



**General Assembly Meeting
Tuesday, Sep 6, 2016**

Agenda

- I. Call Meeting to Order
 - a. 6:04 P.M.
- II. Adoption of the Minutes (May 2016)
 - a. Motion to adopt: Treasurer
 - b. Second: Comm. Director
 - c. Adopted unanimously
- III. Adoption of the Agenda
 - a. Motion to add at-large as first item of order—Treasurer
 - i. Accepted unanimously to reflect addition
 - ii. First: Comm. Dir.
 - iii. Second: Treasurer
- IV. Officer Reports
 - a. Presidential introduction—President Rachel Bauer
 - i. Platform goals for the year—Graduate student affairs, including graduate student wellness and well-being
 - ii. Updating of GPC By-laws
 - iii. Improving Mizzou parking situation for graduate students
 - iv. Vice-Presidential introduction—Jacqueline Gamboa
 1. Committee sign-ups will be done electronically in the near future. Future instructions will be sent out via email.
 2. Vice-president will run GA meetings, and address internal GPC concerns
 3. Secretary—Glenn Baker
 - a. Point of contact for meetings and attendance
 - b. Chairs the Student Affairs committee—which will address graduate student wellness and well-being
 4. Treasurer—Alex Howe
 - a. Disbursement of travel awards, group funding, financial aid concerns within the University
 - b. Chairs finance committee

- c. Director of Programming—Yue Hao
- d. The first formal GPC event will be this Thursday, September 8th—The fall welcome
- e. If you have any questions regarding
- f. Director of Communications—Josh Bolton
- g. Update—things will be running a bit differently this year. First, GPC now has a YouTube channel! Second, GPC is trying to boost outreach on social media—please spread the word! Like, share, and comment on GPC posts. Our goal is to increase GPC outreach—social media is a great outlet to achieve this
- h. Director of National Affairs—Mr. Kevin Kaifer
- i. First year as director of National Affairs
- j. As a brief overview of our recent achievements and goals—the National Affairs committee has sent out a letter in support of an international student visa rights. A letter that has achieved recognition and support from business leaders and congressmen. If you are interested in getting involved in supporting our outreach on the national stage—please contact me!
- k. Director of State Affairs—Mike Hendricks
- l. My committee deals with state affairs. Lately, we have been running state roundtable meets, where graduate students have the opportunity to meet those running for state legislature seats.
- m. GPC is also working in accord with the Pi Sigma Alpha Society for an open forum meet with state legislatures
- n. We also support the National Voter Registration Event—this is an all day event in order to get more undergraduate and graduate students to sign-up and vote. The state affairs committee has also worked on and developed the TurboVote app—TurboVote is an easy way for all students to register to vote. If you register, you get election reminders, absentee ballots in the mail, election reminder, etc. This is a great app even if you are already registered to vote. TurboVote



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will also be used to up voter registration this year with a collaborative effort between GPC and two on campus fraternities. The competition will be to see which group can get more people registered to vote.

- o. Finally, state affairs has worked, and will continue to work on, other relevant state affairs issue. This is especially relevant this year, an election year. Please join if interested!

V. Committee Reports

- a. Treasurer: the status of CGW is ongoing, and there is an ongoing lawsuit with the University to determine the future of this group. Because of this, further information regarding CGW news will come in as the semester progresses.
 - i. Journalism: Does the University only want to meet and deal with one organization?

VI. Liaison Reports

VII. Special Orders

- a. At-large elections
 - i. Nominated:
 - ii. Conner Lewis (History)
 - iii. Christine Luckason (Comm.)
 - iv. Eric Scott (English)
 - v. Blake Willowghby (theatre)
 - vi. Joe Smiley (Journalism)
 - vii. Rachel Navarro(LTC)
 - viii. Dawn VanScoik (architectural studies)
 - 1. First: herself
 - 2. Second: Biological sciences
 - ix. Matt McCune (Physics)
 - 1. First: (could not catch)
 - 2. Second: (could not catch)
 - x. Treasurer: Motion to accept all nominations by voice vote
 - 1. Unanimously accepted

- xi. All at-large reps. Unanimously voted in, simultaneously by voice
- b. Presentation by Jayme Cisco— The Grad Academy
 - i. Cisco consulting. Run by Jayme Cisco (MU alum)
 - ii. First, “very scary statistic”—50% attrition rate for Ph.D. graduation (note: this is the national graduate rate)
 - iii. Why is this graduation rate so high? What makes graduate school so difficult?
 - iv. Graduate school issues: lack of transparency, mental health issues, departmental dysfunction, financial issues, family time, faculty issues, work load
 - v. Many issues brought up—learning difficulties, feelings of belonging, workload management issues
 - vi. This program goes after addressing these graduate student issues—to increase graduate student efficiency, productivity, and reduce feelings of imposter syndrome
 - vii. Saturday October 8th-1 to 4 p.m. Accepting 30 students in the social and life sciences. College of education is sponsoring an additional 15 seats. If interested, contact your director or graduate studies to find more information on joining
 - viii. TAM question: Why do interested grads need to sign up this way?
 - ix. Cisco: the reason it is set up as it is, is to prevent people from signing up and not coming—hence the limited seating. Everything will be paid for, and tailored to graduate student needs
 - x. Grad academy.com—ciso.org for questions and comments
- c. Presentation by Dr. Peter Motavalli—Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (CIRTL) Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC)
 - i. Motavalli: I am an MU professor in the department of Natural Resources
 - ii. These resources offer many varied opportunities for graduate students—such as a writing academy. All of this is free.
 - iii. What is the major goal of CIRTL? To develop teaching, learning, and research practices of future faculty, especially in the STEM fields.
 - iv. The CIRTL network is made up of 36 major colleges and Universities across the US and Canada. Mizzou has recently



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re-joined. The main goal is to improve teaching across the US and Canada. Start with the graduate students—they are the future faculty. They will have the largest impact on teaching future undergraduates

- v. The fall 2016 courses: teaching with technology, teaching the STEM undergraduate, etc.
- vi. October workshop on teaching and reducing stereotype bias—for graduate students
- vii. The CIRTL program can give you teaching certification. The certifications range from associate level, to practitioner level, to scholar level
 - 1. At-large: Are these events only available to graduate students?
 - 2. Answer: Many do have restrictions to particular groups—but many do not. For example, post-docs are able to participate as well

VIII. Old Business

- a. None

IX. New Business

- a. General Funding Request
 - i. Association of Black Graduate and Professional Students
 - ii. Treasurer: quick update—the way that our funding has typically worked, is that organizations apply PRIOR to the event. The issue with this is September: this basically rules out organizations from funding back-to-school events. To address this, I am proposing that the GA lift the restriction that groups apply prior to the event. This will lift the burden for all such reasonable requests. This change would be for just the month of September. Are there any concerns?
 - 1. At-large: May at-large representatives vote now?
 - 2. Answer: yes
 - 3. Motion to call the question: in favor of amending the rules as Alex requested
 - 4. 1 nay, the rest yays. The motion is adopted to lift the restriction in September

- iii. ABGPS has a welcome back event in the recent past. This year was special, as it was the 30th anniversary. One of the ABGPS founders also attended, to support the event
 - 1. At-large (history): move to approve the amount in full
 - 2. Second: Comm.
- iv. Point of information: The speaker needs to be removed before we discuss and vote
- v. Treasurer: For group funding events, groups are either eligible for \$250 (group specific event) or \$600 (all graduate students invited). Admittedly, the line between these is not completely clear. This can be a bit hard to tell, in some cases. Historically, the group-funding amount is \$3000. This may have been reduced to \$2500 this year, due to budget restrictions. Brief recap of reasons to support ABGPS.
- vi. At-Large: To what extent is turn out and marketing relevant?
- vii. Treasurer: GPC gets branding rights, and logos on materials for events. Simply put, supporting rad groups gets the word out about GPC.
 - 1. At-Large (Eric): Move to call the question—support of full amount
 - 2. Second: At-large (History)
 - 3. Vote: All ayes—unanimously adopted and awarded in full to ABGPS (\$120)

b. Consideration of Resolutions

- i. Resolution No. 1617-01: A Resolution to Recognize Ms. Hallie Thompson for her Service to GPC on the Occasion of Her Birthday—Mr. Howe and Mr. Culmer
 - 1. To sum it up, Hallie is awesome and has done a commendable amount of service for GPC. To honor her, we wish to give her formal recognition.
 - a. President: Motion to vote with amendment to clarity
 - b. Vote: all ayes—resolution passed
- ii. Resolution No. 1617-02: A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Create a State Affairs Committee and Clarify Executive Officer Responsibilities—Mr. Hendricks
 - 1. Vote to forgo the reading—unanimously adopted
 - 2. State Affairs Director: My position is the only one that, until recently, has not had a dedicated internal



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committee. This resolution will create this committee, which will be important in focusing on state issues. And this year, that need is apparent. Additionally, making state affairs merely a wing of the National Affairs committee hampers the efforts of both National and State affairs.

3. At-Large (history): Move to adopt the resolution as written
 4. Seconded: Treasurer
 5. Vote to move to a vote: Mostly ayes, 3 nays
 6. Vote to adopt the resolution as written: mostly ayes, 2 nays. The resolution is adopted as written—the State Affairs committee will be adopted
- iii. Resolution No. 1617-03: A Resolution Requesting Up-to-date Communication Regarding the Effects on Graduate-Professional Students of the Dec. 1 FLSA-related Final Rule—Mr. Howe
1. Treasurer: The reason we wish to adopt this is to request a formal mandate from HR—and to know that we did make this an official request. We also wish to formalize more of our communications with the administration, instead of making it a series of informal meetings. The resolution, in some respects, essentially says: “please let me send an email”
 2. President: Call the question
 3. Seconded: At-large (history)
 4. Vote: all ayes, no nays to move to vote
 5. Formal vote on resolution: all ayes, no nays, 1 abstention. The resolution passes by majority
- iv. Resolution No. 1617-04: A Resolution Requesting the University Revisit Certain Policies Surrounding the Assessment and Collection of Tuition and Fees—Mr. Howe
1. Motion to forgo the reading—unanimously voted on
 2. Treasurer: one issue is that the tuition and fees are due very early in the semester. The university then sends a bill to you, with a late fee. This often all happens before

tuition wavers are handled, as well as stipends. This leads to a number of false invoices, and delays reimbursements.

3. Another large issue is that funds processed through the financial aid system, including fellowships or other stipends, anything processed through that system is automatically put against any outstanding balance that you have. In other words, your stipend will be automatically credited against what is, possibly, a false-invoice
 4. This resolution gives me a mandate to address this problem
 5. At-large (history): call the question
 6. Second: Comm. Direction
 7. Vote: mostly yays, 1 (accidental) nay, 1 abstention
 8. Vote on the resolution, mostly ayes, 2 abstentions. Resolution adopted without changes.
- v. Resolution No. 1617-05: A Resolution Urging Administration to Work with Students to Fix the Broken Mechanism By Which Supplemental Fees are Altered Via a Specified Mechanism—Mr. Howe
1. Vote to forgo the reading—unanimously adopted
 2. Treasurer: Currently no mechanism for supplemental fees. The University has been forbidden by the state legislature from increasing revenue by raising tuition—and supplemental fees (a sort of release valve), are currently not effective. I (Alex Howe)
 3. At-large (history) Move to call the question
 4. Second: Sociology
 5. Vote to move to a vote: mostly ayes, 1 nay—move to a vote
 6. Vote on resolution: All ayes, resolution passes unanimously without changes
- vi. Resolution No. 1617-06: A Resolution Requesting a Detailed Plan on Implementing the AY 17-18 Increase of Minimum Stipend Levels—Mr. Howe
1. Motion to forgo reading—unanimously adopted
 2. Treasurer: It is important to do so much of this by resolution, rather than just housing so many of our



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functions in the executive board. This increases our transparency, and gives our GA body a chance to voice questions and concerns. This is why there are so many resolutions from me at this meeting

3. Some concern that the alleged stipend raise to \$18,000 for all graduate students. However, it is not clear, with certainty, whether this will happen and if so, how
4. This resolution says: 1) assurance that this money will actually come 2) that there is a chance that the campus community is not harmed by the raise of graduate stipends
5. CSE: Does this apply to .5 and .25 students equally?
6. Treasurer: Yes—all employments are to see a raise, on a scale of appointment
7. Classical Studies: How was the funding discussed by administration?
8. Treasurer: The transparency of this discuss was in doubt—it is not entirely clear and no public detail on this issue this year
9. At-Large: Will someone from GPC be working with administration on this issue this year?
10. Treasurer: Just one angry bald guy [yes] (self-reference)
11. Someone: How will these influence representations with CGW? With the University?
12. Treasurer: The concern is, because CGW relations await the outcome of the lawsuit—does the language in this resolution circumvent work that should be tasked to that committee. I am not sure how to answer this. In short, this resolution will not harm or preclude further group relationships. This does not decide the relationship between GPC and CGW.
13. At-Large (Computer science): This is to foster good will between GPC and CGW—this is to go along with the will of the students, to make sure that this conversation with the administration is also forwarded to CGW
14. VP: We are out of time

15. Financial Planning: call the question
 16. Vote: all ayes, 1 nay—move to a vote
 17. Vote on resolution as written: all ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstention. The resolution passes as written
- vii. Resolution No. 1617-07: A Resolution Requesting Clarity on Surveillance of Graduate Student Social Media Content—Mr. Howe
1. Motion to fro the reading—unanimously adopted
 2. There was a concern last year regarding removing graduate students comments online—that these sensitive materials could become broadly, generally accessible. This resolution will address developing a plan for increase privacy and rights on social media. Of course, social media is complicated territory. We call on the administration to adopt new polices to address these concerns.
 3. At-large (theatre): Who are we to say what does or does not get taken from a public domain platform?
 4. Treasurer: The concern is that the users—our constituents—will be harmed by lax policies
 5. At-large (computer science): The university should know better than to taken information from its students in a private setting and place it in a public forum. There is a not inconsiderable amount of private information that is not—and forever—public.
 6. Comm. Dir.—By posting what a student discusses about a class online, there are serious FERPA concerns as well
 7. Treasurer: Some graduate students had names redacted, but not all
 8. Journalism: (could not hear)
 9. Treasurer: These resolve clauses deal more with how the university deals with its students, employees, and social media
 10. At-large (history): The administration was aware that we had some concerns regarding this issue. Further, many employees of the University could also—potentially—be monitored by the University without clearer policies



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11. Financial Planning: It's worth pointing out that—if you put something out on Facebook—it's out there. Personal responsibility
 12. Medicine: The question that one would not want to be sunshine on social media—the question I have is what does this resolution actually ask. What, specifically, do you (Alex Howe) want?
 13. Treasurer: I am not an expert on the nuances here. I lack this expertise to make specific policy suggestions. We are pushing for them to address the issue in general
 14. Journalism: I worked with the news bureau at Florida—if we present this matter they will see us a giving out information about students. If the administration has someone inside a closed group, they have the right to publish this information—it is no longer private.
 15. Treasurer: Good point
 16. At-large (history): call the question
 17. Second; Personal Financial Planning
 18. 2 abstentions, mostly ayes—move to vote on the resolution as written
 19. Vote: 31 ayes, 11 nays, 10 abstentions—the ayes have it, and the resolution passes as written
- viii. Resolution No. 1617-08: A Resolution Upholding the Unimpeded Right of Graduate Workers to Organize and Collectively Bargain—Mr. Howe
1. Point of inquiry: Journalism. Does plurality pass the vote? Is it a simple majority? Treasurer: If the ayes are greater than the nays and abstentions, then yes it is a simple majority. Good question.
 2. Motion to forgo the reading—unanimously adopted
 3. Treasurer: CGW is currently embroiled in a lawsuit with the University. This resolution does two things: 1) calls on the University of Missouri system to stop spending our money to say that we are not employees and 2) to voluntarily collaborate with CGW, and work towards common ground

4. ELPA: I understanding that the majority voted for it, but what percentage of the body voted over all
5. At-large: 33% of the graduate student body voted
6. Treasurer: of the 2600 graduate students, 1301 had to vote to allow a vote to be held. However, after this vote, there is no voting requirement to meet a quorum. What the at-large rep. said is that 33% of the 2600 graduate students voted. Of this 33%, 76% voted in favor
7. At-large (Eric): Recently the national relations labor board reversed it's previous decision—affirming that graduate students at private universities ARE employees. While this does not directly impact us, this sets s clear precedent
8. Journalism: How many student unions exist?
9. Treasurer: I can provide that information—estimates are around 41 across private and public universities nation-wise. There are also about two dozen [union] drives similar to ours.
10. President: In our region, the University of Iowa has a student union. So in our peer group, there is such an organization already.
11. Political Science: Point of information—COGS, the union at Iowa, has existed for over 20 years
12. At-leage (history): to give more information, all unison save one are pubic universities. Out of the top 50 universities, California system, U mass-Amherst, U of Michigan, etc. have members
13. Journalism: How much money has the University spent on this lawsuit?
14. Treasurer: we don't have this knowledge, only their hourly rate.
15. Affairs:
16. At-large (history): honestly, what is best for university employees is a quick solution to this problem. Whether or not there is an affirmative legal argument, it will set a precedent elsewhere
17. Geological Sciences: Is union membership mandatory (quick responses of no from across the room)
18. VP: time for one more question



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19. Journalism: what is the purpose of this amendment? It's not to say that we support the union, it's that we wish the UM system would drop the lawsuit and recognize the union right?
 20. Treasurer: Precisely. We wish the admin. To not get in the way of this movement
 21. All ayes—to move to a vote
 22. Vote: all ayes, 0 nays, 7 abstentions—this resolution passes as written
- ix. Resolution No. 1617-09: A Resolution to Amend the Constitution to Revise Non Discrimination Clause—Mr. Howe
1. President: move to table this resolution until the October session
 2. Second: At-large
 3. Vote: all ayes, 0 nays and abstentions—This resolution has been tabled until October meeting
- c. Announcements & Upcoming Events
- i. GPC Fall Welcome Party—Sep 8th at 5:00pm to 8:00pm, iTap
 - ii. Dr. Bennet Omalu - Sep 14th 7:30 pm, Jesse Auditorium
 - iii. GSA Game Night - September 16th 5:00 to 7:00pm, Heidelberg
 - iv. CV Docs - October 26th 10:00am-2:00pm, Memorial Union
 - v. Photo ID Phone Bank Initiative-Mr. Hendricks
 1. I don't know how familiar you are with the photo ID initiative, but it will be on the ballot this fall. It would rewrite the constitution to make people provide a drivers license when voting. Would disenfranchise a large percentage of low income—and moving—people. In addition, students would be hampered if they were out of state. This will be amendment 6 on the ballot—there are a lot of efforts to shut this proposed amendment down. We would like students to participate in phone banks to help us contact voters and educate people on this issue. There are training sessions and dinner provided for those interested in helping out with the phone banks.

2. Additionally, jobs for justice will be doing volunteer canvassing for this issue as well.

X. Open Forum

XI. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn: Dir. of Comm.
- b. Second: Treasurer
- c. 8:05 P.M