

Arts & Sciences Graduate Student Union

Official Minutes--Summary

Date/Time: Thursday September 8, 2011 8:30pm

Location: 340 Gardiner Hall

Representatives Present: Chris Proctor (Anthropology), Stephanie Moses (Classical & Modern Languages), Hannah Harrison (English), James Trey Nunn (Geography), Sarah Reddick (History), Katherine Wagner (Humanities), William Cameron Stelzig (Justice Administration), Kim Meyer (Mathematics), Tytianna Smith (Pan-African Studies), Kevin Fahey (Political Science), Sarah Williams (Psychological & Brain Sciences), Carissa Shafto (Psychological & Brain Sciences), Jeremy Hornbeck (Physics & Astronomy), Allison Scott Pruitt (Sociology), Angela Mendoza (Urban & Public Affairs), Kelsie Patton (Women's & Gender Studies)

Representatives Missing: Biology, Chemistry, Communication, Theatre Arts, Fine Arts

UL Faculty and Staff Present: Dr. Wendy Pfeffer, Assistant Dean of Graduate Affairs, Rick Vanlittersum, Program Assistant Sr., Graduate Affairs/Advising

I. Welcome: Sarah Williams

Williams called the meeting to order at 8:37pm.

II. Review of 8/18/2011 Meeting Minutes

Williams opened the floor for discussion of minutes from the August GSU officer meeting. Minutes were provided for review and to get new representatives up to speed on GSU affairs. Since the officers meeting did not involve the entire representative body, there was no vote for an approval of the minutes as official business.

III: Discussion Item: Old Business

a. A&S Graduate Student Reception Report: Vanlittersum reported on the most recent event; the A&S Graduate Student Reception. The reception's date was changed from its typical Tuesday before the start of classes to a Thursday (August 18) due to a conflict with SIGS Graduate Orientation. For the first time, the reception took place in the lobby of Lutz Hall (moving Shumaker Research Building) and feedback regarding the new venue was very positive. Jarfi's provided catering for the event to rave reviews by most attendees. Attendance at the reception was estimated at 100-110 students and faculty, which while on par with past years, but somewhat less than in 2010. Williams and others noted a fewer amount of incoming graduate students when compared to prior years. Other representatives stated confusion regarding whether the

event was limited to new graduate students only. Pfeffer contributed the reduced attendance to the change in date, as many departments held their new graduate student activities for earlier in the week. She agreed to communicate with DGSs to find a date/time that works best for all parties involved for next year's event.

b. A&S Academic Discipline Committee: Vanlttersum indicated a need for graduate students to serve on the A&S Academic Discipline Committee led by Andrew Williams of A&S Advising. Three regular members and one alternate are required to meet on Wednesdays at 2pm on an as-needed basis. Shafto, who served on the committee last year, noted that cases involving graduate students were infrequent, thus a large time commitment was not required. Hornbeck, Proctor, Pruitt, Shafto, and Stelzig agreed to serve on the committee.

c. A&S Alumni Ambassadors Program: Pfeffer called for volunteers to serve on a new committee being formed by A&S. The Dean's Office sought graduate students to serve on the A&S Alumni Ambassadors committee to increase outreach to A&S and other U of L alumni. Details were being hashed out (to be announced in the near future) by the Dean's Office so that potential volunteers would know times and time commitment were needs. Williams, Mendoza, and Meyer expressed interest in serv

d. Welcome on GSU New Representatives: Vanlttersum distributed the current roster of GSU representatives. He added that departments were working on replacing representatives lost through graduation and schedule changes. Representatives were missing from Biology, Chemistry, Communication, Fine Arts, and Theatre Arts. Pfeffer would contact the DGSs of the missing to in order to fill vacancies before the October meeting.

IV. Discussion Item: GSU Research Fund

a. Fund Availability for both Fall and Spring: Pfeffer announced that the GSU Research Fund would be expanded for awards for the fall and spring semesters. The GSU agreed to application periods from September 9-19 in the fall and January 20-30 in the spring. \$2000 is available from the Dean's Office each semester.

b. Amounts/Criteria: Similar to last year, the GSU will award 20 grants for up to \$100 each semester. Selection criteria will be based on the quality of the application and eligibility for award (future purchases, use in 2011 academic year, attached budget, etc). Applications were available on the GSU website (along with past winning examples) and notices were sent to each A&S graduate student via email.

c. Ad-Hoc Selection Committee: Harrison, Moses, Meyer, Hornbeck, and Proctor agreed to serve on the selection committee along with Pfeffer and Vanlttersum. A committee meeting will be arranged the week of September 19.

V. Discussion Item: Fall Potluck Event

a. Potluck: The GSU agreed to host a fall potluck and dessert sale on Friday evening prior to Thanksgiving break. November 18 from 5pm-8pm is the proposed time and the proposed location is the Lutz Hall Lobby. All A&S graduate students, their families, undergraduate students, and faculty members may attend. Attendees are asked to

bring a dish to pass of their choosing. The GSU would provide beverages, plates, napkins, and other utensils. In addition, the GSU will sell baked goods and desserts to event attendees as a fundraiser.

b. CPC Funds Application: With the deadline to apply for Club Programming Committee funds passing prior to the meeting, Pruitt earlier submitted an event synopsis for the CPC funds application as well as an event budget with expenses and potential profit. The GSU made a request for \$127 to cover the cost of beverages and paper goods. As of the meeting, the results of the funding request were not available. Discussion of the event logistics was tabled to the October meeting.

VI: Future Meetings

a. Meeting Time and Date: The next scheduled meeting for the GSU is Thursday, October 13, 2011 at 8:30pm at Bearno's U of L campus. With the exception of the December 6 meeting, all fall 2011 meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Vanlittersum and Williams agreed to look into potential meeting venues near the U of L campus including Papalino's and other Cardinal Towne venues.

VII: Adjournment

Williams requested a motion for adjournment. Proctor motioned to adjourn, seconded by Moses, and the motion passed with unanimous consent. The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm.