

Graduate and Professional Student Senate of West Virginia University

Meeting Agenda

Monday, November 16th, 2015

7:00 PM

Shenandoah Room, Mountainlair

Call to Order (7:01)

- I. Attendance and Approval of October Meeting Minutes (7:01)
 - a. Approved

- II. Introduction to Fred King, WVU Vice President for Research (7:02)
 - a. Gee wants to find a time to meet but is on a trip at the moment. He will attempt to come to the December meeting.
 - b. King talks about his visions for a group like ours. He made the following points:
 - i. We should promote the importance of academics
 - ii. We must be a good representation of our constituents
 - iii. It is important think about how to become a sustainable organization
 - iv. Realize that we are leaders and role models.
 - v. WVU is an evolving research institution, the graduate program is growing. It is currently about 10% of the student populations which is a bit lower than most research institutions.
 - vi. We need to do public events so the public sees the benefit of our group.
 - vii. We should feel free to contact anyone in the administration.
 - viii. We should encourage colleges to create their own councils.

- III. Officer Reports (7:15)
 - a. President (*Cameron Randall*)
 - i. NA
 - b. Vice-President (*Sam Horrocks*)
 - i. NA
 - c. Secretary (*John Stenger*)
 - i. NA
 - d. Treasurer (*Matthew Condliffe*)
 - i. Let Matt know if you have a need for funds.
 - e. Executive Director for Graduate Student Affairs (*Nate Tehrani*)
 - i. Nate will soon officially be appointed by SGA

- IV. University Committee Representative Reports (7:20)
 - a. Graduate Council – October 15 (*Pete Gentile, Kysten Whip*)
 - i. NA

- b. Graduate Associate Deans Committee (*Pete Gentile, Michelle Sloane*)
 - i. Discussed tuition, no more 60/40 plan but you can set up a payment plan. Everything is due by December 18th and if one does not pay by the first day of classes he or she will be dropped from the system. Discussed the necessity to let us know early on about any changes.
 - ii. Trying to push for parking after five for graduate students.
 - iii. Plan in place to increase graduate student stipend. A group including Fred King is working hard to make this happen.
 - iv. There are some student health insurance issues. Matt is going to give a shot overview of our coverage next meeting.
 - v. Moving to four dissertation committee members instead of five as a university minimum.
- c. Graduate Student Advisory Council (*Angela Fiore, Liying Le*)
 - i. Talked about city of Morgantown user fee.
 - ii. Constinia wants us to help with graduate student appreciation week. We will try to invite Constinia or Katherine to a meeting soon.
 - iii. Faculty mentoring award is moving forward.
- d. Faculty Senate (*Dave Knieter, Lindsey McNellis*)
 - i. There is a list of committees on which we can serve. We will divvy up the appointments next meeting.
- e. SGA Liaisons (*Matthew Condliffe, Nate Tehrani*)
 - i. NA

V. GPSS Committee and Special Project Reports (7:38)

- a. Committee on Academic Affairs
 - i. NA
- b. Committee on Recruitment and Outreach (*Sam Horrocks, Chair*)
 - i. Sam handed out a spread sheet with each unit in the university.
 - ii. Two fold plan:
 - 1. Contact various schools, departments, deans to recruit senators.
 - 2. Next semester send out mass announcements and have a social event.
 - iii. Make sure website is up and running before mass announcements.
- c. Committee on Social Activities (*Cameron Randall, Chair*)
 - i. NA
- d. Committee on Financial Affairs and Student Life
 - i. NA
- e. Special Project on Internet Presence (*Lindsey McNellis, Chair*)
 - i. New facebook group is up.
 - ii. There is a twitter account. The handle is WVUGPSS

- iii. Discussed content for the website. Including officer bios, links to facebook and twitter, a how to graduate page, complaint box, and more.
- iv. Contact Lindsey if you have any ideas for the website.
- f. Special Project Understanding Existing Graduate and Professional Student Organizations (*Angela Fiore, Chair*)
 - i. This is being done by the recruitment and outreach committee.

VI. Discussion (7:57)

- a. Social media and online presence
 - i. Well on its way.
- b. City of Morgantown User Fee
 - i. \$3 per week if you work in Morgantown.
 - ii. Katherine said that the university is working on covering it for students.
- c. Spring recruitment and special (social) event
 - i. Will Discuss next time
- d. Spring teambuilding event
 - i. Will try to work on something in house for January or February

VII. New business (8:05)

- a. Planning for December meeting
 - i. Write a mission statement.
 - ii. Should plan some weekly social activities like trivia for example.

VIII. Adjournment (**Next meeting: Monday, December 14th, 7PM**) (8:10)