Logo_4C.tif Graduate Student Senate

402B Bowen-Thompson Student Union

Bowling Green, Ohio 43403-0181

Phone: (419) 372-2426

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

**Graduate Student Senate General Assembly**

**Friday, March 1, 2013**

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

**Gallery, McFall Center**

**Agenda**

* Vice President Jeff LaRocque called the meeting to order at 3:06 pm.
* Roll Call
  + 47 senators in attendance; a quorum is present.
  + Vice President Jeff LaRocque announced senate absence count and censured departments.
    - Computer Science senator applied for reinstatement to the GA.
    - Motioned and seconded to close discussion; motion carries.
    - Vote to readmit the Department of Computer Science to probationary status passes 46-0-0.
* Approval of the minutes
  + It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2013 General Assembly. The motion carries.
* Guests
  + John Ellinger, Chief Information Officer
    - Mr. Ellinger discussed the project CourseSmart, which is an alternative to textbooks through an aggregation of digital materials.
    - The bookstore will provide on-site assistance for this service and it will be integrated to Canvas.
    - Mr. Ellinger has discussed this new service with the Faculty Senate, USG, and now GSS. The intention is to have the service available by June 1.
    - Questions and concerns raised by the GA included payment options and fees, required hard-copy books for certain departments, and whether textbooks will still be available via course reserve.
    - Mr. Ellinger also announced the development of a new student portal. He has asked for any volunteers who are interested in serving on an advisory committee for this development. Additionally, they will be creating a prospective student portal.
* Old Business
* Regalia
  + President David Sleasman updated the GA regarding ongoing conversations around the pricing of doctoral regalia. A payment plan through the bursar is not an option. However, a gift registry is available through the bookstore and there is a discussion of a cheaper version of the regalia.
  + Christina Wright-Fields also shared there were concerns raised about the time a student has to return the robe following graduation. It was shared that one can receive special permission to retain the robe for a longer period of time, if students contact the bookstore.
  + Consensus from the GA to invite representatives from the bookstore to attend a GA meeting this semester.
* ETD/OhioLink
  + Vice President Jeff LaRocque invited Dr. Peggy Booth to share updates regarding the OhioLink issues.
  + The new update is that the site should be working by this coming Wednesday.
  + Dr. Booth shared that any student who is scheduled to graduate, will be permitted to do so even if they are unable to get the site up and running before the due date of March 18.
  + Students are able to seek out Vera Lux in the library or the Student Technology Center in Olscamp Hall.
* Student Union Fees Status
  + President David Sleasman updated the GA regarding the proposed Student Union Fees. Booking procedures for next school year will continue as they have in the past.
  + Patrick Nelson, Director of the Student Union, has asked a number of student groups to collaborate in order to develop a new policy moving forward.
* Shanklin Awards
  + Vice President Jeff LaRocque asked senators to communicate with their constituents regarding the Shanklin Colloquium and the Graduate Student Senate Awards.
  + Professional Development Chair Elizabeth Witter reminded the GA that submissions for the Colloquium are due March 18, and are still looking for judges and facilitators.
  + There were 57 submissions for the Shanklin Research Awards. Judging has already begun and decisions should be made by April 4.
* General Elections/Nominations are March 29th
  + Vice President Jeff LaRocque opened the floor for nominations for SEC.
    - Student Affairs Chair Sherry Early nominated Lingxiao Ge for President, seconded by Black Graduate Student Organization senator.
    - English senator Martha Schaffer nominated herself for Vice President; seconded by History senator.
    - Academic Affairs Representative Christina Wright-Fields nominated Rachel Robinson for Academic Affairs Representative; seconded by Black Graduate Student Organization senator.
    - English senator Martha Schaffer nominated Michael Salitrynski for Treasurer; seconded by Communication Sciences & Disorders senator
    - Communication Sciences & Disorders senator nominated Elizabeth Witter for Representative at Large; seconded by English senator
* Proposed changes to the GSS Constitution
  + Four-fifths of the voting members were confirmed as present.
  + President David Sleasman opened the floor for any discussion regarding the proposed changes to the Constitution.
  + No discussion or questions.
* New Business
  + Social Media
    - Publicity Chair Chris Thomas showed the new GSS Twitter account to the GA. Please follow on Twitter and join the Facebook group!
  + International Student Services
    - Vice President Jeff LaRocque shared that the new Director of International Student Services and Director of Education Abroad attended the last SEC meeting. They will also be joining us at an upcoming GA meeting.
* Senate Executive Committee Reports
* Academic Affairs Representative
  + Christina Wright-Fields had no report.
* Treasurer
  + Michael Salitrynski reminded the GA that serving on SEC allows you bring up issues and concerns directly to leadership. One such recent concern is that of funding cuts from the student organization Budget Review Committee.
* GAR
  + Rachel Robinson added to Michael’s sentiment that some departments will only provide professional development for students who present at a conference, so funding opportunities are limited.
* Secretary - Ellen Collier
  + Ellen Collier updated the GA on the progress of the Academic Visioning Committee. If you would like to learn more about the prototype and give feedback, please email her at [elassit@bgsu.edu](mailto:elassit@bgsu.edu).
  + Ellen also announced the Katzner Award email was just sent out, so please be on the look-out for that information if you are in need of substantial research funding.
* Student Affairs Chair
  + Sherry Early deferred to Whitney Begue who filled in at the last meeting. Whitney reported there were a few changes recommended to the Student Handbook that will be worked on in the next few weeks.
  + Sherry Early reported she attended the Graduate Student Issues committee meeting in order to bring up concerns regarding regalia, Non-Academic Grievance Procedures, and other topics the GA has been discussing.
* Multicultural Affairs Chair
  + Chen Shen shared there is a cultural trip to Cleveland on April 7 sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs. Registration is available through the Office of Multicultural Affairs website.
* International Student Affairs Chair
  + Lingxiao Ge provided additional information about the cultural trip, including deadlines and locations scheduled on the trip. The trip will conclude at Cleveland vs. Orlando basketball game.
* Social Chair
  + Whitney Begue reminded there are tickets to the March 3 basketball game.
* Publicity Chair
  + Christopher Thomas had no report
* Representative-at-Large
  + Christopher Weinland and Erin Baker had no report
* Issues and Concerns
  + Concern from the Sociology Graduate Student Association regarding access and fees for the Recreation Center during summer term. David will invite staff from the Recreation Center to the next GA to answer any questions.
* Announcements
* Next Meeting is March 15st, 2013
* Meeting adjourned at 4:51 pm.