I. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Lamara Warren at 6:01 PM.

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

III. Adoption of Minutes. A motion to adopt the minutes of the April 2, 2002 General Assembly meeting as printed passed.

IV. New Business.

A. Nancy Schuyler of the MU Council on Family Relations (CFR) presented a request for funding to support the Missouri CFR’s first annual conference to be held Friday, May 3, 2002. The conference focus is social policy and the welfare of families. The request was for $200 to cover lunch supplies and refreshments after the keynote addresses. The MU-CFR is a student organization with students of all levels involved.

B. Travel Scholarships: All Winter Semester applications were funded for a total amount of $5,141. The awards ranged from $113 to the maximum award of $200. There were less applications than normal. A third application deadline has been set for April 19, 2002 and will cover travel during the entire 2001-2002 academic year.

C. 2002-2003 Budget: Treasurer Sarah Malia outlined the highlights of the proposed 2002-2003 GPC budget. Hours were being reduced for the webmaster and student assistant positions, while hours were being increased for the secretary and treasurer. An increase in the travel scholarship budget was proposed with the potential to increase awards to $400 for all but ABD students, who could receive up to $350. Money was proposed for a professional development award which could be awarded one during a graduate or professional student’s career to assist with travel costs related to career development. The Finance Committee would need to draft legislation for the adoption of this item. Graduate gathering and tournament headings were absorbed into a single programming heading with other programming items. The funds for RCAF, Gold Chalk and Rollins Society remain at current levels. Sarah also addressed the amount of money likely to be carried over from the current budget and the need to spend some of it this year.
V. Action Items.

A. Funding Request: the Finance Committee recommended funding the request from MU-CFR for the full amount. A motion was made to provide $300 to fund this event. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Travel Scholarships: a motion to accept the travel scholarship award recommendations of the Finance Committee passed.

C. Budget Approval: A motion was made to accept the budget as presented. Discussion: concerns were raised about the currency of information on the GPC website. Webmaster Jeremy Young noted that information needed to be supplied to him in order to get on the site. He also felt the reduction of hours for the webmaster position was reasonable if no major changes were going to be made to the site design. “Hourly” wages were discussed—these are a university requirement, as organizational officers can no longer be paid salaries as was the case in the past. The hours are an average, as some weeks officers work less than their allotted hours and other weeks work well in excess of their allotted hours. Questions were raised about officer job descriptions—these will be posted on the website. A motion to end discussion passed. The motion to accept the 2002-2003 budget as presented then passed.

D. A motion to open discussion on spending carryover money passed. Treasurer Sarah Malia suggested spending approximately half of the $18,000 in anticipated carryover money. Suggestions for spending this money included: a) $9,000 more toward travel scholarships; b) small grants to departments similar to those given by the Graduate Student Association (GSA); c) more graduate social activities; d) public relations opportunities; e) graduate career services. President David Megee noted that better access to career services will continue to be a GPC issue, but that GPC should not pay for these services.

A motion was made to add another $2,000 to the third round of travel scholarships. This motion was withdrawn.

A motion to spend $1000 for candy baskets with GPC advertising to be distributed to each graduate department near the end of the semester to increase awareness of GPC was made. After discussion the motion was amended to spend $1,500 on baskets of small candy (i.e. mints) to be distributed to each program. This motion passed with 9 voted in favor and 6 votes opposed.

A motion to distribute up to $75 to all graduate and professional programs and departments for discretionary spending was made. Applications would be required with a deadline of April 19, 2002. After discussion, this motion was withdrawn.
A motion was made to allocate money to purchase plaques rather than certificates for Gold Chalk Award winners. This motion passed.

A motion was made to suspend discussion of spending of carryover money. This motion passed.

VI. Old Business. No old business was transacted.

VII. Officer Reports.

A. President. David Megee reported that no decision had been made by IATS regarding printer limits in computer labs, but a decision would be made soon. This decision would be explained at the May 7 General Assembly meeting. Shannon Blunt shared a resolution passed by GSA in opposition to the setting of page limits by IATS. Aric Krogstad, our representative to Information Technology Committee, noted that everyone may be charged a fee and given a refund if they stay below the set limit. The Curators approved an 8.4% tuition increase for the coming academic year. The search committee for the new Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs will begin reviewing applications in early June and conduct second round interviews in the fall. David also congratulated Pritish Tosh on chairing a highly successful RCAF.

B. Programming and Publicity. Pritish Tosh announced the graduate social event at TP’s to be held on Friday, April 5, 2002 from 9:00 PM to 1:00 AM. He also announced that a graduate gathering would be sponsored by the Department of German and Russian Studies near the end of April.

C. Treasurer. Sarah Malia reminded everyone of the April 19 deadline for travel scholarships.

D. Webmaster. Jeremy Young encouraged people to get information to him for the website.

E. Vice President. Lamara Warren noted the need for committee members for next to replace those graduating or not continuing in current committee assignments. She also noted the availability of general funding money and the need for more applications for the Gold Chalk Awards. Nomination and election of officers for the 2002-2003 academic year will be held at the May 7 General Assembly meeting.

VIII. Announcements. There were no announcements from the floor.

IX. Adjournment. A motion to adjourn passed at 7:57 PM.