

Graduate Student Association

Senate Meeting Minutes

Memorial Union Room 300

1/27/10 12:30-1:30PM

- I. Meeting Called to Order at 12:33pm
- II. Approved Senate Meeting Minutes from 12/9/09
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Internal Operations
 - A. President's Report (Jack Szczepanski)
 - i. Committee Reports
 1. Graduate Council- 41 out of 96 mini grant applicants were awarded money. More fellowship and scholarship money will be announced in Feb. Sections 8 and 9 of the university manual on committee membership was edited. Talked about adjusting program deadlines or making an addendum to the graduation bulletin so that students in business whose academic year ends in August can walk in May. Jack will forward our concerns and suggestions to Dr. Keith Killingbeck.
 2. Faculty Senate- Jack will be on the board of the SBPC and the BOG
 - B. Vice President's Report (Courtney Schmidt)
 - C. Treasurer's Report (Carrie Byron)- Still waiting for our money from the university for the spring semester.
 - D. Secretary's Report (Jessica Piesz)-Pick up your stipends from last semester if you haven't already.
 - E. Webmaster's Report (Wyatt Furman)- Edited the housing page to include date posted.
 - F. Committees
 - i. GSA
 1. Community Service Committee
 - a. Adopt a highway update- Eleni absent, no update
 - b. Food donations for Jonnycake Center- collecting food donations at the Semi-formal
 - ii. University
 1. Academic Standards and Calendar (**Sarah Murphy**)- no meeting
 2. Constitution, By-laws, and University Manual (**Josh Oberle**)- absent
 3. Honors Program and Visiting Scholars (**Kai Zhang**)- no meeting
 4. Library Committee (**Rosaleen Greene-Smith and Eleni Tsoukatos**)- absent
 5. Teaching Effectiveness (**Sarah Murphy**)- no meeting
 6. Athletics Advisory Board (**Greg Thaelke**)- no meeting

7. Learning Outcomes Assessment Oversight Committee (**Josh Oberle**)- absent
8. President's Commission on the Status of Women at URI (**Munirat Adebimpe**)- absent
9. Council for Graduate Research (**Marcy Thompson**)- Discussed mini grants that were awarded. The council has been pledging for more money. Dr. Costa-Pierce donated \$10,000 from Sea Grant. Faculty grants available for marine sciences.
10. Graduate Student Academic Appeals Board (**Josh Atwood and Becky Greene**)- no appeals yet
11. Undergraduate Senate Liaison (vote Rosaleen Greene-Smith)- Rosaleen Greene-Smith is now the undergraduate senate liaison. Vote passed to allow an undergrad to sit in on our meetings.

V. Old Business

- A. Winter Bash, Sat., Feb. 6, 2010, 7-11pm
 - i. Purchase your tickets, bring a food donation!
- B. Trivia night update- Kabuki will give us the room for no charge. We will have to pay a catering fee for the food. Joe Brady will call to see if we'll have access to a sound system. Discussed the possibility of having prizes for the winning teams.
- C. Ice skating- Will call Boss arena for more information
- D. Academic Job Panel- no update
- E. Tuition Rally- nothing to report

VI. New Business

- A. Change wording in constitution for officers and senators enrolled in continuing registration credit- will vote on making this change at the next senate meeting.
- B. Elections- start thinking about running for an executive board position for next year.
- C. Facility contact info, job descriptions (building and grounds, parking services)- email GSA or ask Jack for contact information if you have a grievance.
- D. Graduate Conference hosted by Dept. English, Sat. April 24, 2010. "Carried Across: Translations, Temporalities, Trajectories." All graduate students are encouraged to submit a paper or panel proposal. Abstracts are due February 15, 2010.

VII. Announcements

- A. Reminder: GSA grant funding deadline June 1st
- B. Last two days to buy tickets!! Thurs., 1/28 (3:45-6pm) and Fri., 1/29 (10-12pm)
- C. Udall Fellowships of up to \$24,000 available to doctoral candidates whose research concerns U.S. environmental public policy. Applicants should be entering their final year of writing their dissertation. Go to www.udall.gov for more information. Deadline Feb. 24, 2010.

VIII. Open Forum- Jack brought up the suggestion that we should allow Post-docs to be senators. Topic will be discussed further at the next senate meeting.

IX. Meeting Adjourned at 1:25 pm