Graduate Student Senate
OHIO UNIVERSITY

Graduate Student Senate
General Body Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2013
7:30pm Scripps Hall, 111

I. Call to Order
   a. Meeting called to order at 7:35pm

II. Roll Call
   a. Attendance Attached

III. Approval of Previous Meeting’s Minutes
   a. Amending minutes for previous minutes to new layout
   b. Amend agenda to add VP of Communications to Officer’s Reports

IV. Student Speak Out
   a. None

V. Presentations
   a. Bill Arnold-Walk a Mile
      i. Men walk in women’s shoes to advocate for sexual assault, violence against women
      ii. October 19th at 12pm, registration begins at 11am. You may preregister
      iii. You may borrow high heels from the Women’s Center when you register
   b. Attendance
      i. Mandatory for General Body Meeting
      ii. If you need to miss let Liz know ASAP
      iii. 24 hours in advance is preferred
      iv. One excused absence
      v. You can be dismissed after three absences
   c. Committees
      i. Must sit on two committees
      ii. Commissioners lead their commission and should join at least one other
      iii. All the work takes place in the committees
      iv. Senators may have been recruited for external committees, which count for one.
      v. Representatives pick something you care passionately about to work toward that goal
      vi. Diversity Committee
         1. Made up of minorities committee
         2. Increase number of people working on single issue
3. Handles intersecting problems

vii. Obligations of committees
   1. Put on programs to promote issues that affect OU students
   2. Used to better organize GSS

viii. Budget Committee
   1. If you want funding from GSS, you will submit at request to Ed to help with issues
      a. How much money is appropriate
      b. How to write a resolution

d. Questions
   i. Decide on meeting times amongst committees
   ii. Working through details for funding request
   iii. Amount of people on committee do not matter
   iv. Rules and Procedures, Conduct and Discipline commissioners will most like be Vice President Volpe
   v. Email Vice President Volpe top 4 commissions

e. Office Hours
   i. Executives- at least 4 recorded hours weekly
   ii. Commissioners- 3 recorded hours weekly
   iii. Senators- 3 recorded hours weekly
   iv. Department Representatives- 2 recorded hours weekly
      a. GBM counts as one hour
   v. Let Vice President Volpe know about office hours ASAP so she may make a schedule
   vi. Looking for office interaction
   vii. Hours should be 9-4 Monday-Friday if schedule allows
   viii. Hours are a minimum, you may absolutely be in the office at any time

f. Folders
   i. Commissioners and Senators have a folder in office
   ii. Should put reports in the folder to pass down to future reps
   iii. One paragraph every two weeks as summary of meetings
   iv. At the end of the year, you will write up a summary of things that did and did not work

VI. Officer’s Reports
a. President – Joel Newby
   i. Sits on different committees at the University
   ii. Looking for suggestions for different committees

b. Vice President for Committees and Legislative Affairs -- Liz Volpe
   i. Will be meeting with commissioners this Friday at 2pm
   ii. Senator meeting to follow

c. Vice President for Administration and Finance -- Ed Gaither
   i. Building finances
   ii. $4,255.38 balance
   iii. Currently working to look at different ways to manage how we
can spend money

d. Vice President of Communications-Andrea Harless
   i. Looking to start newsletter for all graduate students
   ii. Senators, Commissioners and Department Reps will send events, lectures, fundraisers, etc. to Andrea
   iii. These will be organized into a newsletter and ideally sent out on off weeks of General Body Meetings

e. Advisors Report
   i. a. 4,593 applicants for fall semester
   ii. 1,300 accepted, 38% acceptation rate
   iii. Graduate students are growing at 84 per semester

VII. Committee and Commission Reports
a. Academic Affairs Commission - Mitchell Smith
   i. Nothing to report

b. African American Affairs Commission - Christian Johnson
   i. Nothing to report

c. Governmental Affairs Commission - Robert Storm
   i. Nothing to report

d. Graduate Student Affairs Commission - Meagan Rinard
   i. First Saturday of every month will be GradFest

e. Graduate Veteran Affairs Commission - Darrell Fawley
   i. Working on info sheet for Graduate Students who are veterans
   ii. Looking for more outreach and having resources available

f. Health and Safety Commission - Megan Saunders
   i. Met with Mary Kate Gallagher to learn about main topics of Health and Safety
      1. Tobacco Free Campus
      2. ACA starting in 2014
   ii. Safety
      1. Looking at what is wrong with campus by safety measures

g. International Affairs Commission - P. Mike Rattandsenchanh
   i. Nothing to report

h. LGBT Affairs Commission - Lacey Rodgers
   i. Nothing to report

i. Minority Affairs Commission - Alex Wesaw
   i. Nothing to report

j. Women’s Affairs Commission - Emily Burns
   i. Nothing to report

VIII. Old Business
a. None

IX. New Business
a. Resolution 1314-03 – “A Resolution Adding New Members to Graduate Student Senate”
   i. Passed

b. Resolution 1314-04 – “A Resolution for a One Time Donation...”
i. Passed

c. Discussion: "What can the University do to improve Graduate Student Life on Campus"
   i. Graduate Forum through GSS where students can voice concern, some may not feel comfortable voicing concerns
   ii. Some students do not know about Speak Out, allow them to have opportunity to write down issues in the office for more outreach
   iii. Graduate School link need to be more user friendly
       1. Learn about Athens, Grad Student Life
   iv. Learn more about payment, waive surcharge fee for graduate students
   v. Better advertisements for graduate student perks
   vi. Feels that we lack data analysis software for graduate students
       1. Try to be able to download this software to personal computers
   vii. Library for old graduate student books
   viii. Disbursement problems
       1. Students need to fill out I9
       2. Graduate Schools collects but cannot verify information
       3. It often times takes longer than expected
       4. Actively trying to find the problems that are causing disbursement delays
   ix. Can we set up a fund for extreme situations?
       1. Dr. Koons can look can see if this is a possibility

d. Discussion: "Bobcat Student Lounge"
   i. Ideas to improve Bobcat Student Lounge
   ii. Possibility of Sports Bar in Latitude Area
   iii. Come up with different uses and have a poll about it to our constituents
       1. NPR News hour and discussion
       2. Stress busters
   iv. Ground floor should be open later, at least midnight

e. Discussion: "GSS T-Shirts"
   i. Maybe badges to identify ourselves
   ii. Badges for professional, t-shirts for other events
   iii. Hashim is working on this, contact him with ideas

X. Announcements
a. College of Arts and Sciences is Hosting an event tomorrow September 24th at 7:30pm in Walter Rotunda for hunger relief. Asking for $5 donation. Readings of original Writings
b. Undergraduate Senate is hosting an open house, Thursday, September 19 5:30-8 in the Senate office

XI. Adjournment
a. Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm
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<tr>
<th>Positions</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>9/23/2013</th>
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<td>President</td>
<td>Joel Newby</td>
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