

Graduate Student Association

Senate Meeting Minutes

Memorial Union Room 300

1/28/2009 12:30-1:30PM

Executive Board Members in Attendance: Matt Freeman, Jack Szczepanski, Marcy Thompson, Laura Ingwell
Senators in Attendance: Betsy Kephart, Andrew Horton, Amanda Leighton, Kai Zhang, Le Yang, Sarah Highland, Stephanie Alliette, Kaly Champlain, Arthur McDonald, Ian Lyckland, Kelly Morris, Alison Messier, Yuan Li, Jessica Piesz, Karen Stamm, Davida Robinson, Joe Brady, Pat Bowden
Excused Senators: Carrie Byron, Ben Young

- I. Called to Order at 12:34PM
- II. Approved Senate Meeting Minutes from December 3
- III. Approved Agenda with the addition of item C under old business: socials
- IV. Internal Operations
 - A. President's Report (Matt Freeman)
 - i. Committee Reports
 1. JSPC mtg: budget discussion, academic planning summit scheduled for 1/30
 2. Grad Council: new courses added, attempt to streamline the process of approval for adjunct faculty, discussed board of gov. retention of graduate programs plan which includes a min. of 6 masters and 4 PhD students graduating each year or the program must go up for review with the board
 - B. Vice President's Report (Jack Szczepanski)
 - C. Treasurer's Report (Marcy Thompson)
 - i. Budget Update given, waiting for check from University for Spring semester (1-2 weeks)
 - D. Secretary's Report (Laura Ingwell)
 - i. Please remember to sign in at each meeting and write legibly
 - ii. If you know of anyone not on the master grad student email list, let me know and I will add them (add Joe Brady and Pat Bowden)
 - E. Webmaster's Report (to be filled)
 - F. GSA Committee Reports
 - i. Service Committee
 1. watch for announcement of upcoming meeting, first event will be planned for March social
 - G. University Committee Reports from Senators
 - i. President's Commission on the Status of Women at URI- **Muni Adebimpe** (absent)
 - ii. Constitution, By-laws and University Manual- **Todd Tetrault** (absent)
 - iii. Teaching Effectiveness- **Tony Baldwin-Voelks** (absent)
 - iv. Athletics Advisory Board- **Jack Szczepanski**
 1. not much for graduate students, next mtg. Thursday 2/5
 - v. Library Committee- **Alison Messier**
 1. the dean established a similar committee to focus on the budget, this committee is focused on student/staff usage and is working to update their services
 - vi. Honors Program and Visiting Scholars- **Kai Zhang**
 1. 2 colloquium were proposed for 2010 and needed modifications before approval (one in healthcare and one in art of film)
 2. 7 new course proposals were presented and 3 approved for fall 2009
 - vii. Council for Research- **Marcy Thompson**
 1. still discussing the ProVost's statement

- viii. Committee on Academic Calendar and Standards still vacant, they are discussing the possibility of changing the add/drop dates for courses during the semester

V. Old Business

A. Webmaster Elections

- i. Wyatt Furman was nominated and elected to fill the position for the Spring of 2009. He is also interested in serving as webmaster next year.

B. Winter Bash Update

- i. Menu announced, flowers coming from Karen Stamm (vases) and Shaws
- ii. Encouraging senators to get their departments involved and spread the word, collect ticket money and set up other times to come to office and purchase tickets if they can not come to the scheduled hours

C. Socials

- i. Thursday, March 5th 6-9PM at Old Mountain Lanes: Bowling alley in Wakefield will give us a block of lanes, shoe rental, food, pool tables, soda, a cocktail waitress within our budget

VI. New Business

A. Grad Council Representative

- i. Meetings held 2-4PM Monday Feb. 23, March 30, and April 20. If you are interested in filling the position email Matt

B. GSA Elections

- i. Think about positions and contact executive board members if you are interested in hearing more. Election will be held in a couple months. Many vacant seats on the exec board.

VII. Announcements

- A. GAU stewards are needed, there is a meeting tomorrow at 5:30PM, contact Jack if interested

- B. Reminder that senators must attend 2 of the 4 meetings to receive their stipend from GSA

VIII. Open Forum

IX. Adjourned at 1:36PM