

Graduate and Professional Students Association
Graduate Assembly Meeting
Eleventh Legislature – First Regular Session
2:00 P.M. August 23rd, 2013
Memorial Union Room #226 – Arizona State University, Tempe Campus

Minutes

Present:

Jorge Mancillas, Kimberley Davidson, Shikha Rawat, Samantha Wildman, Deborah Ayodeli, Andrew Waldron, Emily McIvor, Parth Nagarkar (acting President Pro Tempore), Venu Garikapati, Bryson Jones, Alexis Farley, Saint Ranson, James Alling, Megan Fisk, German Cadenas, Jason Striker

Absent:

Sharma Chavvi, Ayfer Golkalp, Lisa Lacy

By Proxy:

Robert Schmitz (Dayne Sommers)

Attending:

Dr. Weber, Adam Monroe, Taj Reddi (acting Seargeant-at-Arms), Shane _____, Jillian Childress, Jennifer Jermaine, Katherine Brown, Brittney Haselwood, Kerrie Wilkins, Bahige Abdallah, Syed Badshah

I. Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at approximately 2:10 PM.

II. Approval of the Minutes:

No minutes from the first special session were available so no minutes were approved.

III. Amendments to the Agenda:

Motion to move Dr. Weber to top of agenda, seconded, and passed by unanimous consent.
Dr. Weber spoke briefly and presented his report from the Graduate College.

IV. Call to the Audience

None.

V. Executive Reports

a. James Alling, Assembly President

Please see published report on the GPSA website.

Alling emphasized the need to recruit members to fill vacant GPSA Assembly seats.

Davidson moved to suspend the rules to allow Jillian Childress and Jennifer Jermaine the ability to participate in debate; seconded; passed by unanimous consent.

McIvor moved to suspend the rules to allow executive officers to participate in debate; seconded; passed by unanimous consent.

b. Megan Fisk, President

Please see published report on the GPSA website.

Emphasized the need to begin reassessing the GPSA student activity fee which has not been adjusted in at least five years despite an increase in funding requests and event costs. Also emphasized that not all graduate students being served were paying the fee.

c. Lisa Lacy, Vice President of Internal Affairs

Taj Reddi represented Lisa Lacy.

Please see published report on the GPSA website.

Jones requested more information about travel grant funding, availability, and processes.

Jason Striker answered. Emphasized need for readjusted fee in order to continue meeting demands of the program.

d. German Cadenas, Vice President of External Affairs

Please see published report on the GPSA website.

Emphasized need for a new advocacy agenda and explained that until a new agenda is established his office will continue working off the agenda authorized last year.

Adam Monroe took the floor to talk about his position and advocacy projects and also spoke about Pauline Venieris's duties as well.

Cadenas left the meeting after report; Adam Monroe represented him for the rest of the meeting.

e. Jason Striker, Vice President of Professional Development

Please see published report on the GPSA website.

September 13th GPSA is holding a welcome back social event on the roof of the Downtown Sun Devil Fitness Center. More information available here: <http://gpsa.asu.edu/event/back-to-school-social/>

VI. Committee Reports

Technically, there are currently no staffed committees. Alling provided an overview of the standing committees, their duties, and assembly member participation requirements.

Alling created an ad hoc committee on International Students and appointed Parth Nagarkar as the chair.

Taj Reddi will be on the committee for Internal Affairs, Chris Reina will be on the committee for Professional Development, and Adam Monroe and Pauline Venieris will be on the External Affairs committee.

Point of information by Megan Fisk: The Provost of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences intends to set up a committee to meet regularly with students in CLAS. Encouraged participation by CLAS assembly members.

VII. Old Business

None.

VIII. New Business

a. AB #05: AN ACT Confirming New Members

Taj Reddi appointed as seargeant-at-arms; candidates asked to leave the room for voting.

Alling called to vote by curiatum on each individual candidate's paragraph – at least a 2/3 vote required to approve each candidate.

Call for debate on Brittney Haselwood; moved to a vote; passed by unanimous consent.

Call for debate on Kerrie Wilkins; moved to a vote; passed by unanimous consent.

Call for debate on lines 41-43; seat contested by four applicants.

Each candidate was invited to speak for two minutes with two minutes available

for questions.

A vote was then held; Katherine Brown was appointed to the position by over a two-thirds vote.

AB #05 was then passed by unanimous consent.

b. **AB #06: AN ACT to Approve the Budget of the Graduate and Professional Student's Association**

Passed as amended; please see the final bill available on line at a later date.

c. **AB #07: AN ACT to Approve the GPSA Advocacy Agenda for 2013- 2014**

Davidson moved to commit the bill to external affairs committee; seconded by Haselwood; passed by voice vote.

Wilkins called for a clarification on how the advocacy agenda would be developed in the committee; yielded to Fisk to respond about process.

d. **AB #08: A RESOLUTION Committing to Participating in a Joint Legislative Session**

Garikapati moved to make a friendly amendment to remove the third e in 'therefore' on line 31; allowed.

Jones called for an explanation of concurrent and joint legislation, Alling explained.

Passed by unanimous consent.

e. **AB #09: A RESOLUTION to Hold Town Halls for the Consideration of Raising the Student Fee on Graduate and Professional Students**

Wilkins moved to strike lines 33-36 from the original text; seconded; passed by voice vote.

Waldron moved to enter into executive session with all current occupants of the room allowed to remain and partake in debate; seconded by McIvor; passed by unanimous consent.

Move to vote by the chair ended executive session debate; unanimous consent passed the bill.

f. **AB #10: AN ACT to Amend the Duties of the Vice President of External Affairs**

Following Board Restructuring of the Arizona Students' Association (ASA)

Moved to a vote by the chair. Passed by unanimous consent.

IX. Graduate Student Forum

Point of clarification by Haselwood on purpose of Graduate Student Forum, answered by Alling.

Wilkins asked for volunteers who were teaching undergraduate course to help her with her dissertation on undergraduate population based academic success. She has a presentation ready and will come to classrooms as requested.

Ayodeli spoke about concerns in GPSA awareness and funding abilities.

McIvor made the assembly aware of issues with the graduate student emails that are going out and are unable to be opened.

Waldron asked if GPSA could assist students in his department fight a fee increase by getting access either to the numbers or processes of the academic program fee assessments.

X. Announcements

XI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:23 PM.