

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA. GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes Tuesday, November 1st 2005

I. Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Jennifer deWinter

Present: John Laughlin, Elaine Ulrich, Nicholas Amatuzzi, Amanda Brobbel, Randi Tanglen, Paul Thorn, Eva Shaw, Jennifer deWinter, Leslie Walker, Jim Collins, Catherine Neish, Sarah Grace, Marni Glick, Nadia Silvestry Rodriguez, Aaron Gubi, Kathleen Corcoran, Pietro Valsecchi, Chris Brown, Beverly Wilson

Proxies: Tom Dexheimer, Beth Specker, Anne Murdaugh, Claudia Benavente, Kim Shea

Guests: None

II. Calls to the audience: None.

III. Reading and approval of minutes – Jennifer de Winter proposes to pass the 10/4/05 minutes. Elaine Ulrich seconds; the vote passes unanimously. Paul Thorn moves to table the 10/18/05 minutes, Eva Shaw seconds, the motion carries with 2 opposed.

IV. Officer Reports:

President – Elaine Ulrich – Attended the Student Regent candidate meeting for ASU. No single candidate seemed to stand above the rest. Elaine also met with Dorian Voorhees and Julie Treanor regarding inequality and compensation with graduate students. Currently ½ of GTAs are getting 100% remission and GTAs on 10 month appointments are only getting paid for 9; also of concern is the FICA taxation. Elaine also met with the Childcare Workgroup: some names/groups in attendance were Melissa Vito, Dan Adams, Baby Cats, etc.; they are looking to put out a survey for student needs next term (for a feasibility study); those involved simply need more information at this point before steps can be taken to give more childcare support for all students. Elaine also met with Diane Horgan of the Graduate College for a discussion on Int'l T.A.'s and training resources available; apparently the financial resources available are being stretched to their limits as is, so additional funds would need to come from elsewhere. Elaine and Nadia attended the search committee meeting for the new Dean of the Graduate College: things are moving slowly.

External Vice President – Paul Thorn – Grad Cats should have been distributed to departments. There will be a movie night on 11/10/05 (Batman Begins). On 12/2/05 there will be a social at Bumstead's. On 11/3/05 there will be Student Outreach Committee meeting.

Internal Vice President – Jennifer deWinter – Jennifer is working to get the Dean of the Library to come and speak at a GPSC meeting. Her internal committee is almost finished revising the GPSC Constitution.

Treasurer – Nick Amatuzzi - Providing a handout for GPSC members, Nick presented the council with a strong and encouraging budget for the rest of the academic year. Of note, is the average funding level across all groups who requested funding was 88%.

Secretary – John Laughlin – Nothing to report.

V. Representative and Director Reports:

Eva Shaw: The Diversity Coalition – American Indian Studies is going to request \$3 million from the state legislature. In addition, President Likins has approved \$4 million for a "Border Studies" program.

Jim Collins: Draft of a letter is forthcoming regarding the University's academic probation policy.

Amanda Brobbel: Urges members to sign up to help out during the 2-day span of Showcase (11/4/05-11/5/05). There will be two more meetings for the Childcare Committee this term.

VI. New Business:

a. Club Funding

Nick Amatuzzi makes a motion to fund: “Water for People” (\$200), “Digital Arts Club” (\$200), “Historical European Martial Arts Club” (\$495), “Graduate Printmaking Club” (\$1500), “Net Impact” (\$1500). Pietro seconds, the motion carries unanimously.

b. Resolution HR 609

Paul Thorn brought a drafted letter to the council and asked for its support in opposing Federal legislation proposed resolution “H.R. 609.” One point alone: the state’s proposed resolution would mark the single largest cut in the history of student aid programs. Paul Thorn made a motion for the council to approve said letter and send it to the national representative for the state of Arizona, Jennifer deWinter seconds, the motion carries unanimously.

c. Budget Reallocation

Paul Thorn makes a motion to move \$745 from Buffer to Socials in order to cover the increased costs of “movie nights,” the second Fall social, and to cover an additional Fall and Spring social. Chris Brown seconds, the motion carries unanimously.

VII. Old Business:

a. Financial Aid

Paul Thorn brought the following proposal to the council regarding the distribution of Financial Aid as currently, aid money is being uniformly distributed among funded and unfunded students:

Allow the Graduate College to distribute the aid monies for graduate students. On this proposal, the Grad College would distribute funds to departments. Aid packages would be \$8,000 per student, and would only be given to unfunded students.

After a lengthy discussion by the council it was determined that there simply was not enough information available at the time to support moving forward with such an agenda item. The discussion was tabled for potential further discussion and/or debate.

b. At-large vote for GPSC President & External VP

Aside from discussing an at-large vote for the GPSC President and EVP, the idea of what type of system would need to be in place to support such an election was brought up: a one-to-one vote vs. an electoral college. It was the general consensus of the council that a poll should be taken to determine whether or not Graduate students would even prefer an at-large election. Paul Thorn motioned to approve a poll to be sent to grad students to determine their interests pending the council’s approval of the language, John Laughlin seconds. Before the motion passed, Aaron Gubi proposed the idea of adding a ballot initiative to ask what type of election graduate students would prefer. The idea was discussed, but not voted on.

VIII. Call to adjourn – At 7:52pm, Randi Tanglen made a call to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Chris Brown, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by John Laughlin