



General meeting

1. President call to order
2. Roll call by Secretary
 - Quorum: Yes
3. Review and approval of meeting minutes from 8/30/14
 - Motion to Approve Minutes: Laura Bartock
 - Second: Leanna Kirschen
 - Unanimously approved

Old Business

1. Document approved email motions
 - Motion to approve \$100 from the General Fund to purchase 2 \$25 Alto Cinco gift cards and 1 \$50 Wegman's gift card to be given as random prize drawings for students completing the GSA Survey: Eileen Leon; Second: Becky Fuda
 - Approved with 15 votes in favor
 1. Forrest, Eugene, Keshav, Ian, Peter, Veronica, Terra, Mirian abstain
 - Motion to approve GSA's endorsement of the attached Joint Resolution with USA regarding President Wheeler's Inauguration: Becky Fuda
 - Second: Eileen Leon
 - Approved with 15 votes in favor

1. Forrest, Eugene, Keshav, Ian, Peter, Veronica, Terra, Mirian abstain

New Business

1) Emma as PBE Rep (Vingesh Gnavel has moved away for an internship, leaving position vacant)

- Motion to Approve Emma Putman as PBE Rep: Laura Bartock
- Second: Xolile Maphanga
- Unanimously approved

2) Alex Poisson as USA Rep (Emma prefers PBE Rep position, leaving USA open for Alex as discussed last meeting)

- Motion to Approve Alex Poisson as USA Rep: Forrest Baird
- Second: Laura Bartock
- Unanimously approved

3) College hour as meeting time

- Concerns: (See below)
- Faculty governance is on opposite Wednesdays
- Scott Bergey will send an email out officiating this as out meeting time and day, starting Sept. 24th, 2014

4) Confirm and Document Committee Membership

- **NOTE:** VP's must email me (Hayley Kopelson) this information
- **Social Committee:** Eileen Leon, Ely Margolis, Emily Handelman, Rick Joseph, Xolile Maphanga, Eugene Law, Leanna Kirschen, Harold Nugent, Emma Putman
- **International Committee:** Yunyun Bi, Rebecca Jude Meissner, Xolile Maphanga, and Peter Kwon
- **Professional Development Committee:** Stacey Mack, Veronica Gonzalez, Emma E Putman, Brandon Haynes (in spring 2015 semester), and Zachary Lefaver (non-Senate member)
- **Speakers Committee:** Forrest Baird, Terra Rentz, Alex Poisson
- **Grants and Awards Committee:** Jonathan Masih Das, Allison Oakes, Jay Wason, Laura Bartock, Hayley Kopelson, Ian McColl, Keshav Sauba,
- Not sure about Becky Fuda, Mirian Calderon, Leanna Kirschen; and Xolile is listed twice

5) Position to fill bike safety committee

- Alex Poisson may be interested, will appoint later

6) Review survey results

- 127 responses, on par with previous years' surveys
- Initial feedback:
 - Eileen Leon: We need to work on bringing concerns of the students to administration. Offer more transparency about where we spend our money. We should be concerned about students not having funding to do their research.
 - Peter's proxy (Becky Meissner): budget should be posted on GSA site.
 - Scott Bergey: We should have/post some information about general questions that were posed on survey.
 - Eileen: Proposed in the past that we should be putting info on the GSA site, but succinct versions of it, for transparency reasons.
 - Scott: 60%+ of students would be interested in increasing fees. Importance of emails. We also need to get more information from administration which takes time and effort.

7) Budget overview, discussion, allocation

- Allison Oakes: \$4,000 in rollover from last year
- We have about the same amount of money as we did last year.
- Insurance is non negotiable, as is the website cost. We need to sacrifice some expenses because we are currently over our budget.
- **Social Committee: Eileen Leon**
 - Eileen: The budget is much higher this year, since last year we went through a transition between having TG's on campus at a very low cost (\$500) and having TG's exclusively at the Inn Complete at a very high cost (\$850 at least) and with very little options, since we are required to use SU Catering Services whenever having an event at the Inn. Currently, we already know that we will not be

allowed to have TG's serving alcohol on campus. Therefore, I'm not willing to cut budget for TG's

- Additional events this year: one of my major goals for this year is to have events that appeal to a variety of tastes(dry events, outdoor, etc.):
 - challenge course
 - GSA games (soccer, volleyball, etc.) perhaps in November,
 - concern that there are no orientation events in the spring... want to have one event (at least) this upcoming spring,
 - brewery tour: was a student request, the winery tour is well received, they can offer a tour and a tasting, with root beer available
 - grad appreciation week
 - Green Lakes BBQ was also a major success.
 - Allison: can you bring alcohol to Green Lakes?
 - Eileen: Yes, anyone visiting Green Lakes can bring their own alcohol, but we must advertise as dry event
 - Allison: We should raise cost of winery tour in the future
 - Eileen: Agrees that the cost should be higher next time
 - Rick Joseph: announcing events at SU?
 - Eileen: Events have not been announced at SU yet
 - Brandon Haynes: What are the general costs of a TG?
 - Eileen: It's about \$7 per student (\$850 per TG) and having better food increases price drastically (\$15 per person), and we are required to buy food from a SU Catering Services, which has very limited options.
- Jay Wason: asked about actual vs proposed budgets for committees. What were they last year? The year prior to that?
- **Speakers committee: Forrest Baird**
 - Asking for less money. Going down to \$3600. Quality over quantity with speakers to give students more time to speak to speakers. Co sponsor event adaptive peaks, speakers contest in lieu of on the shoulders of giants event (professional development, perhaps cosponsor with them), pay the speakers a little more to adjust for cost of living increase
 - Jay: what do we get by co sponsoring adaptive peaks?
 - Forrest: we can promote the GSA this way, makes us look good if we can help cover events
 - Eileen: If co-sponsoring does not give GSA a vote on the selected speakers or has any impact on whether the series occurs or not, I don't think we should just put money into it, so that the name of GSA appears. We can help in other ways, such as organization, promotion, etc.
 - Forrest: we should be doing more in this committee because we have not in the past.
 - Allison: we need to spend our money,
 - Rick: what's covered on insurance?
 - Scott: The rate is incredibly good, based directly on # of students (which is also how it is priced), and nonnegotiable
 - Becky: what did speakers spend in the 2012-2013 year?

- Allison: it's written on board. Red font: 2012-2013 year
 - Photo attached at bottom of doc
- **Professional development: Veronica**
 - Very small committee this year with two members
 - 10 events for \$550, worst case/most expensive scenario: \$900
 - survey did not indicate interest in elevator pitch event, but Veronica thinks that students just don't understand how this is beneficial for them
 - Wants the \$1,700
 - Eileen: will there be a networking event?
 - Veronica Gonzalez: two new events proposed: networking mixer will have professional contacts inside and outside the university, ethics in science
 - Committee is requesting \$50 less than last year
 - Laura Bartock (to Eileen): social committee and professional development committee working together on networking event? Are both committees budgeting for it
 - Eileen: yes, we will likely be working together on this. The Social Committee did not budget for it. Only the Professional development did.
- **Grants and Awards: Jonathan Masih Das**
 - Rollovers from past year: \$750 from travel grants, \$1054.42 from research grants
 - We are requesting \$6,750 for grants
 - Becky: might be a good note to say our grants are separate from OIGS
 - Eileen: maybe combine our grants with OIGS?
 - Jonathon: we can talk about that this year in the committee
- **International: YunYun Bi**
 - \$2600 proposed budget
 - international night and event in the spring
 - would like to do both events this year too
 - would also like to do smaller events like movie nights, too
- Scott: we are still \$7,000 over budget and we must make cuts
- Allison: social must make some cuts. Maybe not schedule all TG's at the Inn Complete?
 - Eileen: I'm very open to try dry events on campus to cut costs, but everyone needs to be aware of the risk of doing this. Not only events with alcohol tend to have the highest attendance (150+ ppl in the first TG of the semester), also students who drink are the ones who tend to attend and stay at events the majority of the time.
- Eileen: Grants Committee needs a cut because the school and professors should be taking care of funding, not other students through their Student Activities fees. I don't mean that we shouldn't have Grants, but we should not spend 40% of our budget in a program that can only benefit 5% of our students. Additionally, Grants gets all the surplus money at the end of the year, and at that time is too late for the Social Committee to plan any events
- Scott: To clarify for new Senators, we have to spend all of our money, grants and awards typically takes surplus of money

- Emma and Leanna: having events on campus with better food would probably have great attendance
- Forrest: willing to reduce budget to \$2,000, and committee agrees
- Xolile: Have an experimental TG at school
- Eileen: I would like to try that, but I think we should not commit to having half of them here, the survey indicates that students want TG's here with better food
 - Jay: social needs to cut \$4000
 - Eileen: TG's are the face of GSA, and thinks we shouldn't have the majority of the cuts in here
- Allison: have adventure course as a spring event maybe to determine if we have funding?
 - Eileen: It's a possibility but it's difficult to find an available date, for which we have to schedule very far in advance.
 - Allison two TG's in Nifkin without alcohol
 - Eileen: That sounds reasonable but will only allow us to cut \$900 from budget. For further cuts, we will need to cut new events or cut TG's – those are our choices
 - Allison: we need to get more money from departments
- Jay: proposed budget: We have \$11,452 between social and grants
- Jay: proposes to split remaining \$11,452 between two committees
 - Eileen rejects: again, only 20 students per year get GSA Grants, whereas only one of our events serves more than 100 students. The proposed budget (\$6052), will mean to cut a TG, plus have 2 TG's on campus without alcohol and still be \$2430 overbudgeted
- Allison: Grants needs to go to OIGS for more funding, social should do fundraising or cosponsoring events
- Eileen: to cut budget by more than \$2000 we would have to cut the end of the semester TG (\$1800). But even with that, we will be \$630 overbudgeted
- Jay proposes to split the remaining budget as Allison has proposed on white board for now
 - Laura seconded:
 - Any opposed: Eileen Leon, Jonathon Masih Das, Emily Handelman, Sohaib Anwar (on behalf of Keshav Sauba)
 - Motion passes by majority vote
 - Grants gets \$5400, social gets \$6052
- Motion to adjourn: Laura Bartock
- Seconded by: Jay Wason
- Unanimously approved

* Income \$ 20,703.45			
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Expenditures		2013-2014	
	Proposed	Budgeted	Actual
Committees	(9623)		
- Social	6052	5303	5034
- Speakers	2000	4350	113
- Prof Dev	1700	1750	200
- G+A	5400	7400	7400
- Inter.	2600	2000	1712
Insurance	2900		
Website	78	229	78
General	-		
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20730			
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11452			
5400			
6052			

Budget proposals and actual amounts spent by the GSA during years 2012-2013, and 2013-2014.

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
6. Forrest Baird VP of Speakers and Presentations
7. Hayley Kopelson Secretary
8. Alison Oakes Treasurer
9. Ian McColl SU GSO Representative
10. Keshav Sauba SU GSO Representative (absent with a proxy)
11. Leanna Kirschen –Environmental Studies Representative
12. Emma Putman – USA representative
13. Emily Handelmann Landscape Architecture Representative
14. Xolile Maphanga ERE Representative
15. Veronica Gonzalez FNRM Representative (I)
16. Becky Fuda Environmental Forest Biology Representative (I)
17. Jay Wason Environmental Forest Biology Representative (II)
18. Mirian Calderon Environmental Science Representative (I)
19. Laura Bartock Environmental Science Representative (II)
20. Rick Joseph Chemistry Representative
21. Doug Morrison Faculty Advisor

Guests

Robby Coville
Sohaib Anwar as Keshav's proxy
Brandon Haynes as Stacey's Proxy
Becky Meissner as Peter's proxy