



**General Assembly Meeting  
Tuesday, March 6, 2018**

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**Agenda**

- I. Call Meeting to Order
  - a. 6.03pm
- II. Adoption of the Minutes
  - a. Motion to amend the minutes by Personal Finance – only friendly amendments
  - b. First by Treasurer
  - c. Seconded by ISTL
  - d. Adopted with 3 abstentions, all other ayes
- III. Adoption of the Agenda
  - a. Motion to adopt
  - b. First by Personal Finances
  - c. Seconded by at large
  - d. Adopted with all ayes
- IV. Officer Reports
  - a. President
    - i. At the Feb 27<sup>th</sup> R&D speech the Chancellor announced that they are planning to have an alt ac path development program; this fits with our professional development goals.
    - ii. A new position monitoring Chronicle of Higher Ed and other such journals is being created to compare us to our peer institutions
    - iii. The budget is in the House
    - iv. Assistantship disbursement is being standardized to 10 installments, 5 per semester; this does not imply that the workload will increase by a month
    - v. Health insurance negotiations are under way. Increases could range from 1% to 18%, and will conceivably be passed on to graduate students. Dependents majorly factor into the costs.
    - vi. Time; the VP yielded his own speaking time
    - vii. MSA-GPC articles of cooperation have been renegotiated, and the MSA Senate will vote on them shortly. It will no longer be a

fixed percentage, and if it moves forward I will provide further details

- viii. ORG meetings
- ix. Keeling and Associates meetings are progressing
- b. Vice President
  - i. Need more volunteers for RCAF on March 10<sup>th</sup>
- c. Treasurer
  - i. Student charge working group: recommendations have been made, our guests will be available for questions soon
  - ii. Travel award cycle: \$15400 allocated, \$4400 of unmet needs; 70 eligible applications, of which 4 duplicates (not allowed). 80% were eligible and awarded. This is lower than last cycle (91%). This appears to be because of a higher turnout in this cycle
  - iii. I will have a budget in April
- d. Secretary
  - i. Food ambassador program is moving forward, and will roll out after Spring Break. We will prioritize departments affected by the recent program review, where we expect morale to be especially low
- e. Director of Programming
  - i. Absent
- f. Director of Communication
  - i. Nothing to report
- g. Director of National Affairs
  - i. I will pass around a thank you card for Senator Blunt. He advocated for us in the appropriation, and we like to show our appreciation.
  - ii. Higher education act. We will be in DC next week with NAPGS meeting with Representatives and Senators, it would be very impactful if you could call while we are there. We will have scripts available as usual, and send a reminder email on Monday
  - iii. The South Central Regional Conference of NAPGS has a lot of partnerships with other associations focusing on advocacy. We are also open to that, let GPC know if you are interested
- h. Director of State Affairs
  - i. Missouri Science and Technology Fellowship now has social media (MOSTpolicyfellows.org)



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- ii. Mizzou Day of Giving is now open and it is possible to donate
  - 1. President: how do incentives work?
  - 2. Director of National Affairs: More individual contributions and highest contributed amounts will both be awarded bonuses
- iii. ASUM: mental health initiative and campus conceal and carry have been voted, you can email me for further details as now time is short

V. Committee Reports

- a. Sociology: productive first meeting about grad-specific challenges in obtaining ORG funding, as well as motivations for seeking it.
- b. President: next month I will bring forward a resolution about opening nominations for the Director of Professional Development, and then voting in May (current language would not allow election this year)
- c. Women history month: Women Health and Wellness Fair event March 21<sup>st</sup> 11am-1pm in Stotler Lounge
- d. By show of hands, most representatives have been meeting with their committee. In one case (Campus Space Organization) all meetings have been cancelled due to a lack of items on the agenda

VI. Liaison Reports

- a. CGW: on April 20<sup>th</sup> there will be the court decision about CGW's recognition. Two questions are under consideration: 1) Do we have the constitutional right to organize? 2) If yes, do we need to hold new elections or should the University recognize us right away? We will be holding a rally at noon. I have t-shirts available
- b. Open questions and forum
- c. Seen none

VII. Special Orders

- a. At-Large Representative Elections
  - i. Several seats are open, you may nominate and self-nominate
  - ii. Jack Blevins (self nomination)
  - iii. Second by President
  - iv. 3 minutes: first semester MBA. Worked closely with both the President and Treasurer during my undergrad. I was active in MSA. I was part of the fee reviews committee.

- v. Sergeant of Arms escorted the nominee outside
- vi. President: point of clarification, do we have a rep already?
- vii. Motion to forego discussion
  - 1. First by Theatre
  - 2. Second by President
  - 3. All ayes but 2 nays
- viii. Vote: all ayes

b. Officer Nominations

- i. Nominations accepted for all positions, and will be open also during the April meeting
- ii. President
  - 1. President nominates Alek Willsey
  - 2. Seconded by At Large
  - 3. Accepted
- iii. Vice President
  - 1. President nominates Jesse Wyatt
  - 2. Seconded by Director of State Affairs
  - 3. Accepted
- iv. Treasurer
  - 1. Personal Finance nominates Cristina Wang
  - 2. Second by Chemistry
  - 3. Accepted
- v. Secretary
  - 1. President nominates Shannon King
  - 2. Second At large-theatre
  - 3. Accepted
  - 4. Director of Programming
- vi. Director of Programming
  - 1. At-large theatre nominates Blake Willoughby
  - 2. Seconded by Personal Finances
  - 3. Accepted
- vii. Director of Communications
  - 1. At Large nominates Rebecca Holtsclaw
  - 2. Seconded by biological Sciences
  - 3. Declined
- viii. Director of National Affairs



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1. Director of Programming nominates Benton Berigan
  2. Seconded by At large English
  3. Accepted
- ix. Director of State Affairs
  - x. Director of National Affairs nominates Rachel Owen
  - xi. Seconded by President
  - xii. Accepted
- VIII. Old Business
- a. GA member elections—Best Practices
    - i. Lack of guidelines appear to have been a barrier to access in the past, therefore we have shared best practices via email last week and yesterday, please share widely within your Department;
    - ii. MPP - Point of Information: what should we do with programs that may no longer exist?
    - iii. Vice president: let us know what is happening, we will have to abide by the Department's status within the University
- IX. New Business
- a. Guest Speaker—Mr. Todd Mackley
    - i. Upcoming changes to student charge
      1. Preferred method in the past
      2. Unfortunately students accumulated expenses, including some non-academic related
      3. 155 items have been revisited and recommended to stay or be removed based on whether that charge is or is not related to student success
      4. The Provost received our recommendations, which have been accepted and presented to the Chancellor yesterday
      5. We are available to answer questions
      6. The Forum is open for discussion for 3 initial minutes
      7. President: student charge debt get reported, can you comment on that?

8. Mr. Mackley: that artificially inflated the cost of higher education.
  9. Theatre: is the report available?
  10. Mr. Mackley: yes, we are happy to provide that
  11. Theatre: what is the timeline?
  12. Mr. Mackley: it is in progress, and will be completed leading up to the Fall
  13. PFP: as a certified financial planner, I think it is important for students not to student charge small expenses, I applaud your effort
  14. Sociology: what about food?
  15. Mr. Mackley: meal plans are not being affected, and neither are vendor purchases so far. We reflected about food insecurity and made sure not to contribute to that problem.
- b. Resolution 1718-07—A resolution regarding the status of the graduate school
- i. President: the resolution outlines the benefits of transitioning back from an administrative to an academic unit. The Faculty Council is interested in backing this stand. I am already presenting some amendments received during the week which address the language
  - ii. PFP: motion to forego the reading
  - iii. Seconded by Theater
  - iv. All ayes, 5 nays, 2 abstentions
  - v. At-large English: motion to incorporate the amendments
  - vi. Seconded by ISLT
  - vii. Motion to close discussion and move to a vote Theatre
  - viii. Seconded by Geography
  - ix. All ayes, 4 nays, 1 abstention
  - x. Vote: all ayes, 1 abstention
  - xi. PFP: friendly amendment about the name of the Office – will be checked, but the President believes it is correct as is
  - xii. Motion to close discussion by ISLT
  - xiii. Seconded by Biochemistry
  - xiv. All ayes, 2 nays, 3 abstentions
  - xv. Vote on the amendment as currently written: all ayes
  - xvi. Resolution adopted



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- c. Non-voting consideration of new GPC positions
  - i. Non-voting proposal 1
    - 1. New AD positions
      - a. President: creates 3 additional AD positions, which would benefit current officers. We do not wish to inflate the number of roles to be filled, but the exec determined that if the positions are unfilled nothing will change, but if they are this will benefit the organization. It is also a way to pipeline interested people into the Exec. They will be hired instead of voted, and will receive an honorarium.
      - b. Theatre: how are hours/effort going to be evaluated in order to make sure it is fair to all ADs?
      - c. President: there is no formal way set up, but there is an acceptance of duties and grievance process available to identify concerns. Parity may not be a goal.
      - d. Vice-President: the GA may write a resolution to adapt that. President: to that effect, we do accept the possibility that salaries will have to be adjusted, after experience from the first year informs that decision
      - e. Biological Sciences: please discuss the pros and cons of appointment methods
      - f. President: pros include making a good team, cons include nepotism (but the GA has to ratify the decision, which provides a protection mechanism).
      - g. Computer Science: I see the need for those positions. How does that fit in the budget? Should duties be specified?
      - h. President: we have the budget for that; I am open to outlining duties, but also to learning by doing

- i. Biological Sciences: how was the honorarium determined?
  - j. Theatre: it is a nominal amount
  - k. Public affairs: do they need to be GA members?
  - l. President: no
  - m. At large – English: it appears that the historian position would be a big project over the first (few) year(s), but that role may wind down over time. Has that been considered?
  - n. President: frontloading will probably occur, but tying our present to our history will be an ongoing need
  - o. Chemistry: Bylaws will have to be changes I assume, that will have to be drafted carefully
  - p. President: correct
  - q. Biological Sciences: is eligibility stated explicitly?
  - r. President: no, but it should be a GPC member
- ii. Non-voting proposal 2
- 1. GPC Data Analyst position
    - a. In a data-driven policy environment, this position will be beneficial. There are little data on graduate students, and even less get analyzed. This would allow us to take matters into our own hands.
    - b. PFP: make sure that it is specified that the honorarium is annual
    - c. Computer Sciences: an interview should be made mandatory; is it expected they will not be a member of the Exec?
    - d. President: agreed; we will make sure to include that, and we will put out a call through mass emails.
    - e. Public Affairs: if no qualified candidate emerges, can the search continue?
    - f. President: we can search again right away
    - g. LTC: qualifications need to be spelled out
    - h. Vice President: we will present criteria, and the GA will vote on them in April





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- i. Vet Medicine: mass emails are not the best way to contact people in my department for example. Would you consider complementary methods?
  - j. President: we will consider this, for example DGS or Dean email lists.
  - k. National Affairs: so what is the best way to reach Vet Med students
    - l. Vet Med: class announcements
  - 2. Motion to end discussion by Geography
  - 3. Seconded by PFP
  - 4. All Ayes, one nay
  - d. Upcoming events
    - i. RCAF—Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>
      - 1. Volunteers needed
        - a. It involved free food, please volunteer as time allows
- X. Open Forum
- a. At-large English: CGW trivia night Thursday at 6pm at Shakespeare's
  - b. Theatre: Writer's room Thursday 6-9pm in Ellis
  - c. Vice-President: the well being survey will occur again this year starting during Spring break in its improved version. Please comment on the draft, we are welcoming suggestions. Promote survey-taking within your peers.
  - d. At-large English: the campus writing program organizes a two days writing retreat in Memorial Union over Spring break
- XI. Adjournment
- a. First by PFP
  - b. Seconded by Computer Sciences
  - c. All ayes
  - d. Adjourned at 8.13pm