

Graduate Student Association

Senate Meeting Minutes

Memorial Union Room 300

12/9/09 12:30-1:30PM

Executive Board Members in Attendance: Jack Szczepanski, Courtney Schmidt, Jessica Piesz, Carrie Byron

Senators in Attendance: Karen Stamm, Patrick Bowden, Arthur McDonald, Emily Housecamp, Christine Ott, Puneet Kumar, Megan Nelson, Eleni Gesch-K, Josh Atwood, Rosaleen Greene-Smith, Sarah Murphy, Ben Young, Sachin Gupta, Josh Oberle

Makeup meeting: Rama Kompella, Wyatt Furman, Greg Thaelke, Allyson Esposito

- I. Meeting Called to Order at 12:35pm
- II. Approved Senate Meeting Minutes from 11/18/09
- III. Approval of Agenda
- IV. Internal Operations
 - A. President's Report (Jack Szczepanski)
 - i. Committee Reports
 1. Joint Strategic Planning Committee-no meeting
 2. Graduate Council- Working on creating the Strategic Budget Planning Council to replace JSPC. Reviewed the first six sections of the graduate manual. University manual committee changed the title of the graduate school manual.
 3. Faculty Senate-meeting set for tomorrow. Last months meeting discussed the tuition increase and how it will affect graduate and undergraduate enrollment. New/old courses reviewed.
 - ii. Graduate Council to the Dean of CELS- getting a graduate representative from each department in CELS to report to the dean.
 - B. Vice President's Report (Courtney Schmidt)- nothing to report
 - C. Treasurer's Report (Carrie Byron)- pick up your checks
 - i. Vote on Budget Memo- Linking grant funding from GSA and GAU sources so graduate students cannot double dip. Adjusted Dec. 1 and May 1 deadline to Nov. 1 and June 1. Motion to approve budget memo w/ adjusted deadlines passed.
 - D. Secretary's Report (Jessica Piesz)- nothing to report
 - E. Webmaster's Report (Wyatt Furman)- absent
 - F. Committees
 - i. GSA
 1. Community Service Committee- Service suggestions, run/walk, road clean-ups, adopt a highway, mentoring undergraduates about graduate school. Eleni will call Narragansett Police Dept. Ben can get us a discounted sign.
 - ii. University
 1. Academic Standards and Calendar (**Sarah Murphy**)- no contact info

2. Constitution, By-laws, and University Manual (**Josh Oberle**)- no contact info
3. Honors Program and Visiting Scholars (**Kai Zhang**)-absent
4. Library Committee (**Rosaleen Greene-Smith and Eleni Tsoukatos**)- Rosaleen missed the meeting and Eleni was absent
5. Teaching Effectiveness (**Sarah Murphy**)- forgot the minutes from the meeting, will report at the next senate meeting
6. Athletics Advisory Board (**Greg Thaelke**)- absent
7. Learning Outcomes Assessment Oversight Committee (**Josh Oberle**)- couldn't make the meeting
8. President's Commission on the Status of Women at URI (**Munirat Adebimpe**)- absent
10. Council for Graduate Research (**Marcy Thompson**)- Call for proposals, Division Research and Economic Development, Due Fri., Feb. 19, 2010, 4pm. They are faculty grants but there are provisions for graduate students. Applicants can apply for up to \$10,000. Awarded in May 2010.
11. Graduate Student Academic Appeals Board (**Josh Atwood and Becky Greene**)- nothing to report

V. Old Business

- A. Forum for faculty author Richard McIntyre- ~25ppl attended, mostly undergrads but there were faculty and graduate students present. The talk brought students together to discuss next year's tuition increase. More support for the tuition rally. GAU will pay for the refreshments that were provided at the talk.
- B. Undergraduate senate liaison- New university committee. We are going to have a senator sit in on undergraduate council meetings. Rosaleen said she would be interested in becoming the senate liaison. We may have an undergrad attend our senate meetings; the senate said they would be okay with that.
- C. Trivia night committee- Becky and Joe were absent so tabled for the next meeting. We can have it on campus or Kabuki-they are looking for business during the week. Suggested we have a 50/50 raffle.
- D. Semi-formal set for Sat. Feb. 6, 2010, musical entertainment provided by DJ Nando
 - i. Ticket prices? Sales- Senate decided to increase ticket prices to \$15 for graduate students and \$20 for guests. Limited tickets-first come first serve.

VI. New Business

- A. Meeting with parking services- Pot holes have been patched up at Grad. Village. Discussed increasing the lighting along 138 for graduate students walking home. Looking to give graduate students their own parking area so they have easier access to bus where the loop starts (designate parking places in Flagg Rd lot). Increase the number of shuttles on campus and the frequency with which they run during 8-10am and 3-5pm hours (only 5 total, 3 shuttles operating on campus at one time). Jack will send an email thanking parking services for meeting with graduate students.
- B. Elections- will be in March
- C. Spring semester senate meetings: 1/27, 2/17, 3/17, and 4/21 on Wed. at 12:30pm

VII. Announcements

VIII. Open Forum- nothing was added

IX. Meeting adjourned 1:35 p.m.