

Graduate Student Association Meeting Minutes

Date: March 12, 2014

Time: 6:15 p.m.

Location: James Room, Sadler Center

Presiding Officer: Nabeel Siddiqui, President

The meeting of the Graduate Student Association (GSA) was called to order at 6:18 p.m. by the President.

Kendall Lorenzen, who is running for Vice President of Student Assembly with running mate Colin Danly, presented their platform and encouraged all graduate students to attend the debate to be held at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 17, in Commonwealth Auditorium.

Graduate Research Symposium (GRS) Volunteer Coordinator Jenna Carlson passed out fliers for distribution to the academic departments and requested volunteers to proctor sessions. A proctoring sign-up sheet was passed around. Each department also gets a folder with posters that describe relevant sessions.

Vice President Frank Fucile reports on the progress of planning for the Professors' Round Table event. The topic this year is surveillance in the digital age, including National Security Administration (NSA) wiretaps and recent revelations about the compilation of metadata from emails and other sources. Only two professors have committed to participate so far, but at least three are required to hold the event. Frank raises a question about whether the event should be postponed pending until additional participants are found. Following a discussion in which several possible professors to invite are mentioned, Frank decides to proceed as planned.

Social Committee Chair Sean Koebley gave his report. He wants to promote First Tuesdays at the College Delly. We are partnering with the Grad Council for this month, and so all graduate students are invited.

Sean also reported on the activities of the Parking Advisory Committee. The consultant's report, which has been in preparation over a year, has finally been released. The report provided two major recommendations. The first recommendation was to improve bus service on campus by decreasing stop intervals from 30 minutes to 15 minutes or less and encouraging students to park in the William and Mary Hall lot and travel to other areas of campus by bus. This change will be paid for by adding \$25 to each undergraduate student's tuition. The second recommendation was to add two staff members to the parking services staff. These new positions will be paid for by increasing the cost of parking permits by 6 percent. Sean's own idea, which he plans to bring up to the Parking Advisory Committee, for defray the cost of additional employees without increasing general parking permits is to have some parking spots on campus be reserved. These spots would be more expensive.

Nabeel mentions that he will be booking the room for GSA meetings next year and asks whether the first Wednesday of every month is still a good time. The general consensus is that this time is good.

Nabeel presents nominations for next year's officers. These are Sean, Social Chair; Summer, Secretary; Christian, President; and Katie, Parliamentarian. We still need nominees for the following offices: Vice President, Treasurer, and Student Senate Representative. He will set March 25 as the deadline for nominations.

Parliamentarian Katie Moore reports that Grad Bash is scheduled for April 11.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.