

Graduate Student Association Meeting Minutes

Date: December 02, 2015

Time: 7:15 pm

Location: Sadler Center James Room

Presiding Officer: Menuka Ban, President

Meeting called to order at 7:20 pm by the President

Sean and Andy updated on Journal Club. They raised \$1500 for Journal Club activities, and the money can be used for providing free alcohol. The next thing is to set the meeting time and date. According to Doodle Poll, Thursday 5 pm and Thursday 6 pm are most popular options. We temporarily set the time on Thursday 6 pm to 8 pm. Washington 201, Andrew 101 etc. are possible meeting locations. Sean and Andy also requested four volunteers for the committee in charge of Journal Club. They will decide each week's presenter and avoid over representing from a certain department.

Graduate Studies Advisory Board (GSAB) representative provided information about alumni donations and potential funding sources available for Arts & Sciences Graduate Departments. Since GSA has not been able to get touch with Amy, Menuka proposed to have another person responsible for her position. Jeremy suggested to create a temporary position instead of letting another person take over Amy's position. At the end, GSA decided to let the dean contact Amy first. since the next GSA meeting is in March, there is no need to rush.

Katie Baugh and the committee updated on Constitution Amendment. The amendments are as following, and GSA voted and passed all the amendments.

1. We want to give everyone (department reps included) voting rights. Right now the only votes ever cast are for amendments, opening voting rights up to everyone would give only amendment voting power as of right now.
 - a. To solve this we will strike article 3A2 "though only Executive Council members may vote" and add "though only Executive Council members and program representatives may vote"
 - b. Edit Article 3A1 to read "The Executive Council shall consist of one representative elected or appointed from each graduate department or program under the Faculty of Arts & Sciences, and seven elected Officers, namely: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Senator, Parliamentarian, and Social Chair."
2. We need to further discuss the caps on elected Officer membership at the next meeting
 - a. We recommend that we leave the caps open and adds a new section to Article 7D1 and create a new subsection f and subsequently renumber, "If, after two weeks following an announcement of a Fall election, the applicant pool contains only students from an overrepresented school, the Executive Council may vote to allow an exception to the cap for one term before the ballots are opened to the arts and sciences graduate student body at large."

3. We came to the consensus that the GSAB representatives should attend all meetings of the GSA
4. There was an additional recommendation that the Secretary's role be clarified from keeping minutes of the meetings and distributing them in a "timely fashion" to limiting distribution to 72 hours after the last Council meeting.
 - a. Article 4, C, 3 will be amended to read "To keep minutes of the meetings of the GSA Council and to assure their publication on the website within 72 hours of the GSA Council meetings."

Other Announcement

- SA Programming, Events, and Policies Survey
What Can SA Do For You? Please take some time to answer a brief survey on Student Assembly programming, events, and policies. The results will be gathered through the end of the semester and will help SA address the interests and concerns of students.
https://wmsurveys.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6g87ivQNp65tV0p