I. Call to Order

II. Adoption of Minutes

III. Adoption of Agenda

IV. Action Items

1. Guest speaker – Dr. Pam Benoit (10 minutes)
   a. The Graduate School is beginning to form subcommittees for task force to discuss plans for Graduate Student Housing.
   b. PhD completion project: This is a national project. Nationally 50% of students who start a PhD do not finish it. They are trying to figure out (with 21 other institutions) on how to improve completion of degrees. They’ve asked participating departments to track their students based on prior experience to starting their PhD including research, provide an environment that will be better for incoming graduate students, start-up peer mentoring between older and incoming graduate students, and overall encourage acclimation of the students to the PhD program. There are early and late dropouts. Early is usually because it is not a good fit and/or there is conflict.
   c. The RRC study (responsibility in research conduct): Offering courses (intro and follow-up) that are offered to graduate students and post-docs. You can earn a dean’s certificate by taking these course series.
   d. NRC Study: Quality of graduate programs. The institutional portion is over, the faculty is currently ongoing, and soon they will poll students from various selected departments around campus.
   e. Professional Development Series: What would be useful to students? They do the minor in college teaching, professional development seminar series, etc. They offer a variety of topics and are open to graduate students and Post-docs.

Floor opened for questions:
James Austgen: How did you choose the 5 departments for NRC survey?
Answer: Those departments were chosen by the NRC. They wanted a combination of departments from a wide variety and wanted to emphasize 5 departments and is a sampling.

Michael Gramlick: Do you know when they will send out the surveys?
Answer: No, the timeline has not been effective.

Bandhana: When graduate students face issues with their PhD program, is there something in the graduate students that will help international student deal with these issues? More specifically applying to problems with advisors and/or other international issues.
Answer: First talk to director of graduate studies, they are usually the first step in dealing with issues of this kind.

2. **Guest speakers** – MSA officers (10 minutes)
   a. John Anderson, MSA President spoke on behalf of the three branches of the MSA Senate.
      i. DSA: A few of the upcoming events include bringing in Bob Saget, Ben Folds, and OAR
      ii. DSS: This division is currently working on a few items including campus safety issue (blue lights) and setting up Zoupidia to provide information to students.
      iii. DSC: This division will be conducting a number of student surveys, including those for the craft studio and the closing of Rollins Road. They are also working on a PR campaign for MSA so that students are aware of what MSA is and does for Mizzou.
      iv. Personally John is working on expanding Student Legal Services. The deadline for this goal is late October for a first draft.
      v. The Board of curators meeting this week and he will be meeting with some of the system administrators. Talking about tuition and language proficiency of TA’s.
   b. Davy Holt, Senate Speaker, representing the MSA legislative branch.
      i. Long Term Goals: Get assessment of how the closing of Rollins Road is affecting students. He provided a contact list and wants feedback from representatives and associated departments on the closing of Rollins. He is also working on garnishing relationship with the City Council and beginning to work with them in regards to student issues. The language proficiency of TA’s is another thing that they will be working on and they understand that it is an important issue for undergrads and a sensitive issue for graduate students.
      ii. Short Term Goals: They are working on a resolution to assist LBC to rename a building after a prominent African
American leader. MSA will also be purchasing a large printer for the design center.

iii. Upcoming Events: Food drive for the City of Columbia, which will collect fresh fruits and vegetables from local farmers.

iv. Next GPC general assembly meeting they will be addressing the concerns that are being raised by the GPC regarding the money. Plug for the new developments at the Craft Studio.

Floor Opened for Questions:
Robyn Hubbard: In previous years the student organizations had recommended mid-term evaluations for instructors and TA’s to address the issues in the class. This was supported by GPC and was brought to Brady Deaton. Because of this issue perhaps it should once more be a suggested as a solution.

Another representative asked for a clear explanation of language proficiency.
Answer: Right now they are at the very base of the issue and do not have a specific direction in mind and are hoping to get to the heart of the problem. How the instructor interacts in the classroom and ability to answer questions is the main issue. They are more looking at establishing what the exact problem is right now.

3. Open Forum – Dr. Mark Beard (10 minutes)
a. Follow-up from last meeting:
   i. Arts Studio: Psychology shares a portion of the MARX building and soon there will be more built on to that building and will take over some of the space that is given to the Arts Studio. Not the entire space will be moved, but the laundry matt (near international café) will be built in that area.
      1. Did they say when? Nothing definitive right now.
      2. They are developing more fine arts opportunities on campus
   ii. IATS: Representative Brad Wilders talked with IATS about the solution for the email quota. A department can request a separate email box for a particular TA class. And in regards to the printing quota, last semester MSA had met with IATS and IATS is following this up with a survey to students and hope to make some changes in response. The current stats need to be looked at, about ½ grad students do not use their print quota. And about ½ professional exceed their print quota. This is being taken to a sub-committee.

Floor opened for questions:
How are these surveys given out and to whom are they given to?
Answer: They haven’t been distributed yet.
(Chris- art history and archaeology) Are you a good contact to get feedback to regarding the printing quota? People from her department have a huge problem with this and feel.
Brad’s contact info: brad@missouri.edu

Who pays for the printing quota?
All students pay a flat per credit hour to IATS and then the allocation of $35 is given to each student.

Discussion extended for 5 minutes.

Other concerns. Chris wanted to give response regarding first year grants or scholarships. Their department felt that it was not a good idea (with the exception for summer funding). Often you do not know what your research project will be in your first year, but do need monies for summer research after the first year. That was the general idea.

Kate Hertwick: The point is to give students some money to jump-start research so that they could apply for other outside monies.

Robyn Hubbard: More and more departments are putting consent cards and open only to certain students. Several of the courses that she would be interested in have consent cards on them and is concerned that many graduate courses are limited. And requests that departments find out if this is a concern for other departments.

Bethany Williams: Who is the contact person about student health insurance? Is it coverage? Prescription benefits.

James: If you call student health services they can usually point you in the right direction.

Bethany wanted to know how to initiate a change?
Answer: Make a list of concerns and we will address these.

V. Old Business

1. **Graduate Student Housing** – Dr. Mark Beard (5 minutes)
a. Quickly, he needs a list of students. We are creating a focus group to form a subcommittee that is working on the Graduate Student Housing issue. We need a group of students who would be eligible to live in graduate student housing but have never applied to live there. They have hired a construction company to help draft a master plan for graduate student housing and want feedback from students.
Representatives who volunteered to be on this committee:
   - Julia Ferguson
   - Anna Steele
   - Eva Sutton
We will make you aware of the announcement.

Question: Is there administrative support for this focus group?
Answer: Yes, the board and the grad school and the student affairs group is administrating and initiating.

2. **NAGPS Regional Conference** – Brent Beshore (5 minutes)
   a. NAGPS is the umbrella group organization for graduate and professional students on the national level. We are in the South-central region. So far, we have a finalized conference letter, a tentative program, a working budget, a list of the schools and contact info, a sponsorship list. What do we have to do? Email and call these schools. We are asking those signed up for the conference committee to help us call and also ask others to step-up and help us call and contact these schools. Later on we will need help on getting sponsorships.

VI. New Business

1. **Funding request** – (10 minutes)
   a. Presenting is the multi-cultural center for research. The center brings well-known scholars in Psychology to the campus every year to spring (last year color blindness). This year they are brining in another researcher in the field of lesbian and gay issues and is a professor at Western Michigan University. They are inviting this speaker to come October 26 to give a public talk in a Columbia public school about LBG youth. He will give another talk at the University to talk to students on campus about his personal experience and research, and career opportunities for LBGs.

Floor opened for questions:

What is the foreseen attendance?
Answer: Last year they had over 50 school-teachers. And for the campus seminar they expect to have about 30-50.

The event is at Rockbridge, or is it on campus as well?
Answer: The first will be at Rockbridge and on campus.
Do you plan to advertise on campus?
Answer: Yes here, at Rockbridge, and downtown. They plan to advertise through fliers and email.

Finance Committee: They thought it was worth supporting. The group is requesting $600, which is more than we usually give. The average amount recommended is $400 and any money that we help with would be for what is hosted on campus.

Funding request amended to $400.
Funding request accepted with the amendment for $400.

2. **Resolution 0607-01** – Resolution in support of CTSA (10 minutes)
The MU campus has never been a general campus research institution but would like to be a campus that does conduct clinical research and are applying for an NIH grant. This grant would provide $12 million over a period 5 years. The reviewed grant came back with feedback that there was no student support and because of this we are presenting this resolution to demonstrate the support of the graduate and professional students in regards to this NIH proposal.

So the $12 million will go toward new buildings?
Answer: No the breakdown has been handed out. There will be monies to start up new research, bring in researchers, and support the individual programs.

Resolution 0607-01 passed by unanimous vote.

3. **Letter to MSA** – Dr. Mark Beard (10 minutes)
We give about 90,000 dollars of our budget to MSA to provide services that would benefit graduate and professional students. President Mark Beard read a portion of the letter to highlight a few of the concerns that are being raised by the council. This letter is to voice these concerns to the MSA and highlight to them that it is on the GPC radar. We are encouraging that they evaluate their programs and what they offer to graduate and professional students. This is not proposing a specific percentage change, but rather to invite them to demonstrate to us that they are using our monies appropriately. If they cannot demonstrate that to us then there is no reason to make a resolution.

Robyn Hubbard: Voiced the concern that when MSA spoke with us last year, the body of the GPC gave them the idea that we were happy. And now with the campus Readership we are altering our positions.
Answer: This is an attempt to get MSA to evaluate what they are doing and realize that they have students giving them fees that they need to address.

Another representative voiced that they believe sending the letter is a good first step.

What is the divide and disconnect in MSA addressed in the first point?
Answer: The groups within MSA have been battling amongst themselves and there is a lot of divide and disconnect sensed among the MSA officers.

Robyn Hubbard: I wonder if it is our business? How they want to run their government is how they want to run their government. Maybe a softer statement would be more appropriate.

Al Ludwig: We give MSA $90,000 of our money every year and it is our business.

Robyn Hubbard: Then focus on the money issue and not on their internal issues.

James: This is not a personal issue but $90,000 is our business and if the executive board is not following policy then it is our business.

What percent of their budget comes from our monies?
Answer: Approximately 10%

Can you reword the first point to change so that it states more that we are in support of them but recognize that there is a divide. As a board of MSA, they are not following what our articles say.

Mark Beard: That is not the point that we are trying to get at. We are investors in MSA and we do have a right to address how they are functioning as a board. When Mark sits on campus meetings he is often asked what the graduate students think but the undergrads are not asked.

Jennifer Holland: We are really not trying to threaten and we are giving them the chance to respond.

Robyn Hubbard: I know what you are trying to say. We should just say we want an accounting of our money, instead of coming across personal.

Should we switch points 1 and 2? It is not just an accounting of money we want them to be a strong government.
Robyn Hubbard: It should be a “we” not a “you”.

Brent Beshore: This a gentle shake and they already know what we are saying. They are not irritated.

Robyn Hubbard: The discord and disconnect is not our problem. There are other people who should address that issue.

Disraeli Cruz: What if you change the first statement “due to the change over in government”.

Mark Beard: It is not an issue with the current government. School administrators have voiced this concern.

A friendly amendment to change the wording of the first point of the letter to “We perceive a divide and disconnect” was accepted by the author of the resolution, Mark Beard.

The amended letter passed by majority to be sent to MSA.

4. **Election**: At-large representatives
   - Anna Steele
   - Molly Kea
   - Julia
   - Bandhana
   - James Austgen
   - Tamra Hipp

   The six at-large representatives accepted by majority.

VII. **Officer Reports**
   a. Steve Schuster, Vice President: Every representative needs to be signed-up for at least one standing committee and will need to be signed-up by the end of this meeting. He will soon be introducing the Rollins Society and Gold Chalk Awards coming up in November.
   b. Brent Beshore, National Issues Coordinator: Asked that representatives join the NAGPS conference committee.
   c. Damon Ferlazzo, State Issues Coordinator: Voter ID law was struck down by the court of appeals but this will probably be turned down and be a non-issue. ASUM, the graduate student seat on the board was saved. Each campus now has 3 seats. GPC is hosting a candidate forum on October 9th at Conservation Hall. ASUM is looking for student staff, $7/hour. Make sure you register to vote before October 4 before 10pm. You can email him and he can get you registered. MOHELA will have legislative approval later in the winter. It appears that the $94 million will go to MU and that no embryonic stem cell research will be allowed to occur in the building unless Amendment 2 passes.
i. What are the chances that the MOHELA sale will be put on the ballot? To Damon it sounds like most people are in favor although there are people in St. Louis area against the allocation.
d. Al Ludwig, Treasurer: Travel awards are due October 20. The finance committee will meet to approve these.
e. Jennifer Holland, Programming and Publicity: Advertised the next social event tomorrow night which is at Buffalo Wild Wings (free food, karaoke, drink specials). November 3rd is the Déjà vu event. If representatives have ideas for events for next semester please send her an email and or join her committee.
f. Mark Beard, President: UMSL has a few individuals trying to develop a graduate student council and we may be working with them. He is attending the Board of Curators meeting this weekend.

VIII. Liaison Reports
a. ABGPS: They hosted a fall festival/welcome event in September. Members attended a professional development program event. They have also been encouraged support the graduate preview weekend.
   1. Mark Beard encouraged them to work with MSA and LBC with the name change.
b. GSA: Their next meeting is this coming Tuesday and asked that representatives please send a rep if their department is not currently being represented.
c. PDA: Their next council meeting is the third Wednesday of this month and they will talk mainly about issues that affect Post-docs. They have events scheduled and told representatives to keep an eye on their website for upcoming events and announcements.
d. SCAVMA: This Saturday is the Dog Jog (5K) event and then a Dog wash to follow immediately. Their next blood drive is November 1st and will be held in Adams Conference center.

IX. Announcements

1. Ellis librarians (1 minute):
   a. They want to do outreach and conferences for graduate and professional students and will send out a survey to the reps.
   b. Lucas Kunce is running for state rep and needs volunteers.

X. Adjournment