

THE GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Friday, October 13, 2000
Bernhard Center, Connable Board Room

MINUTES

Representatives Present: Daryl Arkwright (Biology), Jessica Baby (History), Vanjahat Banday (Electrical and Computer Engineering), Tom Brignall (Sociology), Marcel Brouwers (English), Carmen Conelius (Educational Studies), Doris Dirks (History), Nancy Greer-Williams (Communication), Kurt Hayden (Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering), Sabbir Hossain (Physics), Kelly Jackson (Marketing), Peter Lawson (Anthropology), Scott Smith (Medieval Institute), Julie Stahlhut (Biology), Deborah Wilson (Sociology), Rodger Zanny (Computer Science)

Guests: Amy Nelson (Student Affairs), Heidi Solberg Viar (History), Chad True (WSA), Elton Weintz (GSAC Chair Emeritus), Dr. William Weiner (The Graduate College)

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the September 8, 2000 GSAC meeting were presented.

III. REPORT FROM THE SENIOR ASSOCIATE DEAN

IV. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair reported that she and Hayden had attended meeting of candidates for Dean of Continuing Education. Vitae were available for anyone interested. Both the Chair and Hyden provided personal insights about each of the candidates.

The Chair reported that the organizers of the Teleconference, "Women's Lives, Women's Voices" held March 27-19, 2000 sent a thank you note for the \$650.00 contribution from GSAC. The Chair commented that the conference was under-attended.

Regarding the Graduate Student Reception during Graduate Student Appreciation Week, the Chair reported that 130

people signed their names to the roster. The event was deemed a success.

General information from the NAGPS regarding a Doctoral Program Survey was distributed by the Chair.

GSAC members were encouraged by the Chair to participate in a Waldo Library survey on the library's web-site.

V. UNIVERSITY COUNCILS

Budget and Finance Committee (Doris Dirks):

Dirks reported that there would be a 2.8 percent increase in university fees for the 2000-2001 academic year. All employees would receive a five percent increase in wages, and that \$200,000 was being added to the fund for graduate student assistantships.

Campus Planning Council (Jessica Grace):

Grace reported that Campus Planning and the Committee on Budget and Finance will be merging for the next academic year.

Faculty Senate (Doris Dirks):

The Senate did not meet.

Graduate Studies Council (Doris Dirks):

Dirks reported that the Council reviewed dismissal policy for the university. Frederick reported that considerable discussion concerning the electronic theses occurred. He expressed concern about the necessity for compliance with filing electronic theses. It was stated that students previously enrolled will both have to comply with new university regulations concerning electronic theses. A test program was going into effect immediately, and the university intends to convert completely to processing electronic theses rather than traditional paper thesis as soon as possible.

Regional Education Council (Kurt Hayden):

No report

Research Policies Council (Roger Zanny):

Zanny reported that some 500 patents were issued for PMG, and that an estimated \$50 million will be spent over 20 years on the new life sciences corridor, including educational and private facilities.

Western Student Association (Rob Engblom):

Engblom wished GSAC members a farewell due to the completion of his duties as President of WSA and graduation.

VI. GSAC SUB-COMMITTEES

Graduate Financial Allocation Committee (Jay Cawthorne):

No report

Public Relations Committee (Trish Brasford):

Consideration of the Proposed Budget for Reallocation of Calendar Funds was postponed until all other regular business on the agenda was completed. There was concern about extended debate.

After considerable debate (limited statements made by each GSAC member interested in providing input) upon the completion of all other agenda items, Engblom moved and Hayden seconded to amend the Proposed Budget for the Reallocation of Calendar Funds presented on March 10, 2000 by the Public Relations Committee. The Proposal had been tabled due to extended discussion. Ideas for the Graduate Student Lounge and Job Fair were struck from the Proposal. Grass Roots (\$3,000), the Travel Fund (\$15,000), and GSAC Web Page (\$10,000) were approved as worthy of GSAC financial support, in light of budget surplus from elimination of calendar expenditures, by a vote of 14 members voting in favor of the amended proposal, 3 opposed, and no abstentions. The proposed Budget for the Reallocation of Calendar Funds was accepted. (See handout for detailed specifications of each program.)

Programs/Events Committee (----):

No report

Recruitment Committee (----):

No report

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Kuehnlein reported that the petition to the President and Board of Trustees concerning Spindler Hall would be sent.

Dirks reported that the logistical details concerning the free replacement calendar for the 2000-2001 academic year were being worked out with the publisher.

Concerning the Compensation and Benefits Investigation from the College of Engineering, Hayden reported that some thirteen universities in the midwest do not provide health insurance to their graduate assistants.

Dirks solicited references for new GSAC volunteers for the 2000-2001 academic year.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Dirks stated that the May GSAC meeting would be announced.

IX. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BRIEFS

Paula Boodt of the Graduate College announced that the GOLD program workshop/Thesis Dissertation workshop had some twenty people in attendance.

GSAC members were reminded that GRADART was being held that evening, April 7 from 6-8 p.m..

Dirks announced that recipients of the Golden Bronco Award were being determined.

GSAC members were reminded about the NASO Pow Wow being partially funded by GSAC.

GSAC members were reminded of the GSAC appreciation dinner at the Roadhouse that evening - 7:30 p.m..

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m..