

# THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA. GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT COUNCIL

## Meeting Minutes Tuesday, 18 January 2005

### I. Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by James Eddy

**Present:** Rachel Neal, Paul Thorn, James Eddy, Amanda Brobbel, Kevin Bates, Kevin Lichtenthal, Tom Dexheimer, Jani Radebaugh, Jennifer DeWinter, Kathleen Corcoran, Hung Tran, Pietro Valsecchi, Elaine Ulrich, Jessica Lohff, and Jim Collins.

**Proxies:** Marc Barrow, Nadia Sylvestry Rodriguez, Thomas Kinney, Kale Klumpyan, and Craig Quintana.

### II. Calls to the audience: No Response.

**III. Reading and approval of minutes** – Kevin Bates moved to approve the minutes for November for December 7<sup>th</sup>. Kathleen seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

### IV. Officer Reports:

**President** - Amanda Brobbel – Amanda inquired as to whether everyone had received a GradCat by e-mail or in hard copy, and asked reps to distribute the GradCat to any grad/professional students that did receive the issue. Neither the MBAs nor students in the optical sciences received hard copies yet. Paul and Amanda hand delivered issues to the mailboxes of the med and law students. Amanda informed the council of the results of our mediation with ASUA and the Dean of Students. The ASUA president along with his advisors agreed to create a Grad/professional seat on the ASA. The ASUA President would not concede that the seat should be taken by the GPSC President or that the seat should be GPSC appointed. The ASUA President agreed to the creation of the ASUA Shared Services Advisory Committee. This committee would serve to ensure some GPSC participation in the planning of ASUA services. The Dean of Students agreed to a GPSC budget increase of \$45,000 to \$50,000, beginning in the 05/06 academic year. Amanda circulated a sign up sheet for volunteers for a diversity issues focus group. Amanda invited reps to attend Pride Night in Phoenix. During this event, UA students and administrators will have the opportunity to speak with state legislators.

**External Vice President** - James Eddy – James announced his plan for holding constituency meetings for all colleges. There will be 4 meetings a week starting on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. The meetings will serve to familiarize students with GPSC programs, and issues. The meetings will also serve as a medium of student feedback.

**Internal Vice President** - Thomas Kinney – unable to attend.

**Treasurer** - Paul Thorn – Paul circulated an updated budget, showing increased funding for travel to NAGPS meetings, for club funding, and for GPSA week. Paul reported that he had discovered some additional monies, about \$10,000, that the Grad College had budgeted for the GPSC.

**Questions on Officer Reports** – None.

**V. Representative and Director Reports:** Kevin Lichtenthal reported that the Public Health Student Alliance will be holding a fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House. He will be forwarding an announcement to the GPSC listserve. Jen DeWinter announced that students in the English Department are putting on a symposium on the topic of Issues of Race and Inequality. Jen will be forwarding announcement to the GPSC listserve. Jani announced that there is a regularly occurring grad/professional student happy hour at Bumstead's on Thursday nights. She will forward an announcement. Tom announced that he will be setting up a GPSC social at Gentle Bens on February 11<sup>th</sup>. James announced that the Eller College has final hired a new Dean.

### VI. New Business:

**A. Constitutional amendments on recall of officers and reps** – Paul proposed several amendments to the GPSC Constitution regarding recalls for reps and officers. The proposed revisions would allow for recall procedures for reps and officers. A binding recall election of a rep will be initiated by the signatures of 40% of a college, and a recall referendum for an officer will occur when the signatures of 20% of the grad/professional student body are collected. Subsequent to several friendly amendments, Amanda made a motion to pass the amendment. Jen seconded the motion, and the amendment passed unanimously.

**B. Proposal for bylaw on stipend reviews** – Paul proposed to several cosmetic amendments to the GPSC bylaws and elections code: "In all GPSC documents, change all references to *Administrative Vice President* to *External Affairs Vice*

*President.* In all GPSC documents, change all references to *Executive Vice President* to *Internal Affairs Vice President.*” Amanda made a motion to pass the amendment, Jen seconded the motion and the amendments passed unanimously. Paul proposed the addition of two articles, XI and XII, to the GPSC Bylaws. The result of several friendly amendments was as follows:

**“Article XI – Stipend and Workload Review:**

1. The outgoing Council, prior to the election of new representatives and officers, shall set stipends for the incoming representatives and officers. Stipend levels for respective positions shall be confirmed by a majority vote of the council.
2. At least one meeting prior to the meeting at which representative and officer stipends are set, the Council shall discuss the workload and responsibilities of GPSC representatives and officers. This review will serve as the basis for determining the officer and representative stipends for the following year. The review may also serve as the basis of redefining the responsibilities of representatives and respective GPSC officers.

**Article XII - Additional Administrative and Budgetary Powers of the Council:**

1. The Council shall confirm all major GPSC appointments.
2. The Council shall be responsible for ratifying the GPSC budget, pursuant to the GPSC Constitution. The budget shall be balanced. It shall pass by a simple majority vote, and any changes thereto shall be carried out in an identical fashion.”

Kevin Bates motioned to pass Article XI. Pietro seconded the motion, and the article passed unanimously. Kevin Bates motioned to pass Article XII. Elaine seconded the motion, and the article passed unanimously.

**C. Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) Week events** – Paul announced that there will be a band at this year’s barbeque on the Mall. Other possible events for GPSA week were discussed. Elaine proposed that we contact various colleges and solicit proposals for events. Kevin Bates proposed checking into the ILC as a possible location for a movie night. Paul proposed that we upgrade the menu for the Barbeque on the Mall, to change from burgers and hot dogs, to barbeque chicken breast sandwiches and bratwurst. Several reps were concerned with going for an upgrade if the Student Union was not going to deliver a quality product, including preparation on the Mall. Taking burgers as the default, Paul made a motion and Amanda seconded that we upgrade the menu. The result was 10 for and 8 against. In light of the division, Paul proposed to inquire whether we could order some burgers and some chicken breast sandwiches. We should also make sure that there is guarantee that the meals will be prepared on the Mall.

**D. Discussion on GPSC elections and elections code** – Paul raised the proposal of electing all or some GPSC officers by means of a general election of the student body. Several advantages and disadvantages were discussed. A possible advantage would be a greater mandate. A couple of possible disadvantages were mentioned: (1) the likelihood of electing inexperienced officers would increase, and (2) the officer positions would be dominated by certain colleges, or swing back and forth between active colleges. The consensus was against the proposal of electing GPSC officers by means of a general election. Paul proposed some other changes to the GPSC elections code: (1) elections will be electronic, (2) elections will be held so long as there is one candidate, and (3) at-large reps will be elected from the student body. There was consensus that these changes should be made.

**E. Discussion on Code of Academic Integrity** – James moved to table this item. Pietro seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**VII. Call to adjourn** – At 7:50, Jen made a call to adjourn, and the motion was seconded by Amanda. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Paul Thorn