

Graduate Student Association Meeting Minutes

Date: March 23, 2015

Time: 7:15 p.m.

Location: McLeod Business Library

Presiding Officer: Christian Bale, President

Meeting called to order at 7:15 p.m. by the President.

Christian states that the elections for the GSA Executive Board will take place next week. Qualtrix will be used to administer the elections.

Christian gives a reminder about Night at the Muscarelle and encourages people to attend.

Josh Magee gives an update on the Professors' Roundtable event. It will take place on Wednesday, April 8, and the topic will be vaccines. They have budget for food. The event will take place in the Tidewater Room of Sadler, and it will start at 6:30 or 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome, not just graduate students. Christian suggests that they start a Facebook page.

Sean Koebley, Social Chair, gives an update on GSA's Virginia Beach trip, which is scheduled for April 11. A van has been reserved, and he will make Facebook events. A tubing trip on the James River is planned for April 18, and he has also reserved a van for that.

Christian gives an update about the changing structure of the Student Senate. He recently attended a significant meeting of the Senate, during which graduate students gained an additional senator. The Senate passed a bill to start a committee where people from the Graduate Council and other senators can work together. His goal is to have graduate students better represented in William and Mary's Executive Branch. He notes that there has often been poor attendance among Graduate School Senators. If one institution is not sending their senator to attend, GSA has the power to send another senator. This is helpful to GSA, because, since VIMS does not send anybody, we can send an extra person.

Christian says that the Graduate Council will meet this Sunday. Deans and Program Directors will be invited, and students will have the opportunity to voice their concerns about their own particular schools. After this "State of the Schools" Town Hall Meeting, Graduate Council will ask Taylor Reveley to meet to discuss any concerns that people have. All Presidents of Department organizations will also be invited.

Nabeel Siddiqui, Humanities/Social Sciences Representative to the Graduate Student Advisory Board, reports that the Advisory Board has been very frustrated by the low visibility and status of graduate studies on campus.

There was a general discussion about Dean Torczon's donation idea for OneTribe OneDay. Sarah Mattes mentioned that there is going to be a specific website, which will make the donation process very easy. She suggests that we should capitalize on getting graduate students to donate early, possibly at our Volleyball Cookout. Still, students can donate at any time. If we can

get people to donate to specific groups at once, it will show up and be noticed. They are shooting for 2,100 participants in total.

Josh mentions that, since the Sciences Representative to the Advisory Board was only scheduled to hold the position for one year, we need to elect a new Sciences Rep. There was a discussion about whether we should fill the position at the end of the academic year or in the fall. A consensus was reached that we will add it to elections that are about to take place.