



**General Assembly Meeting  
Tuesday, November 3, 2015**

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**Meeting Minutes**

- I. Call Meeting to Order
  - a. Meeting called to order at 6.01 pm.
- II. Adoption of the Minutes
  - a. Motion to adopt as they are:
  - b. Katie Steen (Director of National Affairs) motions to adopt
  - c. Nicholas Karabetsos (Arts) seconds
- III. Adoption of the Agenda
  - a. Motion to adopt as they are:
  - b. Connor Lewis (History) motions to adopt.
  - c. Carrie Winship (Theatre) seconds
- IV. Officer Reports
  - a. Ms. Thompson
    - i. MUSOP Committee
      1. It has been renamed as Mizzou 2020
      2. Focusing on Strategic Plan (5 Year plan)
        - a. Need inputs from the GA about how specific things like stipend, faculty impact graduate students.
    - ii. GPC will be joining NAGPS as Legacy Member
      1. Becoming permanent member of NAGPS
    - iii. We have a referendum coming up Nov 9<sup>th</sup> – Nov 11<sup>th</sup>
      1. Procedure to vote
      2. Testing
  - b. Ms. Bauer
    - i. Committees
      1. GPC has all of its seats full on the committees including the new additional committees.
    - ii. Insurance Task Force update
      1. The official recommendation is in progress

2. The task force is currently working on the final report which will be sent to the Chancellor.
  - a. Sheena Rice (TSPA) – In every recommendation graduate students get their insurance.

c. Mr. Howe

- i. Travel applications – 1<sup>st</sup> round
  1. 65 eligible – \$40K reported unmet
    - a. 46 applications received some funding – \$16,000 funded
  2. ORG
    - a. Finance committee is planning to set up meetings with ORG.
    - b. Will discuss issues graduate students face in receiving funds from ORG.
  3. Supplemental Fee
    - a. Meeting with the Chancellor Loftin and VC of Finance Dr. Rhonda Gibler to discuss about a past meeting on supplemental fee.
    - b. There is currently no mechanism in place to get student input on the fee.

d. Mr. Jagini

- i. Sign in sheet
- ii. ListServ Issues
  1. The list will be updated based on the attendance sheet
  2. Let us know if you don't receive Ms. Thompson's survey mail tomorrow so that we can update the list.
- iii. Student Affairs Committee
  1. Working on Graduate Student Bill of Rights
  2. Let me know if anyone is interested in joining the committee

e. Ms. Hao

- i. Ms. Bauer filling in for Ms. Hao in her absence



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ii. RCAF

1. It is the annual inter disciplinary conference hosted by GPC every year.
2. This academic year, it will be held on March 12<sup>th</sup>, Saturday.
3. Conference to present your research within 15-20 minutes.
4. Ares broken into 9 categories
5. First, Second, Thirds places in each category.
6. Let us know if you are interested.

f. Mr. McCune

i. Emails for group events

1. Since GPC sends out a lot of emails to its GA, we cannot advertise every group event through email unless we have awarded a group funding for the event or if we have passed a resolution regarding the event.
2. However, we will be able to advertise through social media.

ii. Graduate Student Task Force

1. Final recommendations have been submitted.
2. Even though the number of graduate students on the task force is doubled, it is still only six students.
3. We plan to release the final report to relevant audience first to get their input before we submit it to the administration.

g. Ms. Steen

i. SPARK – Open Access Coalition update

1. Was able to engage with students and a few staffers of the Presidential Candidates.

ii. NAGPS National Conference update

1. Kristofferson Culmer, Hallie Thompson, Alex Howe and I were able to attend.
2. Kristofferson Culmer was reelected as NAGPS President. Alex Howe was elected as NAGPS Employment Concerns Chair.
  - a. Employment Concerns Chair is not concerned with employing graduate students after graduation.
- iii. National Call Congress Day – Nov 18<sup>th</sup>
  1. In the Traditions Lounge of Student Center
  2. Try and encourage your friends and fellow students to participate.
  3. NAGPS will be partnering with Association of American Medical Colleges on GradsHaveDebt2.
- h. Ms. Satkowski
  - i. Election Day
    1. Hope you voted!
  - ii. TurboVote!
    1. We hope to have a contract by December or January.

## V. Liaison Reports

- a. Resident Life Committee - Alyssa Bish (Communications)
  - i. Replacing University Village for Graduate housing.
  - ii. Child Care update
- b. Minority Affairs Committee - Maria Jones (Biological Sciences)
  - i. Purpose of this committee is to assess needs of minority groups.
  - ii. Please feel free to contact me with suggestions/questions.
  - iii. The committee voted on a Mission statement.
- c. GSA - Carrie Winship (Theatre)
  - i. GSA Networking event November 16<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 1 pm in the International Center.
  - ii. Finance Committee is changing their bylaws for travel awards.
- d. SFRC - Alex Howe (Treasurer)



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- i. The committee met with Memorial Union, Student Center and the Rec Center.
  - ii. We will be meeting with the counselling center and parking and transport center.
  - iii. If you have any questions or comments regarding these organizations' fees, please let me know.
  - iv. BAAC has sent a doodle poll for student input for
    1. Recent history and trends in revenues, expenses and the current financial position.
    2. Revenue i.e., tuition, State appropriations, supplemental fee, growth areas
    3. Mizzou 2020
    4. Expenses i.e., compensation, faculty, facilities, libraries, IT, research, scholarship and waivers.
- VI. Special Orders
- a. At-Large Representative Elections
    - i. James Jones (Physics & Astronomy) nominates self
      1. Mr. McCune (Director of Communication) seconds
      2. Elected
- VII. Old Business
- a. Library Fee Referendum Vote (Nov. 9-11)—Ms. Bauer
    - i. A link will be emailed to every student.
    - ii. GPC will send out instructions regarding the procedure to vote. Please forward the instructions to your departments.
- VIII. New Business
- a. Guest Presentations
    - i. Great Circle Holiday Gift Drive—Susan Reeves & ChaRae Champion
  - b. Consideration of Resolutions
    - i. Resolution 1516-02: A Resolution in Support of the University of Missouri Libraries—Ms. Bauer

1. Connor Lewis (History) motions to forego the reading of resolution
  - a. Carrie Winship (Theatre) seconds.
2. John Kennedy: One of the 'Whereas' clauses criticize the university for not making library a priority, is there a reason we are not asking the university to make it a priority in the 'Resolved' clause.
  - a. Ms. Bauer: I'm open to that change and we can make the change in amendments.
3. Abbot Henderson (Classical Studies) motions to end the discussion
  - a. Carrie Winship (Theatre) seconds
4. Amendments –
  - a. Jordan Hoyt (Public Health): Change the 'Resolved' clause to 'The Graduate professional council is excited to work' with to 'The Graduate professional council is will work with'.
  - b. Matt McCune (Director of Communication): This fee will be managed by SFRC and hence the fee could be increased or decreased with student input. Hence, we need a resolved clause that states the University cannot reduce the funds to library.
  - c. John Kennedy (Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering) – Can we add a resolve clause that states University should examine ways to increase library funding through general operating fund.
  - d. John Kennedy (Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering) motions to end discussion for amendments and move to vote.
    - i. Connor Lewis (History) seconds.
5. Motion to approve the resolution with amendments
  - i. 1 Nay, 0 Abstentions



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**ii. Resolution passed**

- ii. Resolution 1516-03: A Resolution to Resume the University of Missouri's Partnership with Planned Parenthood—Ms. Hoyt
  - 1. Ms. Hoyt: University decided to cancel Planned Parenthood without input from Faculty or Students.
  - 2. Resolution supporting reinstating our departmental contracts with Planned Parenthood.
  - 3. Connor Lewis (History) motions to skip reading of resolution
    - a. Abbot Henderson (Classical Studies) seconds
  - 4. Discussion
    - a. Li Lee (Physics and Astronomy): Does Planned Parenthood educate people besides abortions?
      - i. Ms. Hoyt: Yes, the vast majority of the programs is education, community outreach, STI Testing, Family planning services and a very small percentage of what they do is abortion services. No federal money is used for Planned Parenthood services.
      - ii. Li Lee (Physics and Astronomy): So you would say that Planned Parenthood supports abortions?
        - 1. Ms. Hoyt: Yes, abortion is a legal service.
      - iii. Tipparat Udmuangpi (Nursing) – Planned Parenthood can help reduce unintended pregnancy and can be a model for other developed and developing countries.
    - b. Jordan: The 6<sup>th</sup> whereas clause needs rephrasing.

- c. Dalisha Herring (Personal Financial Planning): I read a report today that only one or two nursing students a year select Planned Parenthood as their clinical placement and there have been no students since 2010 electing for training in abortions. How is this resolution beneficial for students at the university?
  - i. Ms. Hoyt: It is for the one or two students who make the choice because the next think can be cutting our access to other placements.
- d. Stuart Kenderes (Geological Sciences): Are there financial adverse effects due to Planned Parenthood.
  - i. Ms. Hoyt: Clinic would lose their ability to perform abortions. From December 1<sup>st</sup> they will not be able to perform medical abortions which will greatly affect the mid Missouri community. There might be a financial implication to the university.
- e. Alyssa Bish (Communication) motions to end the discussion
  - i. Kevin Kaifer (Molecular Microbiology and Immunology) seconds
- f. Amendments:
  - i. Ms. Hoyt: Replace the 6<sup>th</sup> 'Whereas' clause.
    - 1. Nathan Beckett (Medical School): This verbiage was actually recommended and approved by Medzou Director.
    - 2. Amendment approved by vote
  - ii. Oona Fontanella-Nothom (Learning, Teaching and Curriculum): Changing the word barrier in the second to last 'Whereas' clause
    - 1. Glenn Baker (Psychology): Could we add prohibitive before barrier
    - 2. Amendment did not pass.





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3. Alex – Motion to replace the word barrier with ‘practically prevents’
  - a. Kevin Kaifer (Molecular Microbiology and Immunology) seconds
  - b. Adam Bouras (Health Informatics & Bioinformatics) – We might want to add something about legality here.
  - c. Amendment did not pass.
4. Ms. Hoyt: We can change it to ‘Prohibitive Barrier’
  - a. Alyssa Bish (Classical studies): Prohibitive is redundant.
  - b. Amendment did not pass.
- iii. Kevin Kaifer (Molecular Microbiology and Immunology) motions to close discussion on amendments and move to vote
  1. Alex Howe (Treasurer) seconds
- g. Vote for resolution
  - i. 6 Nays, 10 Abstains
  - ii. Resolution passed
- iii. Resolution 1516-04: A Resolution to Formalize Shared Governance Concerns at the University of Missouri—Ms. Thompson & Mr. Howe
  1. Ms. Thompson: GPC wrote a letter in August on Shared governance and issues surrounding Shared Governance.
  2. Mr. Howe: The administration is relying on shared governance as their way out taking advantage of weak shared government process.
  3. Ms. Thompson: This would be formalized document coming through the General Assembly that we can

take to the administration about making changes to the shared governance process.

4. Carrie Winship (Theatre) motions to skip reading the resolution
  - a. Jordan Hoyt (Public Health) seconds
5. Discussion:
  - a. No comments
  - b. Connor Lewis (History) motions to close discussion
    - i. Dalisha Herring (Personal Financial Planning) seconds
6. Amendments:
  - a. No amendments
  - b. Connor Lewis (History) motions to close discussion and vote on resolution
    - i. Dalisha Herring (Personal Financial Planning) seconds
7. Vote for resolution
  - a. 1 Nay
  - b. Resolution passed
- iv. Resolution 1516-05: A Resolution Regarding the Coalition of Graduate Workers (CGW) Union Campaign and Encouraging Graduate Student Worker Engagement—Mr. Culmer
  1. Mr. Culmer: This resolution is to say GA supports an election about unionization and not supporting or being against Unionization itself.
  2. John Kennedy (Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering) motions to skip reading of resolution
    - a. Sarah Colbert (Information Science & Learning Technologies) seconds
  3. Discussion:
    - a. Glenn Baker (Psychology): Will this resolution aid in graduate students being



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able to discuss unionization, encourage or discourage other students?

- i. Mr. Culmer: This resolution only supports the election.
  - ii. Mr. Lewis: A series of educational events will be organized by Forum on Graduate Rights and this resolution encourages attending such educational events and decide what they would like to do.
- b. Mr. McCune: Did you say this resolution supports election? Because I don't see that in any of the resolved clauses. It only encourages students to participate in educational sessions about the anticipated elections.
1. Mr. Lewis: Since the process of having an election needs signing authorization cards for an election, this resolution is to encourage students to educate themselves about the process.
  2. Mr. Howe: My understanding of the resolution is that it strictly encourages fact finding and for the concerned parties to educate themselves. Not recommending an election.
- c. Oona Fontanella-Nothom (Learning, Teaching and Curriculum): Importance of the last paragraph. Having attended a lot of meetings of Coalition of Graduate Workers, it is important that the university does not impede the process of having an election.

i. Nathan Beckett (Medical School): Has the university already impeded the process.

1. Mr. Lewis: There has been no indication from what I have heard from the administration.

d. Dalisha Herring (Personal Financial Planning) motions to close discussion and move to amendments

i. Doug Valentine (Sociology) seconds

#### 4. Amendments

a. Mr. Culmer: Addition of a resolved clause that says GPC will use its communication methods to inform Graduate and Professional Students about the election.

i. John Kennedy (Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering): Would this enable GPC to email Graduate students about the card drive for union election?

1. Mr. Culmer: GPC will be able to use its communication methods to advertise educational events in this regard but GPC will reserve the right to advertise or not.

ii. Maria Jones (Biological Sciences): The concern is that we want the communication be only educational and we could clarify that in the resolved clause.

1. Benjamin Vega (Medical School): We can add the word 'not endorsing' in the resolved clause.



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- a. Ms. Bauer: I think that has been addressed in the rest of the resolution.
    2. Amendment approved through vote (1 Nay)
      - b. Jordan Hoyt (Public Health) motions to close discussion on amendments and move to vote
        - i. Tipparat Udmuangpi (Nursing) seconds
  5. Vote for the resolution
    - a. 1 Nay, 1 Abstention
    - b. Resolution passed
- v. Resolution 1516-06: A Resolution Expressing Solidarity with Social Justice Movements on Campus —Mr. Howe
  1. Mr. Howe: This resolution is supporting solidarity with various social justice movements on campus, the stake holders and the organizations involved in the movements. The resolution lists social justice movements that have taken place in the last two months.
  2. Jordan Hoyt (Public Health) motions to forgo reading the resolution
    - a. Connor Lewis (History) seconds.
  3. Discussion:
    - a. Oona Fontanella-Nothom (Learning, Teaching and Curriculum): I think it is important to add Concerned student 1950.
      - i. Mr. Howe: There will be an amendment coming up for that.
    - b. Stephen Herman (At large) – Any reason this resolution was not broken apart into multiple resolutions
      - i. Mr. Howe: The administration keeps asking GPC about why some social

justice movement is it is GPC's issue. We want to show the administration that these are not isolated issues and are all related to all students.

- ii. Ms. Bauer: Students are partaking in collaborative meetings to discuss these issues. The administration asks students to talk to their elected members (GPC & MSA) about the issues and when we approach them with issues they ask us to talk to the students. This resolution shows that we are standing with all student groups on campus and we are not talking individually anymore. If it's a students' issue it's a GPC issue.
- iii. Oona Fontanella-Nothom (Learning, Teaching and Curriculum): The term social justice is very broad, maybe we should define the term in one of the paragraphs
  1. Sheena Rice (TSPA): There are a lot of definitions for social justice listed in the resolution.
- c. Sarah Colbert (Information Science & Learning Technologies): My concern is that there is a lot going on in this resolution and I don't know what the solution is and some of the things we are trying to address might be lost.
  - i. Connor Lewis (History): This resolution creates precedent for GPC in the future to act on specific incidents.
  - ii. Emily Armbruster (Biochemistry): In response to that query I think this resolution can be of help in future but



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it is important to have a base to act upon.

- iii. Kristofferson Culmer (Computer Science): It's a shame that there are a lot of issues that are lost. At the same time trying to cover all the issues in a three-page resolution is not possible.
- iv. Ms. Thompson: The administration will read the resolution; we don't have to worry about the length.
- v. Mr. McCune: We do get asked why is something a GPC issue and we can say our GA has passed a resolution.
- vi. Ms. Bauer: The fact of having a resolution this long explains the number of issues we are having on campus right now.
- vii. Glenn Baker (Psychology): Will this resolution enable us to talk about specific issues in future?
  - 1. Mr. Howe: The idea behind this resolution is to set the ground work. It would definitely be in our interest to work on specific issues and solutions.

d. Connor Lewis (History) motions to close discussion

i. Jordan Hoyt (Public Health) seconds

4. Amendments

a. Mr. Howe:

- i. Addition of four whereas clauses.
- ii. Amendment approved

- b. Oona Fontanella-Nothom (Learning, Teaching and Curriculum): It would be better if Concerned Student 1950 is at the top part of the resolution
    - i. Amendment approved
  - c. Sheena Rice (TSPA): Replace the word 'have passed' to 'passed'.
    - i. Amendment approved
  - d. Conner Lewis (History): Add 'wage theft' to the eighth whereas clause.
    - i. Amendment approved.
  - e. Jordan Hoyt (Public Health) motions to close discussion for amendments and move to vote
    - i. Connor Lewis (History) seconds
5. Vote for resolution
- a. 1 Nay
  - b. Resolution passed

IX. Open Forum

- a. Kristofferson Culmer (Computer Science): Gradshavedebt2
- b. Robert Alexander Smith (Special Education): Family Friendly Campus committee update
- c. Connor Lewis (History): Town hall for international students from CGW.
- d. Mr. McCune (Director of Communication): Great Circle gift drive

X. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 8.11 pm.