

Graduate and Professional Student Senate of West Virginia University

Meeting Agenda

Monday, December 5th, 2016 | 7:00 PM | Mountainlair, Mountaineer Room

I. Attendance, Welcome

- a. Open at 7:03
- b. Going over agenda and introducing the BGSA rep, Tabitha Lowery

II. Officer Reports (*Officers* : 15 minutes)

- a. President (*Will Armentrout*)
 - National Association of Graduate-Professional Students Membership
 - i. Discussed at last meeting – OGEL offered to pay out of their funds, with us listed as primary contact
 1. BGSA and OGEL would be listed as secondary contact
 - ii. No objections raised, we will join this organization
 - iii. Will be a good knowledge base for us and help with resources to obtain our goals
 - BGSA Leadership Conference
 - i. Ashley Whyndam also present, secretary of BGSA
 1. anl
 - ii. Group geared towards representing and aiding graduate students, especially black graduate students
 - iii. Every spring, host a leadership conference
 1. Leadership beyond the university, theme
 - iv. Keynote speaker, Lydotta Taylor
 - v. 10 organizations in 2 breakout sessions, 5 per session
 - vi. Breakout sessions will be about an hour – outlined in handout
 - vii. Asking GPSS to help find 5 of those organizations to lead the breakout session
 - viii. Afternoon sessions would be led by professors, looking for a moderator
 - ix. Will be Feb 25, 2017 in the Rhododendron room
 - x. Food budget – split cost between 2 groups
 - xi. Q: are people registering? Yes, push registration early
 - xii. Q: what are the changes between last year and this? More student organizations, and added the panel
 - xiii. Call for proposals for breakout sessions in by mid-january, panelists by end of January
 - xiv. Action items for us: panelist, breakout sessions, title for panel?
- b. Vice-President (*Sam Horrocks*)
 - Nothing to report
- c. Secretary (*Lindsey McNellis*)
 - Minutes from last month pass
- d. Treasurer (*Chris Morlock*)
 - absent

III. University Committee Reports (5 minutes)

- a. Graduate Council
 - No one present
- b. Graduate Associate Deans Committee (*Cabot Zabriskie*)
 - 9 credit mandatory over summer? Misread the law, so that won't happen
 - Talked about terminating TA contracts – if you know of anyone who has assistantship cut between now and January, let us know?
 - Will be a cut in assistantships for next academic year

- Need to press for more information so that we know earlier than the end of spring
- Q: Do we have a formal position on this policy change?
 - i. Could be a problem for some areas
 - ii. How are these assistantships identified? Is it uniform?
 - iii. Do students know these conversations happening?
 - iv. Will people be grandfathered in if they have been awarded an assistantship?
- c. Graduate Student Advisory Council (*Lindsey McNellis, Amanda Bailey*)
 - New Grad Student orientation – Friday, Jan 6
 - Certificate in University Teaching
 - Providing us with resources to run certain things
 - Grant writing workshops, some departments offer the same kind of workshops, pair with departments to avoid redundancy
 - Give a list of workshops they are willing to provide and allow departments to select which ones they want for their students
- d. SGA Liaison (*Nathan Tehrani*)
 - Big 12 Student Government Conference Recap
 - i. First day was breakout sessions, legislative, vice presidents, government affairs were some officers attended.
 - ii. Parliamentary rules were discussed – many use some form of these rules
 - iii. Different ways of governing – resolutions, bills
 - iv. Legislative action day for Big 12, priorities for student governments to get behind
 1. NAGPS also sponsors legislative days
 - v. SALLE – organization at WVU that would help writing bills
 - Grad students can run in SGA and vote in SGA elections

IV. GPSS Committees and Special Projects (10 mins)

- a. Committee on Academic Affairs
 - Nothing to report
- b. Committee on Recruitment and Outreach
 - New Student Orientation on Jan 6
 - All grad student email out for February meeting
- c. Committee on Social Activities (Amanda Bailey, Chair)
 - Recap of “Grad Pub at the Brew Pub”
 - Around 200 attended
 - 2 prizes given out as a raffle
 - lots of calls for spring and earlier in the semester
 - Grad Student Appreciation Week
 - Advertise and help organize
 - Sponsor our own event
- d. Committee on Financial Affairs and Student Life
 - Securing Graduate Student Spaces on University Committees
 - Nate is working on getting a list from SGA
 - We’ve gained a spot on the Parking and Transportation committee

V. New Business (30 mins)

- a. Cosponsoring Leadership Conference with BGSA
 - Input on Panel Sessions
 - Contributing “Breakout Session”
 - Financial Contribution towards Brunch (50%)
 - Discussed earlier in meeting
- b. Request to Partner with OGEL for “Three Minute Thesis”
 - Yes, waiting to hear back
- c. Increasing Cost to Graduate Students (Meetings with College Deans)
 - Discussed at length last meeting
 - When do they happen? How many people?

- 2 ppl from us per meeting
- finished by February 15
- Email this week, which departments to target?
 1. Davis, Stadtler, Eberly, CAC
- Students in faculty meetings – what is the policy on this? What is our position? There should be a representative on the committee
- Developing Talking Points
- Meeting Logistics
- d. Joint Statement on the role of Science in the Presidential Leadership Team
 - Asked to sign on by UC-Davis
 - <http://www.scileadership.com/consensus.html>
 - Send on to science policy group and see if they want to sign it and then we will undersign it

VI. Old Business

VII. Open Floor

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm

**Next Gathering: Thursday, December 15th at 7 pm
Apothecary**

Shifted to Thursday December 8 at 7 pm at Apothecary