

Attendance:

- **Present:** Vanessa Lovelace, Greg Treich, Phillip Price, Morad Behandish, Tony Patelunas (minutes)
- **Absent:** Thomas Briggs

Meeting began 5.07pm

Approval of minutes: GSS Executive Minutes for 19th August 2015 approved

President: Tony Patelunas

- Office phone. The Executive currently have a phone in the office and we pay the bill. Tony will contact Ross to get the phone working since a student reported the line not working.
- Tony brought up the current discussion of insurance changes to the Student Health Insurance Plan.
 - Having spoken to Joseph Sweet in the Procurement Office, the health insurance change came about because the previous Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) did not qualify for the Affordable Care Act. This past summer the university decided to go on the Gold plan instead of the Platinum plan for students resulting in an increased cost from the previous year. About 2,200 are on SHIP and ~25% are graduate students. This plan is bid on every 5 years and we should seek to have a graduate representative on the committee.
- Kent Holsinger, Dean of the Graduate School will be the speaker at the first GSS Senate meeting,
- Agenda items:
 - Guest Speaker
 - Kent Holsinger, Dean of the Graduate School
 - New Business:
 - Committee elections
 - Senator-at-large elections

Treasurer: Greg Treich

- Greg has asked the Writing Center to submit 2 proposals: one for \$180 to cover a single retreat, and one for \$1,200 to cover all of them.
 - The Executive agreed that these should be voted on by the Senate instead of direct Executive approval. If there is not a quorum at the first meeting then the Executive will take an electronic vote to approve the \$180 allocation.
- The current surplus is \$17,000.

- The Executive would like to spend ~\$3,000 on supplies for running GSS including new computers for the office and a new printer since all current equipment is old.
- The Executive discussed whether the remainder should be given to the Activities Committee budget, Special Allocations, Tier II, or all of the above.
- The Executive decided for:
 - ~\$5,000 to Special Allocations (with strong advertisement)
 - ~\$8,500 to Activities Committee
- This requires Senate approval

- Agenda items:
 - New Business:
 - Surplus budget
 - Writing Center Special Allocations
 - Finance Committee

Parliamentarian: Phillip Price

- Everyone should read Robert's Rules of Order to be familiar with how meetings are run.
- Senator registration. Last year senator registration wasn't necessary to vote at the first meeting. Voting for approval was done via honor code since all people who are senators should know.
- Quorum will be 29 senators for the first GSS meeting on 16th September.
- Senators need to vote on the Writing Center Special Allocation proposal for \$1200. The Executive agreed that they will support this allocation but does not want to approve it without senates approval unless there is no quorum.
- Minutes from last meeting should have been distributed by email
- Phillip would like to bring up the voting process under Old Business. This process was brought to the Senate last year in light of debate during the executive board elections
- Tom should discuss the service award amendments under Old Business.

- Agenda items:
 - Old Business:
 - Voting Process
 - Service award amendments (Thomas Briggs)

Meeting ended 7.00pm