

Office of the President

November 15, 2013 Report

1) Athletic Fee Proposal

I will meet with Dr. Crow Saturday, November 16th during the football game to finalize the fee. I made several clarifying changes to the proposal. The final document is attached at the end of this report.

2) Boards and committees

I have appointed more than half of the open board and committee seats but continue to need the following boards filled:

- Technology (2)
- Student Health (1)
- Public Safety (3- D, P, W)
- Parking Citations Appeals (2)
- Parking and Transit Board (1)
- MLK Planning (3- D, P, W)
- Facilities Fee (1)
- Campus Inclusion (1-P)
- Status of Women (2- P, W)

3) Needs Assessment

Mark is in the final stages of data analysis and will be presenting a report to the Council of Presidents on Monday, November 18th. I will send an electronic copy out as soon as it is available. I will then be producing a series of white papers with the results directed towards specific units of the university, such as UTO, Health Services, ect.

4) Tri-University Graduate and Professional Student Meeting with ABOR Agenda

Campus Updates

1. UA: Graduate and Professional Student Representation
2. ASU: Athletics Fee
3. NAU: Relationship between Social Science Faculty and high number of PhD Students)

Affordability Care Act (ACA)

The ACA has had the unintended effect of making graduate and professional students' lives in regards to income more difficult. For GAs offered health insurance, they will be limited to not working more than .5 assistantship. Graduate and professional students will also not be able to earn supplemental income which is critical not only for graduate students who earn very little money (UA Avg. \$16,000) but also colleges with major research, teaching, clinical, and administrative work. If GAs are offered a .75 assistant ship or supplemental income, then they would need to be given staff health insurance, which is better for graduate and professional students, but would cost the universities more in ERE (~60% - 80%). There are also penalties to the institution if graduate-employees are not provided staff insurance in a reasonable time frame. In addition to assistantships, student workers will be limited to working 29

hours (NAU), 25 hours (ASU), and 27 hours (UA) because of ACA. Of course, many Masters students are not offered healthcare. We have been in touch with the White House and Congress about these issues. The ACA-hiccup will affect the system's ability to produce research and conduct teaching affecting the strategic goals as graduate students will seek additional employment off-campus.

Source: UA Graduate College Dean and HR VP

ABOR Goals

1. State-based financial aid (New Mexico & California)
2. Graduate and professional students and federal loans
3. Graduate Student Debt (47k, 88k, 162k)

Graduate and Professional Student Research

1. Share grad reports with ABOR
2. Data-driven and evidence-based advocacy
3. Relationship with ABOR, influence public policy

Masters Degrees – Discussed issues of affordability, quality and program fees.

5) Healthcare Task force

I will be meeting with the tri-university health care task force in mid-December to begin the process of getting health insurance quotes from various vendors. We will have prescription drug care coverage next year. It is anticipated that our rates will be cheaper than anything on the exchange, with better protection and benefits overall. Dr. Markus is willing to attend one of our meetings and discuss in more depth.

6) NAGPS

We won Western Regional Member of the Year this past weekend at the National conference! The conference was very beneficial in helping craft the rest of the stipend increase language for the athletic fee, as one of the sessions was about stipend negotiations and I was able to connect with other presidents around the country to see what worked for them. I was disappointed in the lack of decorum demonstrated by some of the outgoing national board members and many other schools in the western region felt that there was a concerted effort to block West coast schools from leadership positions. We lost the bid to host the conference next year, instead it will be at University of Missouri. I do not recommend that we offer to host anything for NAGPS anytime soon.

7) Downtown Campus Outreach Director Report

WEEK OF OCTOBER 20TH

Office Hours at the Graduate Student Center

Things are still going smoothly at the GSC. On Tuesday, the water cooler dispenser did not have a jug on it, so I had to replace it myself since there are plenty in the back room. I'm not sure who has handled this in the past, but I didn't want to wait for someone else in case it wasn't handled. I was able to figure out a system to get the heavy jug on the dispenser

without too much effort, since I'm not strong enough and I have thrown out my back several times in the past.

On Thursday, I was contacted by a student through email about the printer being dead. I emailed Annette to see if we could get someone out there. However, I went over to the GSC and we were able to get it working again without having to file a ticket with IT.

Outreach Flyer

I finally got a picture of the nursing building that could work on my flyer. Even though I prefer the other picture, I felt this would be more recognizable for faculty and students. I sent out the flyer earlier this week and I have already had a student email me with a question. She wanted to know whether she'd be eligible for the grants if she was an online student living in a different state. I knew that to be eligible you needed to be enrolled in 1 credit hour, but I wasn't certain about her question so I emailed Jason and Lisa for their help. Jason then replied to the student letting her know she was eligible.

Decennial & Dinner

I attended the decennial last Friday and was surprised at the small attendance. The finger food was good and it was an interesting discussion among the panel. The dinner was also nice at Handlebar. However, I did feel that there was a lack of communication about it. Many of us weren't sure if we were invited to the dinner as well, if the food had been pre-ordered, if we had to pay for our own dinner, or if we could invite someone. Once we were at the restaurant, we were all sitting around still wondering what was going on.

Health Solutions - Adrian Chavez

He has responded to my email letting me know that he will be attending the assembly tomorrow and will be voting on his own nomination for the assembly seat of Health Solutions. I'm sure that will go over smoothly and we will soon have one less assembly seat to fill!

Cancer Awareness Tabling Event

Pauling reached out to me asking for help with setting up, breaking down, and volunteering at the tabling events for Cancer Awareness. On Thursday, I drove over to Pauline's job to pick up materials from her since she couldn't drop them off until late in the evenings and I'm not downtown at that time. However, when I got to her job the front desk couldn't find the materials and I wasn't able to get them from her. She said that without the materials we wouldn't really be able to table.

WEEK OF OCTOBER 27TH

Office Hours at the Graduate Student Center

Things continue to go smoothly at the GSC. It has remained clean and organized, and no further issues have been brought up by any of the students. The sink still awaits attention from facilities as it continues to leak. Hopefully they can handle that soon, because it is something that has been brought up by different students in the past.

Outreach Flyer

I was contacted by two students after sending out the outreach email with the flyer attached. One student, Herendira Valdez, from the Psych DNP program inquired about joining the GPSA assembly. I responded to her with information, including our website link, and also informed her that she could contact James Alling for further questions on the assembly. I'm not sure what college her program belongs to, so I wasn't able to assess whether the seat was already taken. I have not heard from her since, so I'm hoping it all worked out.

Graduate Women's Association - Samantha Calvin

Two months ago I reached out to Samantha Calvin, the downtown campus representative for the Graduate Women's Association, but I never heard back from her. Well, she finally responded to me earlier this week apologizing because my email was sent to her spam folder. She thinks that a joint event downtown would be mutually beneficial and she would like to meet to discuss the possibilities further. I'm hoping that this will bring mutual support for both organizations and help spread the word out as well.

Gradvocracy Meeting

I will be attending GPSA's 2nd advocacy meeting this Saturday at 11am. ASA's Organizing director will be speaking at the meeting and will train us on the basics of organizing. This information should be useful, and there should be some things/tips/skills I can learn to improve my outreach efforts here at the downtown campus.

8) Polytechnic Campus Outreach Director Report

/16-9/20

I spoke with some of the USG Poly members this week about how they think the relationship between GPSA and USG can be improved. I think that at Poly we have a good relationship but it can always be improved. Nobody had any clear suggestions but they said they would think about it and we could always meet to discuss notes. Not very many graduate students have been by the GSC this week. A couple of undergrads came by not knowing what the area was so I took advantage of the opportunity and spoke with them about grad school and all of the chances they have to become involved on campus, one day including GPSA. I hope that by spreading the word to undergraduates it can then be communicated to even more graduate students about what we do and what our goals are.

9/23-9/27

Nothing very exciting happened this week on Poly. With many of the big events on campus coming to an end the campus as a whole has really dove into their studies. I spoke to some CTI grads in the student union and they expressed interest in going to GPSA events but recommended that we do a better job marketing those events. They said we should put marketing on all four locations for any event because many graduate students commute, so even if they cannot make a poly event they might be interested in a Downtown Phoenix event. I thought this was a great idea and I think ideas for marketing are something that's always in the works and can be improved on.

9/30-10/4

Spent a lot of time near the GSC this week. Since I have found that students walk by the GSC when I am in there because they are not sure if they can be in there I have tried sitting in the lounge area next to the GSC. I have thrown the idea around to graduate students on campus about where they would like the GSC to be and just about everyone said the Students Union because it is more at the center of campus. They also have told me it would be nice in the center building but I know we have a proposed new location but I am not sure if this is going to hurt the GSC or help it. Spoke to a graduate PE class on Thursday about the GSC and many of them did not even know where the GSC was. I tried explaining to them a bit about what GPSA is as a whole and that we are there for them. Many were surprised that graduate students actually did receive attention from the university.

10/7-10/11 & 10/14-10/18

These two weeks I spent in San Francisco on personal time and in Denver at a conference for my job. While I was there I took some time to ask other universities from around the country if they knew anything about their student government, specifically their graduate student government. A lot of schools shared that they do have graduate space, but it is very focused on as a place where students can do homework and work on projects. One school had their "GSC" in their library as an added place for graduate students to know where they can go to get graduate level help, or where they can meet other graduate students. I thought this sounded like an interesting idea especially for Poly because since we have such a small space, students can not really use the GSC for much besides printing homework. I really want to try and break the cycle of this idea that the GSC is a place to print homework and move more toward it being an idea of a place to meet other graduate students on campus and building friendships so that people can work together in the future.

10/21-10/25

This past week I have been trying to get graduate students involved in our event on the Poly campus called Boo Bash. It is a Halloween event where students can play games and activities while kids can play and trunk or treat. A lot of graduate students have expressed the need for more events where they can bring their children and this is the perfect event for them. I also stopped by the Drumstick Dash meeting which is a 5k on campus and have asked if GPSA can do anything to help so if anyone would like to help on the day of the race (November 22) or just do the race let me know. The public safety board also met this week but I had class so I could not attend the meeting but I have asked to receive the meeting minutes so I can keep up with what is going on.

10-28 - 11-1

Busy week! I spent some time in the Union this week in a GPSA shirt instead of the GSC and I talked to more grad students there than I usually do in the GSC, just proved to me that the Poly GSC is way too hidden. I was wondering if I can get some fliers made up about the Poly GSC (what we have to offer, location, how I can help) and put them up around campus.

I also talked to some Families at the Halloween event Boo Bash last night and found that a lot of families on campus actually aren't graduate students, at least the ones I spoke with. This is different from what I experienced last year so I feel like Poly is finally getting more Graduate students who are younger and might be more involved if we can get them involved. I did speak with some students who were frustrated with the amount of advertising in general GPSA does

just because they say they see a lot of stuff on all campuses about USG events, but none on GPSA related events so I found this to be interesting. Maybe we can partner with USG more and have bigger events we can potentially get more grad students to? just ideas

9) Tempe Campus Outreach Director Report

Weekly Report of Activities

10/14/2013 – 10/20/2013

Office hours

Friday, October 18th, from 10 AM to noon.

Activities: Outreach activities at my desk in the second floor. I helped Annette by moving things around the meeting room in the second floor, I did storage some boxes that were obstructing the way in the conference room. Followed up with my outreach activity at my desk.

Outreach Activity

- On Wednesday Oct 16th I attended a seminar at the Decision Center for a Desert City (DCDC) and at the end the manager told me that mostly graduate students use the facilities so I left a handful of magnets for him to giveaway in the name of GPSA.
- Memorial Union Advisory Board (MUAB) meeting, Friday, October 18th, from 8:30 to 9:30 AM. We created a proposal for better management of the televisions on the MU, went through the photography contest guidelines, etc. Nothing really interesting and of particular relevance to GPSA. I'm really hoping these meetings get more interesting and start discussing meaningful ways to engage the ASU community in the MU, and in particular, the grad students community.
- Attended the GPSA's 10th Anniversary Celebration, Friday, October 18th, from 4 to 6PM at Old Main, and from 6 to 8PM the social event at the Handlebar on Mill Ave.

Weekly Report of Activities

10/21/2013 – 10/27/2013

Office hours

Friday, October 25th, from 10 AM to noon.

Activities: Planning on creating general guidelines for interviewing the future gallery curators for the art exhibitions at the GSC. Also, I will organize a box for Annette with all sorts of giveaways (tshirts, etc.) so she can have easy access to different colors and sizes without having to move any box from the storage center.

Outreach Activity

- Wednesday 25th, from 4-5:30pm. Volunteered for the (Wo)man cancer table set up at the Fitness Complex in order to get people to sign in for the walk on Saturday and to give donations. Pauline Venieris coordinated this event.
- Candice Carr Kelman, Assistant Director of the School of Sustainability (SOS), agreed to extend an invitation to the graduate student community of her school to join the Assembly since currently the seat corresponding to SOS is vacant, so I sent out the email

hoping to hear back from someone on time for the Assembly meeting happening on Friday October 25th.

10) West Campus Outreach Director Report

Friday, October 11th, 2013

- Office hours Thursday, 10/10/13
- Basic Outreach and Networking in GSC
- Response to Grad Students Questions and Emails
- GSC Sign-In Sheets Checked
- Meeting with Jan Lacey about Graduate Outreach on 10/10/13
 - She can send out emails to all New College Grad students
- Awaiting office supplies ordered from Annette

- Worked on recruiting for GPSA West Campus boards & commissions

Friday, October 25th, 2013

Office hours Thursday, 10/24/13

Basic Outreach and Networking in GSC

Response to Grad Students Questions and Emails

Halloween candy and treats in West GSC

Awaiting office supplies ordered from Annette

Worked on recruiting for GPSA West Campus boards & commissions

Previous Week: October 15th Sparky Carnival

- a. Purchased supplies
- b. Set up GPSA booth
- c. Organized giveaways
- d. Networked
- e. Distributed information to graduate students

- f. Cleaned up

Friday, November 1st, 2013

- Office hours Tuesday & Thursday, 10/29/13 & 10/31/13
- Meeting with Dean Smith on 10/29 regarding outreach & events with grad students
 - Follow up in 2-3 weeks
 - Schedule additional meetings with various West Deans
- Basic Outreach and Networking in GSC
- Response to Grad Students Questions
- More distribution of Halloween Candy in GSC

- Still awaiting office supplies ordered from Annette
- Worked on recruiting for GPSA West Campus boards & commissions