

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE (GSS)
Wednesday, Feb 22nd, 2017; 9:30 – 11:00 AM; MUB 302

Minutes Draft

I. Opening Business

- A. Greetings, Check-Ins
Gökhan Kumpas, Patrick Lacroix, Myles Lynch, Jochen Wirsing, Andrea Jilling, Jovana Milosavljevic, Elizabeth Moschella, Evgeniya Dame, Nate Stafford, Nick Marino, Drummond Biles, Jessie Bolin, Joseph Jenson, Jordan Coulombe
- B. Approval of minutes
Minutes approved

II. External Business

- A. Undergraduate Student Senate
Not present
- B. Grad staff writer
Not present

III. Internal Business

- A. Reports
 - 1. G. Kumpas reported the Master's Committee proposal for a Graduate Certificate in Feminine Studies under the Women's Studies department; also, establishing a Master's in Public Policy and Master of Science in Analytics (MS Analytics Integrated Dual Degree Program).
 - 2. J. Milosavljevic reported on the faculty senate meeting. She noted that the faculty discussed having to turn over emails, one faculty even from the past six years. She noted that email investigations do not have to involve politics. Not sure how this would apply to graduate students.
 - 3. N. Stafford asked J. Milosavljevic for the faculty's general feelings of the board meeting with Governor Sununu. J. Milosavljevic noted that faculty appeared accepting of the events. N. Stafford indicated he expects the system to receive at least \$81M of requested \$88M.
- B. NH Voting Rights
 - 1. A. Jilling provided overview of bills, noting that the bills impacting students involve same day voter registration and intent to stay.
 - E. Moschella asked if this would apply to currently registered voters? Yes, most likely.
 - 2. D. Biles noted that previous Vice President, Mike Verney, asked GSS to endorse his organization's rally around these bills.
 - J. Bolin asked if this was partisan. A. Jilling replied that organization is non-partisan and advocates for civic education and engagement.
 - 3. M. Lynch supported GSS endorsement of the rally as the event would be educational and particularly informative for UNH students.

4. J. Milosavljevic noted that she cannot vote but supported GSS endorsement.
5. P. Lacroix suggested adding a line at the end of any communications that GSS does not endorse any partisan position but encourages civic education.
6. D. Biles clarified that GSS would endorse the event rather than co-sponsor.

N. Stafford motioned to endorse rally and organization, seconded by J. Coulombe

D. Biles clarified endorsement is for civic education and engagement.

12 yay, 0 nay, 0 abstain

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

1. Z. Ahmad-Kahloon described his role as Male Victim Programmer and the organization's services.
 - SHARPP staff accompany students throughout the entire process, including attending court; conduct prevention programming in residence halls, classes, athletic programs.
 - Z. Ahmad-Kahloon noted that his position was made possible with the \$2 increase to the SHARPP fee. He acknowledged that SHARPP is more active with undergraduates than the graduate community.
 - Asked to hear about GSS's experience with SHARRP, how do we reach the graduate student community?
2. E. Moschella noted that she researches domestic violence and emphasized the change in title IX policy at UNH last year. TA's are now required to report sexual assault that occurred anywhere at *any time*. She asked who can students go to now as a resource who is not a mandatory reporter and required to inform university. Z. Ahmad-Kahloon replied that only a few select positions are exempt from mandatory reporting.
3. M. Lynch asked about the history of Title IX. Z. Ahmad-Kahloon replied that it began as a federal law against discrimination. He noted that if a student gave a nugget of information the TA should call the hotline or ask University Police to determine if it crosses mandatory reporting lines. Pens have number, accessible any day and time. Completely confidential.
4. D. Biles asked if there is other training beyond graduate assistant orientation. Z. Ahmad-Kahloon noted that SHARPP offers many programs but tends to be with specific classes.
 - M. Lynch added that GSS has tried to organize a training in the past but difficult to encourage attendance.
5. D. Biles suggested graduate students have Title IX cards like the faculty. Z. Ahmad-Kahloon replied that SUNY has a helpful resource in the form of a card that instructs faculty and has a detachable sheet for the student disclosing information.
6. J. Milosavljevic asked how GSS can convey the importance of this information to graduate students who have labs or less interaction with students individually.
7. J. Jensen noted that graduate students are only at start of career and this issue will remain relevant.
8. Suggestions for relaying information or incorporating training for graduate students:
 - M. Lynch suggested RCR training as a channel.
 - D. Biles noted that individual departments often have their own orientation which would be an avenue.

- G. Kumpas suggested focusing on graduate student lecturers.
 - A. Jilling suggested reaching out to as many graduate students who might not be officially RA or GA, but mentor students in an intimate lab setting, etc.
 - D. Biles suggested reaching the broader graduate student population through the Graduate School; he also recommended using specific examples which relate to students when they are inundated with information such as the graduate assistant orientation.
 - E. Moschella suggested talking with specific faculty and encouraging them to share their Title IX resources with graduate students.
 - E. Moschella proposed a short presentation at departmental orientations to raise awareness that this is a more prevalent issue than people realize. Also, the intimate environment of a departmental orientation to ask questions rather than large scale training.
9. J. Milosavljevic noted that one of her students who works for the police mentioned that sexual assault is one of the biggest issues for undergraduates. She asked how much does sexual violence impact graduate students? Z. Ahmad-Kahloon replied that there are a few graduate student cases which are also the most complex.
- For example, an international student with an abusive partner in their home country; SHARPP will work with students in the visa process. Or an isolated student working with an abusive supervisor or committee member; the student is often worried about professional repercussions.
10. A. Jilling asked if faculty receive official training? Z. Ahmad-Kahloon replied that the orientation consists of giving faculty the policy but it is not operationalized. He noted the goal is to go into every department and do an hour-long training; however, there might be fear of causing unwanted workshops for people.
11. Z. Ahmad-Kahloon noted that GSS could advocate for departmental training; currently, many departments in COLA and PAUL engage SHARPP, but less so COLSA or CEPS.
12. M. Lynch suggested endorsing the organization. D. Biles added that GSS could write a resolution and seek support of Graduate Council.
13. Z. Ahmad-Kahloon also mentioned upcoming events:
- "Step out to Walk" rally; second Thursday in April, 12:30-2pm on T-Hall Lawn. He encouraged GSS to have a presence like last year.
 - Vagina Monologue events, taking place inside an art exhibit.

D. Committee Meetings
Separated into ad-hoc committees.

IV. Upcoming Events

- A. Three Minute Thesis Practice TONIGHT!
Wednesday Feb 22nd, 6:00 – 7:30pm
- B. Voting Rights Rally Concord, NH
Saturday February 25th, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

V. Check-outs and Evaluations

Adjourn