

Minutes of the GSA General Assembly Meeting – Wed. Apr. 15, 2009 – DuBourg 157

The eighth meeting of the 2008-09 academic year was held on Wednesday, April 15, 2009, in Dubourg Hall on the Frost Campus - the meeting was opened at 2:10 pm.

I. Motions were made to approve the agenda of the April 15th meeting with the addition of an announcement and the minutes of the March 18, 2009 meeting – the motions were seconded and approved without dissent or abstentions. The following members of the GSA Executive Board were present: Callie Kusto, Andy Linsenhardt, Laura Mecker, and Kristi Roberts.

• **Signed in as attending were representatives from the following departments:**

- American Studies
- Anatomical Studies
- Biochemistry/Molecular Biology (1)
- Biology
- Biomedical Engineering
- Chemistry
- Communication
- Community Health(MPH)
- Counseling/Family Therapy
- Earth/Atmospheric Sciences
- Ed Leadership/Higher Ed
- English
- Health Care Ethics
- Health Management Policy(MHA) (1)
- History
- Integrated/Applied Sciences
- Marketing/Int'l Business
- Mathematics (1)
- Modern/Classical Languages (1)
- Molecular Microbiology/Immunology
- Nursing
- Nutrition & Dietetics (1)
- Ortho/Perio/Endo
- Pathology (1)
- Pharm/Phys Sciences
- Philosophy
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Public Health Studies (1)
- Public Policy Studies
- Sociology/Crim Justice (1)
- Theological Studies (1)
- **Representatives from the following depts. were not in attendance – note that each dept is allowed one absence per semester to retain funding eligibility:**
- Communication Science/Disorders (4 - Excused)
- Educational Studies (1)
- **Depts ineligible for funding – n/a**

II. The AEL induction ceremony took place.

III. No updates from the Recycling Committee.

- IV. Given the lukewarm interest in attending a sporting event as our next social event, Kristi decided to table that planning until the fall.
- V. Callie reported to the group about the two events for Graduate Ed. Appreciation Week. Jorge's talk was very good! Unfortunately, the turnout was not as high as hoped for; about 60 people attended. As GSA hopes to continue these events in the future, Callie asked the group to start thinking about ideas for next year so that we can have events that will draw interest. The GPSA mixer at Lumen was also well-attended with 320 students total, despite the last minute notice.
- VI. A sheet was passed around, asking Reps to indicate whether they plan to continue on as a Rep next year. Contact information for replacements for those not continuing was also requested. Over the summer, Callie will contact those who don't have replacements at this time to follow up.
- VII. The GSA-Brennan Fellowship Award winners were announced and will be posted and winners notified.
- Thesis/Dissertation – James Naus (Hist), Alejandra Domic (Bio) & Robert Hawkins (Am. Studies)
 - Exam – Andrew Jones (Hist) & Min Ju (Marketing/IB)
 - Service – Deborah Carter (Ed Leadership)
 - Teaching – Kevin Lehnert (Marketing/IB)
 - Mentor – Dr. Kevin Fox (Psych)
- VIII. Four announcements were made.
- Research Symposium is on Friday. Please attend even if you are not working. Come support your fellow graduate students & GSA. If anyone on the committee has a question over their work duty or time, please see Callie after the meeting.
 - Reps were asked to remind their students that Callie would not be processing funding requests until next week, after the Symposium. Also, Reps were reminded that it is part of their duty to be available during the summer to sign Funding Request Forms. They were asked to let their students know how to reach them & get signatures over the summer. For Reps who would be out of town or graduating, they were asked to either hand this responsibility over to their replacement or to find a temporary alternate for the summer. If it is a temp, Reps are to let Callie know who will be signing for them. They are also to let their students know who to go to.
 - Department Allocation requests are due on Friday, April 24th. Reps were reminded of this due date. Anyone needing an extra form can see Callie at the end of the meeting.
 - Flyers were passed around announcing the Etiquette Dinner event being put on by Career Services.
- IX. Elections for the 2009-2010 Executive Board took place. Before the vote, each candidate was asked to speak briefly about themselves & their interest in running. All candidates were running unopposed. The Board was voted in unanimously by the General Assembly. The 2009-2010 Board will be Andy Linsenhardt (Pharm/Phys), President; Kristi Roberts (Hist), Frost VP, Shaquria Adderly (Pharm/Phys), Med VP; and Zana Zulic (Chem), Treasurer.
- X. A few items of new business were addressed.
- Justin brought 2 items before the Assembly.
 1. He updated the board on the situation with the Simon Rec Center & how those graduate students who are registered for zero credit hours (but still full time) can use the gym. They will need to print out their Banner report showing their

semester load & take this to James Page at the Rec Center. They can also email him at jpage3@slu.edu.

2. He surveyed the Assembly for interest in allowing students who travel overseas a couple extra hundred dollars (100-200) reimbursement from GSA. As this is expensive but common for some departments, Justin thought it might be something that the Exec Board could consider over the summer & decide before next fall. The Assembly seemed generally supportive. Laura pointed out the opposing argument... which would be what about departments that do not have overseas conferences but travel several times in a semester. She could see this change as opening GSA up for all sorts of complaints and people wanting accommodations made for their specific travel situation. Another suggestion that was made was to make a special GSA Award for Overseas travel.
- Nicole reported back to the Assembly what she thought about the need to change the bylaws to accommodate poster cost as part of travel expenses. Basically Section 7 (.1) which deals with the allocation of revenue might need to be changed to include poster. Deb mentioned that a similar change would be needed if social events were allowed for Dept. Allocations. Both of these issues will be considered by the Exec Board before the first fall meeting.

XI. Meeting was adjourned at 2:42pm.

Respectfully submitted – Accalia R. Kusto, M.S.(r).