

GPSG Senate Minutes: October 8, 2009

Group Attendance:

Present: GHA, ECEGA, IOPGA, MASS, SPO, OSGA, SPIE, ASPE, GTU, ANGS, ED-LEAD, HPGSA, CSGSA, MPASG, CCI Grads, ABGS, GSWA, AHGSC, CHESO, UEC, EGSA, GPHA, ACGS, MGSA

Executive: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Outreach,

Absent: GBA, GPPA, GSA, SMBAA

- 1) Meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM.
- 2) Josh reported that there would be a guest speaker before the business portion of the meeting.
 - a) He introduced Adam Powell, a Grad Life Fellow, who spoke about his desire to see more activities for graduate students on campus. He invited GPSG groups to participate in Dodge-E-Ball and event to be held on Thursday, October 15th. This is a social event to encourage networking between graduate students. If you are interested in forming a team from your individual group (5 people max) you should contact him via email (apowel35@uncc.edu) to provide your team name and player contact information. He can also be reached at their website, <http://unccgraduatelifefellows.blogspot.com>. Adam also mentioned that there would be another event at 2nd Harvest Food Bank this Saturday from 8:30-12PM. If you are interested in attending/volunteering you should contact him. They will be meeting on campus to car pool
- 3) Attendance was collected by sign-in sheet, and quorum was obtained.
 - a) b. Motion to waive the reading of the minutes: APPROVED
 - b) Motion to accept the minutes as written: APPROVED
- 4) Officer & Committee Reports
 - a) President's Report
 - i) Josh reported on his meeting with Stanley Wilder (Head of the Library). Josh conveyed that Mr. Wilder is extremely interested in serving graduate students by providing more sources/journals at the library. He intends on dedicating a space for only graduate students to use as well as opening a 24 hour zone in the library by the end of final exams. He will also be coming to speak to the senate later on in the semester.
 - ii) Mike Forney from ANGS asked if we could ask Mr. Wilder to improve the ease of which we are able to navigate through the journal databases online.
 - iii) Josh announced the nominations for the CGL Advisory Board which meets once a month. Adam Allen was nominated to represent CLAS. Adam Allen was unanimously approved by the senate to serve in this capacity. No new nominations were made. We will be asking for more nominations in the GPSG TOP 3.
 - iv) Josh announced the dates for the President's Meeting
 - (1) October 5th at 5PM
 - (2) October 21st at 5PM
 - (3) Location TBD for both

- b) Vice President's Report
 - i) Justin announced the current nominees for the research fair committee
 - (1) The following people were unanimously approved to serve on this committee:
 - (a) Izabell Szymanska
 - (b) Hannah Sawyer
 - (c) Jessica Tillman
 - (d) Alicia Dawson
 - (e) Adam Moses
 - (2) If anyone else is interested in serving on this committee please contact Justin at gpsgvicepresident@uncc.edu
 - ii) The call for abstracts for the research fair will be November 4th
 - iii) If you have suggestions for judges please send them to Justin as soon as possible so we can start this phase of the planning
- c) Treasurer's Report
 - i) SUAB Report-
 - (1) The student lockers were approved for groups who had submitted requests
 - (2) Operational funds were also distributed
 - ii) Finance Committee-
 - (1) 2 events were approved
 - (2) 45 travel applications were also approved at the last meeting
 - (3) 10, 738.50 dollars have been allocated thus far for travel/event funding
- d) Secretary's Report
 - i) Ashley is currently serving as the student representative for the 5-year Review Committee of Dean Nancy Gutierrez. Ashley polled the senate for questions to be included on a graduate student survey about the Dean of CLAS that will be used in evaluating her 5-year performance at UNCC. Josh noted the comments from the senate and Ashley will attempt to incorporate the questions from the senate in her report to the 5-year Review Committee.
 - ii) Ashley also asked the senators if they would be interested in having a GPSG group volunteer opportunity for their organizations to participate in. A majority of the senate agreed they would appreciate this option. Ashley will compile a list of options and present them at the next senate meeting.
 - iii) Ashley also asked if there were any communication issues. No matters were brought from the senate.
- e) Outreach Report
 - i) Javid put together a list of goals/ideas that he will be working on from the outreach perspective
 - (1) A Graduate corner should be included in the student newspaper. This will allow us to showcase a student organization as well as promote graduate student life.
 - (a) Numerous concerns were brought up about the quality of the newspaper on campus. If we are to pursue this option we must be

careful about how our section is edited. Majority of comments came from AHGSC.

- (2) Javaid will also be working on getting a graduate student night at an athletic event. Senators suggested that we receive discount/free concessions
- (3) Javaid will also attempt to address the quality of graduate student housing on campus. We would like to incorporate a page on our website to allow postings for rooms/apartments for rent
- (4) Outreach would also like to promote a professional dinner to promote networking between professionals in the community and grad students. This would be department specific and most likely take place in spring 2010.
- (5) Feedback from the senate was positive on all of these ideas. Javaid will move forward in the planning process.

5) Old Business

- a) An ad-hoc committee needs to be formed in order to review the changes we would like to make to the constitution/by-laws before bringing them to the senate for approval. The following people were nominated to serve and unanimously approved by the senate:
 - i) Pilar Zuber
 - ii) Sarah Birdsong
 - iii) Eric Binder
 - iv) Keith Geske
- b) The position of webmaster was discussed at the finance committee meeting. They withheld any recommendations. We felt that an ad-hoc committee should also be formed to discuss this position and whether or not it should be a paid/volunteer position and if it should be a one time re-vamp of the site or a continuous update
 - i) The following people were nominated and unanimously approved to serve on this committee
 - (1) Andrew Bessmer
 - (2) Kashif Sharif
 - (3) Marisha Hetman

6) New Business

- a) Josh announced upcoming events that were advertised in the Grad Events Weekly

7) Announcements and Questions

- a) EGSA would like to know the details of the habitat for humanity build that is being sponsored by the Grad Life Fellows-Ashley volunteered to follow up on this issue.
- b) Mike Forney also brought up the issues facing graduate students when they are attempting to format their dissertation. Several senate members agreed with how frustrating/demanding the process was. Josh will speak with the Graduate School about addressing these issues.

8) The meeting was adjourned at 6:48PM