

GSA Minutes 10/29/2010

Attendance

Katie Amrine
Beth Hernandez
Kaiqi Hua
Alisa Keyser
Joshua Phillips
Julie Phillips
Kristynn Sullivan

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 2:13pm.

Katie – GRC

- Course approval process underway
- Short meeting due to several members not attending

Katie – Chancellor Selection Committee

- Most of the officers can't make it to the meeting
- Solicitation for suggestions since Katie will be there

Kaiqi – CAPRA

- Items discussed
 - New criteria for CAPRA
 - New building budget
 - New faculty lines
 - A rubric for selection of lines (hierarchy of sorts)
 - Proposals to attempt to fill this in the decided order
 - GRC needs to approve of the process as well
 - UCLA statement on the University
 - Post-employment and retirement issues

Kristynn – UCSA

- No ability to get UCSA applications in for this year
- Keep in mind to contact around May for potential interested parties
- Drafted a survey

- Topics
 - income
 - housing
 - advisor relationship
 - how easy can you change advisors, etc.
 - community satisfaction
 - university services satisfaction
 - demographics
 - full/part time status
 - percent of income to various expenses
 - TA/GSR
 - other financial aid options
 - stress due to finances
 - department funded?
 - on/off campus
 - housing satisfaction
 - health care services satisfaction
- Probably have an incentive to complete it
- Should be done by Sunday, but then will have a phone meeting to discuss it
- Should be out in November
- Opinion on how changes to health insurance laws will change student plans.
 - Community members might be able to buy a school plan because of the law changes.
 - Impact of PPACA on the student health insurance plan
 - Need a stance on 4 issues
 - New tax – adjust income tax law
 - Individual plan – make it available to non-students, but we probably need try to keep it a group plan (keep costs down)
 - -
 - Last point controversy – voluntary termination of pregnancy
 - The new order may not let this happen
 - Should SHIP offer this?
 - Vote from GSA members
 - Several issues need to be addressed, so may push some of this off until next meeting for more discussion
 - Basically, try to keep costs minimal and roll grad and undergrad plans together?
 - Do we need to address certain benefit issue during this time? Not clear, but will probably need to be addressed.

Josh – Secretarial Stuff

- Minutes fixed

Beth – Update on Community Involvement

- United Way committee
 - Contacted Mary Miller, and Beth is filling this position now
- Met with high school leadership
 - Wants to have interactive research presentations
- Middle school leadership
 - One school is open to having us help, but they are busy
- Farmdale Elementary
 - Tried to contact with changes to program (differences from STEP)
 - Seem to want to keep things going as they were
 - Invited them here, and they were excited at that prospect
 - How do we get funding to bring students here?
 - Students don't tend to get excited about the lab because it goes by fast and they can't really interact with anything.
 - Maybe PIs would be willing to help make it more interactive, actually planning something for the students to DO when they visit.
 - Discussed methods and faculty to contact for various projects.
 - Would to like organize a meeting with grads or include a few questions during the focus groups to get people's ideas.

Kaiqi – Committee Reports

- No one has sent in reports
- SFAC – Ryan Lucas selected as representative
- Bridget Hass will also join sustainability
- Justin Hujdic has filled a committee slot.
- Still a few committees open
 - Health Care Advisory committee seems full enough
 - Research Work Committee was open to more members, so now Eric Josephs could sit on this committee as well. Need to contact him to let him know, and remind him (and Beth) later when it's time for it to meet.

Julie – Budget

- Either ~\$9290 or ~\$5500 in account – ledger not clear, but we are looking at ~\$5600 based on what it says
- =\$5490.72
- Any more money in the Spring? Do we get appropriations per year, we think so.

So, we probably don't get anymore in the spring.

- We definitely only have ~\$5500 left for the year.

Julie and Beth – Focus groups

- Meeting on Tues (11/5) at 1:00pm in the Chancellors Conference Room with Karen Dunn-Haley to work on focus group techniques and training.
- Ann Zanzucchi might come as well at times.
- Starting off well, seems exciting for all parties.
- Suggested free food (maybe just coffee and cookies for instance)
- Maybe a raffle at the end of all of the groups to help get more interest as well
- Who sets up where/when/how for these? Need to address these questions during the meeting.

Katie – Paychecks and Fee Remissions

- Committee on Surveys need to be contacted first.
- Asked for the information from a previous survey that has some data about some issues that we are bringing up in our survey.
 - There's difficulty keeping things anonymous, so it may take some time.
- Our questions are still more specific, but still needs to go through the committee.
- Draft a letter to Keith Alley as soon as we can get the results.
- Maybe just draft the letter without the survey results or maybe ask some questions during the focus groups.
- Katie would like to have some quantification for the ideas in-hand.
- Many people already seem to know the issues quite broadly, so we might be able to do it before the data.
- Basically, we just need to decide what's more important: the data or an early letter...
- Need to focus on retention and recruitment since that's a major focus. Need to get that point in the letter.
- Maybe need to see how long it would take to get the survey approved. If slow, then let's get the letter out first.
- Maybe put survey into the focus groups if we can't seem to get this pushed through quickly

Julie – Travel Grant Rubric

- Need to include license plate, start location and end location for mileage
- Need to submit a unique application for each conference
- Maybe faculty need to address travel methods?
- If you have a GSR or TA appointment during the summer do you need to be “penalized”?

- Any job could be taken during the summer, so that's not worth the difference.

Krisynn – Undergraduate Fee Increase

- Probably 10%
- Probably will pass due to people involved
- Should we try to help with this?
- Now the Regents meetings are at UCSF, so often students do not come as much now to protest
- Finance Committee meeting is the most important (~ Nov 10th)

Katie – ASUCM

- Friday at 2:30pm in the future.
- Our undergrads would like to stop the fee increase (above)
- Try to meet on Nov 5th, but it's last minute, so we'll see and get the agenda first

Kaiqi – UC-wide Committees

- Picked through UCOP, so we don't play a role in this process.

Katie – NAGPS

- Not interested for now
- GSA is too small to benefit at this time

Katie – Cattracks

- Need to check back with complaints
- However, many issues seems resolved

Katie – Communication Issues

- Managing emails
- Keeping documents and website up-to-date

Katie – Meeting time

- Twice a month probably needed (2:00pm on Fridays when Kaiqi can make it)
- Rachael would like to be there, but seems to conflict
- Another day?
- Maybe get her for the second hour of our meetings only?
- **Tuesday 12:00pm-2:00pm**
- **November 9 (next meeting)**
- Scheduled remaining meetings and potluck (see Google Calendar)

Kaiqi – Need to organize a reception for committee volunteers.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05pm.

Old Business to discuss at next meeting(s):

- Travel Grant Application and Rubric – Julie
- Research Week – Rachael
- UCSA Dues & Budget – Julie
- Focus Group / Town Hall Meeting Dates – Beth and Julie
- Seventh GSA Position – Katie
- CatTracks – Katie
- SHIP Update – Kristynn