April 15, 2013 GSA Council Meeting

Meeting started at 5:01pm

President: Cericia Martinez
Discussed the institutional proposed fees: No comments from council. We are technically GSG, but will be re-branding; have not rolled it out yet. Cici read through the Memo to administration. “State of the Graduate Student Population”. Will be sent to all administrators on campus and Board of Trustees (BoT).

Amendments to document:

- Adam: numbering? Also take out the word “equally” when referring to CSM graduate students.
- Amanda Meier: change to percentages.
- Caryn: Wording of government.
- Cici will update and get it back out to council.

Vice President: Mark Taylor
Mark and Ben gave an update from the western regional NAGPS meeting.

Treasurer: Ben Fox
Budget update. Attached to the back of the agendas are estimates to the best we can predict. We do not want to approve the numbers until next year. We are also still spending. Cannot track certain internal expenses with the travel grants and such. Can we add a % budget column? Ben said yes. Always want about a ~10% of budget rollover. Very unlikely we would max out every line item. Once fiscal year wraps up, we’ll be able to solidify the budget. Wants to move toward a model where we can look at our budget whenever we want. Will be voting on this at the very first meeting of the fall semester. If any line item looks too “generous” let us know.

Social Chair: Amanda & Bebe
End of Year BBQ: Will be on Dead Day (May 3, roughly 12-4p). Will on the lawn in front of Hill Hall. Currently not able to purchase alcohol. Can ask each department toraise around $20-30 and then we can get some kegs. Not too much response for departments taking on the responsibility of fundraising. Evan: “Can we do a BYOB? Some restaurants do this”. One person is solely responsible, and nobody wants to take that on. Social chairs usually take on responsibility of the alcohol. Caryn wants to know where the budget come from for I.D. checkers and bartenders, and would rather see the money go to more food. Geology reps said they can probably cover other departments if additional funding is required. 10 to 4 vote in favor of departments fundraising to purchase kegs. Please e-mail Cici by Thursday to update her on the status of funds.

Dept. Rep. Reports: Kevin McCann
Chemistry: Grad student awards. Always nice to give out awards, maybe get a “best PhD” award. Wants to create a peer-review system. Good job Kevin!

New Business

Strategic Plan. Streamline communication.
Asking to council: What should Exec. team responsibilities be? Organized, more prompt on the agenda distribution.
What should Council responsibilities be?: stronger communication with department/program, better faculty/student communication, attendance more proactive, representing our departments rather than ourselves.
These “responsibilities” are not enforceable, these are more traits you want your organization promulgated, be a leader.
Will ratify the strategic plan at the next meeting.

**Elections**

GSA Elections: Cici asked for any nominations
President: Mark Taylor
Vice President: Between JK and Yogesh. Discussion. JK Slyby is new Vice President
Academic Chair: John Bristow: formerly BoT Rep., Parliamentarian, has experience with bylaws. Not too much experience with LyX.

Social Chair positions are still open
All positions take effect now.

Meeting adjourned at 6:21p