

# Graduate Student Association

## Senate Meeting Minutes

### Memorial Union Room 300

2/25/2009 12:30-1:30PM

**Executive Board Members in Attendance:** Matt Freeman, Jack Szczepanski, Marcy Thompson, Laura Ingwell, Wyatt Furman

**Senators in Attendance:** Kai Zhang, Kalyana Champlain, Amanda Leighton, Tony Baldwin-Voeks, Kelly Morris, Todd Tetrault, Courtney Schmidt, Karen Stamm, Stephanie Alliette, Muni Adebimpe, Arthur McDonald, Lilly Hancock, Alison Messier, Yuan Li, Davida Robinson, Jessica Piesz, Carrie Byron, Josh Atwood, Joe Brady, Pat Bowden, Ian Lyckland

- I. Called to Order at 12:35 PM
- II. Senate Meeting 1/28/2009 Minutes Approved
- III. Agenda Approved
- IV. Internal Operations
  - A. President's Report (Matt Freeman)
    - i. Grad Council: working on electronic acceptance letters for incoming graduate students, adjustment made to graduation ceremony participation eligibility (all course work must be completed in Spring, nothing left for Summer Session, in order to walk in May)-Matt will email with concerns about KMBA program, redistributing TA-ships and cutting 15 out of 315
  - B. Vice President's Report (Jack Szczepanski)
    - i. Elections for executive board positions will occur at the last meeting in April, nominations will be accepted in March
  - C. Treasurer's Report (Marcy Thompson)
    - i. Budget Update: received check from the University, this year we got \$36,000 and were expecting \$24,000 (yay!) voted to increase budgeted amounts for office operations and meeting expenses
  - D. Secretary's Report (Laura Ingwell)
    - i. Look over executive board meeting minutes
  - E. Webmaster's Report (Wyatt Furman)
    - i. Updated homepage, meetings, organizations
    - ii. Fixing broken links and housing website
    - iii. Photo gallery working
  - F. GSA Committee Reports
    - i. Service Committee
      1. Accepting donations for Animal Rescue League of Southern Rhode Island at Old Mountain Lanes March 5
      2. Accepting donations for Big Sisters of RI in April
      3. Working on either a beach clean-up or helping the Katie DeCubellis Foundation as a volunteer event later this semester or early summer
  - G. University Committee Reports from Senators
    - i. President's Commission on the Status of Women at URI- **Muni Adebimpe** (had to leave early)
    - ii. Constitution, By-laws and University Manual- **Todd Tetrault**, no response from committee
    - iii. Teaching Effectiveness- **Tony Baldwin-Voelks**, no response from committee
    - iv. Athletics Advisory Board- **Jack Szczepanski**, Corothers spoke, expectations of student athletes and schedule conflicts with classes

- v. Library Committee- **Alison Messier**, meetings via email, take the library survey now through March 31<sup>st</sup>, library uses it to improve their services, reporting to faculty senate in April with budget
- vi. Honors Program and Visiting Scholars- **Kai Zhang**, no meeting yet this semester
- vii. Council for Research- **Marcy Thompson**, reviewing institutions and centers on campus, reviewing grants from faculty

V. Old Business

A. Socials

- i. Winter Bash Update: 146 people attended, sold out, HUGE SUCCESS, THANK YOU!
- ii. Bowling March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009 from 6-9PM at Old Mountain Lanes in Wakefield
- iii. April social voted to be held the first week at Casey's in Wakefield on a Monday or Tuesday

B. Job Panel

- i. Any new faculty willing to participate, contact Matt, planning to be held in early April

C. Senators graduating should search out replacements to attend a meeting

VI. New Business

A. By-Laws / Constitution updates: remove GSA/GAU liaison position, remove office manager position

B. Suggestions for Improvements/Involvement for GSA

VII. Announcements

A. GAU funding deadline March 14, general meeting April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5PM at the U-Club, working to get 20% of additional surcharge paid for by assistantships

VIII. Open Forum

IX. Adjourned at 1:32PM