Graduate Student Association Meeting Minutes December 5, 2011

I. Executive Officer Reports
   a. President
      i. Graduation fee proposal
         1. Survey results show that people still want silver diplomas but many
            would like to substitute pure silver for brushed nickel
         2. Feedback will be given to Dr. Boyd for consideration in wrapping the
            diploma into the tuition
      ii. CEER
         1. Still need volunteers for the conference
         2. Hoping to close registration in February
         3. Registration fee is normally $25, but the fee is waived for Mines
            students
      iii. Request for representatives to push travel grants and lecture grants
      iv. Continuance fellowships are going well, aware of several people putting
           together the application
      v. Looking for volunteers for a long-term strategic and financial plan
         1. Michelle, Ian, Niko, and Noe volunteered
   b. Vice-President - absent
   c. Academic Chair
      i. No report
   d. Treasurer
      i. Estimated remaining $75,000 this semester (not including next semester’s
         revenue)
      ii. Considering upping the travel grant value
   e. Social Chairs – absent
      i. Café 13 Cinnamon Rolls on Dead Day (12/9) at 7:30 am

II. Department Representative Reports

III. Committee Reports

IV. Old Business
   a. Posthumous Family Assistance Grant will need to wait until the next meeting of the
      Alumni board. Since this will not happen for a long time, Dr. Boyd agreed to cover the
      remainder of the balance.

V. New Business
   a. Would like to increase the portion of the budget allocated to CEER. The
      administration is making significant contributions for keynote speakers so we’d like
      to tentatively raise the budget to $30,000. Motioned to approve and seconded.
      Carries.
   b. There are a few graduate-specific organizations that have come up recently and the
      administration would like us to discuss having GSA consider funding requests but
      still have them go through Student Activities.
   c. Some students are having difficulty finding enough tenure-track faculty for their
      thesis committee. It was suggested to forward this feedback directly to Dr. Boyd.
   d. Mentioned that the school’s long-term plan includes a hotel and that some people are
      upset about this. Some discussion ensued about the merits of such a plan but it was
      made clear that such a building is unlikely to materialize.