



## Reminders

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## General meeting

1. President call to order
2. Roll call by Secretary
  - o Quorum: Yes

## Old Business

1. Action to table discussion regarding Orientation Week until Eileen is back
2. Review and approval of meeting minutes from 10.8.14
  - o Motion to Approve Minutes: Colin Bragg
  - o Second: Laura Bartock
  - o Unanimously approved

## New Business

1. Library hours and potential cutbacks presented by Steve Weiter
  - o Steve came in to discuss and listen to our feedback to the cutbacks.
  - o Steve cannot fill a vacant position, which in effect is a loss of a half time staff position. Library has also lost some funding. Federal work-study issues are also having an impact on the library. Starting in the spring, library hours are going to

be cut back based on the several financial constraints mentioned above.  
Proposed cutbacks: eliminate Saturday hours, shorten Friday evening and Sunday hours. What are our opinions of these proposed cutbacks?

- Feedback:
  - Laura Bartock: Can we cut back on hours where the library isn't being used as much (as in, not during midterm or finals week)?
    - Steve: We could be flexible for those high intensity periods but they must be accurately identified by professors
  - Valerie Gonzalez: Can we have volunteers cover the hours?
    - Steve: we have no volunteers at the moment. Using volunteers can't really be a long-term/scheduled solution because of potential union issues.
  - Alison Oakes: Could the honor society donate time to the library?
    - Steve: This could help and be a potential option for us to try.
  - Ely Margolis: Use other libraries for some services, and make students aware of certain functions (example: printing) and when they are available?
    - Steve: printing is available at Baker, and we also get 500 pages at Bird. You can access our electronic resources from other places. We can use SU libraries, but we also really don't want to replace our library time with SU since that could potentially handcuff Provost Bongarten future SU-ESF financial negotiations.
  - Steve: The loss of a warm, large place for studying and doing group projects is one of the major losses that students will face with budget cuts. Access to the reserves will affect undergraduate students negatively.
  - Alison Oakes: SU is also getting a 20% budget reduction in their library funds and this will impact students.
    - Steve: That fact also impacts our decision. However, their hours probably won't change, just number of staff at a given time.
  - Alex Poisson: Is the Gateway center open on Saturdays or Sundays?
    - Steve: Not aware.
    - Alex: It would be beneficial to keep the space open in Gateway if the library reduces weekend hours.
  - Steve: Make library available at all hours necessary but without library assistance?
  - Leanna: Make card swipe access available for those working in writing center
    - Steve: This may be a possible thing to do and will discuss with Dawnelle.

- Emily Handlemann: Gateway should be open more especially considering the amount of money that has gone into it.
- Alison Oakes: Move a printing unit into Gateway?
  - Steve: Not up to him but he could look into it and bring it up in discussion with computing services.
- Steve: If there other proposed hours you'd recommend for elimination please relay that.

## 2. Multicultural Affairs Feedback

- Scott Bergey: 2 'Dialogs with the Dean' with Dean Lombard from Student Affairs last week regarding student opinions on lack of Multi-cultural Affairs Coordinator in light of campus 'hiring chill'. Most students at the dialog I attended said that it looks pretty bad that this position is not receiving enough importance from administration. Any opinions from GSA Senate on this discussion?
  - Ely: There's a huge diversity of students on this campus, which we used this for. We can't solely rely on SU's services alone for this.
  - Eugene: We are still hiring professors, but the 'chill' on hiring is temporary. We should not just prioritize hiring professors. This position is important.
    - Who should be prioritized in the hiring process?
  - Eugene: administration completely repurposed the multicultural affairs office, so there is no longer physical space on campus. It sends a message that admin. doesn't care about this position or role. BoT meeting they highlight that this is the most diverse freshman class ever for ESF, but yet don't place importance on hiring this position.
    - Does this elimination of space show that the position itself will be eliminated? No—still want to hire when funding is available.
    - Scott: Sometimes when there's no actual person to fight for physical space on campus, it's easy to repurpose vacant offices. Still looks very bad, though.
  - Eugene: We shouldn't just say something - we should do something to remedy this situation.
  - Scott: Would international committee be interested in at least looking into a partial solution to this or be willing to help students / take on a mentoring role?
    - Laura: There is formal training for this soon and she will email it out.
  - Scott: Maybe Alex mention this at next USA meeting and see if we want to put together any sort of joint statement/resolution about this topic.

### 3. GSA microphone

- YunYun Bi: we can use them we just need to put the wires away and take out the batteries after use. ITS can help set them up.
- Jay: we should use a sign out sheet to keep track of where they end up and who uses them.

### 4. Graduate student contract

- Alison Oakes: There have been significant issues with faculty abusing graduate students (refusing to read dissertation chapters, not allowing for students to switch MP's, etc.)
- This document is going to be given to incoming graduate students upon entry to ESF.
- Under review by Instructional Quality and Academic Standards Fac Gov Subcommittee now.
- Document already officially endorsed by GSA, but any individual feedback needs to be sent to Alison to report back to IQAS.

## Committee Updates

- Speaker:
- Social:
- Professional Development:
- Grants and Awards: Apply for research grant!
- International:
- Board of Trustees: our deficit is so serious that the school will be bankrupt in three years if we don't solve this financial crisis.
  1. However, we got funding for new buildings...
  2. Construction project for building new academic research facility... will perhaps be added on to Illick.

Motion to adjourn: Laura Bartock

Second: Colin Bragg

Unanimously approved

### **Upcoming events**

- Everything you need to know to defend is tomorrow (10.23.14) in Moon
- Halloween TG is coming up

## **Attendance**

### GSA Senate

1. Scott Bergey - President
2. Jonathan Masih Das -VP Grants and Awards
3. YunYun Bi -VP of International Activities
4. Stacey Mack -VP of Professional Development (absent with a proxy)
5. Eileen Leon -VP of Social Activities (absent with a proxy)
6. Forrest Baird -VP of Speakers and Presentations (absent)
7. Hayley Kopelson - Secretary
8. Alison Oakes - Treasurer
9. Ian McColl - SU GSO Representative (absent)
10. Keshav Sauba - SU GSO Representative
11. Peter Kwon - SU GSO Representative (absent)
12. Leanna Kirschen - Environmental Studies Representative
13. Colin Bragg - SCME representation
14. Emily Handelmann - Landscape Architecture Representative
15. Xolile Maphanga - ERE Representative (absent with proxy)
16. Emma Putman - PBE representative (absent)
17. Veronica Gonzalez - FNRM Representative (I)
18. Becky Fuda - Environmental Forest Biology Representative (I)
19. Jay Wason - Environmental Forest Biology Representative (II)
21. Terra Rentz - EFB (III) (absent)
22. Mirian Calderon - Environmental Science Representative (I)
23. Laura Bartock - Environmental Science Representative (II)
24. Rick Joseph - Chemistry Representative
25. Doug Morrison - Faculty Advisor
26. Eugene Law - Board of Trustees
27. Ely Margolis - Webmaster
28. Alex Poisson - USA representative

### Guests

Steve Weiter – Librarian at ESF