

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE (GSS)
Tuesday, March 7th, 2011; 11:30 – 1:00 PM; MUB 302

Minutes Draft

I. Opening Business

- A. Greetings, Check-Ins
Gökhan Kumpas, Patrick Lacroix, Myles Lynch, Jochen Wirsing, Andrea Jilling, Jovana Milosavljevic, Elizabeth Moschella, Evgeniya Dame, Nate Stafford, Nick Marino, Drummond Biles, Jessie Bolin, Joseph Jensen, Jordan Coulombe, Holland Prior, Meagan Wengrove, Ezra Temko
- B. Approval of minutes
Minutes approved

II. External Business

- A. Undergraduate Student Senate
Not present
- B. Grad staff writer
Not present

III. Internal Business

- A. Brief Ad-hoc Committee Meetings
 - 1. Graduate Student Space: Create and send survey to graduate students. Try to push at Graduate Research Conference by having computer available at event.
 - 2. Graduate Research Conference: Funding allocation would be information of interest to graduate students; committee is currently planning an event.
 - 3. Departmental Governance: Creating document of best practices; noted success of Graduate Council including in Graduate Student Handbook. Currently identifying representatives in each department. Added that there was a survey last spring, and now following up with departments that didn't respond. Senators will be asked to contact departments in their constituencies outside of their own that do not have departmental governance but seem rather open to it. Refine document about education and contacting senators to distribute.
 - 4. Communications: enhancing communication of events with visual component; also working with Governance Committee to advertise upcoming election.
- B. Reports
 - 1. J. Jensen reported campus planning committee passing two resolutions:
 - 2. First, the committee passed a resolution for stricter guidelines on public, private ventures.
 - 3. Second, a resolution recommended UNH become tobacco free by 2020; moved on to Faculty Senate. Anticipates ample discussion.
 - G. Kumpas asked what tobacco-free campus would be. J. Jensen responded that all tobacco products would be banned from campus property.
 - D. Biles asked if Main Street would be designated as part of this area. J. Jensen noted

Main Street would likely be exempt as it is not university property.

- E. Temko asked how they would enforce this. J. Jensen replied that social norms more likely than ticketing.
- A. Jilling asked if they stressed impact on staff. J. Jensen replied that yes, faculty and staff do use tobacco products. He added that there would be resources available for those who want to stop smoking; cessation programs.
- E. Moschella asked about e-cigs. J. Jensen replied that e-cigs are considered tobacco products.

4. D. Biles discussed several changes at the Graduate Council meeting.

First, they anticipate 300 attendees at the Graduate Research Conference.

Second, master's committee approved the dual master's program between two different colleges; students would receive two masters and remain in the program just a year longer.

Third, Jan Nisbet spoke about her time in DC; she said it was like nothing she has ever seen. Flat funding is considered increasing while decreased funding is the average. The research office is working with all agencies we are applying for funding.

- A. Jilling asked if they mentioned adding support? D. Biles responded that the question was not asked. Assumption is that grant funding will more heavily rely on schools.
- Also asked if they help cover poster costs? M. Lynch replied that departments typically provide funding. GSS has supported 15 posters in the past. Graduate School does not currently have the funding. He added that 3MT has monetary prizes: first place \$300, second \$150, third \$75, people's choice \$250. An extra incentive for students.

C. Finances Resolution

1. J. Wirsing noted that point one and three are very similar.
2. E. Temko suggested changing the third point from a negative to a positive statement: "whereas improved financial situation facilitates the path to success for graduate students in all disciplines."
3. P. Lacroix noted unnecessary commas after 'Whereas'.
4. J. Milosavljevic emphasized that the financial support from UNH is the only source of income for international students; resolution could include this point.
5. J. Wirsing suggested combining point one and three; change point three to positive language and include in point one.
6. E. Temko noted that the 'Whereas' feels ambiguous and suggested being more specific in naming actions (i.e., reducing fees and increasing stipends). At start, note the actions GSS is thanking them for/specific commitment by administration.
7. Discussion about 'be it resolved' to add future intentions.

J. Coulombe motioned to vote on resolution, seconded by A. Jilling.

Motion passes unanimously.

D. Other

1. J. Coulombe noted a teach-in by History, Women's Studies, and Political Science on Thursday at 12:40 in MUB Theater 2. He added that the first event focused on questions of immigration and refugees.

2. J. Milosavljevic noted two events:
First, thesis and dissertation formatting workshops on March 15th and 16th.
Second, build your brand on March 21 in Library 235.

3. E. Dame discussed two key library changes:
First, transitioning the platform to a discovery tool like google. They are soliciting feedback through the end of the semester. If you are doing research, she recommended trying the new platform as it has many filters. Current timeline is transition in next year.
Second, the library is voting on budget and considering cancelling journal subscriptions and instead paying for each individually. She noted this may have ethical issues for students exploring a wide range of articles.
 - N. Stafford suggested leadership of this change come speak at a GSS meeting. He also noted the current issue of one year delayed access. Suggested someone else evaluate their numbers. Undergrads might only be downloading five, ten articles at a time compared to graduate students.
 - E. Temko asked if Faculty Senate would discuss this as they are likely to have similar concerns. E. Dame replied that this is a proposed budget so no consultation yet.
 - J. Milosavljevic asked how this would work. E. Dame replied that the student would download the article and then UNH would pay at end of month.
 - A. Jilling noted that there wouldn't be a delay, similar to Interlibrary Loan. Asked if this would impact timing. E. Dame replied that she will check.
 - P. Lacroix clarified that you would access article but UNH would track and pay monthly
 - J. Bolin asked about on and off campus. M. Lynch replied that you need the VPN anyway.
 - J. Coulombe asked if this would impact services other than articles. E. Dame replied likely not, just articles.
 - E. Temko asked if UNH could negotiate. E. Dame replied that the library has attempted already.
 - N. Stafford supported E. Temko's suggestion of connecting with Faculty Senate on the issue. E. Dame replied that we may need to wait until the library votes on budget, at which time they will bring issue to Faculty Senate. Do we want to wait that long?
 - P. Lacroix suggested sending a delegation of students to meet with representative from library to avoid using valuable GSS meeting time; this would also allow us to meet with them sooner.
 - D. Biles proposed tabling for now to attempt to meet with library.

4. M. Lynch noted that the GRC registration closes next week.

IV. Upcoming Events

- A. First Thursday!
Thursday April 6th, 7:00 – 9:00pm
Thirsty Moose in Dover, NH

V. Check-outs and Evaluations

Adjourn 12:30pm