



**General Assembly Meeting
Tuesday, May 2, 2017**

Minutes

- I. Call Meeting to Order
 - a. 6:07 pm.
- II. Adoption of the Minutes
 - a. First: President
 - b. Second: Sociology
- III. Adoption of the Agenda
 - a. Treasurer: Addition—guest speaker regarding divestment from fossil fuels
 - i. First: At-large
 - ii. Second: Treasurer
 - iii. Vote to adopt change: All ayes (0 nays, 0 abstentions)
 - iv. Vote to approve agenda as amended
 - v. First: sociology
 - vi. Second: romance language
 - vii. Vote: all ayes
- IV. Officer Reports
- V. President: GPC participated in the accessibility walk to see what aspects on our campus need improvement in terms of access to all students
 - a. Summer parking passes are available now. However, pay attention because it currently says that that the parking pass only works on the top floor for the students. This might only be for the fall? However, this is not yet clear. GPC will meet and follow up with the parking department on campus.
 - b. On MSA: There was an attempt to produce legislation in favor of guns on campus (concealed campus). It failed to get out of committee
 - c. RHA-the resident hall association currently has a campaign going on trying to name one building after Lucille Bluford. They did a call campaign to the board of curators on this issue. If you would like more information, please let me know or you can contact them directly to support this name change.
 - d. Josh [Bolton] and I are looking forward to working with departments and administrators on campus. This will begin in earnest in June. The office of grad student, for instance, will be under new leadership. This

trend runs throughout the university right now. We are especially looking forward to working with Dr. Stokes who is the new interim chancellor

- VI. VP: last week was the Gold Chalk awards. We had an excellent time and showing! We had a chance to honor some really great faculty members. Look forward to nominating more stellar faculty members for this next year.
 - a. Please email me and let me know about your internal and external committee assignments this year. We would like to know how they went, how much you enjoyed it, etc.
- VII. Treasurer: In my endeavor to be even more brief, I am Alec Willsey and I'm looking forward to working with you all in the future!
 - a. For travel awards this cycle, we awarded [get numbers from Alex]. We will also be moving forward to a new system on applications
- VIII. Dir. of Programming: This Friday is the GA appreciation event! It will be in Cosmo Park in the large shelter. I'm looking forward to working with you all this year!
- IX. Dir. of Comm.: I have no news, other than I'm excited to work with the new board. Thanks for the opportunity~
- X. Dir. of National Affairs: Recently, we had a call congress day (last minute) Despite it all, we had 42 participants! Which was really pretty good all things considered.
 - a. Anybody who would like to be more active in NAGPS, please let me know. We are trying to be a more active organization moving forward.
- XI. Dir. of State Affairs: I don't have anything. Thank you to the old board! Looking forward to working with the new board
- XII. Committee Reports
- XIII. Liaison Reports
- XIV. Special Orders
 - a. At-Large Representative Elections
 - i. VP: Any nominations for at large reps.?
 - ii. VP: Seeing none, we will move forward to our special presentation today
- XV. Guest Speaker—
 - a. Maddie: Thank you for attending tonight! I am Maddie
 - b. Sean: and I am Sean
 - c. Maddie: and we are here to push for a 5 year divestment plan of ALL fossil fuels from the University of Missouri



**General Assembly Meeting
Tuesday, May 2, 2017**

- d. Sean: Our goal was to get the University of Missouri to move forward to moving forward with a comprehensive carbon neutral plan by 2050 across campus. We have pushed them to install biomass burners to reduce CO2 emission across campus, with success. We have also looked to collaborate with other groups on campus towards this goal.
- e. Sean: After seeing a lot of movement on our goals in the last few years, our next goal is fossil fuel divestment. In fiscal year 2017 the UM system has approximately 10 million investment in fossil fuel companies.
- f. Maddie: The highlighted orgs. On this list are the companies we aren't currently invested in. Some of these organizations are linked with human rights violations.
- g. Sean: We think that this is a great goal for the University because fossil fuels draw attention towards climate change, and says that the University is not willing to contribute to pollution that will only exacerbate climate change. As this movement grows it will incentivize companies towards reducing overall carbon emission. It also shows solidarity with the MU campus to people around the world, upholding the University's moral principles, and having a concern for student welfare.
- h. Sean: Why now is a great time for these resolutions to pass is that—according to climate scientists—2 degrees Celsius is the maximum raise in average temp. that can occur without runaway greenhouse effect. If we do not start to take action on this now, we will reach a situation where we can burn the planet 5 times over.
- i. Maddie: What is significant to the 2 degrees Celsius that we have a current agreement with the Paris climate accords to only burn so many gigatons of CO2 moving forward. By divesting, we are contributing towards a carbon neutral campus. One concern that we hear a lot—will divestment hurt our endowment? We have done extensive research, and a carbon free portfolio will perform just as well on average as a portfolio that includes fossil fuels.
- j. Maddie: Is divestment effective? Yes. In 1987, the UM system divested 87 million from apartheid South Africa. Towards the divestment of fossil fuels, over 700 organizations have fully divested for a total of 4.5 trillion.

- k. Maddie: Where are we now? We are meeting with President Choi tomorrow, actually. We are pushing for a 5-year total divestment and a student board collaboration.
- l. Sean: We thank you very much for your time. Our organization has meeting every Wednesday at 7:30, and we wanted to give you more information on our org. and our goals. We hope you will continue to support us in the future. Are there any questions?
- m. VP: We have time for two questions [no response]
- n. Maddie: We have our formal papers and contacts on our website. We also have a petition here today, with over 1m000 signatures. Thank you!
- o. VP: We will be passing that petition around for the next few minutes.

XVI. Old Business

- a. Happiness and Well Being Survey – Mr. Baker
- b. Task Force on Parenting and Pregnancy Policy Update – Ms. Bauer
 - i. Ex-officio Rachel Bauer: The task force convened recently, and we will be continuing under interim chancellor Stokes. This has so much support at the administrative level, there is little chance that this won't continue over the summer and into the fall as well.
 - ii. We have sent a survey to all of you, and we will be also sending that to the DGSs on campus soon. This data will be what we take to administration as we move forward with this. If you have any questions, or would like to share any personal stories related to this, please don't hesitate to reach out to me via email. As of today we have the new MSA VP on our task force.

XVII. New Business

- a. Resolution 1617-21: A Resolution in Commendation of Dr. Leona Rubin, Associate Vice Chancellor for Graduate Studies – Ms. Bauer et al
 - i. Rachel Bauer: This resolution is about Dr. Leone Rubin. Dr. Jeni Hart will be the new Vice-Chancellor. Before Dr. Rubin goes, we wanted to thank her for what she has done for
 - ii. PFP: Move to forgo the reading
 - iii. Second: at-large
 - iv. Vote to forgo: mostly ayes 1 nay, 0 abstentions
 - v. Rachel Bauer: This acknowledges her service to students, her candor, and her leadership during difficult times over the past two years



**General Assembly Meeting
Tuesday, May 2, 2017**

- vi. Rachel Bauer: She has helped us with data collection, graduate banquet awards, and she was abducted into the Rollins society as an honorary member last year.
- vii. VP: We are now open for discussion. Any questions? [no response]
- viii. PFP: call the question
- ix. Second: Treasurer
- x. VP: We will now move forward to vote on this amendment. All in favor?
 - 1. Vote: all ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstentions
- b. Resolution 1617-22: A Resolution to Adopt Changes to the MSA/GPC Articles of Cooperation – Ms. Bauer
- c. VP: Ms. Bauer again
- d. Ex-President Rachel Bauer: This is to address the languages on the articles of Cooperation.
- e. VP: motion to forgo to reading
- f. First: PFP
- g. Second: art
- h. Vote: all ayes
- i. Bauer: The Articles are formalized every two years in this body. If we ratify this tonight, it will be brought up in the MSA body tomorrow. The only thing that has really changed is that we have strengthened the violations and closure clauses for this arrangement. This year, we had a good relationship with MSA. We are hoping that this continues next year are well, with fresh Articles of Cooperation. This also protects us against any referendums that are added in the future. There are also formatting changes, which seems to have been my job this year.
- j. VP: any discussion or questions?
- k. President: There is an amount that we get back eat year-\$5,000 that has been set for many years now. We made an agreement to get back 6% (bout an additional \$1,100) each year. However, MSA recently told us that MSA no longer had the money to cover that this year. Because we determined it was not worth the fight to take this back to the drawing board to address this issue (we got other protections added).

- l. Bauer: To clarify, MSA is trying to address an enormous shortfall in their budget—so this isn't malicious
- m. VP: motion to call the question?
- n. PFP: first
- o. Second: sociology
 - i. Vote to forgo discussion: all ayes
- p. VP: we will now vote on this:
 - i. Vote: all ayes
- q. Resolution 1617-23: A Resolution Regarding the Potential Layoffs of Ranked Non-Tenure Track Faculty – Mr. Scott et al
- r. VP: Mr. Scott et al. Motion to forgo the reading?
- s. First: ECE
- t. Second: Nation Affairs
- u. **Vote to forgo reading: mostly ayes, 3 nays, 0 abstentions**
- v. **VP: ayes have it, reading will be forgone. Mr. Scott?**
- w. **At-large (Scott): Earlier in April, president Choi and outgoing chancellor Foley discussed the upcoming budget cuts and the timeline for that. We will hear provisionally what those look like on the 10th of May (finals weeks, when no one is paying attention, it seems). In the guidelines, one of the things that was mentioned is a layoff of staff and faculty. It was specifically mentioned that NNT faculty would be an easy place to cut. Faculty council suspended their rules to immediately and unanimously protect NNT faculty. There is little money for protections and severance pay for NNT faculty right now, and those are at risk for being cut as well. The budget situation is pretty dire, and people will be laid off. However, faculty council made a recommendation for a 3 month notice to NNT faculty who will not be given a renewed contract.**
- x. **Scott: This resolution is to stand up for those vulnerable individuals who may be laid off**
- y. **Theatre: Is there documentation that to prove details about NNT faculty?**
- z. **Scott: This was language that NTT and TT faculty agreed on.**
- aa. **President: are NTT faculty members have job protection?**
- bb. **Scott: Yes, but not tenure**
- cc. **Political Science: I am a co-sponsor, and I would like to point out that some of us may be in a NTT faculty position in the future. If not now, then potentially later.**



General Assembly Meeting
Tuesday, May 2, 2017

- dd. Theater: clarification—I don't disagree, just wanted to make sure that everyone understands that what we are saying (the language) is GPC language.
- ee. President: It would have been helpful if we had gotten data on TAs a long time ago
- ff. Theatre: call the question
- gg. Second: English
- hh. VP: all in favor of moving to a vote?
- ii. Vote: all ayes
- jj. VP: we will now vote on this resolution
- kk. Vote:: all ayes (0 nays, 0 abstentions)
- ll. VP: this resolution passes
- mm. Announcements & Upcoming Events
 - i. GPC General Assembly Appreciation Party, May 5 6-9 PM, Cosmo Park, Lamb Shelter
 - ii. VP: As mentioned earlier, our appreciation event is THIS Friday in Cosmo park. We'll have food and fun! Bring a +1 (or 2) Friends and family welcome.
- XVIII. Open Forum
- XIX. Art: My thesis exhibition is up right now! It is downstairs in the Student Center. You are all welcome to come to the reception tomorrow at 4:30 p.m.
- XX. VP: Come get some of Billy's grandmas' chicken salad! Stay for the art!
- XXI. Adjournment
- XXII. Motion to adjourn: Sociology
- XXIII. Second: AEL
- XXIV. Vote: mostly ayes (0 nays, 1 abstention)
- XXV. Adjourned 6:56 p.m.