

Minutes

**GSO Regular Business Meeting
December 9, 2015
Life Sciences 105
5:30 pm**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Executive Reports
 - a. President
 - i. Report on Budget Surplus and Ideas for Rollover
 - ii. Report on Healthcare
 1. There was a letter that was sent saying that student GA/TA's will not be moved from the employee health care
 2. Administrators agreed to meet with the Senate to discuss issues on this, and to clarify the new policy
 3. Who are the decision makers in this arena?
 - a. The Board of Trustees have the final say in this decision
 4. There will be a committee formed, with GSO representation
 5. There is concern that the administrators could stall without grad student representation
 6. Move to invite whatever administrators; seconded
 - a. No Debate
 - b. All in favor (voice)
 - c. First meeting of the spring semester
 - iii. Free Speech Report
 1. Can shared the report with the Senate
 2. We've been asked to come up with a recommendation report in conjunction with SA, GSO, SBA
 3. There will be a forum in February; attendance is important
 - iv. Travel Policy
 1. Can joined their Travel Team
 - a. Consisting of 8 faculty, staff, and Can-the only student
 - b. Friday at 8:30 am
 - i. First meeting-faculty members are upset with the Concur, and that was expressed in the meeting
 - c. Can will report back with updates
 - v. GSO Website
 1. Can had been working on the website, and is finalizing it
 2. Hoping to make it public by the Spring 2016
 3. Blackboard organization
 - a. Student organization can have Blackboard

V. New Business

- a. Election for Vacant University Senate Positions (Meet Wednesdays, once a month at 4pm in Maxwell auditorium)
- b. Positions (2)
 - i. Nominees
 1. **Alexis Drickel**
 2. Sanjay Motwani
 3. Saurabh Gupta
 4. Xiao Li
 5. Rahul Goyal
 6. **Ryan Faulkstein-Smith**
- c. The nominees will have one minute to talk about themselves
- d. Secret ballot vote
 - i. Whichever two nominees gets the most votes will be the University Senators elected
- e. New Senators
 - i. Alexis Drickel
 - ii. Ryan Faulkstein-Smith
- f. Report on Budget Surplus and Ideas for Rollover
 - i. All ideas for surplus budget spending were collected,
 - ii. The Board evaluated all ideas-feasibility and technicality
 1. The Board recommended certain ideas, the Finance committee will make the final recommendations in the spring and present at the first meeting of the Spring semester
 - iii. SU Doctoral Administrative Internships
 1. Employment for Doctorate student for alternative academic careers
 2. -10 hours of pay at GA rate
 3. Start with 3 positions
 4. Cost is 11K
 5. How does this effect int'l students?
 - a. All grad students will be able to apply for this position
 6. Health insurance?
 - a. This position does not include health benefits
 7. Can this be used for Summer also?
 - a. We can alter it for the Summer
 8. Speaking in favor-Two students are trying t get their organization off the ground. They have met with people, and collaborated with others? This is a great opportunity for Doctoral students to get practical experience.
 9. GA rate?
 - a. This is half of the standard GA rate
 10. The Board recommends this
 - iv. Dissertation Boot Camp
 1. Week ling program for 20-25 dissertators
 2. \$3000 for January pilot, \$7500 for May/June
 3. held in Bird Library
 4. The Board felt that there were other ways to carry this out-some universities hold meeting in libraries or quiet space with food, and having people help students with their dissertations

- a. The Board recommends the alternative
 - 5. What would we do different?
 - a. We would not bring in outside experts
- v. Subvent Publication of Graduate School Press Book
 1. Print 400 copies at \$2025
 2. On-campus book-launch/mentoring event at \$6000
 - a. Workshops for grad students, junior faculty, program directors
 - b. Can be scaled back
 3. Sell book for \$19.95 or give out for free
 4. Question: What is the Book about?
 - a. Student mentoring continuum; theoretical tools for mentoring
 5. Are the authors from Syracuse University
 - a. IT is edited from Glenn Wright
 6. If we fund, they will add the GSO logo
 7. The Board was mixed on this recommendation
 8. Free or 19.95
 - a. Contractual obligations to sell through Glenn's office for 19.95
 9. Funding comes from some sources to publish books like this-they asked because they weren't able to get funding
 10. Patrick says that this is the book that they have tried to get GSO funding for this book in the past
 11. Book Launch
 - a. There are no details on this book launch
 12. Some students have read previous books, and they were more for FPP
 13. Motion to limit comments on slides to one minute
 - a. Vote
 - b. All in favor
 14. Motion to have someone come to defend this book; seconded
 - a. There is disagreement
 15. Call to question seconded
 - a. All in favor; motion carries
- vi. Video Captioning
 1. Grad School has 40 videos that need to be captioned in accordance with the ADA
 2. Pay: \$275 per 90-minute video
 3. View Counts are low (avg. 7, high:18)
 4. Full funding by GSO: 40 videos at \$11
 5. This seems like a high cost? What are the content of these videos?
 - a. Content includes events at Syracuse, and the videos need to be captioned to put up
- vii. Team teaching Internship
 1. For FPP participants at OCC, TC3, and other local teaching focused institutions
 2. \$2000 per students/course + \$500 Honorarium for co-teaching mentor
 3. Questions: How much is the budget? \$100K
 4. Will this be a range of subjects?
 - a. There can be criteria added for the content
- viii. SciPhD Certificate Program

1. 4-day professionalism prep program for 70-80 STEM doctoral students
 2. Would be a pilot program this year
 3. Total cost \$2500
 4. The Board was divided on this recommendation
 5. When the Finance committee comes back there should be more information
- ix. Update GSO website, forms, travel grant
1. Hire grad student to update these documents
 2. Revisit travel grant requirements
 3. Funds one-year fellowship (this year) or allow for larger grants
 4. Forms are through Frevvo-because it is safe for student information
 5. Board was undecided on
- x. Various proposals together
1. Forgo collection of additional dues until rollover reaches an appropriate level
 2. Place surplus in interest-bearing account each year to generate additional revenue
 3. Return rollover to due-paying members
 4. Endowment is not an option
- xi. Increase travel grants
1. Increase number of awards; max allotment (\$600
 2. Eliminate stipulations that students apply for alternative funding before applying to the GSO
 3. Board recommends this
 4. Would other funding be having schools report that there is no funding for their students
- xii. Creating grant program for Job Search
1. Offer stipend up to \$500 for travel expenses, professional attire
 2. Problem is that we cannot follow to see if the funds are used appropriately
 3. This is to help student looking for jobs
- xiii. Create Grant Program for Dissertation
1. Offer \$300 stipend to help with final steps of completing documents
 2. Could include: Printing and distribution, securing copyright
 3. We may be able to talk to libraries about printing and helping with publishing dissertations
 4. There are universities that have a lottery funding process
 5. Schools are moving away from printing, going to EMI to publish
 - a. One dissertation must be printed
 6. Board does not recommend
- xiv. Various proposals
1. Add more GSO activities
 2. Increase Travel Grant to \$400
 - a. We are increasing the travel grant-that's one of the recommendations
 3. There are more activities
 4. Contributing money to the Grad Dean for graduate students
 5. Board recommends

- xv. Establishing funds for childcare
 - 1. Giving single parents the time to attend evening lectures
 - 2. The GSO is working on childcare for grad students
 - 3. Putting together an ad-hoc committee to help with childcare
- xvi. Expand Travel Grant
- xvii. Funding Inter-Dept. Speaker Series
 - 1. Providing funds to support speakers
- xviii. Offer Workshop series with Wendy Welcher
 - 1. Focus o writing and publishing journal articles
 - 2. Board doesn't recommend this-we already fund something similar
 - 3. How does this fall under Career service?
 - a. The most relevant outside of Grad services
 - 4. Workshop in this area is valid, but too specific
 - 5. Motion to extend for a minute; seconded
 - a. Nay-motion finals
- xix. Set-up Dept. wide Career Services
 - 1. Creating Career service for graduate students within departments
 - 2. Board doesn't recommend-it isn't feasible
 - 3. However; this is apart of the Strategic Plan
- xx. Clinical Simulation for I-TA's
 - 1. Use Upstate Clinical Skills center to simulate scenarios for Int'l TA to handle situations in real time
 - 2. Cost: \$2500 for 40 I-TAs enrolled in ENL 610
 - 3. Three days in Mid-February
 - 4. Fees for actors, video recording, group debriefing
 - 5. Board does recommend
 - 6. Students think that this is a good idea
 - 7. SA is asking to collaborate with us for assisted TA trainings for domestic and Int'l TAs-we will be reaching out to SA
- xxi. Twitter
 - 1. Bus systems
 - a. Working on this
 - b. Put more public pressure on the bus system
 - 2. Psychological Help
 - a. University responsibility-GSO is working with them
 - 3. Daycare Center Funding
 - a. Will have a committee
 - 4. Grant subsidies
 - a. Include in travel grant
 - 5. Convention dues
 - a. We don't have a union
- xxii. NAGPS Leadership Summit
 - 1. 3-day event with grad representatives from other institutions
 - 2. Cost: \$5-7K
 - 3. Need to propose by January
 - 4. Budget \$10k to be safe
 - 5. Newhouse could host the Event
 - 6. Would need at least 10 volunteers for whole event

7. What's the time duration for volunteers
 - a. In the morning and in the afternoon
 8. There should be a decision on this now, because the NAGPS board meeting in early January before classes start
 9. Motion to extend debate to a minute; seconded
 - a. Motion doesn't carry (Nay)
 10. Motion for a proposal to NAGPS for funding for \$10K; seconded
 - a. This is a good event to give attention to Syracuse grad student representation
 11. Taking a vote right now isn't professional without more information
 12. When would the conference take place?
 - a. In August
 13. Has this organization taken votes via email?
 - a. Yes
 - b. The finance committee can meet and vote on via email
 14. Motion to postpone; seconded
 - a. All in favor; motion carries-postponed, going to finance committee
- xxiii. Increase travel grant
1. Research Grants implemented
 2. Introduce interviews
 3. Volunteer time in return for award
 4. Increase up to \$500
 5. Board recommends
 6. Email Comptroller or Finance Secretary if there are concerns
- g. Announcements
- i. Happy Holidays
- h. Upcoming Events
- i. Next Senate Meeting – January
- VI. Adjournment