



Reminders/Follow-up:

-Committee Chairs can now add to the GSA Calendar, please let Steve Balogh and Whitney LM know about event changes that will effect the budget

-GSA MEMBERS: Pick up your GSA t-shirt if you do not already have one & let Whitney LM know if you are interested in the Alcohol Training to serve alcohol at future events!

-Next GSA Meeting is 11/12-Constitution "subcommittee" will present first overall draft of proposed changes to the constitution.

-Upcoming events:

~HARVEST POTLUCK

When: Sunday, November 11, from 6-8pm

Where: Nifkin Lounge

What to Bring: Bowl/Plate and Silverware, a dish to share, and a non-perishable food item to donate

~Student Life Committee of Faculty Governance

-217 Bray, 2-3 on Nov. 7th

General Meeting

New Business"

-Next Meeting Date;

-Instead of inviting Bruce (The Provost) to the next Monday meeting, a lunch meeting will be set with him and the next meeting will remain scheduled as planned. A meeting with Faculty Governance will not be scheduled until next semester when ideas etc. are solidified.

-Committee Updates and upcoming events

~Social: Halloween TG was a success, Harvest Pot Luck will be held on 11/11 (information above-Please GSA Members, definitely bring something to pass so that there is enough food), December 8th in Nifkin from 6:30pm-9pm (live bluegrass band The Black Squirrels will play).

~Grants/Awards: Partnered w/ Prof Dev. group to put on grants/awards workshop, a dozen people showed up even with hurricane problems. Call for Travel and Research grants will be out next week.

~Professional Development: The main topics students are interested in; how to write a manuscript, careers, how to present, spotlight on student research. Probably wont have an event for the end of the semester, but have plenty to do for the next semester.

~International: Mini-event with foreign language film in the works for sometime in the beginning of December (more info to follow)!

~Speaker: Have one graduate student ready to present research this semester, please mention to Jimmy if you know of anyone interested in presenting next semester. First week of Feb Jorgen Reynolds will most likely be speaking.

-Review/discussion of proposed GSA budget for the year; this is the first time that GSA will have an official budget. This budget is not about what each committee SHOULD spend on each event but overall.

~ This will be revisited in January as the numbers on our current outline are adjusted and solidified. Liability insurance for GSA is also not included on the current budget.

~Total estimated budget for this year is \$20,320. The estimated surplus is \$1,371.37. **These estimations are subject to change and are only tentative numbers.** Updated numbers will be given out next meeting

~Always bring tax exempt form with you to purchase items for events, Steve Balogh has copies (he or Whitney LM can give you cards or tax exempt forms)

~Whitney LM asked that each member please comment on the budget and any changes that should be made.

~John W mentioned that the Budget would be easier to decipher if in color

~David Schmidt made a motion to pass the budget, Abbie Larkin seconded the decision. The motion was unanimously passed with 16 votes in favor.

-Overview of 2012 Survey Results;

~Most people did not fill out the entire survey, in the future we should only allow the individuals who complete the survey to win prizes. Whitney LM will draw winners and inform them tomorrow. Committee members may have a copy of the results or a portion of the results if they want.

-Alcohol Server Training;

~SU has enacted this needed training for all of their on-campus events. It will be a one-hour training paid for by Dean Lumbard, it will become a part of the new Alcohol Policy taking effect next year. The training will be offered every year in the beginning of the fall semester. Whitney LM has a list of students willing to take the training, get in touch with her if you are interested in serving alcohol at any future events.

-GA Stipend Issue Updates;

~Review of Meeting with Dean Shannon, and next steps (Jimmy)

-Met with Dean Shannon 10/17, the main outcome was a need to talk with faculty governance to gain their help. Departments are given extra funding from tuition payed by self funded MPS students that enroll beyond the "baseline" level as an incentive to departments to increase the number of MPS students. There is no specific way this money should be spent by the departments, but we would like to see them use it toward funding more TAs. All self funded MPS students bring in tuition funding which is good for the college, but PHD students complete research and aid in publications for professors. Dean Shannon and The Provost are both interested in forwarding the graduate student body's issue but there has been no large push yet. Rethinking the allocation of TA-ship money for

departments may end in conflict for departments because they would lose some control over allocation of TAs. Also, ~ ⅔ of the TA funding currently goes toward MS students and ⅓ to PhDs where most schools have the opposite arrangement. There is not currently much evidence that ESF is losing the competitive edge by not providing more funding, until this is proven there will not be a large push for change. There are a record number of applicants and students accepting to be in programs here, but this may be a result of the job market and something that all graduate schools across the country are seeing. Until this trend slows we may not see enough evidence of reduced competition to convince departments that our issue deserves more attention. Altering the state set minimum of Salaries for graduate students would not directly effect ESF unless it was significantly increased because there is a slight gap between our current salaries and the bottom line.

~Jimmy has come up with a survey that he will be circulating to form a petition with outlined goals. This will aid in a negotiating position, please review the survey and let Jimmy know if you would like to make any changes before the final survey gets approved.

-Review Minutes from 10/17 Faculty Governance Meeting

-No new information, just reviewing what the committees did last year.

-T-shirts are ready!

Attendance:

Doug Morrison		Kelly Ramos Bancroft		
Prajakta Dongre				
		Scott Sveiven	David Schmidt	
Abbie Larkin		Emily Hughes	John Paul Buyondo	
Brent Johnson		Kat DeVilbiss		
Cat Foley		John Wiley		
Whitney L Marshall				
Matt Regan		Steve Balogh	Jimmy MacCarthy	
Michele Hierholzer				