Graduate and Professional Council
General Assembly Meeting
April 01, 2003
Minutes

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:05pm 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 March GPC meeting passed.

IV. Action Items.
A. Funding Request: MU Law Day. Laurie Sonnier Presenting. The goal of this event is to bring K-12 students to campus to interact with graduate students. Partnership graduate students spent half their time here on campus and half their time in our public schools. This event is to focus on the partnership between MU and public education.

They are asking for $500 to go towards educational materials and possibly transport. They have asked for Departmental support, but most support they will be receiving is in the form of services, not monetary. This event is open to all graduate and professional students.

Finance Committee Report: Recommend full funding. Plenty of money is available in the budget for this event. A motion to fund the request in full ($500) passes.

B. Approval of Travel Scholarships: Presented by Treasurer Sarah Malia. There were 42 applications; the finance committee scored each completed application. Split the amount of money available to that everyone received something. The total funding amount is $10,157.00. To evaluate applications the committee looked at the kind of conference (preference to national and international conferences), preference to students who have not presented before and have to applied for this award before, looked at conference cost and unmet need, statements, résumés, letters of recommendation. Everyone who turned in a complete application ON TIME received some funding. A motion to approve Travel Scholarships as presented passes.

C. Approval of 2003-2004 Budget: Presented by Treasurer Sarah Malia. Increases in funding for Travel Scholarships and RCAF for the coming year are coming from carry over monies from this year. In the proposed budget Contingency and Reserve will be substantially reduced, which means we are spending the student fees, as we are supposed to being doing. Funding for travel to conferences and lobbying was increased, due to the creation of the National Issues Coordinator Position. Decreased the salary of the president and Student Assistant to create this position, so salaries only increased by about $100 with the creation of a new position. The amount of money we receive from Student Fees may vary because it depends on enrollment. A motion to accept the budget as presented passes.

D. Campus Climate Resolution: Presented by President Pritish Tosh, questions to be fielded by Robyn Mabry-Hubbard. Pritish read the resolution that had been distributed to the General Assembly. The resolution states that GPC supports the mandatory inclusion of questions on the end of semester evaluations that address the environment of the classroom as a welcoming place for under-represented groups.
Some questions have been drafted and are available to faculty. Experts will decide how the results are interpreted. The team who conducted the study has approached the Provost, but no action has yet been taken. The ultimate goal is to have a standard set of questions each department must include. This resolution involves no cost to GPC, and minimal cost to the University to include these questions. A motion to accept the resolution as presented passes 18 in favor, 6 opposed, 1 abstention.

V. Old Business
A. Rolling Society: Presented by Laurie Sonnier. Will be inducting 8 new members on tap day. The new members include representatives from the whole campus.
B. Gold Chalk Awards: Presented by Vice President Steve Allen. The deadline for nominations is Friday April 4th by 5pm. There will be a meeting on the Monday following in AO22 Brady Commons of the Academic Affairs committee. The applications are available on the GPC website. Support Staff Awards will be announced April 29th.

VI. New Business
A. Newspapers to be Provided by Student Fees: Presented by President Pritish Tosh. A company will provide the campus with newspaper bins; this would take an increase in student fees of $3 per semester. Four papers would be available: one local (i.e. The Columbia Missourian), one regional (such as The Kansas City Star or St. Louis Post-Dispatch), The USA Today, and NY Times or Washington Post. Bins that can be accessed with student IDs will be placed in high traffic areas. The goal of this initiative is to make print media more available to students. A recycling/collecting program will also be provided by the company.
B. Officer Nominations: Vice President Steve Allen opened nominations for the officer positions for the 2003-2004 year.
   i. President: Laurie Sonnier
   ii. Vice President: April Orsborn
   iii. Treasurer: Sarah Malia
   iv. Secretary: Marissa Ahlering and Niamah Ford
   v. Programming and Publicity: Nathan Brummel

   Nominations were closed but will be reopened at the May meeting.

VII. Officer Reports
A. President: Working on the MSA newspaper deal.
B. Vice President: No report.
C. Programming and Publicity: RCAF went well. April Grad Gathering will be April 17th at TA Brady’s. There will be free bowling, billiards, games and Chinese food. The end-of-year GPC Party will be Friday May 9th at Déjà Vu at 7:30pm. Buffet style food, food will be taken away before the comedy act starts.
D. Secretary: We’re in the process of ordering GPC t-shirts because a vote by the General Assembly at this meeting indicates people want them.
E. Treasurer: Nothing additional to Travel Scholarships and the budget.

VIII. Liaison Reports
A. Medical School: Second year students did well on boards, class average was above national average. Fourth year students just matched. SITE is collecting eyeglasses and vitamins for 3rd world countries.
B. Law School: So far 1100 applications have been received for 150 spots for next year's class. David Horovitz will be on campus April 10th, not sure yet of the location, look for publicity.

C. Veterinary School: no rep present.

D. GSA: Nominations for Superior Graduate Student Awards are due April 8th and a representative from your department must be present to make the nomination at the meeting.

E. ASUM: The ASUM board members and lobbyists are going to Washington D.C. this week. The next ASUM meeting will be in Rolla.

IX. Announcements

X. Adjournment: A motion to adjourn the meeting passed at 7:10pm.