

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA[®]

GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 21st 2006

I. Meeting called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Jennifer deWinter

Present: John Laughlin, Nicholas Amatuzzi, Amanda Brobbel, Randi Tanglen, Paul Thorn, Jennifer deWinter, Jim Collins, Catherine Neish, Nadia Silvestry Rodriguez, Anne Murdaugh, Pietro Valsecchi, Aaron Gubi, Luna Iris, Beth Specker, Eva Shaw, Claudia Benavente,

Proxies: Hrishi Shende Elaine Ulrich, Kathleen Corcoran, Chris Brown, Beverly Wilson

II. Calls to the audience: None.

III. Reading and approval of minutes – Anne motions to pass both 1/24 & 2/7 minutes, Pietro seconds, motion passes.

IV. Officer Reports:

President –Elaine Ulrich – Absent

External Vice President – Paul Thorn – (1) There will be a movie night this Thursday, (2) encourage others to run in the upcoming elections, (3) GradCats are out, if you need any let Paul Thorn known, (4) the health insurance survey will close at 11pm tomorrow. 700 people have responded thus far and the Wildcat will run a story

Internal Vice President – Jennifer deWinter – (1) Constituency meetings: they will not be as structured this term, it will be up to the officers to decide how best to meet with their constituents...get this info to Jennifer deWinter ASAP. (2) There are two (2) forums planned, 3/27 at 1pm and 3/30 at 1pm during GPSA Week.

Treasurer – Nick Amatuzzi – Nothing to report.

Secretary – John Laughlin – Nothing to report.

V. Representative and Director Reports:

Jennifer deWinter: There has been no movement on the part of the Dept of English Grad Union; the English Dept. is still having to make cuts

Amanda Brobbel: Election posters are going up, be sure to post them where you feel they will be most effective. GPSA Week: 3/27 – BBQ on the mall from 11-1 (a DJ will play from 12-1). Many other events have been planned and scheduled, so get word to your constituents. There will be a recruitment meeting next Tuesday from 6-8 at La Aldea (free pizza will be provided).

VI. New Business:

a. Discussion Concerning Fees

i. Information

\$15/semester is proposed and the GPSC is in favor of such a fee

ii. Student Union

The ASUA is to hold special elections in April, and is to put the fee to a vote for students. UAB has been collecting signatures to hold the referendum as part of the general election, but it does not appear that they will get the required number in time.

iii. Technology

Proposed fee is \$65/semester, it would double the next year to end at \$130/semester. This is based on Teir 1 comparisons; the fee is supposed to cover support of current services and prepare for the

future; the fee would not be covered by remission. The GPSC is not in favor of this fee at this time due to high expense and an extreme lack of detail as to how funds will be allocated.

iv. **Differential Fees**

These fees are in the College of Nursing. Kim Shea met with some of the Deans and the situation appears to be fine regarding program fees. There was some concern for Pharm D students not being grandfathered out of program fees, but the situation is still in process

v. **Financial Aid**

The graduate College has gained access to some funds from need-based Financial Aid and will create a fund for "Graduate College Diversity Fellowships." These recruitment fellowships will be one time grants, but the student who receives this fellowship must be in-state or an under-represented student and in a PhD track program. Paul Thorn recommends drafting a letter to the Graduate College detailing the GPSC's position in this matter.

b. Constituency Meetings

See Jennifer deWinter's officer report.

c. ASA Situation

The GPSC wants representation on the ASA board. 86% of grads who voted, voted in favor of this and that the GPSC president should be the member to sit on the board. There were over 630 dollar-back requests. All of this information was presented to the ASUA student body president, but ASUA does not want to make any movement on this issue until the next president is elected. Paul Thorn proposed having a vote during GPSA Week.

d. Letter From Cade Bernsen

Cade Bersen sent a copy of his letter to Pietro Valsecchi regarding his impeachment. The council read the letter and discussed its content.

VII. Call to adjourn – At 7:50pm, John Laughlin made a call to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Catherine Neish, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by John Laughlin