

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA[®]

GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT COUNCIL

General Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 17, 2009
La Aldea community room

I. Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm by David Talenfeld - no quorum, all voting issues deferred to future meeting, meeting carried on as informal

Present: David Talenfeld, Russel Potter, Cory Christenson, November Papaleo, Bryan Korth, Lauren Sekora, Chizanya Mpinja, Francisco Barrios, Jim Collins

Proxies: M'Balia Thomas (Christensen), David Lopez-Negrete (Christensen),

II. Call to Audience - none

III. Officer Reports

a. President - *David Talenfeld*

About the budget

Ran into problem with budget, could not provide GA stipends due to Grad College issues, Teresa Carochi from business office of Grad College reported that it was not allowed to have GA positions for elected positions (i.e. President, VP). Dean Comrie has allowed a change from 70-30 to 50-50 (Grants:Salary). Indicated that due to changes in budget, the following positions have been lost or altered. Lost: Chief of Staff, Policy Director, Grants Director; new/altered: Office Manager (former CoS), Policy Director (Stephen Bieda per request), and Grants Director has been changed to an hourly pay. At current time, not enough room in budget for GA for non-elected positions.

Transition to Student Affairs

Excited to work with Student Affairs as more of their goal and mission to work with students, looking to work with and move into the future.

Goals - 3 major

1. Raise profile of GPSC on campus - Possibly through a large, charity event. Hopefully privately funded and open to all, undergraduate, graduate and professional student.

J. Collins - Is the charity event targeted for the U of A or an external agency?

N. Papaleo - When looking to hold, must be careful not to coincide with current events run by fraternities/sororities on campus.

D. Talenfeld - initially looking for U of A but willing to look at other options. Currently unsure of timing of event.

2. Fund as close to or above 75% of all travel grants.

Views that one of GPSC main callings is to provide for students and to utilize monies provided to the GPSC to ensure that students are provided means to demonstrate their abilities and work. Also need to utilize money responsibly so that future cycles retain money at current level.

3. Organize a class about the legislative/political climate facing the students of the U of A - With all of the changes facing the campus community and the students in particular, would like to provide a means to educate graduate and professional students. Is currently thinking about logistics and working through a tentative idea. Any suggestions are welcome.

N. Papaleo - Due to logistics of a class, especially for credit, it may be more beneficial and altogether easier to put on a workshop.

b. Vice President - *David Lopez-Negrete - not present*

c. Treasurer - *Cory Christensen*

Grants - based on budget, approximately \$50k left over from budget, asked Grants Director to spend as much as possible, used about \$30k of the \$50k left over. New budget director, Patti Waters in Student Affairs.

Student Affairs - many budgetary process will stay the same. If going to spend money on anything in regards to official events, only major restrictions are on alcohol or gift cards. If want to spend money on events will likely have pre-authorization forms, need to get signed by Talenfeld, Christensen, or other designated individual prior to purchase, more information to come. Form does not guarantee reimbursement. Meeting with Student Affairs will occur in the coming weeks.

d. Secretary - *Bryan Korth - none*

IV. Representative and Director Reports - none discussed

V. Questions for Officer, Representative and Director Reports

C. Christenson - About the ASUA concert, what was the final result after meetings with various individuals?

D. Talenfeld - GPSC will not be penalized or held accountable nor will it see any change in the amount of money allotted to the organization based upon the ASUA penalties. U of A admits that there is a level of risk in such events and a number of factors allowed to happen. ASUA will be paying back the loss over the coming years

VI. Reading and Approval of Minutes - postponed to future meeting

a. May 6, 2009

VII. Old Business

a. Committee Assignments - David Talenfeld - deferred to next meeting

b. GPSC Budget - Cory Christensen - discussed above

c. Question/Responses from previous meetings

J. Collins - CCIT question - GPSC has identified a series of concerns regarding the University's outsourcing of e-mail services to Google. Most of these concerns are based on the premise that student e-mail records are considered to be confidential "education records" protected under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). At a meeting between student government and a Google representative on April 9, 2009, both Limell Lawson (Senior Director, Frontline Services, Office of Student Computing Resources) and Tom Rees (Associate Director, Frontline Services, University Information Technology Services) stated that the University does not consider student e-mail records to be "education records" protected by FERPA. Since this position is contrary to applicable case law, published

policies at other Universities, and even the U of A's on-line FERPA training materials, Jim Collins sent an e-mail to Ms. Lawson on April 10, 2009 seeking confirmation of her statements and clarification of the University's position regarding the question of whether or not student e-mail records are "education records" protected by FERPA. No response has been forthcoming. One major concern is the following, without proper precautions being put in place in advance, a FERPA violation could occur if a student chooses to keep his/her Google-based e-mail account after graduation, and then uses "Google the commercial e-mail provider" to access the confidential student records which were previously maintained by "Google the University e-mail provider." Even if appropriate policies and informed-consent protocols are implemented, some students still may not understand that they are surrendering their rights to FERPA protection of the student e-mails by choosing to keep their Google-based e-mail accounts after graduation.

D. Talenfeld - Unsure how to proceed but as a preliminary measure, can request that members of the GPSC sit in on meetings for contract and development.

J. Collins - Can the GPSC request a formal response about what the official policy is on student email and confidentiality.

D. Talenfeld - Can make a personal request via email and will reassess situation and position of the council at future meeting.

N. Papaleo - Other universities have the necessary safeguards in place, maybe U of A can use those as template.

VIII. New Business

a. Graduate Orientation - J. Gerlach - not present - From email, need people to sign up for various events for Graduate Orientation. Will be one of major focuses for July meeting. Will either pass around sheet or determine if can figure out on-line sign up.

b. Fall Meeting Schedule - D. Talenfeld - deferred to future meeting

IX. Call to Adjourn - meeting adjourned at 7:15 by D. Talenfeld