

Minutes

GSO Sixth Regular Business Meeting

February 10, 2015

Crouse-Hinds 020

5:30 pm

- I. Call to Order
 - a. Sam Leitermann, chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.
- II. Roll Call
 - a. Sam notes that we are now using an electronic sign in and roll call system, along with a new clicker-based electronic voting system. This means we no longer need motions to approve sign in as roll call.
- III. Executive Reports
 - a. President
 - i. Introductions and Discussion with University Administrators
 1. Peter Venable – Interim Dean, Graduate School
 - a. Introduced himself, talked about the purpose and mission of the Graduate School
 - b. Reviewed his role within the university, particularly as it applies to his position as advocate for graduate students and advocate for the administration
 - c. Mentions his desire to work closely with the GSO, including attending Senate meetings when possible, with consultation with the Board
 - d. Healthcare – a new committee is forming to discuss graduate employee health insurance
 - e. This committee has four grad students chosen by GSO, faculty, and admin/staff
 - f. There will be no changes for 2016-2017, this committee will be looking further into the future
 - g. Reports will be made to the Senate of its progress
 2. Margaret Usdansky – Academic Integrity Office
 - a. Revisions to the Academic Integrity Policy were discussed
 - b. As related to grad students, these changes mostly reflect a more realistic look at the potential penalties grad students face, as the old policy was harsher than what was actually meted out
 - b. Comptroller
 - i. The Finance Committee recommends funding the following Special Programming requests at the following levels:
 - ii. Fund BCCC: College of Law Disability Speakers - \$260
 - iii. Fund RGO: Book Publishing Colloquia - \$300
 - iv. Fund GGSO: Start Up Budget: \$525
 - v. Fund BGSO: Coffee Hour: \$400

- vi. Fund SOE Council: Start Up Budget: \$600
 - vii. All proposals pass
 - c. Internal Vice President
 - i. NAGPS Message Congress Day is coming up, we will table in Schine
- IV. Old Business
- V. New Business
 - a. Presentation from the Beyond Compliance Coordinating Committee
 - i. RSOs are strongly encouraged to think about accessibility with regards to their events, including possible interpreter services
 - ii. RSOs and the GSO is urged to ensure proper funding exists for such services
 - b. Finance Committee Recommendations for the GSO surplus
 - i. Fund WiSE: Visiting Dr. Deborah Goldberg - \$750
 - 1. Passed unanimously
 - ii. Fund SU Doctoral student Admin Internships - \$10,000
 - 1. Passed
 - iii. Fund Graduate School: Video Captioning Project - \$11,000
 - 1. Funding will be used to pay grad students to caption many older grad school videos on seminar topics of relevance to grad students
 - 2. Passed after discussion
 - iv. Fund GSO Website Design Intern - \$500
 - 1. Discussion on selection process, need to pay
 - 2. Passed
 - v. Increase Travel Grant Funding - \$40,000
 - 1. Discussion of committee's ability to distribute this funding
 - 2. Discussion of fairness to previous applicants
 - 3. Rajesh, Grant Committee chair, notes their plan to increase cap to \$600 and allow reapplication
 - 4. Motion to change Grant Policy clause II.c.v. as follows: "Travel Grants shall be no more than ~~\$300~~ \$600. Applicants may receive less than ~~\$300~~ \$600. Applicants may be denied funding." Motion passes unanimously.
 - 5. Future policy changes will be examined by the committee.
 - 6. Motion to increase funding passes unanimously.
 - c. Motion to fund a clinical simulation program for international TAs in ENL 610 for \$2,500 is made, seconded.
 - i. This was a surplus proposal that was not recommended by the Finance Committee
 - ii. Discussion ensues, focusing on ITA vs domestic student needs in this area
 - iii. Additionally, the need for undergrads or the university to pay a portion of the bill, given the clear benefits this program would have for undergrads in these TAs' courses
 - iv. Motion fails, 9-10
- VI. Announcements
- VII. Adjournment