

**GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE**

*Executive Meeting Minutes*

September 28, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER – 5:41 P.M.
   1. Location: GSS Office
   2. In attendance: Chriss Sneed (via telephone), Matthew Parent, Donyeil Hoy, Deepthi Varghese, Jordan Rees (via Skype), Ross Dardani
2. President’s Summary
   1. Meeting with Scott Jordan & Transportation– talked about transportation and housing problems facing graduate students. The meeting was productive.
   2. GSS Internal/External Committees
      1. Tom Briggs wants to be on the student welfare committee; Matt Parent will email him about this.
      2. Vacancies –
         1. we will try to get people to sign up for the committees at the next senate meeting. After that, we will send announcements to the senators.
         2. We need someone for the finance committee
   3. Roster Update – Don is putting together the list. He hopes to have it done by Friday.
   4. GSS Events
      1. Welcome Back event – Lizzie’s has been paid. All documentation has been finalized.
      2. New possibilities/expenditures
         1. Transportation working group – This would replace some of the happy hours. GSS could provide food. We will bring it at the next senate meeting. We can put forth plan to reallocate funds to this pending senate and new Activities Director approval. Could possibly have this at Dog Lane or Sarah’s Pockets.
         2. Thanksgiving – we have a certain amount allocated. We need to discuss plans with senate
      3. Alterations to budget – We will propose to the senate setting aside $5000 for unallocated money for general needs.
3. Vice President (Matthew Parent)
   1. Committee Assignments (Discussed above already)
   2. Student Welfare Committee – Tom Briggs wants serve, as stated above. Victoria Blodgett reached out wants to stay updated. The plan is for the committee to be more active this year.
   3. Graduate Trainings – Matthew will keep pushing forward on making sure we make changes to the trainings for other graduate organizations.
4. Treasurer (Deepthi)
   1. Attendance policy – We will remind the senate about the attendance policy, particularly as it relates to funding.
   2. Emergency Short-Term Loans – Latest numbers will be presented at the senate meeting.
   3. Summer Pay Voting – We will have the senate vote on Chriss and Deepthi’s summer pay.
   4. Special allocation – Turkish student association requests $3505 for two events: welcome dinner and Turkish cultural night. Estimated 90 people to attended. This works out to $40/per person.
      1. Executive board votes no.
      2. The requested amount is ¼ of the remaining special allocations budget.
   5. Special Allocation – the Horticulture society requests money for an event, but we can’t fund because they are a USO.
      1. They have graduate student involvement, and therefore a legitimate need to for funding
      2. Perhaps in the future they can start a GSO to operate in tandem with the USO.
   6. Reimbursement Issue – We will make an announcement letting groups know that when they use University Catering they can use the GSS KFS number.
   7. GSS Email – Becca Herman set up GSS emails for the executive committee.
5. Notes from the Communications Director
   1. Agenda – We will make an announcement that all agenda items should be received by the Sunday before the senate meeting.
6. Parliamentarian
   1. By-Law amendment for attendance – Don will look into how to amend attendance laws that currently do not count committee participation towards a GSO’s attendance requirements. We received a proposal that groups be able to appeal when they do not meet the requirement, but we want to make sure there are still minimum standards established.