Graduate and Professional Council
General Assembly Meeting
October 01, 2002
Minutes

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm by Vice President Steve Allen.

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

III. Adoption of Minutes: A motion to adopt the minutes from the September 03, 2002 minutes as printed passed.

IV. Action Items
   
   A. Funding Request:

   Treasurer Sara Malia gave a presentation on general funding requests so that GPC representatives know what we look for in an event to which we provide funding.

   The Guidelines for General Funding Requests is available on the GPC website, as is information on the application process.

   Order of general funding requests: Submitted to finance committee, asked to present before the general assembly, presentation, GA asks questions of the presenters, GA discussion, finance committee recommendations, GA votes.

   The event funded must benefit graduate and professional students and be open to everyone. Generally these events are held on campus. General goal: to fund student organizations’ educational and cultural programming events.

   Presentation: From the Four Directions, the Native-American organizations, is open to both undergraduate and graduate students. The funding request is for the Dorothy Blatchwell Powow to be held Nov 11th and 12th in Trowbridge. This will be the 6th annual Dorothy Blatchwell Powow. A powow is a traditional cultural gathering, it helps to maintain the cultural identity and heritage of the Native-American people. Many different tribes come to dance and sing, both newer and more traditional forms. This event is free and open to the public. One objective of this powow is to raise money for the Blatchford Scholarship (from the sale of food and powow T-shirts)

   Request $500 for programming costs. The main objective of this event is educational.

   They have also received sponsorship from SOAC, the Alumni Association, etc.

   The event will be publicized by fliers around campus and around town, in addition to ads in Mizzou weekly, the Mizzou website, and the Columbia Daily Tribune. In addition, the Ironhorse drum group may be singing in Speaker’s circle and passing out fliers to help publicize the event.

   Finance Committee Report: Traditionally, the maximum award given is $500, we have twice the budget for this type of event compared to last year. The finance committee is in favor of funding this event.

   Discussion: Some concern was expressed in setting a precedent in shifting money around so our money doesn’t “technically” fund a scholarship. However, this event is ideal in its educational qualities. It is a family oriented event, which is especially nice for graduate and professional students with families. Requested money specifically for programming costs.

   A motion to fund From the Four Directions in the amount of $500 passed.

B. Election of ASUM representative:
Two Candidates, each had two minutes to speak.
Robyn Handel: Graduated from Northern Illinois University, now a grad student in Law/MBA. She instructs finance 123.
Marquita Walker: Grad student in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis, has her masters in Public affairs. She is interested in policy; teaches two English courses. She is also very interested and has experience in collective bargaining and negotiations.
The votes were counted by Treasurer Sara Malia and Marquita Walker received the most votes.

C. Resolution for Funding Insurance Survey. Mizzou is renegotiating health insurance for students. This survey will be used to determine what students want and what they will be willing to pay.
Discussion: Concerns about self-selection bias, and the design of the survey.
A motion to fund the resolution as printed passed.

D. Resolution for Funding for Waukonse Conference Attendance. This resolution is to provide funding in the amount of $1800 to send three MU graduate students to the Waukonse Conference ($600/student).
A representative who had attended this conference said she feels it is not a good resource for graduate students.
A motion to fund the resolution only if MU grad students are invited to present was not seconded.
A motion to table this resolution until we send at least one representative to talk to the faculty at MU involved with Waukonse to make sure that the conference will do more for graduate students passed.

V. New Business
C. Guest Speaker Christine Morris from MSA
Christine Morris spoke about the inclusion of sexual orientation in the University’s non-discrimination cause. It was included but in an attempt to unite the four campuses of the UM system it was taken out. The Engineering school is the only college at MU to not yet include sexual orientation in their own non-discrimination clause.

A. Graduate and Professional School Fair Panelists. Volunteers are needed to sit on a discussion panel for MU’s Grad and Professional School Fair. Need 5 volunteers: Jeremy Young, Ann Newman, Ken Reichelt, Christine White, and Diedra Weaver.

B. Committee Volunteers. Volunteers are need for two committees:
1. Health Insurance Assessment Committee (see Pritish)
2. Academic Affairs Committee (see Steve)

VI. Old Business
It was brought to the GA that graduate student stipend raises did not occur, this is due to a freeze in raises. This will be looked into further
It was emphasized that resolutions do not have to come from exec board, they can come from the floor.

VII. Officer Reports
A. President: We are still concerned with changes in print limits coming up in January. Additionally, IATS is merging with the University of Missouri system, which should be good. There is a search for a new President about to begin and we would like to see that position filled by someone academically minded. Steve and Pritish will be
going to NAGPS in November. The International Student Resolution passed by GPC has been added to the ASUM agenda.

B. Vice President: The Faculty Council, upon which GPC has no vote, voiced its displeasure that the hours of Ellis would be cut drastically from last year, and because of this the cut in hours has much less severe (only a 10 hour reduction). The Program for Excellence in Teaching Advisory committee, remember we are the only school where you can receive a doctoral minor in college teaching. This summer Steve went to Washington to lobby for tax exempt status for graduate stipends.

C. Programming and Publicity: Jillian will be attending the lobby day for Tax-exempt status, coming up. October 25th there will be a Grad Gathering at the vet school lawn area with dog treats, Frisbees, and ice cream, there are fliers for you to post in your department.

D. Treasurer: October 25th is the deadline for fall Travel Scholarships.

E. Secretary: Please make sure you sign the attendance sheet and fill out a Rep Locator Form if you have not already done so.

F. Liaisons:
   Med School: The med school will be hosting a Patient Safety Conference, in addition to having a Homecoming tailgate.
   Law School: This year MU had the highest Bar passage rate in the state. There will be a blood drive October 2nd in the Law School Lounge. October 19th the Law School is hosting a Minority open house; November 9th there will be a Women’s Day; the Law Schools general open house is November 16th, RSVP is on the Law School website.
   Vet School: Remember to bring your dogs to the grad gathering. The Vet School dog jog is October 5th, and October 23rd the Vet School is having a blood drive.
   GSA: Main item on agenda is the Health Insurance Survey.

VIII. Announcements:
   ABGPS has a meeting Saturday October 5th from 12:00-1:00pm in the Black Culture Center.
   Preparing Future Faculty Brown Bag Seminar Series October 8th.
   Chemistry department is sponsoring an event to encourage girls to be interested in Chemistry October 20th, contact Dr. Sheryl Tucker if Interested.
   Next GPC meeting is November 5th.

X. Adjournment: a motion to adjourn the meeting passed at 7:50pm.