

# GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE (GSS)

Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017; 11:30 – 1:00 PM; MUB 302

## Draft Minutes

### I. Opening Business

#### A. Greetings, Check-Ins

Drummond Biles, Lyana Suntlan Chang, Jordan Coulombe, Meagan Wengrove, Jin Lee, Nick Marino, Elizabeth Moschella, Gökhan Kumpas, Andrea Jilling, Nick (undergrad rep), Holland Prior, Ezra Temko, Nate Stafford, Joseph Jensen, Myles Lynch, Jovana Milosavljevic

#### B. Approval of minutes

### II. External Business

#### A. Undergraduate Student Senate

#### B. Grad staff writer

### III. Internal Business

#### A. Provost Nancy Targett 11:30 – 12:00

##### 1. PowerPoint Presentation

- 2,164 Graduate Students at UNH
- Resources for graduate students even after graduation; resources available as a professional.
- Higher education is evolving globally, but especially in the United States.

##### 2. N. Targett discussed stepping into a graduate students' shoes and found that UNH could improve online accessibility to information relevant to current and potential graduate students.

##### 3. N. Targett highlighted goals for graduate education:

- Dedicated graduate student space;
- Benchmarking graduate student stipends and fees;
- Assessing the UNH graduate student funding model.

##### 4. N. Targett noted the shift towards interdisciplinary programs (e.g., NRES).

##### 5. N. Targett added that UNH is focused on integrating health and counseling services; counseling Center had wait times as long as a month. Upon looking at the availability of services, UNH will be changing hours to be more accessible to students.

##### 6. N. Targett welcomed questions.

##### 7. E. Temko asked about where the graduate school organization is moving, namely positions of the Graduate School Dean. N. Targett responded that Interim Dean Cari Moorhead will continue in her current role next year and a search will commence in fall. Acknowledged that Dean Moorhead is fulfilling responsibilities of both Associate Dean and Dean of the Graduate School. She also noted intention to give Dean Moorhead more support.

- Biles asked if a search is necessary considering the resources and success of her

in the role. N. Targett responded that Cari Moorhead has done a great job but going through the appropriate process will be best for her if she were to be offered the role.

8. J. Milosavljevic thanked N. Targett for her support of graduate students and acknowledgement of our role at UNH. She asked how graduate students can be more included in the university. N. Targett responded that it will take all of us and suggested focusing on increasing awareness with administration. Dean Moorhead has been a strong advocate for graduate students. N. Targett added that GSS and administration have been successful at working through issues together and should serve as a model of shared governance.
  9. M. Wengrove asked about expectations pertaining to university funding. N. Targett responded that there will likely be cuts, but may not be as draconian as predicted. UNH has been active in D.C. lobbying efforts.
  10. J. Milosavljevic asked about efforts at UNH to transform humanities at the undergraduate level also impacting graduate programs. N. Targett responded that the Dean has been thinking innovatively. Dean Heidi Bostic is co-chairing task force on interdisciplinary scholarship and education; tasked with framing how we move forward with thinking about this. N. Targett shared an experience in Boston recently with the CFO of General Electric in which he was asked to envision the future; story of GE and Ferrari partnership in innovating engineering and manufacturing. We must consider how UNH prepares and trains students for innovation. She added that New Hampshire ranks in the top ten of innovative states.
  11. M. Wengrove asked for advice in adapting and changing mindset. N. Targett encourage students to remain open and seize opportunities; you can never have too many options. Sometimes there are opportunities that just aren't right at that particular moment; while one may pass by, others present themselves.
- B. Stacey Hall, Director of Campus Recreation
1. S. Hall thanked GSS, and specifically Diana Silver who was an active graduate student in building plans. Presented GSS with a framed picture.
  2. S. Hall added that there will be some information coming out about the transition from spring to summer.
  3. J. Milosavljevic asked who GSS should speak to about use of the kitchen. S. Hall responded that they will be taking reservations soon.
  4. M. Wengrove asked about how much it will cost to use the outdoor pool. S. Hall responded that membership for the recreation center will include pool access (\$99). Unsure about fall plans. Attempting to open sooner for orientation in June; typically don't open until Father's Day.
- C. Nick, Representative from Undergraduate Student Senate read statement.
1. E. Temko noted that there was a motion from GSS asking undergraduate Student Senate to be aware of language and how it impacts us. N. responded that GSS should pursue change through the appropriate channels.
- D. Faculty Senate Motion for a tobacco-free, smoke-free campus
1. J. Milosavljevic noted to expect vote on May 8th. GSS motion was dropped although

they addressed USS motion. She added that there is criticism to the motion for a tobacco-free campus.

2. J. Jensen noted he was on the campus planning committee; responded that some unhealthy behaviors impact others (i.e., second-hand smoke).
3. J. Coulombe noted concern that we return to current policy that is not enforced. J. Jensen responded that UNH received funding to study this in 2014; Plymouth State went tobacco-free. He concluded that enforcement is changing social norms by educating students.
4. E. Temko noted that there are campuses in Pennsylvania that enforces policy. Add develop mechanism on enforcement. J. Jensen responded that the Campus Planning Committee is not in the best position to make enforcement suggestions.
5. J. Jensen asked what role GSS could play. D. Biles clarified that Dante Scala asked us to support existing resolution or draft new resolution.
6. D. Biles noted that the change impacts more than students as staff may choose to leave UNH and with them decades of knowledge.
7. A. Jilling suggested resending GSS resolution from last year. She proposed enforcing the current policy in the meantime then consider moving to tobacco-free.
8. E. Moschella suggested designated smoking areas as a potential model for UNH (currently 20 feet away from building).
9. J. Milosavljevic noted that this will be especially difficult for lifelong smokers; some enjoy it regardless of the health implications. J. Jensen noted that the committee discussed 'rights of smoker'.
10. E. Temko asked what is considered secondary smoke and the differing impact on others' health (e.g., vapor, hookah).
11. J. Coulombe added that chewing tobacco may receive heavy pushback and will be difficult to enforce. He suggested resubmitting previous resolution that encourages enforcement of current policy and noted a number of holes in the current faculty motion.
12. J. Milosavljevic asked if this motion passes can we ask for a car free campus due to health impacts? J. Jensen responded that the committee discussed where does it stop.
13. N. Stafford suggested moving on from this topic and could focus on car idling which he sees as more impactful. He supports a smoke-free campus but there are more urgent issues for our time.
14. D. Biles closed stack that we will be resending our resolution, that they should work on the complete lack of enforcement, and if they wanted to pursue a next step they should consider designated smoking areas.

#### E. Brief Committee Meetings

##### Reports

1. Departmental Governance created education materials (one in each college) and compiled levels of representation. The committee also discussed shortening statement for the Chair of Department and would provide exemplars.
2. Graduate Research Conference made an invitation for advisors to attend and encouraged senators to use the materials. M. Lynch will connect with new director of the Career Center.
3. Graduate Student Center created final draft of survey and will be pushing during the

GRC. Encourages GSS to promote to friends and colleagues. Survey is short, asks about location, size, amenities.

#### **IV. Upcoming Events**

- A. First Thirstday!  
Thursday April 6<sup>th</sup>, 7 – 9pm,  
Thirsty Moose in Dover, NH
  
- B. Graduate Student Appreciation Week  
April 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>
- C. Graduate Research Conference  
Poster Session April 10<sup>th</sup>  
Oral Session April 11<sup>th</sup>
  
- D. Graduate Breakfast  
Wednesday April 12<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 – 10am  
MUB, OSIL office\
  
- E. Graduate Movie Night: PhD Comics Movie 2  
Wednesday April 12<sup>th</sup>, 6 – 8pm  
MUB Theater II
  
- F. SHARPP March  
Thursday April 13<sup>th</sup>, 12:30 – 2pm  
Great Lawn

#### **V. Check-outs and Evaluations**

Adjourn