



President's Report to the Senate

Senate Meeting, November 30, 2016

Rajesh Kumar, GSO President

Graduate Student Employees Minimum Stipend & Assistantship Types

Gwenn Judge, Interim CFO has gathered data related to the graduate student stipend and types of employment opportunities for graduate students. She has also been able to find the benchmark data that includes details of graduate student stipend, types of employments, and benefits at several peer institutions. Her office is summarizing the data and will make it available to the GSO by the end of this week.

Additionally, a list of peer institutions that SU uses to compare its employee's salary has been made available to the Grad Employment Issues Committee. The committee has been requested to gather information related to types of employment, min stipend, and benefits from the peer institutions, analyze that and report its findings and appropriate recommendations to the Senate.

Career Services for Grads

Peta and I are in process of finding graduate students from different departments (and degree levels i.e. MS and PhDs) to participate in a conversation with the Provost and Dean of Graduate School on career related needs. The university administration is actively looking into a feasible way of reviewing the existing services and assessing the needs of resources in order to improve the career education for graduate students.

Simultaneously, Academic Affairs and Resource Committee is setting up meetings with the administrators and students of different departments to assess the career-related needs of graduate students.

Child Care Task Force

Provost office is actively gathering all of the background information on this subject. The office does not have any specific deadline to announce the task force as they want to be sure to have all the information together first. Since, the university has not made any significant progress on this subject since last few years, the Child Care Task Force of GSO may move forward with the idea of increasing the awareness through print or electronic media.

Ombuds Office

Office of the provost is carefully considering the recommendation of the University Senate Committee on Women's Concerns to establish a University ombudsperson office. The office is evaluating and considering various models including a model that includes providing support for faculty, staff, and students. The GSO is consistently pushing to make sure that the University Ombudsperson office does include mechanisms to address graduate students and employees concerns.