I. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Vice President Steven Schuster.

II. Adoption of Minutes. No minutes were available from the May 2005 meeting and therefore no adoption was passed.

III. Adoption of Agenda. A motion was passed to adopt the minutes as printed for the September 6, 2005 General Assembly Meeting. Motion seconded and passed.

IV. Action Items

1. Hurricane Katrina Relief Committee and Discussion: presented by President Mark Beard in regard to the recent catastrophe in New Orleans and surrounding areas. Chancellor Brady Deaton has emailed and challenged student leaders across campus to unify the relief efforts. The GPC proposes the formation of an ad-hoc committee to meet and unify such effort. This committee, the Katrina Victims Support Committee (KVSC), would be charged with the responsibility of developing a list of actions items from submitted and solicited suggestions. And, also, implementing these action items on behalf of GPC in support of the Katrina Victims. Possible efforts may include working with MSA students in selling buttons ($5/each), helping the NACAS in collecting cots and mattresses, and aiding those students who are being transferred to other campuses.

A motion was moved and passed by acclamation for the formation of the ad-hoc committee.

Lisa Rathje, National Issues Coordinator, was nominated and approved by acclamation to be chairman of the KVSC.

2. Brady Commons/Student Center Update: presented by Tara Brandenburger. Currently design plans for the new Student Center have been made and will soon be presented to MU students for approval. These plans will be going to the Board of Curators next month. Those who wish to know more concerning these design plans and/or give their opinion may go to the website, www.mustudentcenter.com.
The floor was opened for 5 min of discussion: April Orsborn asked about increased outdoor seating for students. The answer was that the rooftop of the center would serve such purposes.

Action Items were closed at this time.

VI. New Business:
1. Guest speaker- Karen Gruen
   Topic: Graduate and Professional Student Health
   Dana Briscoe and Holly Kelley service representatives handed out pamphlets describing changes in the student health plans under the new Chickering Corporation. They went over a few of these changes and explained how the plans work under the new provider.

   Floor opened for questions:
   -Rachel Popelka had a question about the receival of ID cards.
   -Mark Beard asked about the changes that now include spouses under the prepaid health fee at the Student Health Center. Answer: Spouses may be seen for a prepaid health fee of $100/semester. They are then allowed access to the Student Health Center, as well as one mental health visit.
   -Mark Beard also asked about the care of older children of graduate students. These children cannot be seen at the Student Health Center due to the number of patients they see each day. However, they may be registered through the Chickering health plan.
   -Michael Gramlick had a question concerning what is included in the prepaid health fee.
   -Pius Nyutu had a question about plans for international students, and was given a pamphlet to explain the mandatory insurance for international students.
   -Lisa Rathje asked if there would be changes in dental and vision plans. They answered that no dental will be provided and only a discount plan for vision.
   -Robin Hubard asked if financial issues would be covered by Aetna. The women were somewhat unsure of this.
   -Erin Richards asked if it is possible to switch between the two plans between semesters. The answer was no and that a plan is chosen on a yearly basis beginning with Fall Semester.
   -Amy Lane asked if Plan II is the best option to choose as a part-time student. Karen Gruen answered that plan II is more comprehensive and could not see any reason not to choose this plan, unless the student were also enrolling a spouse and child which would be more expensive to cover under plan II.

   Discussion was closed due to time constraints.

2. Resolution 0506-01: Resolution Encouraging the Timely Construction of the Proposed Garage Number Seven- presented by Mark Beard (10 minutes)
The floor was opened for discussion. Several questions posed included; the concern for capacity that each garage would allow for, the reasoning for the prioritization of a Trowbridge garage above the Hospital garage, and the need for core campus parking.

Ryan Turley suggested an amendment to the “therefore” section of the resolution to include the prioritization of the garage adjacent to Hospital Drive over the Trowbridge garage. The friendly amendment was accepted by the resolution’s author, Mark Beard.

A motion was moved to accept the resolution as amended. The motion was seconded and approved by acclimation.

3. Guest speaker- Tim Rooney
   Topic: Decoupling of the UM Campuses (15 minutes)
   Tim Rooney briefly discussed the current issue of decoupling, which will go before the Board at the October meeting. Decoupling among the schools within the MU system will allow for each campus to develop a tuition model that would fit their own needs.

   Floor opened for questions (5 min)

   Al Ludwig asked about the constraints that are pushing for decoupling and for the projections of what tuition will do after decoupling. Currently there is about a 3.5% blended increase that takes into account all four campuses. We would not expect to see increases much more than this after decoupling. April Orsborn asked if the board would then have to settle on four different models? The answer was that there is no guarantee that the board is in favor of decoupling, but if this does occur they may have to approve four separate models.

   Robin Hubard wondered if the UM system had looked at the student diversity among the various campuses and whether or not a price variance between schools would limit students from attending the school of their choice. Tim Rooney answered that they have not yet begun to take these issues into consideration. Robin followed up by asking: Is it appropriate for us to make a decision before going to the board of curators? Why would we want to vote tonight?

   Tray James had a question concerning the effect this would have on professional schools. The answer was that the professional schools are already decoupled and have been for several years.

   In the interest of time discussion was closed.
4. Resolution 0506-02: Resolution Encouraging the Decoupling of the University of Missouri-Columbia Campus from other UM Campuses—presented by President, Mark Beard (10 minutes)

Reading of the resolution

Floor opened for 5 minutes of discussion.

Brent Beshore asked if decoupling would break MU campus funding at the state level. The answer was that there is a safe guard that the state legislatures fund the system as a whole and not to individual campuses.
Robin Hubard asked that we revisit what our official position should be. It was stated that whether the resolution passes or not our ideas have and will get to the committee responsible for the tuition model. Robin continued by suggesting that the GPC send a memo with the minutes from the General Assembly meeting to the board. This would bring to the board our individual concerns without having to pass a resolution. The answer to her was that these issues have already been sent as a letter and that sending another letter would serve little purpose.
Lucas Kunce stated that ultimately the board of curators has a decision and it does not directly depend on what we say.

A motion to accept the resolution as presented was declined by majority vote.

VII. Officer reports

Lucas Kunce, State Issues Coordinator, will be attending the retreat for ASUM this weekend and will have more to report concerning their activities at a later meeting. Feel free to talk to him about things coming up on the state legislature.

Lisa Rathje, National Issues Coordinator, announced a handout outside of the meeting room that explains the things she is working on, including Legislation Active Day. She will be attending the Legislation Active days in DC in two weeks where she will be lobbying (along with students from other Missouri campuses) for making graduate stipends tax exempt. She is also looking for representatives to sing-up for her Committee for Graduate Education Week. As part of her trip to DC she is looking for personal stories from departments to take to the various representatives. If you have any personal stories concerning monetary funds as a graduate or post-doctoral student please contact Lisa. Finally, she is heading up the newly formed Katrina Victims Support Committee and will be looking for volunteers to serve with her.

Dan Robinson, Programming and Publicity Coordinator, announced the upcoming BBQ to be held this Thursday at Twin Lakes 5-9pm. He passed
around a flier giving information and also noted that a collection will be taken to go towards the Katrina Relief Effort. Also, he talked about a few of the events that will be held in the Fall and the possibility of an upcoming wine tasting event.

Al Ludwig, Treasurer, encouraged representatives to sign-up for the finance committee. The more people that sign-up the faster the decision making process.

Erica Racen, Secretary, asked for representatives to sign the attendance sheet and get information to her concerning their representation if they have not previously done so.

Steve Schuster, Vice President, encouraged all to sign-up for both internal and external affairs committees. He emphasized the need of getting GPC representation on all of these committees. If anyone has any questions about how to get involved they may direct these to him.

Mark Beard, President, asked representatives to let the officers know of any departments that are not yet being represented. He also encouraged reps to get involved in campus committees. Mark then presented the Goals and Visions of the GPC that can be viewed on the website, mugpc.org, and encouraged reps to let the officers know on how we are doing in fulfilling these goal. He announced the formation of the Graduate Professional Leadership Council, which will bring together the student leaders from the various Graduate and Professional Associations. This council will serve as an umbrella organization to ensure communication between the GPC and the various organizations. Finally, he announced a meeting tomorrow night from 7:00-8:30pm at the Adam’s Center at which President Floyd will be presenting and discussing the tuition models.

VIII. Liaison Reports

GSA: Danielle Lovell (president). Announced that the GSA’s first meeting will be Tuesday, September 13th at 6:30pm in the Jane Froman room at Memorial Union.

MSAC: Liaison was not present.

SBA: Joshua Holmes talked about the efforts for Katrina relief in holding a canned food and clothing drive to help diminishing supplies. They are also looking at helping a few students from Tulane Law that have been relocated.
Vet School: The school has approved a gift of $1000 to go to LSU to help with the homeless animals, and are hoping to maybe raise support to $2000. They are also planning a campus wide blood drive.

PDA: Derk Charlson had nothing announce at this time but reported that he is looking forward to being involved and excited to use GPC as a model for them in the organization of their association.

ABGPS: Pius Nyuku reported that they are working on a restructuring of ABGPS and will have their first meeting next Saturday.

MUCFR: Liaison was not present.

IX. Announcements.
There were none at this time.

X. A motion was approved to adjourn the meeting.