anyone is interested please speak to Patrick
    - v. SLS
      1. Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11 is the board meeting
      2. Going over budget and other things
    - vi. Career services

1. A liaison for career services is needed
  2. Peta has volunteered
  - vii. Marketing and Branding identity
    1. The university admitted not doing a good job with their branding
    2. Mid March there will be a meeting to discuss; please talk to Patrick if interested
  - b. Comptroller's Report
    - i. Recommendations of the Finance Committee
      1. Comfort Society – Fund for \$540
        - a. Art History; funding to annual art conference in NYC
        - b. Ambiguity in the Finance policy; issues within the finance committee
        - c. Call to vote
          - i. All in favor; motion passes
    - ii. Overview of Fiscal Policy
      1. Proposed new annual budgeting system
        - a. The detailed proposed changes to the budget were emailed out to the Senate this past Monday
        - b. As of tonight this will go on the GSO website
        - c. There are proposed changes to be made in regards to budgeting
        - d. The problem with the current budgeting policy because it is tedious, causes long meeting in order for the final product to be put forth before the Senate
          - i. Special programming, registered v unregistered organizations, etc.
        - e. There are proposed solutions that were sent to the Senate this passed Monday
        - f. Informative debate for 20 minutes commenced
          - i. There is a question about access to the budget funds for organizations
            1. Every group will still have to go through training about budget policies
            2. Also there will be a transition memo for all departments; due to the fact that boards of organizations will change usually from year to year
    - iii. Volunteers needed to overview policy; please see Sarah
  - c. Internal Vice President's Report
- V. New Business
  - a. Resolution 15.14 – Publishing Contact Information for GSO Senators on our Website
    - i. Publishing information about the senators
      1. Motion to adopt the resolution; seconded
      2. Debate
        - a. There is a problem about departmental reps
          - i. The reps change from department to department
          - ii. It doesn't make sense to publish information from the departmental senators; how will this resolution manage departmental senators

- iii. Counterargument: this will push departments to have regular senators
  - b. Motion to vote
    - i. All are in favor; motion passes
- b. Constitutional Notification - Resolution 15.15 – Altering Student Budget Procedures
  - i. Discussion on Financial Changes
    - 1.
- c. Discussion on the Chancellor’s Investigation
  - i. Patrick asked whether people were satisfied with the response informally
  - ii. It is being put forth before the senate at this time
    - 1. Motion to debate
    - 2. There are issues with the Chancellor’s response
      - a. There is a problem with the lack of insight from the students who were involved with the protest; people are not satisfied with that response
      - b. There is a problem with the language used to identify the protesters with other inflammatory language, and belittling behavior that was taken toward the students. There were trainings held on how to deal with “protests, shooters, and violent visitors”. Lumping protesters with that language is a problem.
      - c. There is a problem that the Chancellor stated that the reasons for the behavior were for safety reasons; the GSO shouldn’t just state that there the GSO is satisfied, given that the GSO represents the student body
  - 3. Motion to amend the resolution (letter to the Chancellor) to address the concerns from the Senate to the Chancellor
    - a. Seconded
    - b. Debate
      - i. People are dissatisfied with the Chancellor’s response because of the general actions from the Chancellor’s staff
      - ii. Debate amendment
  - c. Vote
    - i. All are in favor; motions passes; Patrick will send a letter addressing the issues brought up by the Senate
  - d. Debate
    - i. This isn’t an argumentative document, but more of a suggestion that the Chancellor should address the issues of not speaking with those protesters who were in Crouse-Hinds
    - ii. There is a suggestion of a forum between the students and the Chancellors
    - iii. Motion is suggested to have an open forum with the protesters that Patrick will address in the letter
      - 1. There is a motion to amend the letter with this change
        - a. Seconded

2. Vote
  - a. All in favor; motion passes
3. Motion to vote on the original motion
  - a. There is a suggestion for an investigation after the proposed forum that includes the administration and the students involved
  - b. Motion to amend
    - i. All in favor of this amendment
4. Vote
  - a. All in favor; motion passes
  - b. Patrick will draft a letter and send to the Senate; Patrick is interested in volunteers to help coordinate

VI. Remarks for the Record

- a. NAGPS
  - i. Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> Message Congress Day
    1. Calling Congressmembers and asking them to address the issues of Graduate students
  - ii. March 20-24<sup>th</sup> LAD; gathering in Washington DC, to go on The Hill talk to congress about things that were happening on
  - iii. April 10-12<sup>th</sup> Northeast Regional Conference; looking for volunteers to go
    1. Election of the regional
  - iv. April 7—11<sup>th</sup> NAGPS appreciation week
- b. E-Board is interested in getting feed
- c. Please see Patrick if you volunteered for any other the new initiatives

VII. Announcements

VIII. Motion to Adjourn

- a. Seconded

IX. Adjournment