

UC Merced Graduate Student Organization
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Delegate Assembly Meeting

December 05, 2018

Grad Pad (SSB 350) 03:00-04:00 PST

Agenda:

1. Call to Order, Approval of meeting agenda (<3 min)
2. Opening Remarks - Internal Vice President (<5 min)
3. Public Comment Period (Time limit 3-min-per-person) (10 min)
4. Round-table updates from Delegate Assembly representatives (10 min)
5. Vote on GSA 2018-2019 budget (5 min)
6. Vote on GSA Graduate Student Organization fund + GSA Sponsored Events fund (20 min)
7. Gather ideas on things to do next semester

Minutes:

Minutes recorded by Lorenzo

1. Call to Order, Approval of meeting agenda
Present: Lorenzo (IVP, EECS), Sarah (Public Health), Houa (Sociology), Brandon (CIS), Gerald (Psych), Boe (Physics), Joshua (IH), Nicholas (ES)
Draft agenda passed unanimously
2. Opening Remarks - Internal Vice President
- GSA advocates on behalf of the graduate/professional student population at UCM in various committees on campus, through the University of California Graduate and Professional Counsel (it's like the Association of GSAs), and directly to grad div.
3. Public Comment Period (Time limit 3-min-per-person)
- Comment expressing desire for the GSA to meet more frequently and to be more timely regarding things, including voting on GSO/Event fund applications
- Announcement from UCM's graduate student representative on UCOP's Title IX Advisory Board. UCOP is collecting comments for an official response to the US Department of Education's proposed Title IX rule changes. Recommendation for the GSA to issue a response condemning the proposed rules.
 - Motion for EC to draft a letter condemning the proposed rule changes. (**PASSED**, unanimously)
4. Round-table updates from Delegate Assembly representatives
- Public Health: 3 dissertation defenses in the program this semester
- No other comments
5. Vote on GSA 2018-2019 budget
- There were multiple remarks/concerns expressed regarding the "incidentals" category in the budget. Request for treasurer to make the category more specific/clear.
- Remark that travel for External VP should be covered by grad div
- **NOT PASSED**, unanimously
- Return budget to treasurer to ask for clarification on the above items

- Motion for expansion of the Travel Awards budget
 - Different approaches discussed. Conclusion: It would likely be unsustainable when considering the rate of income growth due to increased enrollment. This would mean that travel awards would have to be scaled back in the future, which would likely be unpopular.
(**NOT PASSED**, unanimously)

 - Motion for expansion to double sponsored events fund to match GSO fund (to \$2000)
 - Comment: There is a huge barrier for graduate students to get funding for events. There appears to be a reluctance from student-facing departments on campus to offer funding for student-led events.
 - (**PASSED**, unanimously)
 - Pass on to EC for their vote and incorporation into the revised budget
6. Vote on GSA Graduate Student Organization fund + GSA Sponsored Events fund
- There was some discussion regarding sponsored events that were not appropriate for GSA support, as events that were specific to a particular department's seminar/workshop series, events that were a double application (from an entity that applied for GSO funds), or events that did not have a defined budget
 - Motion to vote by web form, so that delegates can evaluate applications at their leisure
(**PASSED**, unanimously)

 - Motion to remove from consideration GSO applications that did not meet eligibility criteria:
No GSO applications removed, by unanimous vote

 - Motion to remove from consideration Sponsored Event applications that did not meet eligibility criteria:
Removed by unanimous vote: Political Science Graduate Journal Club, Workshop: Creating an interactive Shiny App to Share your Research Findings, RadioBio and SACNAS Presents: Dr. Tyrone Hayes QSB Seminar, Central Valley 2019 SIAM Regional Student Conference, MIGSA's Diwali and Garba nights, 2019 Latinx Research Symposium
 - Delegates will provide application feedback on the web form
7. Gather ideas on things to do next semester
Not discussed due to running over time.