Graduate Student Association Meeting Minutes
Date: March 13, 2013
Time: 6:15 pm
Location: James Room, Sadler Center

I. Call to Order

II. President’s Report
   a. Student Assembly Budget
      i. The GSA requested $10,000 and was initially given $500. This means that we were granted no funding for colloquia, nor for the GRS.
         1. Funding for food was cut across the board.
         2. We currently have $3,100 for next year’s GRS. We need to apply for an additional $3,000. It is possible that if we do not get those funds, that individuals may have to pay to participate in the GRS.
      ii. The next Student Assembly meeting will be at 7 pm on Tuesday, March 19th in Blow 332. Please come and voice your concerns about grad funding cuts. The more graduate students that attend, the more likely that our concerns will be addressed.
      iii. Question asked about money from the Dean’s Discretionary Fund: Will we ever get that funding again?
          1. The $1,000 of the Dean’s Discretionary Fund was revoked due to negligence in maintaining the Grad Portfolio. There does not seem to be a revival of those funds in the foreseeable future.
      iv. Currently Arts & Sciences and VIMS are the only two schools not guaranteed funding from Student Activities. Libby wants to secure some kind of flat rate funding for next year.

III. Vice President’s Report
   a. Elections
      i. The GSA currently has only one nominee for an officer position.
         1. As a result, elections will not be held on March 20th as originally planned.
         2. Please spread the word in your departments that we need nominees. Self-nominations are acceptable!
      ii. Frank Fucile suggested splitting the President’s position into two Co-President positions. The suggestion was also made that the Student Senate Rep’s position be split as well.
         1. Frank Fucile self-nominated himself for Vice President or Co-President.
         2. Janine Yorimoto self-nominated herself for Secretary.

IV. Secretary’s Report
   a. Website updates
      i. Once health and parking surveys are ready for posting to the GSA website, Meghan will put them up.
      ii. Ellen informed Meghan that the form for colloquium funding is not working. Meghan will fix this.

V. Treasurer’s Report
   a. Reimbursements
      i. We currently have $514 left for reimbursements.
1. It is likely that we will not use up all of the colloquium funding. Ideally, we do not want any leftover funds. **Please notify Ellen Chapman if you know of any opportunity within your department for using colloquium funding.**

VI. Social Chair’s Report  
   a. Spring Event  
      i. After much consideration, Sean has decided that a Field Day type event might be too much work and too much risk in organizing and executing. Sean suggested that we host a BBQ or Volleyball Tournament instead.  
         1. Sean needs volunteers to assist him with planning and organizing this event. **Please contact Sean Koebley if you are interested in helping out.** Sean passed around a sign-up sheet.  
         2. The date for the Spring Event will be **Friday, April 19th** (the week after Grad Bash).

VII. Student Senate Representative’s Report  
   a. Janine made call to students for them to come participate in the next meeting, where grad students will make a plea for a reversal/change in budget cuts.

VIII. Parliamentarian’s Report  
   a. Grad Bash  
      i. The date for the Grad Bash is **Friday, April 12th**—Look for emails from Trevor Daubensbeck for more information.

IX. Health Insurance Committee Report  
   a. Ellen sent out summary of survey results and welcomes feedback on the report.  
      i. One of the main complaints was the payment schedule.  
         1. Other concerns included Student Health Center fee ($134 for first visit if you are not a funded student). This rule is not well publicized and students do not have a strong understanding of their insurance policy and what is covered by it.  
      ii. **Trista Sykes** is the contact person for health insurance inquiries. Students are encouraged to reach out to Trista with their questions and concerns.

X. Parking Committee Report  
   a. Sean will send Libby his finalized report.  
      i. Sean was impressed by the number of students who took the survey (169 students) and provided comments on their parking experiences at W&M. Sean suggested that we send out surveys like this every year.  
         1. W&M students pay more money for parking each year than students at any other school in Virginia.  
         2. Primary concerns include high cost, lack of available spots, and safety.  
         3. **74%** of students say that they stay on campus after 5 pm more than 2 times a week. This raises concerns about have safe parking options.  
         4. Libby will send out final report.

XI. New Business  
   a. Candidate Statements  
      i. Postponed.
b. **Professors’ Roundtable: Monsanto** will be held **Wednesday, March 20th at 6 pm in Tidewater A**
   a. Participants include professors from Chemistry, History, Philosophy, and Environmental Law.
   b. Frank volunteered to make flyers promoting this event.

c. **GRS Volunteers**
   a. We still need proctors for the GRS. Libby sent around sign-up sheet.

XII. Old Business

XIII. Other Business

XIV. Announcements
   a. Professors’ Roundtable: March 20
   b. GRS: March 22-23
   c. GSA Travel Funding Deadline: March 29
   e. GSA Meeting: April 3
   f. Grad Bash: April 12
   g. OGSR Funding Deadlines: April 26