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, September 20, 2013**

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

**Gallery- McFall**

**Agenda**

* Call to Order
* Roll Call (Martha did roll call)
* Guests
  + Dr. Mary Ellen Mazey, BGSU President
    - Dr. Mazey made brief introductory remarks and then took questions.
      * Q: Are you removing funding for grad students? A: undergrad tuition is higher than other institutions, look at undergraduate student debt, current model unsustainable; looking at how we reevaluate undergraduate and graduate programming; budget shortfalls; state share of instruction isn’t as competitive as it should be; have to look at more fee-paying graduate programs in the future; Ogawa has worked very diligently; plans in place.
      * Q: Are you changing non fee paying to fee paying or just adding fee paying programs? A: Years ago undergraduate education was it, now graduate education is the thing. We have to look at how we generate more revenue from graduate programs. Ogawa will work to figure that out, over time, no impact on current students here; for future students need to look at that balance; need to model by sister institutions.
      * Q: What commitment to resources for graduate work such as MidAmerican Review and other professional development? In state of the university address, Mazey said the vision for BGSU is how do we build our recognition. We need to invest in our programs; need state of the art facilities. Graduate fellowships & stipends should be important revenue sources from graduate alumni. They should give back.
  + Dr. Michael Ogawa, Dean of the Graduate College
    - Dr. Ogawa briefly introduced self and gave background of time at BGSU. He said he has listened to and addressed graduate student concerns & issues, for example he looked at the non-academic grievance policy when he was told it was lacking. He is happy to work with GSS in rolling that out now. No questions were asked.
  + Mr. Alex Solis, Undergraduate Student Government President

Mr. Solis explained about Undergraduate Student Senate and offered to answer questions

Officers Reports

* + Professional Development Chair – Arpan Yagnik
    - Arpan thanked the graduate students who signed the NIOT banner. He explained that he would like to get a hundred grad students to attend a GSS Forum, but he needs the help of the GA and all grad students. The next GSS Forum will be focused on facilitating inter-disciplinary work. It is also a Ziggy point event. He explained how Ziggy points work and showed off some of the prizes online. Next forum will be in BTSU 206 on October 2nd 11:30-12:30pm. More information provided here: <http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/sa/vp/ziggypoints/page132398.html>
  + Social Chair – Amy Wrobel Jamieson
    - Amy explained about Saturday Study Sessions offered every Saturday at 10AM-3PM in the Jerome Library. The next grad night will be next Saturday the 6-8PM on the 28th.
  + Vice President - Martha
    - Martha explained that she needs the following participants for committees: Open Academic Honesty Committee 4, Parking Advisory Committee 1, Regalia Award Committee 2 (1 PhD 1 Masters), Shanklin Awards Committee 1, GSS Committee on Stipends & Assistantships 3
  + President – Lingxiao Ge
    - Lingxiao reminded everyone that today is Falcon Friday and encourages everyone to wear orange and brown on Friday.
    - Lingxiao explained that the Student Technology Assistance Center (122, Jerome Library) is open and available for students. They can help with tech issues and with Ohiolink Contact information is provided here: [stac@bgsu.edu](mailto:stac@bgsu.edu)

419-372-9277

* + - Lingxiao explained that bicycles parked in the wrong place can be confiscated. Proper placement means using the bike racks provided. Do not lock your bike to other things.
    - Lingxiao went over the Career Center (318C Math Sciences) handout and encouraged grad students to use the services provided there and to attend the next job fair, October 1st at the Perry Field House.
    - President’s Advisory Council On Diversity and Inclusion (PACODI) will have a new sub-committee this semester, Firelands
* Minutes were approved from last meeting.
* Committee Reports
  + Title IX Advisory Committee – Martha explained that Title IX provides protections against inequities on campus (including in sports programs). She will be working with that committee this semester.
  + Student Union Advisory Committee: Lingxiao explained that Olscamp 101 will become a “Math Emporium” but it will remain open for the time being.
* Old Business
  + Social Events: Campus Fest & Grad Night: Martha explained that there were some visitors to our Campus Fest table. The grad night was very successful. 30+ students attended and got to meet students from other departments.
* New Business
  + Graduate Strategic Plan: Lingxiao explained that graduate student enrollment is a core part of the plan for future grad students. Only 23% of BGSU funds come from the state anymore. 50% of our funds are supported through student program completion. Thus a director of graduate student admissions will be hired to help increase grad enrollment (paying students). Comparisons to other successful university programs will be made to improve our own. Any helpful feedback, questions, and suggestions are welcome.
  + American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment: Lingxiao referred to the handout provided that explained the commitment for BGSU for going green. Sub-committees will be developed to see this plan put into action. The GA will be updated when these become available.
* Issues and Concerns
  + Sociology asks if Obamacare would be cheaper than student health insurance currently available.
  + Higher Education Administration was concerned that the administration would bring issues to the GA that were already decided. Mike Salitrynski expressed concerns that administration would not be “straight” with us. Lingxiao suggested students go to Faculty Senate to see how the university works from an administrative standpoint. Martha thanked the GA for their support of GSS.
* Announcements: Martha reviewed the following upcoming events
  + Next GA: October 4, 2013, 3-5pm, McFall Gallery
    - Guest Speaker: Jeff Jackson, Director of Career Center
  + Grad Night: 6-8pm, Saturday, September 28

DiBenedetto's Italian Bistro, 121 S Main St

* + Saturday Study Session (9/21): 10-3, 7th Floor Jerome Library
  + GSS Reception: 5:30pm, September 20, 2013,

The Stones Throw, 176 E Wooster St: 20% off for food

* Football Game 9/21 at 3:30 pm (BGSU vs. Murray State)
* Annual languages learning workshop in October available.
* Hanna from Pop Culture announced that on Sat the 28th the Culture Club trivia night 8PM, 10$ per group. At Grumpy Dave’s.
* Mental Health and School Counseling provides free counseling. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesdays. Open to grad students.
* Slade from Theater: Theater presentation Friday & Saturday at 8PM and it’s free.
* Public Health program: asks for any speakers that are making presentations to send an e-mail to other senators. E-mail Lingxiao and/or Martha for such events to be publicized.
* Sociology: Wednesday October 2nd speaker to talk about same sex families, 12-1:00, BTSU 315.

Martha reviewed the attendance policy to make sure it was clear to the GA that proxies must be present if a senator cannot be and should not be more than 30 minutes late or leave before 30 minutes before the meeting ends.

* Adjournment: adjourned at 4:27PM