

**GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE (GSS)**  
**Tuesday, Feb 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011; 11:30 – 1:00 PM; MUB 203**

**Draft Minutes**

**I. Opening Business**

A. Greetings, Check-Ins

In Attendance: Drummond Biles, Gökhan Kumpas, Jessie Bolin, Nate Stafford, Jochen Wirsing, Dante Broadbent, Myles Lynch, Jovana Milosavljevic, Meagan Wengrove, Nick Marino, Ezra Temko

B. Approval of minutes

Did not have quorum, vote at next meeting

**II. External Business**

A. Undergraduate Student Senate

Not present

B. Grad Staff Writer

**III. Internal Business**

A. Brief Committee Meetings

B. Reports

1. Career Services and GRC

Focused on connecting with the new Career Center and considering ways to advertise importance of GRC. Suggested registration process for GRC include a professional invitation to their advisor.

- D. Biles recommended asking about CAPS fee which will apply to graduate students next year.

2. Graduate Student Space

Money was allocated and now need to meet with campus architect/planner and Dean Moorhead. Get professional needs-assessment of the graduate community.

- J. Milosavljevic noted that at the previous Faculty Senate meeting Ted Kirkpatrick discussed the renovated space in Babcock for graduate students; however, there may be a misunderstanding that the space is available for all graduate students rather than just Babcock residents. GSS should clarify that the graduate community must be invited into Babcock by residents, a space also housing 21 undergraduates.

3. Communications

Aimed at consistent and diffuse advertisements of GSS events, including a consistent meme for Thirstdays at the Thirsty Moose.

4. Department Governance Committee

Planned to follow up with the survey that went out last April to gauge who has graduate student representation. Will connect and send information on best practices to those that

do not currently have an established liaison. Planned to work on language as to how GSS can best represent all graduate students.

- J. Milosavljevic reached out to Dovev about including position in the Graduate Coordinator Handbook.
- D. Biles asked if they have considered creating a template of what we are looking for, frequency, who you'd meet; would likely ease implementation.
- N. Stafford added that will be part of the educational documentation. We already have shared governance which is mostly effective, but gets less effective at the lower levels at day-to-day practices.

C. Graduate Student Finances update

1. D. Biles shared information on half fees and stipend increases. He noted the uncertainty as to how this will apply to doctoral candidates. Emphasized that Provost Targett and Dean Moorhead were pivotal in the decision.
2. A. Jilling added that this is a short term solution and the president wants long term changes.

D. Graduate Services provided by SHARPP, Zachary Ahmad-Kahloon

*Could not attend due to weather. Will reschedule.*

E. Travel Ban Discussion and Action

Currently on hold as the executive order proceeds through the courts.

1. M. Lynch wanted to address the reasoning that led to the ban rather than result and its effect.
2. E. Temko noted that Excom discussed reaching out to the Middle Eastern Association which organized an event in response.
  - J. Milosavljevic added that there have been two events so far – Provost Targett, President Huddleston and OISS held open discussion with students; and Dean Moorhead had dinner with students. She supported reaching out to the association.
3. J. Wirsing suggested that GSS consider related issue of reduced funding for science in general. University's position on the issue is uncertain, but this would affect the entire graduate student community – more personal than the travel ban.
4. E. Temko noted that graduate students are the most impacted population by the ban.
5. A. Jilling added that Durham and Portsmouth are considering sanctuary status.
  - G. Kumpas added that President Huddleston was asked this question and did not seem supportive. He expressed concern that this would extend to others by not renewing visas so not even needing to band.
  - Clarified what a sanctuary city or campus is – not cooperating with authorities by sharing information.
6. J. Milosavljevic noted that UNH has endured negative media attention with other issues and sanctuary status may be more harmful to public relations. She supported doing an event.
  - D. Broadbent added that there is likely a concentration of impacted graduate students in Forest Park and could organize an event around there.
7. D. Broadbent added that the federal government could uphold deadlines and pull funding.

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

- A. Three Minute Thesis Practice  
Wednesday Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6:00 – 7:30pm  
Flight in Dover, NH

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

**Adjourn 12:31pm, Stay Safe!**