

Graduate Student Senate (GSS)

Oct. 31, 2017, 10:30am-12:00pm

MUB 336

Meeting Minutes

I. BOO!

- A. Present: Jovana (Pres), Jacob (Comm. Off.) Carina (Grad), Drummond (CEPS), Andrea (Fin. Aff. Off), Dominic (CEPS), Sam (CHHS), Nick (CEPS), Rachel (Housing), Jordan (COLSA), Nate (Ex. Aff. Off.), Gökhan (Paul), Aliza (Community Coord.), Jin (VP), Emily (COLA), Della (COLA)

II. Minutes approved

III. Brief committee reports

- A. USSB (Nate): Life sciences initiative and Army Grant discussed; talks (plans?) to lease 6th floor of Manchester property (88 Commercial) as lab/incubator space; Spaulding building budget shortfall
- B. SAARC (Drummond): review of spreadsheet of projects (shared with his report); possibility of putting money toward graduate family housing in research park as opposed to renovating Forest Park; plans for capital projects passed around (N.B.: Andrea emailed GSS 11.13 with request to identify top 5 projects on the SAARC list)
- C. BAC (Jovana): UNH does is budgeted in advance and they make 5 year projections, but somehow the 2016 agreement between UNH/Durham didn't account for lacking funds in Housing;
- D. GRAD Council (Jacob): moved to next general session (there is another GRAD Council meeting Nov. 3)

IV. Reporting re: meeting with Pres. Huddleston (Jin & Jovana)

- A. He believes there is space for a grad space; suggests discussions with VP Finance; discussion about finances and stipend increases; answering concern about COLA cuts, cites "market calls for" STEM

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V. Discussion of policy draft prohibiting emotional support animals in classes, offices

(Jovana)

- A. This is the 6th draft, and prohibits animals on campus with following exceptions: service dogs (according to Americans with Disabilities Act), emotional support animals (according to Fair Housing Act, Rehab Act), research/lab specimens.
- B. Some discussion about whether or not current policies re: leashes have been enforced or are enforceable, and whether/how new policies would be enforced

VI. Review of updated task-oriented committee charts (Jin & Jovana)

- A. Continued discussion in small groups about tasks and/or rationale for the charts, and description of the roles for primary (leading, more involved) and advisory (as needed) members, with chairs responsible for contact and organization

VII. Lunch with unit directors (Andrea)

- A. Scheduled for Wed. Nov 15, 12:00-1:30pm, Hamel Rec Center, Rm 239; discussion of the use of mandatory fees and how they support student services; units represented include Campus Recreation, MUB, Housing, Transportation, Health & Wellness, Academic Technology

VIII. Marc Hiller representing Faculty Senate re: non-smoking motion/proposal

- A. Current policy establishing 20-ft non-smoking perimeter around buildings dates back to 2002, is voluntary and unenforced; the new proposal would also be unenforceable, by design, but would include more social-norming measures; policy is very similar to what Plymouth State put in place in 2016; due to some skepticism raised during this

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session, Jacob requested more information about impact/success of similar policies with more longevity than what we find at PSU

- B. Jacob will follow up with Prof. Hiller and present more data before GSS vote on whether to support the FS proposal

IX. Adjourn (12:09)