Graduate Student Association Meeting Minutes

Date: November 5, 2018

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: Sadler Center

Presiding Officer: Erin Schwartz, President

1) Introductions
2) Officers’ Reports
   a. Vice President: Upcoming election for Secretary.
   b. Treasurer: America to Go is giving us and other groups problems. Funding issues also need to be addressed.
   c. Student Assembly Representative: Student Assembly also noted issues with new catering system.
   d. Social Chair: More events coming up in the spring semester.
   e. Parliamentarian: Constitution still needs adjustments.
   f. GSAB Representatives: Meeting during homecoming weekend involved a listening session with President Rowe. The representatives noted an open-minded start with a focus on where graduate studies is headed. There was discussion about keeping graduate school in mind during fundraising. Pres. Rowe wants more corporate sponsors & agreement with the board. Other concerns noted at the meeting were: increased awareness of grad studies, starting with provost search; interdisciplinary collaborations; internships & mentoring programs (find more outside volunteers for these programs); and branding as W&M (how do we let people know that W&M has grad students?). Soon, there will be a survey from the Dean’s office for exiting students on school experience. It was noted that GSAB is receptive to grad student issues, especially those with a financial component, so discussion was held regarding possible issues that could be addressed. Their next meeting is in March, so issues will need to be taken to them then.

3) Funding Approval
   a. Journal Club Funding Request: Adrienna Bingham and Kelsey Shaffer from Journal Club requested $500 for additional food and non-alcoholic drinks. The vote to confirm was unanimous.
   b. Updates to Funding Process: Applications will be considered on a rolling basis. Applicants from different departments are encouraged to apply early and give enough time for GSA to vote on applications, but emergency situations (and requests under $200) can be approved by the Finance Committee before the next meeting.
   c. Finance Committee: Three additional volunteers were solicited: Kelsey Shaffer from Psychological Sciences, Sara Woodbury from American Studies, and Kylie Wheeler from Public Policy.
d. **America to Go Discussion**: Discussion of difficulties in ordering and dealing with restrictions in new system. Grocery stores were noted as a viable option, but those ordering would need to coordinate with OGSR. A vote was held regarding the next meeting’s food, and Publix was selected.

4) **Old Business**  
   a. **2018-19 Agenda Items**: President working with Sarah Glosson from the Graduate Center on parking and mental health initiatives. Present members made suggestions for the draft parking survey for A&S grad students. Suggestions included: how much would you be willing to pay? Can we tier the passes? How late do people stay? Where do people park if not on campus? If you have a pass, how many times can you find a spot?

5) **New Business**  
   a. **OGSR/GSA Conference and Research Funding**: deadlines on December 7. Committees to be formed at December meeting.
   b. **GSA Technology Updates**: new/reclaimed GSA email ([gsa@email.wm.edu](mailto:gsa@email.wm.edu)). Discussion was held regarding maintaining momentum between meetings, and Slack was selected to facilitate GSA communications.
   c. **Jasmine Parham**: union interest meeting Friday, November 9, at 4 p.m. ISC 2280.

6) The meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM