

Arts & Sciences Graduate Student Union

Official Minutes

Date/Time: Wednesday, January 11, 2012 8:30pm

Location: Bearno's, UL Campus

Representatives Present: R. Amerisa Waters (Bioethics and Medical Humanities), Hannah Harrison (English), James Trey Nunn (Geography). Katherine Wagner (Humanities), William Cameron Stelzig (Justice Administration), Kevin Fahey (Political Science), Carissa Shafto (Psychological & Brain Sciences), Jeremy Hornbeck (Physics & Astronomy), Angela Alexander-Mendoza--PROXY (Urban & Public Affairs), Kelsie Patton (Women's & Gender Studies), Seth Adams (Biology), Sarah Williams (Psychological & Brain Sciences), Allison Scott Pruitt (Sociology), Stephanie Moses (Classical & Modern Languages), Kim Meyer (Mathematics),

Representatives Absent: Ashley Smith (Theatre Arts), Chris Proctor (Anthropology), Jessica Fawbush (Communication), Alexis Bass (Fine Arts), Sarah Reddick (History), Tytianna Smith (Pan-African Studies), Chemistry,

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, President

Williams called the meeting to order at 8:32pm.

II. Review of 11/13/11 Meeting Minutes

Williams opened the floor for discussion of minutes from the October 2011 GSU meeting. After reviewing the minutes, the meeting attendance was corrected to reflect that Waters was in attendance at the October meeting; Bioethics & Medical Humanities Department students are now eligible for funding. After amending, Hornbeck motioned to approve October 2011 minutes, Fahey seconded, and the minutes were approved with unanimous consent.

III. Old Business: Fall Attendance and Ineligible Departments

A. Description of Ineligibility (blue handout)

GSU reviewed what action shall be taken regarding ineligible departments. Pfeffer emailed representatives and administration of those departments with GSU's policy on eligibility of funding. No responses were received except from Communications Department representative.

The group also discussed the email reminder sent to the A&S listserv, and the potentially confusing language in it. Meyer volunteers to send email reminder through the listserv on the Monday of the week of the meeting to representatives. Vanlittersum will send request to be included on the campus-wide email sent on the Sunday before the Wednesday meeting. Members also discussed the need for an email reminder the day of the meeting.

GSU reps also discussed the need for a form letter in the event that students from ineligible departments apply for funding in order to both deal with the issue, and to encourage the

departments to supply a representative in order to be eligible for funding. Williams suggested that the GSU discuss a letter in further detail during the February meeting.

B. Pint Glass vendor status update

Representatives agreed that the pint glasses are a good idea; however, we are unable to pay for the expense or find a viable vendor. Instead of pint glasses, Williams presented a new idea: luggage tags, which are cheaper, easier to procure, have a visibility/promotional factor, and come in Cardinal red. Vanlttersum googled the items and said that they cost approximately \$1, so he will request samples to share with GSU during the February meeting.

IV. New Business: GSU Research Fund (Williams)

A. Final Application

A final correction was suggested: funds may “be” used. Following approval of the final draft, Vanlttersum and Williams encouraged reps to make copies of the application to encourage students in their departments to apply. Vanlttersum will send the applications to representative members as well as the A&S listserv.

B. Selection Committee

Volunteers were solicited and included: Williams (social sciences), Hornbeck (natural sciences), Wagner (humanities), Pfeffer and Vanlttersum (administration).

C. Application Dates

Members agreed upon the application period dates: Friday, January 13 - Monday, January 23, 2012.

V. New Business: Working with Department Graduate Student Groups

Vanlttersum asks for a show of hands to determine the number of departments with graduate student organizations and requests that representatives email the name of presidents or leaders of the groups in order for GSU to collaborate on events with the department groups. GSU representatives also discussed the potential for networking opportunities, like circulating calendar events between different departments and increasing the visibility of fundraising events.

VI. New Business: Event Plans for Spring 2012

Representatives discussed the potential for GSU to collaborate with PLAN events. Since members determined there are no social events planned until April 30, 2012, Waters volunteered to correspond with PLAN coordinators about proposing a social event before then. Fahey suggests an activity such as dodgeball. The group decided that Sunday, April 1 at 3pm would be a good date to hold such an event. An outdoor location TBD; rain location will be SAC. The game will be open to faculty and grad students. Pfeffer reminds the GSU representatives that we have to solicit involvement from faculty and students. Vanlttersum will find out more about supplies for the game before the February meeting.

VII. Open Discussion

Wagner reminded the GSU that an academic discipline committee meeting was rescheduled for the week following the January meeting. Volunteers included Wagner, Meyer, Pruitt, Shafto and Williams.

VIII. Reminder: Future Meetings

A. Meeting Time and Date:

The next scheduled meeting for the GSU is Wednesday, February 8, 2012 at 8:30pm at Bearno's U of L campus. With the exception of the March 7 meeting, all spring 2012 meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month.

X. Adjournment

Williams requested a motion for adjournment. Hornbeck motioned to adjourn, seconded by Fahey, and the motion passed with unanimous consent. The meeting was adjourned at 9:41pm.