**Graduate Student Council Meeting**

**7:30pm - Thursday, December 4th, 2014**

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| **Present:**  **Arts and Sciences:** Biology – Nick Short; Chemistry – Elisha Otome (proxy); Classical and Modern Languages – Mandy Brown; English – Keri Mathis; Fine Arts – Tracey Eckersley; French – Mandy Brown; Geography and Geosciences – Victoria Montgomery; History – Katherine Morrison; Humanities – Katie Wilson (proxy); Mathematics – Ryan Luke; Political Science – Sean Welch; Psychological and Brain Sciences – Nicholas Holt; Sociology – Rachael Metzger (proxy); Urban and Public Affairs – Aaron Stephenson; Women and Gender Studies – Cassy Collier  **College of Business:** Entrepreneurship – Yuhan Hua  **College of Education:** Education and Counseling Psychology – Caroline Pittard; Exercise Physiology – Amy Walden; Leadership, Foundations, and Human Resources – Charles Edmiston; Teaching and Learning – Ashley Shelton (proxy)  **Dental School:** Oral Biology – Saira Ahmed  **School of Medicine:** Anatomical Sciences and Neurobiology – Katie Deveau (proxy);Audiology – Kara Monroe; Biochemistry and Molecular Biology – Catherine Cobb, Linda Omer; Microbiology and Immunology – Sabrin Albeituni; Pharmacology and Toxicology – Marcus Stepp; Physiology and Biophysics – Anastasia Keller; Speech and Language Pathology – Morgan Steiner (proxy)  **School of Interdisciplinary and Graduate Studies:** Interdisciplinary Studies – Angie Carlson  **School of Nursing:** Nursing – Anna Jorayeva  **School of Music:** Music – Israel Cuenca  **School of Public Health:** Public Health – Victory Osezua  **Speed School:** Chemical Engineering – Alejandro Martinez-Garcia; Civil and Environmental Engineering – James Wong (proxy); Computer Engineering and Computer Science – Abdallah Eteleeb; Electrical and Computer Engineering – Ahmed Soliman; Industrial Engineering – Ehsan Khodabandeh |

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| **Absent:**  **Arts and Sciences:** Anthropology; Communications; Justice Administration; Pan-African Studies; Physics and Astronomy; Theater Arts  **College of Business:** Accountancy  **College of Education:** Health Promotion, Physical Education, and Sports Studies  **Kent School:** Kent School  **Speed School:** Mechanical Engineering |

**Call Meeting to Order 7:35pm**

Motion to Remove Calendar of Meetings and Events, GSC Executive Council Office Hours, and Research Grant Changes and Promotion

* Motion Carried

**Officer Reports:**

* President – Jasie Stokes
  + Successful Pop-Up Lounge; 80 people attended (good representation from Psychology, Speed School, Math, and Humanities)
  + Next Pop-Up Lounge: Thursday, 12/11/14, Bingham Humanities 300 from 10-3; please share information with your constituents to encourage them to come during finals
  + Next semester's symposium will likely be much larger and will involve other schools across the state; we will start planning for the Spring 2015 symposium in January
* Internal VP – Keri Mathis
  + No report.
* External VP – Benjamin Leamon
  + Chairing Student Activities Board; interviewing for position
* Travel Administrator – Ryan Luke
  + Spent $32,000 on travel; have about $19,000 for spring; go ahead and start applying for spring GSC funding
  + If travel occurs after May 1, you cannot apply yet because that funding comes out of next year's budget
  + Remember to communicate to people in your department that travel funding comes from two sources—check student account and checking account
  + 30 days after you have turned in your application to SIGS, you should receive your money; if not, please let Ryan know immediately
* Information Chair – Katie Wilson
  + On FB, 8 likes away from hitting our goal for the year; we have gained 67 new followers (65%); 28 of these likes from last meeting; 163 followers on Twitter; push for next semester will be our Twitter account (@UofLGSC)
  + Created a post for our next pop-up lounge; please share with your constituents!
  + Only 2 people have contacted Katie about being on the information committee; please email Katie if you are interested in serving on this committee
* Treasurer – Behnoush Abdollahi
* Budget—two events:
* $485 for the pop-up lounge

**Department Reports:**

* Interdisciplinary Studies – Angie Carlson
* Replaced the video conferencing system; they would like to know if there is any interest in taking their previous one

**Old Business:**

* GSC Symposium Follow-Up and Thank Yous
  + Thanks to everyone who tabled and who recruited faculty judges; thanks to Alejandro for the photography; thanks to volunteers and all who presented

**New Business:**

* Approval of Minutes for Meeting on November 6, 2014
  + Approved
* GSC Initiatives
  + Upcoming Pop-Up Lounge
    - We have a lunch meeting with the Deans during our pop-up lounge and have invited them to attend; the goal is to show them the interest we have in a lounge
    - We will talk with the deans about getting some space in the new instructional building
    - We would like to get feedback and take this information to the Provost and to Dean Mardis
    - The lounge would allow any graduate students we represent a space to meet with other students, get coffee, print materials for classes, etc.
  + HSC Campus Involvement
    - We would like to create a HSC committee to get involvement and leadership on HSC campus; Femmy has volunteered to lead the committee, but it will largely be made up of HSC representatives; the chair and the committee will facilitate meetings on HSC campus; they will also work to create a permanent Executive Council position for HSC; we want this committee and leadership committee to ultimately give their feedback and let their voices be heard by larger administration at the university
    - Discussion—several representatives in support of this effort; HSC representatives need more communication about where to park and go when they come to Belknap campus; more accessibility with the TARC
* Spring 2015 Planning
  + GSC Elections
    - We want to have elections on 2/2/2015 and take nominations in January; however, our constitution states that we should have them in March. We would like to have them a bit earlier than stated in the constitution to allow for a better, smoother transition, especially with some of the larger events like the symposium
    - If you're interested in running for office, please talk to us or email us if there are positions that you. There will also be a PLAN event in January
    - Executive Council is made up of the President, External Vice-President, Internal Vice-President, Travel Administrator, Information Chair, Treasurer, Senator(s)-at-Large
    - Motion to Move Election Dates to February
      * Motion carried
  + Constitutional Review and Committee Involvement
    - Constitutional Review – Ben is working to fit our existing constitution to a new model; we will have two readings of the revised constitution
    - Committee Involvement – contact Keri or Ben to get involved on this committee; will be asked to participate in the second reading of revised constitution
  + Student Fee Resolution
  + Femmy would like to get feedback on student fee resolution; Femmy is proposing that we create resolution regarding fees for students on campus; the tuition is "frozen," but we have multiple additional fees that are becoming a part of a new "fee culture" and are being used to compensate for the tuition freeze; there is very limited student involvement in making these decisions; many students involved on Tuition and Fees Committees are not allowed to communicate the information shared in those meetings with their constituents; these fees are not covered by tuition remission and are affecting students that have very little funding; we need to know more about the fees and the decision process, and we need more representation
  + In January, we can propose a fee resolution that will then be pushed forward to SGA
  + Femmy - motion to gain affirmation about the resolution writing process and for GSC to move it forward to SGA next semester
  + Discussion: how will we address the various schools' fees? This will be part of the resolution so that we can demand transparency about fees and how these decisions are made; whatever resolution is drafted will go to the Provost and President
    - Representatives in support of the transparency and getting more students involved
    - Jasie – Tuition and Fees committee – experience on this committee; many assumptions are made about what graduate students want and need, and we need more student voices to make sure that these are assumptions are not driving decisions
    - We need a notification about these fees, and we need to make the fees (even smaller ones that are tacked on) more apparent to the student body; students need to know about the fees and the processes to remove certain fees that they are able to be removed from a student's account
    - Fee audit necessary
    - This resolution would show the power of the student body in gaining access to more of this information
    - Committee in SGA will write this resolution which will give us more authority
    - Should our time and energy be spent elsewhere? Will we gain access?
      * Part of the resolution may be to address how students are involved; this is a public university and there are laws in place that should allow us access to this information
    - We already have some access, and previous resolutions have been effective
    - One major action we can take is making our opinions known, and in addition to including this desire for transparency, we should also post the given opinion of the students about any given fee that is proposed/passed
    - Motion passed
* Student Activities Board Interviews
  + Interviewing for three positions all day Saturday on 12/6/2015; Ben will be chairing the interview (first time graduate student has chaired the interview in 30 years); SAB is in charge of a lot of the large student events

**Announcements:**

Upcoming Spring PLAN Events

* "Rolling in the Deep: Ways to Think Critically About Diversity in the Classroom" 1/14/15, 12-1:30pm, Houchens 105
* "CATS: Classroom Assessment Techniques" 1/20/15, 2-3pm, Houchens 105
* "Networking Event: Speed Networking" 1/23/15, 3-4:30pm, Houchens 105
* "Be Searchable: Developing an Online Portfolio for the Job Search" 1/28/15, 2pm-3pm, Ekstrom W-103

Happy Birthday, Angie!

Congratulations, Victoria, for defending her MA thesis!

**Adjourned 8:30pm**