

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA[®]

GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 4th 2006

I. Meeting called to order at 5:59 p.m. by Jennifer deWinter

Present: John Laughlin, Nicholas Amatuzzi, Amanda Brobbel, Randi Tanglen, Paul Thorn, Jennifer deWinter, Jim Collins, Anne Murdaugh, Aaron Gubi, Elaine Ulrich, Kathleen Corcoran, Leslie Walker, Eva Shaw, Nadia Silvestry Rodriguez, Catherine Neish, Pietro Valsecchi, Julie Selvaggi, Christina Vasquez, Tom LaGatta, Jenny Cohen, Nick Fernandet, Joe Van Opdorpe, Josh Wright, Sharen Halbert, Hrishi Shende, Laura Gronewold, Sandy Gronewold, Kendar Dhane, Handes Hauitta, Kathryn Williams, Boris Glebov

Proxies: Chris Brown, Luna Iris, Claudia Benavente, Marni Glick

II. Calls to the audience: None.

III. Reading and approval of minutes – John Laughlin motions to pass the 3/21/06 minutes, Randi Tanglen seconds, the motion carries.

IV. Officer Reports:

President – Elaine Ulrich – Elaine extends a welcome and congratulations to all the new reps, also stating that we had the highest voter turnout to date; Elaine brings today's Wildcat to the council's attention and its inclusion of an article that claimed the GPSC's referendum was biased and misleading. Elaine spoke with Dorian Voorhees, Dean Comrie, and MTV, and the administration will do its best to help the council set the record straight to the point that it was the GPSC and the Graduate College who was responsible for the many positive outcomes for Graduate Students in the past, Elaine also mentioned that members from ASU will also go on record.

External Vice President – Paul Thorn reports that he has drafted a response letter to be printed in the Daily Wildcat.

Internal Vice President – Jennifer deWinter reports a successful group forum meeting for constituents and also requests that further ideas on how to best serve constituents be sent to her; Jennifer also brought the New Directions Conference to be held this week on Thursday, Friday & Saturday to the council's attention.

Treasurer – Nick Amatuzzi – Nothing to report.

Secretary – John Laughlin – Nothing to report.

V. Representative and Director Reports:

Nadia Silvestry Rodriguez: Reports that it was brought to the Graduate Council's attention that there is a problem for some graduate students who submitted their thesis title and if choosing human subjects...this has affected the ability to graduate for these students.

Pietro Valsecchi: Reports that the Campus Emergency Response Team will hold a drill on April 12th sometime between 8am and 12pm and to get the word to your constituents as the drill may affect your work-day.

Aaron Gubi: Reports that the Center for Student Involvement is currently in the midst of a campaign to pass the Student Union Fee.

Leslie Walker: Informed the council that the government organization S.E.V.I.S.'s reporting of international students is proposing an increase of \$50 to their fee and this process is under discussion. With the increase the fee would be \$70.

Jim Collins: Having filled in for the Committee of 11 meeting, Jim reports that there is going to be a revamp of all of the U of A's Administration computing system, Jim voiced that the new technology fee should not be used to help to fund this upgrade; Jim also reports that after drafting his letter from last term regarding the

dismissal of students, the Graduate College has accused him of misleading his constituents and has blocked his access to his email contacts for his constituency.

Hrishi Shende: Reports that there is currently a discrepancy with the Social Security office for International students, that to get a job an Int'l student needs and SSN, but to get an SSN, the given student needs to have a job.

Amanda Brobbel: Reports that the department of French and Italian has cut all the funding for its fifth year students and has (in a sense) left the students hanging with regards to funding; Amanda asks the council that if anyone is interested in helping with a speaker on emotional abuse, to contact her; Amanda also reports that all of the events for GPSA week has great turnouts with the exception of Family Fun Day and asks for ideas for next year.

Jennifer deWinter: Informs the council that she is putting together a Graduate writing help seminar

VI. New Business:

a. Student Union Fee

With many new reps present and the Student Union fee coming up to a vote on 4/11 and 4/12, the council reviews its position such that everyone will feel comfortable talking with their constituents about the issue.

b. Travel Grant Policy

After much debate regarding the June 1st deadline for Travel Grants, the council decided that the deadlines will be based on the date of the conference (Pre/Post July).

c. Inauguration of New Representatives

The council successfully inaugurated its new representatives.

d. New Representative Orientation

Amanda Brobbel walked the new members through the various internal positions available to reps and informed them that elections will be held at the next meeting. Those interested in running need to contact Amanda by 4/12 at midnight

VII. Call to adjourn – At 7:37pm, John Laughlin made a call to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Elaine Ulrich, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by John Laughlin