Logo_4C.tif Graduate Student Senate

402B Bowen-Thompson Student Union

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<http://www.bgsu.edu/gss>

**Graduate Student Senate General Assembly**

**Friday, February 15, 2013**

**3:00-5:00pm**

**Gallery, McFall Center**

**Agenda**

* Call to Order
  + Vice President Jeff Larocque called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.
* Roll Call
  + 45 senators in attendance; a quorum is present.
  + Vice President Jeff Larocque announced departments and organizations that have at least 1 absence to date this semester
* Approval of the Minutes
  + Motion to approve the minutes by History, seconded by Theater & Film. The motion carries.
* Guests
  + Barbara Waddell, Director of the Office of Equity and Diversity
    - Ms. Waddell shared information regarding the history, staff, and functions of the Office of Equity and Diversity.
    - The Office of Equity and Diversity handles claims on equal employment, equal education, gender identity and expressions, sexual harassment, racial and ethnic harassment, disability harassment, retaliation, and age.
    - Ms. Waddell presented information on various university committees dedicated to diversity and inclusion, as well as graduate students who serve on those committees. She invited all graduate students to participate in the Office of Equity and Diversity as they wish.
  + Josh Waldman, President of the University of Toledo Graduate Student Association and Aaron Shaw, HSC Secretary and MGRS Recruiting Coordinator
    - Mr. Waldman and Mr. Shaw introduced the GA to the Midwest Graduate Research Symposium. The symposium is held at the University of Toledo and hosted by the Graduate Student Association.
    - This year’s event will be held on April 20, 3013 and is focusing on what one might do with a PhD outside of academia.
    - UT GSA is asking BGSU graduate students to consider applying to present or to serve as a volunteer. Deadline for submissions is March 29, 2013.
* Old Business
* Grievance Procedure
  + President David Sleasman shared the new procedure has passed in Graduate Council. He will distribute to senators once he is able.
* Student Health Center groundbreaking
  + President David Sleasman shared that construction has officially started on the building. The timeline for opening is still fall 2013.
* Regalia
  + President David Sleasman announced he has been sharing the concerns about pricing for the doctoral regalia with many constituencies on campus. David shared the cost for doctoral regalia at many other institutions and how they were significantly less expensive than the BGSU price.
* ETD/OhioLink
  + Vice President Jeff Larocque reviewed the addition of the Library Technology Center for fall 2013. This location will be able to assist students submitting a thesis or dissertation.
  + Until the fall semester, students can contact Colleen Boff in the library for assistance.
* Student Union Fees Status
  + President David Sleasman asked senators to give attention to the USG resolution passed against the proposed changes to the Student Union room booking procedures.
  + The proposed changes have been suspended for the time being. Organizations are able to book rooms for fall 2013 with no fees or restrictions at this time.
* Shanklin Awards: submission deadline for the research awards is **Wednesday, February 20th at 4pm**. Submissions can be turned in at the GSS office, 402 student union. See the GSS website for more details.
* General Elections are March 29, 2013.
* Election of Rep-at-Large
  + Erin Baker, Psychology, was nominated by the senator from History for the position of Representative at Large.
  + It was moved and seconded to close the floor for nominations. Motion carries.
  + It was moved and seconded to close the floor for discussion. Motion caries.
  + Erin Baker was elected as the new Representative at Large.
* New Business
  + Faculty Union
    - President David Sleasman informed the GA that he has extended an invitation to representatives from the Union to attend GA meetings.
  + Open SEC positions: Professional Development Chair
  + Open committee positions:
    - Student affairs advisory board
      * Next meeting on Thursday February 28
      * Interest expressed by Rachel Robinson and Whitney Begue
    - Student health service advisory committee
      * Next meeting is February 21 from 12:00-1:30 pm
      * Matt Rygg from Higher Education Administration volunteered
  + Proposed changes to the GSS Constitution
    - President David Sleasman reviewed the proposed changes to the GSS Constitution.
    - Question from History about the timeline for voting and also ensuring there is a 4/5th attendance from senators.
    - At the time of the question, 51 senators (86%) are present.
  + Professional Funding Awards
    - Treasurer Michael Salitrynski reviewed that the spring budget is $12,000. Individuals who applied for awards were granted $70 for participation and $80 for those presenting.
* Senate Executive Committee Reports
* Academic Affairs Representative
  + Christina Wright-Fields – No Report
* Treasurer
  + Michael Salitrynski – No Report
* GAR
  + Rachel Robinson announced this weekend is the second weekend of budget hearings. She asked that student organizations come prepared with details about their mission and how programs will assist in reaching it.
* Secretary
  + Ellen Collier asked for senators who came in late to please see her after the meeting so she can mark the attendance sheet.
* Student Affairs Chair
  + Sherry Early – No Report
* Multicultural Affairs Chair
  + Chen Shen – No Report
* International Student Affairs Chair
  + Lingxiao Ge shared there will be a number of International Student Tax workshops. These are also open to US Citizens who spent a significant time abroad before returning to the United States.
* Social Chair
  + Whitney Begue asked senators to RSVP for the basketball games via the Google document that has been distributed.
  + Whitney also still needs two volunteers for March 12 event.
* Publicity Chair
  + Christopher Thomas asked senators to share information they would like posted on Facebook or Twitter.
* Representative-at-Large
  + Christopher Weinland and Erin Baker – No Report
* Issues and Concerns
  + Vice President Jeff Larocque announced he and Christina Wright-Fields will be collecting information regarding difficulties submitting forms to the Graduate College.
* Announcements
  + Shanklin Research submissions **deadline** is February 20, 2013
* Meeting adjourned at 4:41 pm.
* Next Meeting is March 1, 2013