

**GSS Meeting Minutes**  
**9/3/2019 | 1:30 – 3 PM**  
**MUB 162**

**1. Bring the Meeting to Session – POGSS**

- a. Meeting called to session at 1:34 pm

**2. Roll Call – COGSS**

- a. GSS Senators and Executive Officers in Attendance: Casey O'Heran (President), Alex Padilla (Financial Affairs), Jacob Koile (Community Coordinator), Jacob Bennett (External Relations), Sarah Widlansky (Communications), William Lush (CEPS), Dominic Payne (CEPS), Sanchari Kundu (CHHS), Emily Whalen (CHHS), Sumeryra Gok (COLA), Martine Grenier-Burtis (COLA), Allison Giannotti (COLA), Ben Remillard (COLA), Lauren Breza (COLSA), Jovana Milosavljevic Ardeljan (PAUL), Karen Moran Rivera (International), Marie-Josiane (MJ) Ohoueu (GRAD).

**3. Welcome from the POGSS**

- a. Meeting structure will be similar to last year with added roll call and time for senators to give updates from their constituents
- b. GSS President's priorities for the session – 1) having senators reach out to graduate community/constituents regularly (through weekly or bi-weekly emails), 2) potential town hall event this semester or next to hear feedback from students, 3) establishing a website form for students to share concerns, 4) grad student housing – filling housing gap from Forest Park closing and working with Provost Jones to ensure new housing meets requirements for graduate students, 5) voicing GSS support for having SHARPP advocates at Title IX hearings.
- c. Update from the GSS Executive Committee – Casey O'Heran and Liz Weidner will be meeting with Provost Jones and President Dean. Jacob Bennett has been attending Board of Trustees meetings as a grad rep. and wants to gather info about graduate student life to bring to these meetings that happen quarterly. Sarah Widlansky has been working on updating the GSS website and social media pages.

**4. Welcome from the Graduate School – *Dean Cari Moorhead and Assistant Dean Dovev Levine***

- a. Many years of combined experience with UNH
- b. Dean Moorhead opened floor to input from the group. She spoke about the increase in grad student enrollment at UNH. She will be providing specific numbers on grad enrollment (e.g., MS vs PhD, etc.) once these reports have been compiled. One of her major focuses is looking at ways to streamline time to graduation, particularly for PhD students. She is also interested in promoting tools to look for jobs outside of academia, in conjunction with CAPS. The Graduate School is having conversations with grad coordinators from different programs to go over resources available to these programs. Dean Moorhead is interested in promoting grad student health and wellbeing to create a safe environment for grad students on campus. Dean Moorhead also promoted the 3MT competition in the spring and encouraged participation.

## 5. Guest Speaker – Provost and VP for Academic Affairs Wayne Jones

- a. Provost Jones discussed his four strategic priorities (student success, academic excellence, budget, and strategic investments)
- b. Provost Jones also mentioned that graduate student enrollment has increased this year.
- c. Provided an update from a recent Deans council meeting:
  - i. Graduate student stipends: UNH met the commitment to increase grad student stipends by \$1000/year this year. The stipend is set to increase by \$500/year for the next 2 years. This increase was largely pushed forward by Dean Moorhead.
  - ii. Housing: A public-private partnership is being developed to increase grad student housing on campus property through a private company. This has been promised, and the purchase and sale agreement is in progress. They are expected to break ground ~Dec or Jan.
- d. Provost Jones mentioned that the Dean of CEPS Search, as well as a few other searches, are coming up and need grad student representatives.
- e. Questions from group for Provost Jones: Jovana asked whether the new grad student housing will include family housing? Response: yes. MJ asked what the expected timeframe was for the new housing? Response: There are currently construction limitations, but it is expected to be completed by Fall 2021.

## 6. New Business – POGSS

- a. Casey O’Heran went over a newly proposed inactive senatorship amendment to the GSS bylaws. This amendment will be put to vote on 9/16/19. This amendment is an effort to reach quorum at meetings and would make a senator inactive after missing one meeting, following a vote from the Governance Committee. Senators must notify the GSS President and Vice President prior to missing a meeting and designate a proxy to avoid being made inactive. Voting to make a senator inactive will take place within the Governance Committee after the meeting that was missed and the Senator will be notified directly that they’ve been made inactive. Voting will be determined by majority of the Governance Committee.
- b. Casey O’Heran went over internal (standing and ad hoc) and external committees that have representatives from GSS.

## 7. Internal Committee Time – Chairs & Reps

- a. Senators and Executive Officers broke up into their assigned committees to appoint chairs and discuss goals for the session.

## 8. Open Forum – POGSS

- a. Discussed upcoming GSS events, including First Thursday (09/03/19), University Day (09/10/19), Health & Wellness Luncheon (09/12/19), and Back to Bab event (09/14/19).

## 9. Adjournment – POGSS

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 3:13pm