Graduate Professional Council Agenda
General Assembly Meeting
May 4, 2010

I. Call to Order

II. Adoption of Minutes: approved

III. Adoption of Agenda: Ray Troy, Nuclear Engineering, added to Old Business (Rec Center)

IV. Action Items

1. George Justice: Introduction of New Graduate Dean (5 minutes)
   Asked by the 2009-2010 Executive Board to introduce himself to GPC, Dean Justice did so, saying “I look forward to hearing from you and to illuminating issues that are most important to graduate and professional students. I also look forward to coming and speaking with you whenever questions or issues arise that the graduate school can help with.”

   Q1, ?: What change are you hoping to being to the system?
   A, Dean Justice: I hope that I improve working and studying conditions for those of you working and studying here at MU; working on the issue of stipends, investigating; different kinds of program and curricula that we offer; engaging faculty and program directors; finding creative ways of fusing the energy and talents of faculty and students to train students for a variety of jobs after graduation; filtering down to how you live your lives on a daily basis at the university. I don’t know everything, so I’ve really appreciated learning from others and listening to others, attending regular meetings with leadership, and keeping channels of communication open; I won’t always agree, but I promise I will listen and always engage, and if I can’t push forward I’ll try to explain why as best I can.

   Q2, Cfrancis Blackchild (Theatre, English, ABGPS): To follow up, could you offer some more concrete examples?
   A, Dean Justice: Working for students who are parents, increasing resources for folks who need resources to achieve excellence, ground-level work, strategic look at what graduate education is; innovations in graduate education in pedagogy and research
In closing, Dean Justice said “Thank you. I am very excited about this job. I have loved working with not only graduate students but with graduate student organizations. I have an open door. I want to make cross-campus conversations more meaningful and have more impact in your classrooms and your labs through the work of organizations like GPC.”

2. Alysha O’Neil: Budget Presentation (25 minutes)
Dr. Justice and I have had several opportunities to work together on several committees, so I know you have a great advocate here. I’m the Assistant Director of the Budget Office, and I’m here talking about the budget today. I have worked here full time for 7 years and was a student before that.

General operating budget, 3 main points:
1. Tuition
2. State appropriation
3. Revenue from grants.

Governor’s deal with public institutions has held. 5.2% reduction in state appropriations equal to about 10 million dollars. In return we didn’t increase resident undergraduate tuition.

Tuition and fee increases that passed board of curators:
- 5% Non-resident undergraduate tuition
- 2.7% graduate tuition
- 5.0% law school
- 10,000/year for vet/medicine non-resident (only pay for one year because they can become residents after one year)
- Varied-supplemental fees

Fiscal year 2012 Looming:
Federal stimulus funding exhausted. The high school graduate rate is expected to be flat in 2011 and begin a sharp decline in 2012. We are constantly living in 3 different worlds at the same time in the budget office because we have to think in terms of yearly shifts. A plunge in the high school graduates (our biggest predictor of first-time students at the university) in the state of Missouri in 2012, affects our enrollment in 2013.

Q1, Ray Troy (Engineering): asked about the actual number—decline of 11%-15%—statewide; our feeder schools will be 2& less
Q2, Milbre Burch (Theatre): Is this a birth rate thing?
A, Dr. Justice: It is probably a combination of birth rate and people moving out of the state.
A, KJ McNamara (State Issues Coordinator): And the end of the baby boomer’s generation.
Proactive Financial Planning:
“Budget Scorecard” presented to internal and external groups year-round, soliciting feedback from people like GPC about ideas. We give the presentations year round. We have three years of dates because it’s simpler that way to show the modeling. We have enrollment estimates for five years out. This year we had the business managers in the divisions do two different scenarios: (a) best case—2.5% decline in allocation from central campus and (b) worst case: 5% decline.

$9M permanent funding has been identified to offset state funding loss. We are keeping money sitting there to help out with the budget once the other funding falls. An additional $9M reserve funds (one-time dollars) are being held to offset state withholdings or temporarily address permanent reductions—by asking all the divisions to contribute a percentage of their operating costs. Last January, the president said we need to generate some money to hold centrally and hopefully that will hold us through bad economic times. These will include non-salary expense reductions. Within the divisions they have permanent salary funding held from strategic hiring freeze. Programmatic reductions, tuition, and other revenue increases continue to be examined.

Q3, Evan (Med School): What’s the difference between a tuition increase and a fee increase? Like this new increase for the med school, why fee instead of tuition?
A, Alysha: Supplemental fees are proposed by deans of different schools, and they get to keep that money. For undergrads, 20% gets transferred.
Q4, Naomi Turner (Vet School): Does any of the vet med increase go back the vet school?
A, Alysha: Yes, 80%
Q5, Matt Mower (Physics & Astronomy): Are faculty being offered furloughs?
A, Alysha: No, they are a way to save money on a one-time basis; our problem is finding permanent dollars, not one-time monies.

Marginal changes in government:
481M$—state appropriations
F&A (facilities and administrative fees recovered from grants)
Change in State Funding: -5.2%
Indirect Cost Recovery: 1.2M
Revenue from Tuition Increase (BOC): 5.2 M
Revenue from Enrollment Increase: 538; 3.9M
Graduate Tuition Waivers: .8M
Scholarships: 2.0
New Commitments: 9.6M
Salary Increases: ?
Related Benefits Increase: ?
Subtotal Go.O. Surplus (Deficit): 12M
Operating Reserve: 5M (as an example)
Subtotal G.O. Surplus (Deficit): 7M
Reduce General Allocation%: 1.5%: 7M
Benefit Rate Increase: 3.4M

Of the 189M that the state allocates, 20M is federal stimulus money. We had no idea what CPI would be, but we weren’t sure how much we could increase tuition.

Q6, Evan: This is just for the local campus?
A, Alysha: Just here on campus. The other campuses have the same deal with the governor. They were able to increase tuition by different amounts for different students than we did. Their budgets are being cut by the same percentage as ours. We have the same tuition increases as Rolla for undergraduates.

Q7, Cfrancis: What about projected enrollment of graduate students? If you’re getting fewer high school students to become college students and the graduate school is preparing academics to teach these se people, it looks like the well is drying up. Are you thinking of being more exclusive in your graduate programs?
A, Dr. Justice: I don’t believe in shrinking the size of our graduate programs. The graduate education we offer here will be useful in a variety of fields besides just academic jobs. Although there are fewer academic jobs at universities like this, we need to advertise up front that a number of tenure track jobs are still available. There is still plenty of teaching. Plug for the Preparing Future Faculty program. I am for departments providing truth in advertising. They should show you their track record for where they have placed people. I still think there are plenty of job opportunities. We also need to work harder to help students develop interdisciplinary skills.

V. Old Business

The Rec Center committee Meeting: Ray Troy
We’re not losing anything in terms of being able to bring visitors. Under the new system: Give 24 hours notice that you’re coming by signing up on the website. If you show up without the pass, it’s $10.

Q1, Matt Mower: Did you have to do any arguing at all?
A, Ray: Diana proposed this. She said we’re getting a new website and maybe to deter people, we’ll change the process and that will reduce the number because that way people can’t stand outside and just grab someone to let them in.

VI. New Business

1. General Funding Request –VOICE – 10 minutes
Presentation by Naomi Turner, 3rd year vet student.
Purpose:
• Celebrating multiculturalism in the veterinary profession and our communities
• Promoting cross-cultural awareness in order to meet the needs of our diversifying clientele

Activities:
Every month they have a celebration of diversity represented among the student body; community service; Spanish lessons; after school programs

Event:
End of the year event is Brazilian Month, special events on June 10, 2010 include Q&A with Brazilian and American panelists discussing veterinary medicine and culture in Brazil.

Budget:
• Brasil Cultura will provide a music and dance performance from Brazil ($675)
• Have appetizers and light dinner ($500)
• Advertising $75
• Total: $1,250

Requesting: $500

How will this benefit all grad and professional students?:
• Advertising: everyone invited
• Attendance: 50-100 anticipated

Why should you go?:
• Learn what VOICE is doing to advance multiculturalism at the College of Vet Med
• Celebrate Brazilian Culture

Questions:
Q1, Cfrancis: Who’s answering the questions at the Q&A?
A, Naomi: Usually, we invite clinicians, residents, and students who are from the country or have lived in that country; vets from Brazil or who have spent significant time living there.

Q2, Nicole (Business): How come a specific country instead of a continent or something more general?
A, Naomi: We have a lot of participants from Brazil

Q3, Cfrancis: Where were past events advertised?
A, Naomi: In the past we’ve only had events for the vet med school. This is the first time we’ve opened it up.

Q4, Matt Mowers: Is your idea for opening it up to get funding?
A, Naomi: Yes, but we also think it would be nice to invite new people.

Q5, Evan: This may be interesting to a lot of grad students. Could you also get money from undergrads and use it to recruit undergrad students who might be interested?
A, Naomi: We have invited some pre-vet undergrads to some events, but because it’s in June we thought many undergrads wouldn’t be here.
Discussion:

**Matt Kotovsky (Treasurer):** It is during the summer months, are they going to get that many people? Marcus and I felt $350 was relatively appropriate based on what we feel like attendance will be because there won’t be many people here in the summer.

**Kristen Peters (Microbiology):** Is that like saying I’m not interested in your event, therefore I wouldn’t go, so we’re not going to fund you.

**Crancis:** Haven’t we changed funding narrowly focused groups. We extended funding to $600 for general-interest groups. We give funding to small groups, more closed of $200. Do we have money in the budget?

**Matt Kotovsky:** We have plenty of money.

**Evan:** We also do cut a lot of those limited groups, but to me it misses two things. It’s narrow. It’s singing and dancing and vet medicine. When she initially mentioned what the group was supposed to do, I realized that we have a similar group in the med school.

**Anthony (Philosophy):** Are there enough people here to vote on this?

**Emily (Education):** [checking] No, we don’t have a quorum.

**Crancis:** Could we request a follow-up report about what happened?

**Sarah Symonds (Communications; Outgoing President):** put them under old business? Yes, give them that money and if it turns out that they can pull more people, then maybe give them more.

**Evan:** We shouldn’t give full amount on everything because word gets out that you will fund stuff as long as you open it up for people.

**?:** If we have enough money to fund them, we fund them. GPC should support multicultural activities. There are many issues caused by lack of understanding, so if they are helping to help people better understand one another, then that is good.

**Milbre:** I would say who’s screwing them are the people who aren’t here to make a quorum, so I would say don’t bring us stuff in May when we’re too flaked out to come to the meeting and fulfill our responsibility. It’s not their problem.

**Matt Mower:** motion to table

2. **Open Forum: Kristofferson Culmer (10 minutes)**

Just first and foremost, I would like to thank the outgoing exec board for all of their hard work and service. (Woohoo! Everybody claps)

How can we better serve you?

**Crancis:** Introduce the exec board.

**Kristofferson:** [Introduces everyone]

We have a large surplus in our budget and we don’t want the university to take it, so we need to think of better ways to use it. Ideas for stuff we could look into over the summer:

**David Heise:** I think travel grants are a good use of that. Most travel to conferences, $400 will barely get you there and back, so if we really need to
spend this money that’s one direct way that benefits students. Is there a concern that if we don’t use our funding someone will cipher that away?

(Answerer?) Yes, it will be taken and used in other areas

**Matt Kotovsky:** As part of our new budget, we did increase the total, but not the individual limits.

**David:** We currently require that you present, whereas some conferences are worth attending whether you present or not. We could consider funding attendance and not just presentation.

**Cfrancis:** At the last meeting, I suggested we look at research travel, but I don’t have a proposal because I have no idea what professional students needs are when it comes to non-presentation travel. Would someone from one of these schools meet with me in June to discuss this and work together to do this? I would love to form a working group.

**Milbre:** If we continue to have surpluses, lift the ban and let people apply twice a year (once a semester rather than once a year).

**Kristofferson:** MSA President mentioned in March that undergraduates give awards in March, and we should have a way to recognize our research and teaching assistants.

**Matt Mowers:** Collaborate with GSA so that you don’t step on their toes.

**Evan:** That excludes med, law, vet schools.

**Sarah:** They should include language that includes professional schools.

**Kristofferson:** Anything that comes to your mind, please email at GPC@missouri.edu and let us know.

### 3. Special Awards Presentation: Sarah E. Symonds (10 minutes)

Reps who are in good standing (perfect attendance) get an award as a small token of our appreciation:

- David Hiese (Computer Engineering)
- Matt Mower (Physics & Astronomy)
- Jordan Dawdy (Rural Sociology)
- Andrew Bisto (Sociology)
- Milbre Burch (Theater)
- Naomi Turner (Vet school)
- Ray Troy (for dealing with the Rec Center because they aren’t the easiest people to deal with)

### VII. Officer Reports

**National Issues (KJ):** No report

**State Issues (Craig):** State Legislature ends their session in two weeks. Nothing is on the agenda for grad students. Mizzou 80% chance that something passes to increase need-based scholarship for undergraduate students.

**Treasurer (Matt):** We got our budget approved by SOGA

**Programming and Publicity (Jacob):** Friday is the last event of the year.
President (Kristofferson): Dr. Susan Even is meeting in June with Dr. Justice about full time enrollment, currently not considered full time at the health center.

Cfrancis (in response to announcement about Dr. Justice’s meeting with Dr. Even): There are a lot of things that happen when you are ABD that they don’t tell you. For instance, you get a residency rate for the two hours you sign up for when you are ABD.

VIII. Liaison Reports
ABGPS (Cfrancis): End of year scholarship, thank you for the funding, we had fun.
GSA: Nothing to report, but thank you for participating in GSA. In response to the award conversation earlier, we have some people submitted from MBA and med school who got awards.
GSP: ?
Mizfits (Sarah Symonds): Graduate school along with ParentLink have found them a space where they can bring their kids to work.
MSAC: Student-run free clinic Thursday nights and dermatology clinic. Get referred from the family health center. Parents who have come from abroad or those otherwise without insurance can be referred by Student Health Center and get treated Thursday night. All referrals have to come through Student Health Center or Columbia family center.
SBA: ?
SCAVI: Nothing new to report. Thanks to those of you who came out to our annual open house and to forwarding our advertising flyer for our Reparatory offerings in the theater department this summer. Comedies in concert this summer. “Changing Skins”

IX. Announcements

X. Adjournment