

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE (GSS)
Wednesday, Jan 25th, 2017; 9:30 – 11 AM; MUB 302

Minutes

I. Opening Business

A. Greetings, Check-Ins

In Attendance: Joseph Jensen, Holland Prior, Jovanna Milosavljevic, Ezra Temko, Patrick Lacroix, Julie Riley, Evgeniya Dame, Elizabeth Moschella, Jin Lee, Meagan Wengrove, Nate Stafford, Myles Lynch, Andrea Jilling, Jessie Bolin, Drummond Biles, Jordan Coulombe

B. Approval of minutes

Skipped; will approve next week.

II. External Business

A. Undergraduate Student Senate

B. Grad Staff Writer

1. M. Lynch spoke to Graduate School activities by highlighting several cool events coming up. Due to demand and anecdotal feedback about first Thirstdays (i.e. location, timing, undergrad molding, high turnout in December) GSS will change location to Thirsty Moose in Dover. There is a registration link but don't worry if it's about to run out.
2. M. Lynch also noted the 3MT practice round at Flight on February 22nd from 6 – 7:30pm. Good opportunity to get feedback on thesis and presentation skills. Video of last year's participants and rules are posted on Graduate School website. Participants must register for the event for planning purposes. While this is a practice opportunity, judges and feedback will make it cool. The last round will be videotaped and top 3 receive prizes!

III. Internal Business

A. Action Item Ad-Hoc Committee Structure

1. Take 20 minutes out of one of GSS General Meeting every month to meet as an Ad-Hoc Committee. D. Biles added that he listed several categories but also open to suggestions.
2. N. Stafford asked if there will be a designated chair for each Ad-Hoc committee? D. Biles clarified that these are Ad-Hoc committees under the umbrella of the Advocacy Committee and therefore there can be a chair; chair could even rotate between members.
3. E. Temko asked if finance work is independent from this? D. Biles responded that it is.

B. Re-Orientation, Guidelines for a Productive Semester

1. D. Biles highlighted the tools GSS utilizes.
 - Canvas: The *Calendar* in Canvas is a place to check on meetings. *Announcements* will be used to contact all senators. Meeting agenda and minutes will be sent as an announcement and through outlook calendar. *Pages* contain a link to the Google Drive folder. Lastly, and perhaps most useful, is *Discussion* containing reports on Canvas. The report check-ins (one or two points) to discuss at the beginning of GSS General Meetings. Send any larger report to D. Biles to become an agenda item.
 - Google Drive: D. Biles highlighted the flyers for events. He added that a list of all senators can be found in Google Drive.

- J. Milosavljevic noted that D. Biles can see the last time we visited the Google Drive page, as well as cumulative time on the GSS Canvas.
 - M. Lynch added it would be a good opportunity to demonstrate how to register for events.
2. Final Vote on Resolution
- E. Temko provided background on a resolution of UNH as an inclusive community. He noted that GSS passed the resolution during last meeting but made additional changes and reorganized. Proceeded to highlight major changes:
- Academic Freedom – There is no current policy regarding academic freedom for graduate students.
 - Parental leave – Extend policy to staff and students; currently requires a petition and only specifies maternal leave rather than parental.
 - Global, Race, and Diversity Studies – Secured funding for a year, but need a commitment to sustain the program. GSS would advocate for commitment and long-term funding.
 - Syllabus Language – Sociologist Nicky Fox includes this language on her syllabi to promote inclusion.
- E. Temko noted the feedback suggests this is a comprehensive list. Only recommendation was to add Professional Education programming for all first years.

Voted 10 yay, 0 nay, 1 abstention. Passed.

- C. Ad-Hoc Committees Meetings
Broke out into small groups.

IV. Upcoming Events

- A. First Thirstday!
Thursday Feb 2nd, 7:00 – 9:00pm
Thirsty Moose Dover, NH
- B. Three Minute Thesis Practice Run
Wednesday Feb 22nd, 6:00 – 7:30pm
Event Registration: https://www.gradschool.unh.edu/pd/pd_cal.php

V. Check-outs and Evaluations

Adjourn 11:00am