Graduate Professional Council Agenda
General Assembly Meeting
September 7, 2010

I. Call to Order

II. Adoption of Minutes: approved

III. Adoption of Agenda: Deleted Previous Funding Request from VOICE (5 minutes) under Old Business

IV. Action Items
1. Dr. Susan Even - Student Health Center (20 minutes)
   Dr. Even introduced herself and presented a power point consisting of the following information about student health:
   • The Student Health Center is located on the fourth floor of the University Physicians Medical Building.
   • They have a wide variety of resources to help you stay healthy.
   • Hours of operation: 8-5, Monday-Friday. Call after hours nurse at other times.
   • There is a hospital-based pharmacy on the first floor. This pharmacy will take student insurance and student ID.
   • Student health does NOT take walk-ins, but if you call ahead, they can see you that day.
   • Come early; bring your insurance card.
   • They want to see you like a primary physician would see you.
   • They also offer mental health and stress management assistance.
   • Stress is the #1 thing that affects academic performance.
   • Stressbusters: professionally trained students who give free five-minute backrubs and wellness information to other students;
   • Other stress reducers:
     o Mindful Yoga
     o Mindful-Based Stress Reduction (8-week course)
     o HeartMath Biofeedback: pilot testing with technology that helps students see the results of reduced stress.
   • Come early; bring your insurance card.
   • A mandatory fee charged to students taking more than six credit hours per semester. Covers the office consultations with our providers but not tests.
   • 445-5023 (Mid-Missouri 24-hour crisis line. Studenthealth.missouri.edu.
Q1, Matt Mower (Physics & Astronomy): Does the website list laboratory costs?
A, Dr. Even: We have in the past, but those change, and they may not list them there any longer because of the need for frequent updates.
Q2, Chavon from HGFS (is there a same day cancellation fee?
A, Dr. Even: In mental health there is, but not student health
Q3, Milbre Burch (Theatre): Do you offer the HPV vaccine?
A, Dr. Even: We do, but it’s really expensive. $170/treatment, and you need 3 treatments.
Q4, Milbre Burch (Theatre): So it’s cheaper at the health department?
A, Dr. Even: Yes.
**Dr. Even:** The only way we can intelligently answer your questions about insurance is to actually look at your card and see what we can. There are two women you can call and ask them how much it will cost based on your insurance. They will be happy to look this up for you before your visit, to minimize surprise costs.

**Q5, Raymond Summerville (English/ABGPS):** If we want to see a specialist do we have to see you for a referral?

**A, Dr. Even:** If you have Aetna student insurance, you need to contact us for a referral. You will have to pay more for the visit if you don’t get a referral from Student Health.

**V. Old Business**

1. **Proposal for Research Funding through GPC (10 minutes)**

   **Introduction by Kristofferson Culmer, GPC President:**

   For those of you who weren’t here at the end of last year, an issue arose in the way GPC helps to fund students. We help students travel to conferences, but we don’t offer the same opportunity to our professional students. Since we are the Graduate and Professional Council, it is important that we represent both graduate and professional students. Over the summer, Cfrancis Blackchild took it upon herself to research ways that we might also be of more use to professional students by, for instance, offering funding for research travel. Cfrancis has submitted a proposal that has a great foundation, but there is still a lot of work to do to get this off the ground. Because this is such a large project, we would like to form a committee to investigate how we can go further with this.

   **Q1, Matt Mower:** is this something that the financial committee is going to fine-tune?

   **A, Kristofferson:** The committee, with the assistance of the Treasurer, will investigate what the expenses of a professional student might be and propose ways in which GPC can potentially offer funding for professional students.

   **A, Matt Kotovsky:** Right now you can only apply for funding to present at a conference, but not all degrees produce original research or

   **Q, Roland (at large):** Why for so long this hasn’t happened?

   **A, Kristofferson:** There are a lot of things that GPC is still growing into. This might have just been an area that was overlooked.

   **Q, Chavon:** Is there a certain cap for funding?

   **Matt K:** $400 is the most that you can apply for but is allocated based on several different levels. Based on where you are in your studies and what you’re doing,

   **Amanda (textile and apparel management):** What about research expense?

   **Kris**

   **Shawn (NBA):** What are you looking for from this body right now? What type of

   We need a group of interested students to investigate what happens in professional programs, where the financial needs exist, how can GPC fill this gap, propose legislation based on this.

   **Milbre:** You’re not meaning to leave out business or journalism?

   **Kris:** No. I mean anyone who’s not research based.

   **Liz:** Journalism is not considered a professional school.

   **David Heisse:** My understanding from the conversation last year was that yes we are looking to include these other groups, but I think even those in research-based groups might also find it useful to get funding to attend conferences that they are not presenting at. We are increasing eligibility to all students. Not just professional.

   **David Heisse:** As a point of order, do we need to vote?

   **Matt:** yes

   Committee formed
VI. New Business

1. Introduction to GPC – President Krisofferson Culmer (5 min.)
Welcome to GPC 2010-2011. If you’re a new representative, please raise your hand. Wow, ok, pretty much everyone. My name is Kristofferson Culmer. If any of you have heard me speaking at new student events, then you know that the Graduate Professional Council is the official student government of graduate and professional students. We want to assist graduate and professional students academically, economically, and vocally. We are the voice of G&P students on this campus. For instance, you all were asked to sign up for an internal and external committee. Your role on these committees is crucial because you are representing the entire graduate and professional student body. We ask that you take this responsibility seriously. Just to let you know what we’ve been working on over the summer and what we will continue to work on during this year, I would like to go over the following list of our current objectives:

1. As always, we continue to keep an eye on issues concerning insurance, tuition and waivers, stipends, and fees.
2. Working with the Graduate School on building better alumni relations.
3. Engaging in more family-friendly initiatives to better represent our diverse graduate/professional population.
4. Better collaboration with other graduate/professional organizations namely GSA and ABGPS.
5. Ensuring we have representation from as many graduate/professional programs in GPC General Assembly as possible.
6. More accountability from GPC representatives on standing committees around campus.
7. Making our financial assistance accessible to professional students as well as graduate students.
8. Restructuring our funding system.
9. Renewing membership in NAGPS (National Association of Graduate and Professional Students). This will allow GPC to be better informed of national issues that affect graduate/professional students.
10. Making our website and overall web presence more user-friendly and informative.
11. Making our programming bigger, better, and more inclusive.

2. General Funding Request – Conversation Partner Program (5 min.)
Q1, Cfrancis Blackchild (ABGPS): you have the kickoff and the graduation (two events when we usually ask people to focus on one), how many people are you expecting?
A, Tiana (Program Coordinator): About 20 Asian students and about 15 American students.
Q4, Matt Mower: You have about 70 or 80 Korean and American students, you already have a bulk of American students that they converse with. Who’s talking to who?
A, Tina: Asian students talking to American students. They are already signed up.
Q5, Matt Mower: How did they find out about the program?
A, Tina: I sent out email to professors who teach multicultural certificate classes.
Q6, Matt Mower: This was offered to anyone who wanted to join?
A, Tina: Yes.
Q7, Cfrancis: A question on the MU student population that is involved. Are they mostly graduate or undergraduate students who are volunteering for this program?
A, Tina: Mostly undergraduates and some graduates.
Council Discussion following presentation:
Matt Kotovsky, GPC Treasurer: The finance committee reviewed this application, and this is a program that we have historically funded. They do serve graduate students. They only want $200. They have an advertising scheme in place where they are bringing people in, and it is open to everyone. Any discussion on the floor?
No Discussion
Motion / Second: Approved

3. General Funding Request - Cultural Association of India (5 min.)
Organization name: Cultural Association of India (CAI)
Presentation by: Vaibhavi Mogare Treasurer, CAI
“India Nite” - 18th Annual show on stage: October 30th, 2010
Requesting: $500
Total Event Cost: $4000
Use of GPC funding: This 3-hour show will take place in Jesse Hall Auditorium. The awarded money will go directly to pay the Jesse Auditorium/MSA tech crew for providing technical services in staging the event, including the rehearsal and the final show-time.
Other funding sources: Organizational Resource Group (ORG) = $2500
# of people involved/in attendance: Over 70 performers present 12+ song/dance/instrumental music items on India-Nite event. It gets a full-house audience in 1700 capacity Jesse Auditorium (has been for the past 17/18 years), including students, faculty, staff, MU officials and people from Columbia and neighboring towns in attendance.
Benefit to grad/prof students: This event is a showcase of Indian culture in tune with the chancellors diversity initiative of the University in many ways. The Officers of our organization spearheading this event as well as many performers/coordinators are graduate students at MU in various fields.

   India-Nite will help raising awareness among general mass of students on campus about the Indian culture and help them to know more about this globalized world. In the past, this event has been an ice breaker for foreign and local students. It also gives opportunity to graduate students to take a break from their heavily loaded course work to develop and display their talents in the “performing arts” while giving them great opportunity to develop leadership skills in program-planning and execution of this mega event.

   With Chancellor Deaton as our “guest of honor” at India-Nite two consecutive years in a row; before and after his visit of India last summer, and Dean Thompson of the Engineering school was our chief guest in India Nite talking about emphasis of MU for new collaboration on research and graduate education among Indian Universities and Mizzou before his planned visit to India last year. Thus our India-Nite event brings closure the graduate and professional students who are thinking of their further studies and/or career in India.

   India-Nite event provides great opportunity to the Graduate students at University of Missouri to display its diverse and multi-cultural nature. Also, this event encourages students to use creativity and knowledge from their respective fields and use that knowledge as a group thus fostering team work and collaboration, which is very important learning opportunity in their respective graduate and professional career outside the classroom.

Council Discussion following presentation:
Matt Kotovsky: They seek outside funding, extremely well funded and put together. Historically we have funded them for a decade or more. I recommend them for a full amount. Any discussion on the floor?
No Discussion
Motion (Andrew Vista)/ Second (Sean, MBA): Approved
4. General Funding Request - Multicultural Hour (5 min.)

**About MCH**
- MCH is a weekly informal discussion program where students/scholars/others from different countries meet and interact with each other.
- Mission: To improve understanding & promote better relationships among different cultures.
- Time and Location: Every Thursday 4:00—5:00, Memorial Union.

**History**
- Founded in 2003.
  - Sponsored by Asian Affairs Center, International Center, Graduate Professional Council (GPC), & Multicultural Center.
- Total Attendees:
  - 2007—420
  - 2008—774
  - 2009—1100
- Cultures involved: a total of 22
  - USA, South Korea, Thailand, China, Iran, Turkey, Afghanistan, Taiwan, Japan, Hong Kong, Germany, Indonesia, Malaysia, Peru, India, Colombia, Pakistan, Singapore, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Mexico, and Germany.

**Present**

**Welcome Party 9/2/2010**
- 150 students/faculty/others

**Finance**
- Budget: $1,500
- Finance Allocation:
  - Two welcome parties: $400
  - Six special events: $400
  - Mass info: $300
  - Brochures, fliers and posters: $150
  - Other events: $250

**Future**
- To increase awareness on campus
- To recruit more graduate students
- To reach out to more countries and cultures

**Promotion Efforts**
- Fliers—1200
- Brochures—1000
Presentation by Jacki Li, Coordinator for the Multicultural Hour program, organized by Asian Affairs Center

David Heisse (Computer Engineering): What amount are you requesting from GPC?

Jacki: $400

David: Allocated for a specific event?

Jacki: We hold 47 events throughout the year

Mohammad Sherafati (at large member): Do you have any mechanism to evaluate the success of the program?

Jacki: Before I took over last year, they had very few students in comparison to what we have now. Attendance has significantly increased. We also use evaluations that participants fill out at the end of every program and we try to use that to plan future programs.

Matt Kotovsky: Something that she didn’t tell you is that we were one of the supporting members of the founding of this group. Extremely well-advertised and do produce results. My recommendation is full amount plus clarification of what they are going to spend their money on.

Cfrancis: GPC doesn’t fund food?

Matt Kotovsky: Yes, it has in the past.

David: Maybe a related question…typically we fund events not organizations?

Matt Kotovsky: Yes, we usually we only fund events.

David Heisse: I like the stipulation that they break down cost per event, so that we know what they’re using our funding for.

Amanda Muhammad (Textile & Apparel Management): It would be nice if maybe they could specify one event.

Matt Kotovsky: I think that would be difficult for them to do that.

Cfrancis: I’m all for funding them, but the problem is if you don’t ask for specifics, then at some point we’re no longer following the intention behind the funding of programs in groups a

Maria (Public Affairs): What is the budget for general funding and travel awards?

Matt Kotovsky: General funding: 20-25K.

KJ: But we’ve never used all of our budget.
Matt Kotovsky: Student Fees Review Committee (SFRC) is starting to seize carry over from student orgs. Last year we had 25% carry over. We are shifting money into places like travel awards to make sure that we use all of our money.

KJ: Last year we didn’t allocate the full 30K for travel because we didn’t enough requests for it.

Motion (Shaun Dierker, MBA: I move to approve the $400 given the fact that the finance committee approves)/ Second (Stephanie Kartalopoulos, GSA rep): Approved

5. At-Large and State Issues Coordinator Election – Kristofferson Culmer (10 minutes)
State Issues Coordinator
We need to fill Craig Stevenson’s position because he got a job. The full duties (per the GPC by-laws) are as follows:
1. Attend all Associated Students of the University of Missouri (ASUM) meetings and functions and serve as the voting voice of the University of Missouri Graduate Professional Council.
2. Stay informed of national, regional, state, and local issues and events affecting graduate and professional students.
3. Report to the General Assembly regarding local and statewide issues affecting graduate and professional students.
4. Work with the National Issues Coordinator on local, regional, national, and international issues (e.g., reporting hot policy updates on website; organizing letter writing campaigns).

KJ McNamara (National Issues Coordinator): I would like to nominate Brittany Perrin.
Jacob Holt (Publicity and Programming): I would like to nominate Kayla Crider.

Nominations are closed. Two minute presentations by each nominee to explain why he/she thinks

Brittany: Good evening, my name is Brittany Perrin. Thank you for the nomination. This is my first year as a graduate student. I’m in the School of Public Affairs. My undergraduate degree is from the University of Missouri. This job is right up my ally this state issues coordinator position. Besides those things, I was a student leader here on campus. It gave me relationship building skills. I work for the office of leadership and development. I enjoy advocating for students. Civrally engaged as graduate and professional students. About the issues in our state. A proactive approach to lobbying and standing up for the things we believe in as graduate and professional students.

Kayla: Hi, my name is Kayla Crider. I am a second year graduate student in Political Science. Right now my research studies...In 2006, I took time off from school and interned...

Luke: Hi, my name is Luke Russell. I am a graduate student in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies. Volunteering and doing policy analysis for an NGO for the past three years and presenting the information to high school students. This is relevant because I’m used to looking at policy and explaining it to people who are not policy buffs. I am also used to the parliamentary procedure and dealing with executive boards. This administration interests me. The national issues coordinator told me that health care is really important, and I completely understand the costs of these. I tend to do things because I’m passionate about them.

Discussion of Nominees:
Maria (Public Affairs): I don’t know Brittany, but she seems more engaged and prepared than the other two.
Amanda (Textile and Apparel): I like that Luke kept it professional and also personal, which I found the most convincing, and he also has experience.

**Voting:**

**Kristofferson:** Because we have to vote now, we couldn’t print up ballots, so we’re passing out pieces of paper. Please vote and give to members of ad hoc Ballot Committee:

- Caitlin Kelly
- Raymond Summerville
- Brandie Morgan
- Andrew Vista

Our new state issues coordinator is Luke Russell.

**At-Large Members**

One at large rep per 500 grad and professional students. We have 14 or 15 spaces for at large members.

**Point of info:** Do they need to be nominated or do they nominate themselves?

**Kris:** Either one.

**Cfrancis:** Responsibilities?

**Kris:** The responsibilities are the same as for department/program reps

**Mohammad Sherafati:** I just want to further my organizational experience beyond my department. I have served as Physics and Astronomy President for my department.

**David:** Point of order. Don’t we have to nominate?

**Ericka Evans:** I’m a third year PHD student in the English department. I have been involved in other similar organizations, such as EGSA and ABGPS.

Matt Mower: motion to close the nominations for at large menus.

Second from some guy.

**VII. Officer Reports**

**KJ (National Issues Coordinator):** I will make this really quick. On the website there is something called “KJs Corner.” In that area I will be posting information to links and other sources and issues going in the national issues arena. NAGPS offers a health care plan that you can purchase that might be better for some of you who have different structures.

**Jacob Holt (Programming and Publicity):** First event was last Friday. Drew a crowd more than double what the same event did last year. Third-highest attended event. October 1st at Déjà vu : $2 with grad/prof student ids

**Matt Kotovsky (Treasurer):** I have three spots in the Students Fee Review Committee that counts as an external committee. $10/student fee goes here, and we allocate it. Sign up for my finance committee.

**Graham McCaulley (Human Development and Family Studies):** One of my responsibilities is committee sign up. The wording in the bylaws is that representatives are urged to be on one external and one internal.

**Luke Russell (Human Development and Family Studies) is our new state issues coordinator.**

**ABGPS:** We’re going to be fantastic this year. Even better than last year.

**GSA:** We had our first meeting a week ago. We’re meeting the last Tuesday of every month.

**GSP:**

**Council on Family:**

**Medical School:** Shelby Dickson, organizing the student body of the medical school.
**Student Bar:**
**Vet Med:** nothing to report

**Mizfits:**

**Graham:** Close liaison reports

**VIII. Announcements**

**IX. Adjournment**
Motion to adjourn (Shaun Dierker, MBA)/ Second (Luke Russell, State Issues Coordinator):
Meeting Adjourned