

## GPSG Minutes: September 24, 2009

### Group Attendance:

Present:	ABGS, ACGS, AHGSC(new), ANGS, ASPE, CCI Grads, CHESO, CSGSA, ECEGA, ED-Lead (Louise Murray proxy), EGSA, GHA, GPHA, GPPA, GSWA, GTU, HPGSA, MASS, MGSA, MPASG, OSGA, IOPGA, UEC Executive: President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Outreach, & Grad Rep
Absent:	SMBAA, SPIE, SPO

- I. Meeting was called to order at 5:40 PM.
- II. Josh reported that there would be two guest speakers before the business part of the meeting started.
  - a. He introduced Lalit Mandal, a Grad Life Fellow, who spoke about his desire to see more activities for graduate students on campus. He invited GPSG to several events (listed in Announcements) and asked students to send him their ideas for future events. He can be reached at their website, <http://unccgraduatelifefellows.blogspot.com>
  - b. Then, Josh introduced GPSG Advisor and Assistant Dean of the Graduate School for Graduate Student Affairs, Katherine Hall-Hertel. She introduced the new Center for Graduate Life that has been approved by the university. She showed renderings of how it may look and went over the floorplan. After her presentation, Josh thanked her for her service to graduate students and congratulated on meeting her goals for building graduate student life. Josh added that he has heard that the CGL is the “#1 priority for Academic Affairs” right now.
- III.
  - a. Attendance was collected by sign-in sheet, and quorum was obtained.
  - b. Motion to waive the reading of the minutes: APPROVED  
Motion to accept the minutes as written: APPROVED
- IV. Officer & Committee Reports
  - a. President’s report
    - i. Agenda point i. was not discussed.
    - ii. Josh reported on his meeting with Dean Reynolds. The Dean reported that enrollment was now 24,719 students with 5,273 graduate students (21%). In the next decade or so, this percent is predicted to be 25% of 35,000 students. The Dean also reported that, in an attempt to keep the budget problems “invisible to students,” a major position was lost that served International Students. He wanted GSs to know that the Grad School was upset to lose it and felt it was a very important position. They hope to restore these services in the future. Finally, the Dean wished to know more about how students’ graduate assistantships were affected by the budget. Students from two departments (Education and Counseling) reported a decrease in assistantships

for returning students. The rest of the groups said that funding had been maintained for them; however, there was a decrease in new students because of this. History reported having more graduate students than ever this year.

- iii. Josh also reported information from his meeting with Christine Reed Davis, the administrator over Student Conduct and Volunteer Services. He reported that the Judicial Board badly needed graduate students to serve on the panels that adjudicate behavioral and academic violations of the student honor code. He also reported that the university's volunteer services coordinator position is currently vacant, but that a graduate assistant, Courtney Morrison, has been filling in. She should be contacted by groups interested in organizing a volunteer event.
- iv. Josh reported on his meeting with the Director of Student Health, Dave Rousmaniere. As a result of the meeting, a position of GPSG Liaison to Student Health has been created, which will serve to advocate for graduate student needs with Mr. Rousmaniere and to report back information from regular meetings with him. The Senate approved unanimously naming someone to the position without a call for nominees and Pilar Zuber, who had agreed to serve in the position, was unanimously approved.
- v. Finally, Josh announced that he will be scheduling a meeting for presidents in the next few weeks.

b. Vice President's Report

- i. Justin reminded groups of re-registering and re-chartering deadlines, and he checked in with certain groups about their stage in the process.
- ii. Also, Justin announced a call for members to join the Research Fair committee, especially needed is a webmaster. Nominations may be made by email to [gpsgvicepresident@uncc.edu](mailto:gpsgvicepresident@uncc.edu)
- iii. Justin had two new groups introduce themselves. Urban Educators for Change and UNCC Academy Health Graduate Student Chapter both introduced themselves and were approved unanimously by the senate as new groups.

c. Treasurer's Report

- i. Sarah reported good turnout to the Fall Treasurer Orientation with 20+ attendees. She also reported that she had been named to the Student Union Activities Board subcommittee for \_\_\_\_\_ and had been elected chairperson.
- ii. Next, Sarah presided over elections for the Finance Committee. Five nominees introduced themselves to the senate: Andrew Besmer (CCI Grads), Jennifer McGee\* (EDLEAD), Ozan Yilmaz\* (SPIE), Boyd Harris (GHA), and Richard Louie (IOPGA). Louise

Murray spoke for JM, and Javaid Ikram spoke for OY, who were both absent. After voting, AB, JM, BH, and RL were elected.

d. Secretary's Report

- i. Although Ashley was absent, Josh presented a topic she had requested. The senate was asked how they felt about naming a website manager and whether it should be a paid position. The consensus of discussion was that there was a need for a website manager for GPSG. A number of senators felt that it should be a paid position, although some felt that it could be a volunteer position. Based on the senator comments, Josh said that the Finance Committee will review the budget and a proposal for a new Website Manager would be brought before the senate at a later time.

e. Outreach Officer Report

Javaid reported that he was in the process of identifying the duties of his position. He said he was focusing on providing support for Graduate and Professional Life and for Organizations. To do this, he is going to meet individually with groups who signed up for more information about these areas.

V. Unfinished Business

- a. Josh reported the results of the vote held on 9/22 and 9/23. Of 777 votes cast for the GPSG Amendment, 685 were for (88.2%) and 92 (11.8%) were against. Consequently, Article VII of the SGA Constitution was changed, granting GPSG the right to form its own constitution for self-rule. Josh said a draft of this constitution would be presented at a future meeting.
- b. Josh reminded the senators about the T-shirt contest.

VI. New Business

No new business.

VII. Announcements and Questions

- a. Josh announced the following:
  - i. IFest will be held this weekend on campus from 10-6 PM.
  - ii. Graduate Life Fellows Events
    - [unccgraduatelifefellows.blogspot.com](http://unccgraduatelifefellows.blogspot.com)
    - Second Harvest Warehouse Volunteer Day
      - Oct. 10 from 9-12
      - Meet on Campus
    - A Grad DODG-E-BALL Tournament
      - Sat. Oct. 24 from 3-6 PM
      - Belk Gym
    - Habitat for Humanity Build
      - Oct. 31 from 7-4

VIII. Meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM. The next meeting will be held on October 8, 2009 at 5:30 PM in CHHS 145.