

GSA Minutes 05/18/2011

Attendance

Katherine Amrine
Beth Hernandez-Jason
Alisa Keyser
Rachael Martin
Joshua Phillips
Julie Phillips
Kristynn Sullivan

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 1:12pm

Previous meeting minutes approved.

Katie

- No new reports from GRC and other meetings
- New Chancellor (Dorothy Leland) seems like a good fit for us

Kristynn

- UCSA
 - Grad Student Bill of Rights completed
 - Will send around for details
 - Lists rights and responsibilities
 - Has to go through Regents now to be system-wide
 - Right now each campus could do it individually, though
 - Retreat with UCSA in July
 - Kristynn will make it for the first day
 - Janelle will be out-of-town

Beth

- CAPRA
 - Summer session money from Keith Alley to Deans
 - Want to tell the Chairs how much that is
 - Went over strategic hires
 - Broken-up by research areas
 - Had external reviewers in each category
 - If only two people proposed in a category, they just tended to focus on favored opinions
 - Couldn't agree on ranking criteria

- Settled on a system even though no one settled the matter
- Mostly came together
- Some weaker proposals got put in certain categories that got them funded
- Call didn't seem to be clear across the schools
- New chair elected

Julie

- Balance: \$3720.45 + \$165.10
- Budget
 - ~\$300 surplus for External Affairs
 - Maybe roll over to travel for EVP next year
 - Travel grants also had surplus
- Carryover from last year was: \$218.96
- UCSA refunds take a long time

Josh – no news

Committee Reports

- Katie – GROW
 - Speed-mentoring request
 - The highest-rated event at GROW
 - “The Mullet”
 - Pamphlet for orientation
 - “Business in front, party in back”
 - Moving forward as well...
 - Thurs. August 18 for speed-mentoring (9:20am??)
 - Mon. Aug 22 for lunch with GSA (12:15pm-1:15pm)
- Kristynn – Budget Committee
 - Each school writes a proposal (from the Dean)
 - Lots of campus entities also ask for money
 - Proposals tend to focus on things that would help everyone in the school, not particularly graduate students
 - What is lacking?? What is a consistent issue that might need to be included or focused on by the proposals.
 - Information will go out to officers over email
- Julie – SFAC
 - Emergency funds were talked about
 - Ryan suggested that they come to SFAC directly if they need it
 - All of our concerns were met
 - One-time allocations were not met
 - Rec Center did not get their tax “help”
 - New vice-chair chosen as well, hopefully can balance responsibilities properly
- Alisa – Health Committee
 - Going to meet more than once a year now (twice)
 - Fall and Spring meetings
 - Dependent coverage

- Coverage starts later than expected
 - Counseling services – continuity of care concerns
 - Fellows for a one-year term
 - Usually have a lot of experience as well
 - You can ask to meet with a professional counselor instead??
 - Only one and it takes too long
 - Seems like the issues facing undergrads on this campus would also bring to bear the importance of having adequate counseling services
 - Last proposal to the Regents to improve these things was voted down
 - Seemed to be primarily because the proposal was poorly written
 - Maybe make a new proposal?
 - Maybe other student groups (like ASUCM) would like to help as well?
 - Need to start gathering specific stories and do our homework to get things together for doing this.
 - Needs to be divorced from general healthcare to give it the spotlight
 - Not pleased with the staff protecting campus interests
 - Not pleased with the effectiveness of the management of health services
- Katie – GRC
 - Spoke with Kello
 - Shortened letter
 - Getting out all of the possible information on how these decisions were made
 - Concerns also brought up
 - Perception issues
 - Judging process
 - Feedback
 - Last year, this was hard to get any information about
 - Last year used unweighted scores, but
 - Funding cap was legally removed to get the funds used before they expired
 - Going to plan for it next year so that USAP won't be lost
 - Too late to apply the rest of the USAP out to the students
 - New person did the work this year
 - Rachael suggested putting together a process for allocating USAP including an application process to Kahil
 - She seemed open, but others who would need to be included might not take the initiative to do it
 - Need to provide a feedback letter to the administration
 - Might need to talk with Grad Division
 - Lots of discussion of the good and bad of situations regarding graduate students
 - Action items to work on
 - Draft email to try to keep people to stop reacting/talking about this because too many rumors are being generated
 - We will compile a complete list of complaints for future reference
 - Need to make sure the process is more transparent from the beginning
 - Do we need to address emails to people, letting them know what happens?
 - Some discussion about the ranking process itself

- Maybe being judged by non-specialists is a problem

Julie – ASCEND sp? Workshop

- Maybe put together a proposal
- John Johnson interested in getting grads to help encourage and mentor undergrads in order to promote them going to graduate school
 - This might have already crossed our desks before, but turned down at the time
- Julie will draft a proposal for this

Tabling a lot of other items until later...

Katie

- Suggestion to write up a code of ethics
- Discussion about appropriateness of contacting students independently
- We all agree that it might be a good idea

Next meeting on May 25th @ 1:00pm.

Meeting adjourned at 3:47pm.

Business to discuss at next meeting(s):

Officer Transitions