Graduate and Professional Council General Assembly Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2003

I. Meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM by Vice President April Orsborn.

II. Adoption of Agenda.
   • April proposed an amendment to the agenda by adding item IV b. to action items:
     Voting to accept our proposed and current advisor Jeff Zeilenga.
     • A motion to amend agenda passed.
   • A motion to accept the agenda by acclamation passed.

III. A motion to adopt the minutes by acclamation passed.

IV. Action Items
   A. Student Fee Review Committee (SFRC)
      • A copy of the resolution was attached to the agenda.
      • Discussion.
        o Resolution opts to put the money allocated to Hears and Jesse hall under the capital improvements category.
        o Proposes to add 2 buses to the commuter routes.
        o Moves the sports clubs under the Rec Services responsibilities.
        o This does not change the amount of fees students pay it just reallocates the current amount.
      • A motion to approve the resolution as proposed passed.
   B. Vote on Advisor
      • President, Laurie Sonnier, presented Jeff Zeilenga as the Exec board’s proposed choice for our advisor.
      • The Assembly was introduced to him at our November 4th meeting.
      • No Discussion.
      • A motion to accept Jeff Zeilenga as our advisor passed.

V. New Business – None

VI. Old Business – None

VII. Officer Reports
   A. President: Laurie Sonnier
      • Met with the Chancellor and thought we would probably be granted an ex-officio position on the Graduate Student Faculty but not on the Faculty Senate.
      • Quinn Synder met with the Inter-collegiate Athletics Committee about the NCAA investigation. The investigation will be finished soon, and if the team was found of wrong-doing the penalty will apply to next year’s team not this year’s team.
      • Also announced that Rollins Society applications are available on the web.
   B. Vice President: April Orsborn
      • Mentioned an upcoming ISC meeting.
      • Gold Chalk Awards will be given out this spring in April so start thinking about nominations.
   C. Publicity and Programming: Nathan Brummel (Given by Laurie Sonnier)
      • Thursday (December 4th) is the next Grad Gathering at the Cherry Street Artisan: free cookies, coffee, and jazz.
   D. Treasurer: Sarah Malia
• If you want to help with the finance committee sign up.
• Have plenty of money for more funding requests so spread the word.
• Spring Travel Scholarships are due March 12th for Travel between January and June.
• Will be working on the GPC budget in the spring if anyone is interested in learning how this is accomplished.

E. Secretary: Marissa Ahlering
• Pick up T-shirts if haven’t already.

F. National Issues Coordinator: Trey James
• Attended the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students annual conference in November.
• The legislative aspect is interesting, but the organization as a whole is pretty disorganized.
  • Working on re-authorization of the Higher Education Act
    • Worried money will be funneled out of the act to cover K-12 because of Bush’s ‘Leave no Child Behind’ policy.
  • Working to re-authorize tax cuts for parents sending kids to college
    • The bill needs to re-authorized to be permanent.
  • Working to eliminate taxes on graduate student stipends.
• Senator from Pennsylvania has sponsored a bill that will re-authorized tax cuts, eliminate stipend taxes, and increase what items can be written off as educational expenses, but it still needs many more co-sponsors before it will make it to the floor for a vote.
• Hope to make a website link from the GPC page with the list of congressmen from each state and sample letters for you to personalize and send to your congressmen. Fax or email is better than mail.

VIII. Liaison Reports
A. Law – Finals next week.
B. Vet – None
C. Med – M1 and M2s have exams.
D. GSA – None

IX. Announcements

X. Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:38 PM passed.