Graduate Professional Council Agenda  
General Assembly Meeting  
December 1, 2009

I. Call to Order

II. Adoption of Minutes  
   Passed by acclimation

III. Adoption of Agenda  
   David Heise- Add under new business #4 Travel Award presentations  
   Passed by acclimation  
   Angela Aubuchon suggests moving Resolution 0910-01 so that Dr. Lamberson can be here to help answer questions. Wallace and Lamberson are interchanged

IV. Action Items

1. **Presentation** - William Lamberson, Tuition Waiver Task Force – (12 mins)  
   $27 million in tuition fee waivers, Pam Benoit set up review of tuition waivers. Recently asked to chair this. Primarily asked to look at time, scaling, source of funds. (Stipends provided by non-academic units. We are evaluating scenarios to get feedback and may look at recommendations, report written and provided to graduate dean. Today and tomorrow hold the reincarnation of the tuition waiver task force.  
   Semesters of eligibility for tuition waivers- Masters (5), Dual Masters (7), PhD after masters (8), PhD no masters (12), PhD relevant masters en route (13).  
   Michael PA- Average years to get PhD in hard sciences 5.5 to 6 years, stuff can break and spend a lot of time to fix things. What if there is a problem with your advisor and you need to start over?? Still on the same time line, but more work in less time. Does this take those things into account? Arrived at these by looking at what a reasonable time for completion of these degrees and then giving 1 year or 1 semester beyond that. These are generally longer than cyclings are.  
   Sarah Zurhellen (English)- We normally have 10 semesters of
funding. Would this change that?
Reduce post comp time to 1 hour and then you would be responsible for that tuition.
Would that also connect to our health insurance waiver?
I don’t know the answer to that.
Carlos PS- In plant sciences, people do a master with 1 year of courses and experiments in field for 2 years. Out of the range of the masters. Agronomy has a lot of masters students. PhD do three years of classes, comps, and field work. Some people take 5 years. These things depend on nature.
Director of graduate studies in Plant Sciences discussed this with him, stipend does not go this long
Angela A.- Insurance waiver tied to tuition fee waiver. According to Grad school website, the PhD with masters en route is 16 semesters, this is a year and a half different.
Ray- Nuclear Eng. How many universities are doing this?
Virtually everyone we’ve studied. These are very liberal compared to other universities, The big 12, except for Baylor especially.

2. **Presentation** - Dr. David Wallace, Counseling Services – (12 mins)
Increased mental health needs (56%) due to campus growth, more visibility, less stigma, and changing population from 2007-2009. 128% increase in students since Fall 2008 to Fall 2009, 16 students a week. Crisis walk-in available. Everyday open 8-5, someone on call. 22% of students have considered suicide and 7.6% have previously attempted.
Strategic use of therapy staff, crisis/walkin service, case manager follows up with the student, multitasking staff instead of additional specialists, partner with other depts., unified electronic calendar and record system, low operating costs. Try to be very efficient. Around $1 million in budget, only $45,000 in expenses.
Need to hire more staff, so they can see more students, improve timely access and manage crisis services. They have 6 counselors and psychologists. Want to increase student fees to get more money for better management of crisis services.
This will help them increase consultation, collaboration, education, and prevention, reach underserved populations, prevent staff burn out and increase staff retention.
Try to be comprehensive support service for the whole community and campus to try and reach the needs of students
Requesting: 2.83% inflationary increase = 15,699 (will hire a half time counselor for two semesters ($13,393 from UG, $2306 from Grad). 25 cents per student, would hire a new psych intern, 50 cents hire a post doc counselor, 75 cents more full time counselor, $1 more buys a psychologist.
Carlos- plant sciences- we are aware of the importance of the counseling center, ask for fee increase, the student capital fee improvement committee approved this before, why the new requests?
More increases in students?
Carlos - Do you think you will request this again next year?
I don’t doubt it. If we continue to do our jobs properly, we will continue to see the increase.
Nick - Business - I think before we can justify the number you are giving, we need the number of grad students that are using this service compared to undergrads.
1/5 of our clientele are grad students
Michael (PA) - You’ve had a 56% increase, have you broken down the increase?
It’s been 20%. WE need to get them before they are in crisis. Less time needed if not in crisis.
Sarah Symonds- Clarify for the assembly that they are only asking for inflation at this point. We will not be voting til spring semester, would have to go before SFRC before they could ask for more
Evan - Med school - How you work with SHC? Could they help you out with additional services, billing for mental health, other services IT.
Counseling service here since 1946, SHC is new. Two divisions of the university. Able to draw on IT help from other depts.. WE realize that they do have services, we do everything we can to work together. We have never billed for insurance. We are not a medical operation, we do psychological services, we only practice psychology. Much more than a mental health clinic.

V. Old Business

1. **At-Large Representatives** (10 mins)
   a. Ian Keesey- nominate Roland Holou for at-large for Plant Insect and Microbial Sciences
      i. Roland Holou - Working on PhD in plant science, be here for the good of the students at MU
   b. Isaac Francisco- Nominate Lei Wong Francisco, masters of health admin. finished 5th year of MU volleyball, happy to be on student gov’t.

2. **Parking Services Update** – David Heisse (10 mins)
   Spoke with Jim Joy and Linda Turner at parking services, pecking order is Faculty and staff, Grad students with assistantships, grad student returning, grad students, undergrads. Policy seems mostly reasonable. Communicating how this happens is a problem. Applications are taken in Spring, assigned July 31. May not get parking if apply in August. What if you don’t know about applying or can’t find info on Parking and Transportation website. Whether or not grad students can find space in parking garages, assured that there are at least some spots in HSG. Can we have a multi lot permit? What about special permit for pregnant people? Whether or not we can improve communication... Maybe we can encourage dept to advertise this info to students.
   Jade- Ag Econ- You said there is all this parking available? What is the procedure for grad students with commuter passes that want this... Go to
Parking and Transportation, email Linda Turner. She should be able to help.
Emily VanCourt- parking across campus and walking at 10pm, they will usually accommodate.
There is a waiting list for garages that are currently full. Waiting list says for fac and staff only.
Evan Med School- The point you made where there needs to be a better procedure, med students may end up walking to HEarnes at midnight. A better procedure to save spots for people mid semester.
Kailyn Brown- Ultrasound- How do they designate each lot, how much do you pay? Never shows up on bill.
Kayla Crider Pol Sci Rep- First year students end up in commuter lots. Mass email from Park and Transport.
Hertz rental car company came to talk about setting up a rental service on campus, cars available on campus for rent. Fees are higher than standard rental, but any student over 18 can rent them. Email me with ideas (DAVID HEISE)

VI. New Business

1. **Resolution 0910-01** – Sarah E. Symonds (10 mins)
   a. **2nd copy** with changes proposed, have received another copy today with proposed changes. Are there any other comments?
   Evan- Med School- Which professional students get tuition waivers? We are not getting benefits from those. MD-PhDs get tuition waivers.
   Angela- You guys don’t pay into this pot.
   Suggested changes are in red. The current policy has been added, recommend no changes in the amount of time with tuition waivers.
   Lamberson- Reducing the dual masters could be a problem for the stats/economics program (the norm is longer than 6 semesters)/
   David Heise- This is still being worked on by the task force, I think it’s appropriate to present this to them.
   Michael- PA- These question marks tell me that we have not finished our discussion on this? Should we even send this?
   I would like to create a special committee to deal with this.
   Michael- motion to form a new committee- GPC Tuition Waiver Task Force Committee- approved.
   Motion to wait until committee reviews this.
   Carlos- Get opinions of all types of students.
   Sarah Symonds- submit a document of comments on this.
   The committee’s decisions will be voted on by the General Assembly.

2. **Assembly Resolution** – Biochemistry Dept. (10 mins)
   Kirby and Victoria- rep biochem grad student organization, BGSO-Yirui Wei had a near drowning incident at Tara apt. Began her rehabilitation. Within a month, her lifetime max had run out. Aetna asked her to go back to China. With the help of fundraising and private donations, has remained here. There are some serious limitations to the insurance plan. As BGSO president, my position to help better the situation. Resolution asks the university to explore the costs and benefits of a mandatory insurance plan for all grad
students at Mizzou. Not mandating insurance, simply look at cost and benefits.

Victoria- There are currently three plans for students (International, med students, and other voluntary). Voluntary plan provides sickness and injury and not comprehensive. If it is possible to mandate insurance, we can have premiums drop, insurance coverage increase, and a healthier campus. Asking GPC gen assembly to explore the costs of mandatory insurance. Once we have this info, then the GPC etc would have to vote on this.

Michael PA- Remove the strikeouts. Make any health insurance, obtain it from any company.

Carlos- PS- It was an option for the student to extend the insurance, add that as request for additional limits to insurance.

Evan Med School- Med school requires health insurance. Do you know how that came about? Do any of the other professional schools have to do that?

Vet school pays for their own insurance.

David Heise- hesitant but I understand your intent. Hesitant to make insurance mandatory, looking for information can cause that. How does the med plan and international plan compare to voluntary, etc.

Evan- Med school plan starts earlier, otherwise identical.

David- Aren’t there people looking at this? What are they looking at...??

Aetna has not offered the best comprehensive plan...Great idea to have insurance for everyone.

Emily- Look at options, may need to do if health care plan passes.

Sarah- trying to address gap and have risk assessment office look at this.

David Heise- I would like to see full slew of options presented to us.

Victoria- cost benefit analysis of other plans that may be available to us.

Naomi- Vet school- Why is the vet school not included? Are we too high risk?

Resolution approved, 3 Nays.

3. **General Funding Request**
   a. Missouri International Student Council (8 mins)
   Vamsi, president, request funding for International Welcome Party. Most of the attendees are grad students. Fall 09 spent 2200 on food and 100 on performances, funding from international center (500), Asian Affairs (500), IPC (300). Requesting $500 for the event.
   Marcus- approved full amount of $500 by the finance committee. They applied for the one they have in fall. They applied for the one in fall a month too late. Full amount approved by acclamation.

   c. Vedic Society (8 mins)
students are key in this, grad students have benefits of this. Study life requires composure of mind. Patience and concentration. Yoga and meditation enhance these. Participation is free and there is a $5 donation to be a member. Have weekly meetings and special events monthly. Advertise meetings, at weekly meetings work on relaxation techniques. Special events- free yoga workshops, speakers, spiritual connection in this world. Booth at International welcome party, stall at activities mart. Henna fundraising for Food bank. Participated in international day bazaar. Sold food. Members from many areas. Ad in the maneater. Need yoga mattresses, safety belts for waist, encourage grad and undergrads to be instructors. Need videotapes/DVDs. Requesting $200. Matt Mower- How cover the rest of the costs beyond 200? We are requesting $374. Michael PA- Funding a series of events? Multiple things. You require dues to be a member? Members do pay $5 dues. Events are free. Marcus- Misunderstanding. Propose that we fund them for the refreshments but not the material items. Michael- Ask for dues, which is against our funding policy. Nishant- Funded other group with $10 due. Evan- Can I propose to fund for the event only and not the group itself? Motion. Seconded. Up to $200 for free event for the thing they can provide receipts for. Sarah- stipulation that they are directed towards ORG for their supplies. Matt Mower- Have you looked in bilaws to see if they have something about this? David- What did the finance committee say? Marcus- fund for the amount of the event. Michael- Table this til we have a real budget. Evan- My motion should have been voted on. Give them receipts up to $200 and will direct htem to ORG for the others.

3. Travel Award Presentation
   a. Travel awards for the semester. Finance and exec committee sat down to review these. Letter of recommendation, relevance to career and goals, how much needed etc. Perfect was ABD. Most given was $350. Total amount was $9275. Some of the amounts were higher than asked for, but only get as much as receipts for. Sarah moves to accept- passed by acclimation.

VII. Officer Reports
   EMILY- FASFA- fill out, if the healthcare bill passes, it is possible that the university will all lose our health insurance (limited duration product). American College health association is the primary one talking about it. If it does pass and the mandatory health insurance occurs, this may raise the # of students enrolling in health insurance. JEFF- Governor is extending tuition throughout break. ASUM wrapping up.
Marcus - Middle of March, travel awards
Sarah - Formation of family friendly meeting.. Dec 4th meeting.
Jacob - last event of semester in lounge. Cocoa Cookies, etc. Comedy wars.

ABGPS- Successful semester, event Dec 12 at Tellers
GSA- No report
MIsFits-
MUPDA
MUCFR
MSAC
SBA
SCAVMA

VIII. Announcements
Neil from SFCIC- Make proposal deadline feb 8. Any fiscal support for group.
Sfcic.missouri.edu

IX. Adjournment

Naomi Turner- Vet School
Ashley added already