

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA. GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 1st 2006

I. Meeting called to order at 6:04pm by Randi Tanglen

Present: Catherine Neish, Sarah Mosher, Paul Thorn, Boris Glebov, Joshua Scott, Jennifer Cohen, Gail Bradford, Aaron Gubi, Christina Vasquez, Anne Murdaugh, Kathleen Corcoran, Amanda Brobbel, Randi Tanglen, Kathryn Williams, Joe VanOpdorp, Claudia Benavente

Proxies: Tom LaGatta, Nadia Silvestry Rodriguez, Elaine Ulrich, Sandy Marshall, Laura Gronewold, Kedar Dhane

II. Calls to the audience: None.

III. Reading and approval of minutes – Joe VanOpdorp motions to pass the 7/11/06 minutes, Paul Thorn seconds, the motion carries.

IV. Officer Reports:

President – Paul Thorn – (1) Paul had his regularly scheduled meeting with President Shelton today. They talked about the ASUA representation issue, and Paul asked President Shelton to talk to ASUA President Erin Hertzog. Paul also reminded President Shelton about the student health insurance issue, and they talked about tuition. The President expects a 2.5-5% increase next year. (2) Paul will talk to Melissa Vito about the memo of understanding on graduate student representation. President Shelton seemed positive about making the changes outlined in the memo. (3) A meeting will be set up on Sept. 14 to consider a draft for the Request for Proposals for the student health insurance plan. (4) Sarah and Randi have drafted preliminary reports on the peer surveys and research done last year. (5) Paul is attending the ASA retreat this week. He will try to recruit more committee members for the health insurance committee. (6) The next ABOR meeting will be held Aug. 10-11 at ASU. The regents will be discussing tuition setting and the university budget. (7) Paul encouraged representatives to know their internal committees. These committees should start meeting soon. (8) The Student Union is implementing a club recognition fee of \$20. Aaron Gubi is exploring the option of creating a process to pay for this fee for graduate student clubs. (9) Career Services, who met with us at our July meeting, has decided to implement some of the proposals suggested. Examples of the new services include a flyer for graduate orientation, devoting a section of their newsletter specifically for graduate students, and distributing more information to graduate advisors. (10) Volunteers are needed for the international graduate student orientation.

Vice President – Anne Murdaugh – (1) Reminded representatives to meet with their Dean. (2) Anne is working on implementing a calendar function for the website.

Assembly Chairperson – Randi Tanglen – Sarah Mosher has put together all the information from last spring's health care survey, and Randi is putting together a report on health care at peer institutions.

Treasurer – Joshua Scott – (1) Representatives will be receiving their summer stipends soon. (2) The GPSC budget will be presented at the next meeting.

Secretary – Catherine Neish – (1) The next GPSC will be held on Thursday, Aug. 24 in the Ventana Room. (2) Several social events are coming up, including speed dating on Aug. 30, and the first book club meeting on Sept. 28.

V. Representative and Director Reports:

Kathleen Corcoran: Kathleen spoke with Lizzie Schloss in Career Services. She will set up a workshop on career options for biology Ph.Ds.

Sarah Mosher: Sarah is working on the results of the 2006 health insurance survey. She handed out some comments from the survey (all negative in nature). She is currently writing a GradCat article about the results, and plans to set up a webpage with more information.

Amanda Brobbel: Amanda still hasn't received keys for the GPSC offices for the new officers. We will likely need to get the locks changed.

Aaron Gubi: Aaron processed the first round of travel grants. Many people have volunteered to be judges for these grants.

VI. New Business

a. GPSC Retreat

The GPSC retreat is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, August 26 at 9:00am in the La Aldea common room. The officers will present orientation information about the GPSC, and outline their plans for the next year. Food will be provided, including lunch afterwards at Gentle Ben's.

b. Graduate Orientation

A volunteer sign-up sheet was sent around for Graduate Orientation. Volunteers are needed for the following dates:

Monday, August 14

Time TBA Stuffing information packets

Wednesday, August 16

8:00-9:00am Set-up and check-in

9:00-12:00pm Set-up for information fair, monitor talk length

12:00-2:00pm Sit at GPSC booth in information fair

The opening social will be held on Friday, August 18 at 5:00pm at The Shanty. Representative's shirts should be ready before GO.

c. Constituency Meetings

Representatives were informed that they must meet with their constituents once a semester, to find out their ideas and thoughts. Last year the GPSC held individual college meetings in the fall, and a university-wide forum in the spring. A discussion ensued about the pros and cons of holding college meetings versus university-wide forums. It was noted that college constituency meetings are harder to coordinate, but they offer the advantage of meeting one on one with constituents. A possible compromise might be to combine related colleges into one constituency meeting, and hold forums when needed (i.e. for the new health insurance plan).

VII. Call to adjourn – At 7:18pm, Joe VanOpdorp made a call to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Joshua Scott, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Catherine Neish.