Graduate Professional Council
General Assembly Meeting
September 4, 2001
Minutes

I. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM by Vice President Lamara Warren.

II. Adoption of Agenda. A motion passed to adopt the agenda as printed.

III. New Business.

A. Orientation: President David Megee outlined the purposes of GPC and stressed the need for representatives to communicate concerns to the executive board.

B. Introduction of Officers: The officers for the 2001-2002 academic year introduced themselves and briefly outlined their responsibilities.

IV. Old Business. There was no old business to be conducted.

V. Officer Reports.

A. President: David Megee has attended many meetings addressing graduate and professional healthcare issues. The present health insurance program is locked in for the foreseeable future, but GPC will continue to advocate for improvements in ancillary health benefits such as dental and vision care insurance. The dean is also interested in addressing graduate stipends, as MU is behind many other schools in stipend pay rates. Professional student tuition issues are being addressed, and state law groups are lobbying on Law School tuition issues. There are concerns that cutbacks at University Hospital may impact medical education programs through loss of faculty. Dean Ortega would like to take MU students to present a case study at a national graduate school administrators meeting, and would like GPC input. The graduate application process may be streamlined to get departments to inform the Graduate School of who has been admitted in a more timely fashion.

B. Treasurer: Sarah Malia announced that travel scholarship forms will be due on October 26. An updated version of the application will be posted on the GPC website. Sarah also asked interested representatives to join the Finance Committee.

C. Programming and Publicity: Pritish Tosh announced the GPC tailgate on September 8 from 3:30 PM until game time at Faurot Field. Flyers were available to publicize the event. The Communications Department volunteered to sponsor a graduate gathering near the end of September.
D. Vice President: Lamara Warren asked that representatives familiarize themselves with the constitution and by-laws of the GPC to enhance the smooth transaction of business. GPC representatives are needed to sit on campus-wide student-faculty committees. Any graduate student may fill these seats.

VI. Announcements.

A. Lamara Warren noted that any representative may place items on the agenda. Contact Lamara to place items on the agenda and include handouts in the agenda packets.

B. Bob Watts mentioned upcoming English Department events. On Friday, September 7 at 4:00 PM, a reading by incoming graduate students in creative writing is being held in Tall Hall Room 104. The Center for Literary Arts is sponsoring a poetry reading by Audrey Ann Rich on Monday, September 10 at 7:30 PM in Stotler Lounge in the Memorial Union.

C. Christina Hammers announced the Harry S Truman School of Public Affairs is holding the Monroe-Paine Lecture on Tuesday, September 11 at 3:30 PM in the Alumni Center. The speaker is James Wilson discussing community policing.

D. Andrew Kerr noted that ASUM was supporting the veterinary medicine act, which would provide a limited amount of debt forgiveness to veterinary students. ASUM will also lobby for a similar act for law students. Andrew asked that representatives bring issues for legislative action to him.

E. Robert Irons of the Nutritional Sciences Department announced that the week of September 10-14 is Nutrition Emphasis Week. There will be several speakers addressing issues of nutrition and cancer. For more information, contact the department office in Gwynn Hall.

VII. Adjournment. A motion to adjourn was passed at 6:32 PM.