**SEC Meeting Minutes**

**October 18, 2013**

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

**Attendees:** GSS Senate Executive Committee

**Meeting Location:** 309 BTSU

**Guest:** Daniel Gordon (Bowling Green City Councilman)

**Handouts:** BGSU Graduate Student Bill of Rights; President’s Mazey’s letter about Accenture Study; NIOT resolution; GSS Mission Statement

1. Call to Order
	1. Lingxiao, Martha, Arpan, Vivienne, Dinah, Mike, Amy, Erin, Chris, Jigar were in attendance.
	2. Lingxiao called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm.
2. Approval of Minutes
	1. Minutes were approved online via survey monkey, pending confirmation of soccer field conversation.
	2. Martha moves to approve; Mike seconded it. Minutes approved.
3. Guest: Daniel Gordon
	1. Daniel presented to us on City Governance, including recent accomplishments and upcoming initiatives. He is the elected city councilman for the First Ward (Northeast BG, including most of BGSU).
	2. Recent accomplishments include Ridge Park, transit-oriented development dialogue, east side hearings, and anti-fracking ordinance
	3. Upcoming initiatives include town-gown commission, neighborhood cleanup commission, bike lanes, student involvement with East Side Group, on-campus city council meetings, and student-city projects.
		1. Arpan asked about time expectation for town-gown commission. Daniel says this isn’t officially set up yet. The expectation will be for people to serve for at least two years for the sake of continuity in a volunteer capacity. There will only be a few spots, divided between students and city residents. The commission wouldn’t meet any more that 1-2 times per month, or even quarterly.
		2. Vivienne requested there be something along the lines of at least one 15-month commitment to allow interested graduate students to have a semester to adjust to BG and learn the city, before investing in a three-semester commitment.
		3. Lingxiao raised a question about the specific of the plan for bike lanes. Daniel says there isn’t a plan yet – they are in the feedback-gathering and planning stage now, and are looking for feedback from students now. Daniel will let us know when the next meeting for this is.
		4. Lingxiao asked about recycling program addition to the neighborhood cleanup commission. Daniel responded that there will be test runs with the current model to see how it goes, then recycling might be an added component with time.
		5. Mike asked about the plan of the relational committee going both ways – i.e. informing students of city laws and their impacts (parking, etc). Vivienne contributed that in other state moves, she got a packet when she became a renter of some local ordinances (like parking regulations, etc.) and hopes BG could start doing something like that. Daniel validated Mike’s frustration, and both agreed they want these relations to go both ways – information, educational, and voice for both.
		6. Amy voiced concerns about strange landlord practices related to leases. Discussion followed regarding different apartment complexes here and situations in other university towns. Daniel noted that this is a common issue here, and that the concern is being heard.
		7. Daniel asked for suggestions of how to get students more invested in learning about and feeling committed to the town and its ordinances. Mike suggested clearer avenues to obtain and receive the information. Vivienne suggested city orientation during GSO including introducing the Mayor, Police Staff, town resources and ordinances, landlord concerns, etc. to make it more accessible to the typical student.
		8. Daniel’s contact info: gordonforcitycouncil@gmail.com; (419) 450-2164
		9. Community improvement committee is meeting again on Nov. 4th at 6pm in City Hall if anyone wants to go voice some of these concerns.
4. Old Businesses
5. Updates on Rec Center Renovation – additional projects: Elizabeth was going to update us on this, but she is at Prelims. She has met with VP Stowe and VP Carr, who explained the reasons behind why these updates are necessary. Lingxiao was officially asked to write a memo of support from VP Carr.
6. Updates on the Twitter Incident: Lingxiao gave a recap of what occurred relating to the attacking tweets directed at BSU. Police are doing an investigation to determine if it is criminal or not. The person who created the tweets is not a BG student, and is from another town, and does not live in BG. Lingxiao explained the #CalltoAction hashtag, which has been used in response by BGSU affiliates (students, etc.) to urge administration and BGSU to respond to this incident.
7. New Businesses
	1. BGSU Graduate Student Bill of Rights: Lingxiao found this in the GSS archive from approximately 2 years ago. This went to Graduate Council, but nothing happened—it just stayed in the archive of GSS. Martha asked SEC for suggestions on what to do with this
		1. Mike asked if this was used to develop the Strategic Plan – he recollects this might have been developed as a resource to contribute to the Strategic Plan.
		2. Lingxiao wants to bring this to the Grad Student Issues subcommittee. Lingxiao wants the document to be public (at least on the GSS website), after review and approval, which will likely be a long conversation.
		3. Mike noted some of what is in this Bill of Rights runs counter to university policy and needs to be revisited.
		4. Vivienne asked what the document does, Mike echoed. Vivienne believes this might have been created before the edits to the academic graduate policy was redone.
	2. Graduate College Fair: November 20, 3 – 7 PM, 101 Olscamp
		1. GSS will have a table there. There will be a sign up sheet at the next GA for people to sign up to sit at the GSS table. Lingxiao believes this is a new initiative.
	3. Shanklin Committee: Arpan says work needs to begin on the Shanklins. We need to clarify roles and responsibilities, money, and the overall remodeling of the Shanklins depending on the monetary situation.
		1. Roles and responsibilities: Colloquium and Awards; therefore, Arpan and Amy co-chair this. Martha clarified all of this, and noted that Alice used to take care of a lot of this, and last year Elizabeth spearheaded the banquet. Martha suggested Amy and Arpan meet with Alice and Elizabeth.
			1. Awards and Colloquium: Taken care of by Pro Devo Chair (including applications, deadlines, judging committee creation, and arrangements)
			2. Ceremony: Taken care of by Social Chair (including shifting gears to a ceremony from a banquet; presentation of awards from Shanklins and Grad College)
			3. Mike asked about considering Keynote speaker dinner and Shanklin award finalists and guests dinner, and breakfast for judges, and award winners of both Shanklins and Grad College awards that have happened historically
		2. Money: Jodi clarified that the Shanklin Award money is more likely $3600 than $1500; regardless, we were anticipating $6000. Mike and Jodi will converse and confirm. Lingxiao acknowledged that the amount of the awards may need to be adapted because of this. Discussion followed, including an overall Shanklin budget of $9000.
		3. Remodeling of Shanklins due to finances
			1. What can we do to make the award winners and other graduate students feel special regardless of the reduced prize money?
			2. Changing the banquet to a ceremony frees up money, potentially toward awards.
		4. Next Graduate Forum:
			1. Arpan asked about ideas for next GSS Forum; Liz suggested partnering with USG to add to our potential audience members
			2. Dick Sipp wants to do an insurance joint forum for GSS and USG insurance (Tentative date: 1/14)
			3. Lingxiao will promote GSS forum at USG on 10/28, and is also on board to collaborate with USG potentially.
			4. Daniel (City Councilman) offered himself to speak to GSS and USG for a forum, and bring other city officials, etc.
			5. Arpan asked people to email him by Sunday with ideas.
			6. Nov. 6th, 11:30-1pm is the next GSS forum: Lingxiao will facilitate it in lieu of Arpan.
	4. GA on 10/25 agenda
		1. Guest Speakers: Provost Rogers will present about the current graduate student strategic plan; John Ellinger (Chief Information Officer)
		2. NIOT resolution will be reviewed
			1. SEC is asked to read through and submit comments and suggestions of modifications, finished by Sunday.
	5. USG Model / Office hours of SEC and Senators
		1. Martha and Lingxiao went to USG meeting on Monday, 10/14. USG runs their meeting differently (BTSU room 308). Martha explained the format of the USG and how that changes the feel to everyone having an equal role in the meeting; we will adapt to this this upcoming week.
		2. Liz requested cards held up, departments announced when a senator asks a questions, comments, etc.
		3. Office hour system: USG senators do one internal office hour in USG and one external office hour every week. Can we some type of this for our senators to change the perception of what GSS senators do, get senators to function better as conduit?
			1. Vivienne asked what it might look like? Things it could include are committee work, touch base with SEC, simple presence
			2. Lingxiao wants this to begin with SEC. External hours are done when we represent GSS; internal hour to be spent in the office as well to touch base with Lingxiao, Alice, etc.
				1. Mike and Vivienne extend concerns about implementing this with senators. Discussion followed including suggestions of bi-weekly hours, flexibility, a trial run with interested parties, senator collaboration within college or school, etc. Mike asked how we would go about keeping track of this and accountability.
				2. Martha suggested that in the future, senators do either committee work or working groups or office hours
				3. General agreement of not this semester, likely not this year for senators.
				4. Lingxiao asked SEC to try this, and suggested SEC send her an hour weekly so she can put it on the schedule and let Senators know what our office hours are. Many SEC members asked for flexibility.
8. Officer Reports:
9. Academic Affairs Rep / GAR – Rachel (N/A)
10. Student Affairs Rep – Erin
	1. Unqualified Faculty issue: Erin talked with Accounting Senator, working through emails to touch base.
	2. Martha and Lingxiao mentioned it to the Provost, who was very concerned, touched based with the Chair of the Department.
	3. Clarification of difference between being qualified on paper and not feeling like an expert enough to teach it.
	4. Supposed to meet with Vicky Kulicke from the Office of Equity and Diversity – meeting got cancelled.
	5. Grad night – 27 people, went very well!
11. Professional Development Chair – Arpan
	1. The 3rd GSS Forum – discussed above.
12. Multicultural Affairs Chair – Dinah
	1. Supposed to have met with Dr. Emily Monago of Multicultural Affairs
	2. Project Search update: Graduate assistants called member; Dinah suggested idea of getting Project Search on GA schedule
13. International Affairs Chair – Jigar
	1. Meeting soon with ISS Director
	2. Do domestic graduate students have to pay an orientation fee? No one has a definite answer, but Chris thinks they may have. Amy to look into her bills and touch base with Jigar.
14. Social Chair – Amy
	1. Next Grad Night: Black Swamp Pub: 10/25, 5:30pm, which will be Halloween theme
15. Publicity Chair – Chris will do publicity for the next Grad Night, and is listening
16. Representatives-at-Large – Elizabeth & Ryan
17. Secretary - Liz
18. Treasurer – Mike
	1. The budget is a bit touchy because our card information got stolen a few months ago. Everything is fine, and there has been no loss of funds, and everything has been refunded
	2. Stipends and fees committee – would like to request info from senators at next GA regarding amounts of Pro Devo money available from departments.
19. Board of Trustee Graduate Student Rep – Vivienne
	1. Library hours this Saturday; Announcement in academic agenda, on GSS all-grad listserv.
20. Vice President – Martha
	1. Status of the Regalia Award: 4 people applied, and the committee is meeting next week to verify. We will, in the future, promote this directly to the graduate students.
	2. Alumni Connections: Martha contacted the Alumni Center to find alumni Shanklin award winners, to facilitate contact for donations, etc.
	3. Attendance of GA: Yet to see German, Gerontology, one from Musical Arts. German and Gerontology are going through censure program.
	4. Mission Statement Review: We need to update this – look it over, send changes and ideas to Martha.
21. President – Lingxiao
	1. Library hours extension – Su-R extended until 2 am; 24 hours to pre-exam and exam week.
	2. Shuttle operation hours on Friday: 12 or 14 classes run after 5 pm on Friday – we want hours to extend to allow busses until 7:30 or so, even if less frequently. No response yet.
	3. Observing USG meeting: discussed above. 10/28 Lingxiao is going again, and would like SEC to join – let Lingxiao know if we are available.
22. Issues & Concerns
	* 1. Martha mentioned English Department / Writing Center stipend issues (i.e. making up hours later in the week) and 25 hour internships instead of 20. FYI if you have people in your department working in the WC – this has been straightened out yet.
		2. Erin looking for a proxy for Student Affairs Steering Committee – Jodi will get Erin caught up, if no one can proxy on 10/31 at 11 am.
23. Announcement
24. 4th GA: Oct 25th, 3-5pm, McFall Gallery
* Guest speakers: Provost Rogers; John Ellinger
* SEC report to Martha and Lingxiao by 5pm on Wednesday before GA
1. Next SEC: Nov 1, 3-5pm, 309 BTSU
2. Leadership Academy 2013; 11/16 9:30 am – 5 pm
	1. Register on Olscamp
3. Alumni Networking Etiquette Dinner
	1. Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2013 6:00-7:30pm - 202B BTSU
	2. Let Lingxiao know if you can make it
4. Adjournment
	1. The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.