

Graduate Student Senate (GSS)

Oct. 3, 2017, 10:30am-12:00pm

MUB 336

Meeting Agenda

I. Call to Order

- A. Welcome and Check-Ins: Jovana (Pres.), Jacob (Comm Off), Andrea (Finance), Beth (COLA), Rachel (Housing), Nick (CEPS), Drummond (CEPS), Jordan (COLSA), Nate (External), Sam (CHHS), Gökhan (Paul), Dominic (CEPS), Emily (COLA), Della (COLA), Jin (COLA), Aliza (Commun. Coord.), Kathy (Dir. Housing), Carina (guest, MPP student at Carsey, nominee to vacant Grad School senate seat)

II. Approve Minutes

- A. Review and approve previous meeting's minutes: Approved.
 - 1. There is currently no "cultural competency course" required.

III. Sharing plans/taking suggestions re: raising funds for Puerto Rico (Drummond)

- A. Kick-off on Thursday (First Thursday at Thirsty Moose): working with students from PR to coordinate with connections on the ground to get aid there as efficiently as possible; also looking into online courses if/when power and Internet are back
- B. Also working on linking up to [Ocean Discovery Day](#) (Oct 13-14)
- C. Drummond will serve as contact if anyone wants to offer help or suggestions; still trying to figure out which method of distributing funds is most cost- and time-efficient
- D. Other action/help coming from faculty in Spanish and PoliSci; sharing information through our (upcoming monthly) GSS Newsletter and through Grad School Weekly Newsletter

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Meeting Agenda

IV. Reporting back from Grad Council (Jacob)

A. Graduate School awards

1. STAF (Summer Teaching Assistant Fellowship): applications accepted between Oct 6 2017 – Jan 25 2018 (Feb 2 2018 letters of rec. deadline)
2. DYF (Dissertation Year Fellowship): application form, proposal, schedule, and CV are all due by Jan 4 2018 by midnight; two letters of recommendation are due by January 16, 2018 by midnight.
3. Grad. Faculty Mentor, Research/Scholarship/Creativity, Teaching Assistant nominations due by midnight Nov 13 2017

B. Research park under discussion

C. Other discussion included changes in some Master's programs

V. Printing Allowances for Graduate Students (Beth)

- A. A constituent in COLA mentioned having a printing allowance at another institution, and suggested it might be something worth trying to secure
- B. This is departmental, tech fee assessed and \$20/mo in Engineering (Drummond)
 1. Departmental differences noted by several in attendance
 2. Senators can collect departmental practices and report back next meeting
 - a) We will have a shared doc (Beth)

VI. A Lot (Sam)

- A. 3 weeks ago, A Lot closed in the afternoon for special events, meaning no parking or you have to move if you parked in the morning

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Meeting Agenda

1. Alternative parking exists at West Edge, but no apparent increase in bus service
2. Is it possible to increase bus service when A Lot is closed? Is it possible to emphasize these closures in communications from Transportation? How do extended pay-meter hours impact availability?

B. It might be helpful to invite Dirk Timmons and/or David May to next GSS session
(Kathy [Dir. Housing]) (Jacob will reach out)

VII. Committee Assignments & Reports via Canvas (Jovana)

- A. The GSS official Web site will no longer have a page for uploading new or reviewing previous committee reports
- B. Instead, all reports will be archived and available (only internally) through the GSS MyCourses “course”

VIII. Student Org Expo (Jovana)

- A. Previous experience suggests this is geared toward undergraduates, and student organizations represented reinforce that notion
- B. Majority sense that this is similar to the Career Fair, also primarily geared toward undergraduates, so GSS presence may not be well-used

IX. Dir. Housing Kathy Irla-Chesney discussed Forest Park issues

- A. Hydration station in the queue
- B. On the question of whether parents of children in residence at Forest Park are responsible for \$17.5K tuition to Durham public schools; in the past Housing covered the cost, but this has not been sustainable – while grad students are

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largely unable to cover such cost, the question of where that money comes from is still up in the air

1. *Hypothetical posed*: If a grad student lived in Dover, and rented, and had a child going to school in Durham, the landlord's taxes would be the tax-based contribution to the school budget (the rent covering those costs along with all other tenants' rent), so isn't UNH the "landlord" in this case? And shouldn't this mean the cost is a UNH problem? Perhaps we should reach out to David May (Assoc. VP of Business Affairs) or Chris Clement (VP Finance/Admin) on this issue (Drummond) (Jacob will reach out)

- a) Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) is the program name (Kathy)

- C. UNH is non-profit, pays no taxes, but school budget comes from taxes
- D. There may be some distinction about "domicile" versus "residency" (Jacob)
- E. See GSS general session [minutes 19.sept.2017](#) for review of issues (Jacob)
- F. It may be useful to reach out to Chris Clement or David May with questions about the tuition issue (Jacob will reach out)

X. Model for Mutual Respect motion from Faculty Senate (Jovana)

- A. Senators should share w/ constituencies
- B. Moved to next session for lack of time

XI. Adjourn