



## GPSGA General Assembly Meeting

April 4, 2017

5:30 pm – 035 South Murray Hall



### Meeting Minutes

- I. **Call to Order – 5:30 pm**
- II. **Approval of Last Meetings Minutes- 3/22//2017 – 5:30 pm**
- III. **Guest Speakers and Student Concerns**
  - a. **Guest Speakers:**
    - i. Updates to Registration in Student Self Service- Darlene Hightower & Rita Peaster – **New service coming to Student Self-Service System – Handout shows what new registration screen will look like**
      1. Will now have a “shopping cart” feel for adding classes
      2. Will be able to send calendar to anyone when registering
      3. Able to create a plan before registration date that you can register from easily
      4. Scheduled to go live April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017
      5. **Question from Assembly:** Will labs show up on calendar as well as classes? **Answer:** Yes, the example one of the sides of the handout shows a class with a lab component that comes up with multiple meeting times
      6. **\*\*Will post handout on website\*\***
    - ii. Student Government Association Update – Mr. Andrew Price – Clarification of questions and concerns about student fee increase to which we passed an opposing bill
      1. **Would graduate students see a benefit from this new increase?** Yes, GPSGA would see around a 5% increase in funding and the student fees would be beneficial to graduate and professional students
      2. **There is AFAP and co-sponsorship funds that money can come from for student groups:** Co-sponsorship funds will be decreased next year due to funding cuts and the fee increase would help to supplement the cuts we are currently experiencing
      3. **Student groups have increased from 40-305 in the last 10 years with no increase to student fees.**
      4. Questions for Andrew can be routed through President Solmaz (gpsga@okstate.edu) or Andrew can be found in Campus Life from 12:30-2 pm Monday-Friday
- IV. **Officers and Liaisons Reports**
  - a) President- Solmaz Bastani – Attended graduate student council meeting, attended cookout social, met with Tulsa representatives on Tuesday – Discussed issues with communication at general assembly meeting
  - b) Vice President – Kendall Scarlett – Not present



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- c) Treasurer – Phoenix Huang – **Not present**
- d) Secretary – Jessica Schnaiter-Brasche – **No report**
- e) Intergovernmental Liaison – Milad Mohebalı – **No report**
- f) Parliamentarian – Kevin Coughlin – **Humble apology for not presenting all the student fee information at the last meeting – New resolution will be introduced to be neutral on the increase to remove our opposition**
- g) Communication Director – Prashanth Busi Reddy Gari – **No report**
- h) Social Chair – Luci Wilson – **Thank you for all of the help and come to Grad. Ed. Week events to be entered to win a Kicker Bluetooth Speaker!**
- i) SGA Liaison – **Hello from Zach Kinsinger! SGA will be voting on an AFAP bill – will not impact GPSGA in any way, instead of allocating funds to all groups, the bill states that funds will only be provided to those who apply**

### V. **Old Business**

- a. Professional Development Workshop – Turnout and Feedback – **Great attendance! – Thank you for everyone who came and those that helped the event run smoothly**
- b. GPSGA Spring social – Feedback – **Thank you for those who helped and those who attended – Please let Luci know how social can be improved in the future, feel free to email**
- c. Graduate Student Issue Update – Kevin – **If we took our Senate seats back in SGA they would not be filled until November, we would fall under the Graduate College banner and would be considered another college**
  - i. **If we move forward with the seats, GPSGA would run the risk of losing it's autonomy – the executive board has recommended a halt to requesting our Senate seats back to maintain our independence and still be able to award travel grants**
  - ii. **From an intergovernmental standpoint, Milad Mohebalı voiced his support in maintaining our independence**
  - iii. **We could resolve this issue at our final general assembly meeting 4/19 and you could discuss the issue with your departments and groups or we could vote today if there is a general consensus**
    - 1. **Question of Clarification: If we accept the SGA Senate seats, we would lose our independence**
    - 2. **Question of Benefits of each option: We would be able to have 4 voices in the student senate OR we could have control over our finances and be able to represent the needs of graduate and professional students as opposed to all being considered students**
    - 3. **Question: Will we no longer receive funds if we decide on independence? Yes, but we currently do not use all of those funds and this could move us closer to real independence**



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4. Question: How was the bill we voted on in opposition of the student fee increase presented? GPSGA presented the bill at a SGA Senate meeting to the authors of the increase bill – So we could still make decisions and have an impact on the student body without the SGA Senate seats
  5. Statement in support of maintaining independence from assembly and Kevin Coughlin
  6. Question of how many seats we would hold if we chose to get them back. Answer: 4/50 – Graduate and Professional students make up about 20% of the university population
  7. Question about redundancies of representation in SGA and GPSGA. Answer: GPSGA only would represent graduate and professional student groups and groups that represent undergrads and grad/prof students would choose their representation
  8. Informal Poll: Assembly would like to take care of issue presently
  9. Vote: GPSGA will discontinue it's attempts regain our senate seats
- d. Graduate Education Week reminder- How to fall into good standing again – If your department/group presents a poster at the Graduate Education Week Research Gala, you can erase an absence from this semester!
- i. Abstracts are due online by Monday April 10<sup>th</sup> – Find more information on the GPSGA website!

### VI. New Business

- a. Appreciation Ceremony during the last meeting – All representatives and liaisons that have not missed a meeting or used a proxy will be acknowledged at the last general assembly meeting
- b. Informal gathering after the last meeting at Eskimo Joe's – At the close of the April 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, the executive board will be heading to Eskimo Joe's, please join us!
- c. Introduction of Bill SP17BL005 from Kevin Coughlin added to agenda: Bill presented that rescinds our opposition to the fee increase and maintains our neutrality in this situation
  - i. Vote passes in favor of Bill SP17BL005
- d. Election- Reviewing rules
  - i. President
    1. Candidates: Jessica Schnaiter-Brasche
    2. President-Elect: Jessica Schnaiter-Brasche
  - ii. Vice President
    1. Candidates: Luci Riggin Wilson
    2. Vice President-Elect: Luci Riggin Wilson



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- iii. Treasurer
  - 1. Candidates: ~~Sheikh Shahed Uddin, Tian Lin~~, Prashanth Busi Reddy Gari, ~~Maryam Mashayekhi~~
  - 2. Treasurer-Elect: Prashanth Busi Reddy Gari
- iv. Secretary
  - 1. Candidates: Tian Lin, ~~Sheikh Shahen Uddin~~
  - 2. Secretary-Elect: Tian Lin
- v. Intergovernmental Liaison
  - 1. Candidates: None
  - 2. Intergovernmental Liaison-Elect: None
- vi. Parliamentarian
  - 1. Candidates: None
  - 2. Parliamentarian-Elect: None
- vii. Communication Director
  - 1. Candidates: Kendall Scarlett
  - 2. Communication Director-Elect: Kendall Scarlett
- viii. Social Chair
  - 1. Candidates: ~~Manikantam Gaddam, Hitesh Gaur, Cortney Jackson, Maryam Mashiyaki, Sheikh Shahed Uddin~~
  - 2. Social Chair-Elect: Cortney Jackson

**VII. Good of the Order**

- a. Allegro Concert, Friday April 7<sup>th</sup>, Seretean Center Concert Hall, 7 pm – Free Admission
- b. BASA Food Bazaar – Indian Cuisine on Classroom Building Lawn Thursday, 4/6/17 from 11:30-3:30 pm – **Small cost is associated \$3-9 for different dishes – Bursar is accepted**

**VIII. Adjournment – 7:42 pm**

**IX. Approval of Minutes (Executive Board) – 8:03 pm**