Graduate Professional Council  
General Assembly Meeting  
September 5, 2006

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

II. Adoption of Minutes
   a. The minutes were adopted by acclimation.

III. Adoption of Agenda
   a. The agenda was adopted by acclimation.

IV. Action Items

1. Welcome and introduction – Mark Beard (10 minutes)
   a. President Mark Beard gave an introduction to the representatives on what it means to be a representative to the student bodies on campus. Not only does the GPC provide social activities but we also make recommendations and decisions regarding the lives and education of graduate and professional students. The GPC handbook was shown and explained to the representatives. This handbook provides information regarding GPC dates, standing committees, the GPC constitution, bylaws, and other information. He encouraged representatives to look through this book in the next month. Mark then described issues that were dealt with by the council in 2005-2006 and encouraged representatives to help us with our platform in the coming year. Mark introduced the Open Forum time for each General Assembly which will be a time for representatives to voice concerns of the graduate students and needs they see. The upcoming issues for this year include the NAGPS Regional Conference, Graduate Student Stipend Issue, Health Insurance Issue, Graduate Student Housing (Student Affairs Committee), Tuition Decoupling, and Student Legal Services. It is going to be a busy year and the council encourages all representatives to aid us in these efforts. Mark again went through the handbook to highlight pages such as notes, academic calendar, events calendar, etc.

2. Open Forum (10 minutes)
Robyn Hubbard—She is concerned about the appointments to the Standing Committees. The executive officers have decided that if a particular committee offers perks for serving on the committee that it may only be served by a representative for one-year term. Her feeling is that the terms for these standing committees should be for three years.

Steve Schuster addressed this issue and restated that the GPC executive offers had come to this decision.

Robyn Hubbard asked that we invite Dr. Pam Benoit (the appointed Dean to the Graduate School) to talk to the General Assembly at our next meeting.

The Art Department is having problems with their studios being moved and they are not sure where these will be put and when they will be moved. They are told either by the end of the semester or by March is when these will possibly be moved and these are only the graduate student studios, they are currently located on Providence in the Marx building.

Eva Sutton had a worry about the limit on the printing quota for graduate students when they are required to print a large amount of papers.

James Austgen talked about those graduate students who have printing through their grants forfeiting their 700 pages of printing a year to other students (this was addressed at a previous GSA meeting).

Robyn Hubbard mentioned that this had been previously addressed and we should ask IATS to revisit this issue now that they have the capability of determining which graduate students actually use their printing quota versus those that print under grant monies.

Mark Beard asked representatives to go back to the students in their department and determine how big of a concern this is.

Email quota and Bengal storage is also a problem for Graduate Students. Although email did get boosted it is not enough space.

V. Old Business

1. **Graduate Student Housing** – Mark Beard (10 minutes)
   a. President Mark Beard gave an update on the Graduate Student Housing Issue and discussed the plan to tear down University Terrace Apartments, where approximately 40 families live. The destruction of the apartments is part of the campus master plan and is to continue building plans for the hospital and the parking garage, which will be built where University Terrace now stands. GPC had supported the building of that garage, not knowing that
it would be built over Graduate student housing. Currently there is no plan to build more Graduate Student Housing and there is also currently a waiting list to get into this type of housing. The advantages are that it is cheaper, allows one month leases, is on campus, and provides community for those students/families that live there. The closing date for University Terrace has been moved to June 2007 and all of these families are being moved to alternative student apartments. It has been suggested (with few details) that there will be a long-term plan for Graduate Student Housing.

Erica Racen, GPC Secretary will be chairing the Student Affairs Committee to work on short-term recommendations for Graduate Student Housing. The committee will be looking at placing bids to a large apartment complex provider, creating a GPC recommendation for apartments around the area, and creating an informational packet in the Graduate student handbook and/or on MSA’s offcampus.missouri.edu to help improve the status of the situation. The committee would also be interested in getting numbers on students who use or would use campus housing.

Christine McCann discussed that at the University of Minnesota they created a want-ad type website to help aid any student with finding housing in the city of Minneapolis. This system works well and students liked it and were able to find appropriate housing.

Mark Beard- That is what the offcampus.missouri.edu website is for and it is just off the ground and needs work. He asked if the Minnesota program works for families? Christine said yes and that it has a complete questionnaire for finding roommates. Did the University of Minnesota hire an outside developer? She believes yes, but it was integrated into the school’s main website.

Phillipe- When the students come they don’t have a house and there needs to be a way to inform them before they come to give them information on what is available.

Bandhana- Regarding international students, the University does send out information to incoming international students with housing information.

Mark Beard asked that the GSA to check in to what is sent out currently to international students regarding housing information.

Bandhana- she is on an Indian student organization that also sends information to students, in addition to what is sent by the Graduate School.
There has to be a follow-up beyond just sending out the information

Chris Melick asked if the University has ever supported building dorms for graduate students and that mentioned that Perdue has two of these dorms.

The problem is that the dorm fee continues to go up with the cost of building. The other problem is that we don’t have the land property to build graduate student housing. Regarding the dorms idea and according to polls graduate students do not want to live in dorms.

2. **NAGPS Regional Conference** – Brent Beshore (10 minutes)

   a. Brent Beshore mentioned that he passed around the flier for the NAGPS regional conference and that he will be directing this conference. The NAGPS represents us (GPC) on the national level and they have a national conference in November. The different schools are broken down into regions and Mizzou will be hosting the first ever South-Central NAGPS Regional Conference in March and we are inviting over 180 schools to send representatives were we can discuss platform issues and building student governments at other schools within our regions. We will teach them about relations, events, budgets, etc. We would also like to create a sense of community among the school in our region and will establish us as a true leader.

Brent Beshore motioned to establish an ad hoc committee. The committee was formed for the 2006-2007 year and will serve to out the task of running the NAGPS regional conference.

Brent encouraged students to be a part of the NAGPS regional conference committee and mentioned many of the events that will be going on during the conference.

VI. New Business

VII. Officer Reports

   a. Damon Ferlazzo: He is working on a candidate forum for October 11th and is working on solidifying a location for this debate. There is possible ASUM restructuring that will be occurring, they have a meeting the 15th and 16th of September in Jefferson City. The current vote is for 3 seats per campus, one of these being given to graduate students. Also, MOHELA is being looked and basically MU students should begin using, the assets that are being sold are helping with the med school, plant science, business incubator, and an agricultural research park, and a delta research center. We will be getting a lot of
this money thanks to MOHELA and MU students may also borrow from MOHELA. Damon then defined who the ASUM group is (student lobbying to Missouri) and what the MOHELA loan service is and that it is for students in Missouri (a state run loan program) that various students at other campuses use.

b. Brent Beshore: He is the representative to NAGPS and his job represents graduate student issues at the National level. He goes to DC to lobby on our behalf and he is also going to Seattle for the National NAGPS conference. He wants to know what issues are pertinent to graduate students at MU. One of the issues is making graduate students non-taxable and also for establishing a minimum payment for graduate student stipends.

c. Al Ludwing: He is involved in the Finance Committee and the Student Fee Review Committee. SFRG has one more GPC position available and it is important to have someone there and if you are interested in running for this position please contact him.

Hearnes Center Fee- The bond for the building of the center was paid for by a student fee and although the bond has been paid there is still a large amount of money (of student fees) that is just sitting there and we may be addressing this issue in upcoming meetings.

d. Jennifer Holland: Talked about the Welcome BBQ, which had a record number of about 600 students. The upcoming events and calendar sheets were passed out and Jennifer asked representatives to advertise this to students within their departments. The September events include the Corn Maze on the 14th and 80’s Roller Rink Night on the 28th. The first event in October is a Karaoke Event at Buffalo Wild Wings on the 4th. She also mentioned that the Research and Creative Activities Fair will be on February 17. She advertised the GPC website mugpc.org and the MSA/GPC website stufftodo.missouri.edu and asked that people sign up for her committee.

e. Steve Schuster: There are still 16 standing committee spots available and he needs people to sign up for these. The appointments go to the chancellors office, but he encourages the reps to contact their committee to find out when they meet. In addition, he will be working on both Rollins Society and Gold Chalk Awards which will be in the Spring.

f. Mark Beard: Introduced the new GPC webmaster Sreya Ravi and that if representatives have suggestions for her that they can contact her. The medical school and biological sciences are applying for a grant to create a general clinical research center on campus (NIH funded) and if funded there will be approximately $12 million given over a period of five years. The draft feedback of the grant was that there is little student and administrative support and they are looking for the graduate students for support of the grant. Also, the Assistant Vice Provost of International Studies has retired and there is a current search for a new Assistant Vice Provost. We will be calling on representatives for input and help in aiding on who is hired for this position. Another item we are looking at is early grant awards for beginning graduate students ($500-1000) and asks representatives for
feedback via email on if this would be utilized by students and if this is a sufficient amount of grant money to offer. In addition, this year there will be 12 At-Large representatives spots (2 per 1000 students on campus) and we will be voting on these representatives at the October meeting.

i. Robyn wanted to know about the conflict between MSA and GPC regarding the campus readership program.

ii. The fee for the campus readership program was supposed to be a separate fee from student governments. There was an $8000 carry-over a couple years ago from the fee and former MSA president Tony Leutkemeier signed-off on this money to be put toward a student publication. The GPC also had rights to aid in the decision on how these funds should be spent, but were not informed of the decision. Mark has a meeting following the General Assembly meeting where this issue will be discussed and hopefully resolved.

VIII. Liaison Reports
a. ABGPS: They have a calendar for the year and recently had their welcome event. Their first meeting is next Saturday.

b. GSA: They meet next Tuesday and are working on staying within their budget. They want representatives and are looking for information regarding the early grants proposal.

c. MSAC: Nothing to report

d. SBA: Nothing to report

e. SCAVM: Nothing

IX. Announcements

X. Adjournment

a. Adjourned 7:19 pm