**Graduate Student Senate General Assembly**

**Friday, October 4, 2013**

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

**Gallery- McFall**

**Handouts:** Funding for Professional Development Questionnaire, Minutes from GA 9/20/13

**Agenda**

* Call to Order
  + VP Martha called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm.
* Photographs of meeting: Please confirm consent
  + Martha asked anyone who does not consent to having their picture taken to notify SEC after so we will not include their picture on the website.
* Roll Call
  + 45 senators in attendance – a quorum is present.
* Approval of Minutes
  + Minutes approved.
    - Motion by (?) / Seconded by (?)
* Guests
  + Dominic Binkley, BGNews Reporter
    - Martha announced that Dominic will be present at all GSS meetings
  + Dr. Michael Ogawa, Vice President for Research and Economic Development and Dean of the Graduate College
    - Priorities for the coming year for the grad college include budget challenges
    - How we got ourselves into this financial situation and the strategies the Grad College is taking; Funding sources for HE – Tuition and State Share of Instruction
    - Asked GSS why they don’t charge grads tuition: it used to make sense because an increase in enrollment meant more SSI; Now, due to budget cuts, 75% of funding comes from tuition.
    - How can we change business practices to respond to state of the state?
    - Pres. Mazey’s email today said there will be a budget deficit of $6-10 million dollars over the next 3 years
      * Applied Stats asked for clarification regarding that number.
    - Declining enrollment since 2007; shift in enrollment strategy; higher standards and lower enrollment (aimed for 3600, got about 3400 – about $2,000,000 lack of tuition dollars); aimed for increase of 50 graduate students, got only 11 graduate students.
    - Calculation of number of students who graduate has shifted
    - Competitor universities have increases in degrees conferred as well
    - Every unit on campus has to figure out what to do.
    - In the graduate college, we are going to do the following:
      * Stick to principles: strong programs, strong students
      * Short term: address current budget cuts by reallocating
      * Long term: sustainable portfolio of programs, including creating more professional degree programs; reallocating scholarship budgets; look at the type of programs that are being supported by other sources of revenue
      * Attempt to stick to guiding principles: hold current students harmless; realign tuition scholarship budgets but not stipend budget. HOWEVER, every program, unit, college, etc. is different
    - Questions
      * Sociology GSA: Could the tuition be on a monthly installment plan if grads will be charged tuition? Yes, in time
      * Psychology: What level of magnitude will you be willing to cut current programs? Whatever it takes. 6-15% cuts, maybe higher or lower. Incremental process. Take a stab, take a number, see consequence of that. Until we get the results
      * Physics & Astronomy: Are we going to cut programs? Not likely – we’ll morph.
      * Accounting: Strategies for improving programs we have? Grad college will now be more actively recruiting and admitting – more program/faculty specific; advise better strategies for giving out resources, like “Airline seat strategy” where various people pay more or less (like undergrad model)
      * Pop culture: Will current graduate students be defunded
      * English: How will this affect censure? Will guiding principles be considered by consulting firm? Consulting firm being brought in, but will not be making academic decisions
      * Communication Sci & Disorders: Our program is highly competitive and nationally ranked, will that be considered/protected? All will be considered, not everyone will agree with decisions made, Ogawa hopes we agree with why these choices are being made
      * Political Science: Increase of teaching in classroom vs. research time – how will that be affected by this? Bargaining in new contract; faculty workload expectations; not being written such that one size fits all. Research commitments should equal research productivity
  + Jeffrey Jackson, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management and Director, Career Center
    - Here to introduce himself and remind grads that we can use CS – all services available to grads as well.
    - Stakeholders: Students, interested employers, and faculty members
    - CS doesn’t have specific programs geared for grad students yet. Wants suggestions, including recruiting employers.
      * Lingxiao: Spring Professional Development Day Feb 20, 214: Hosted by Career Services and GSS.
      * Sociology GSA: Services that help you translate academic work to nonacademic jobs – how to talk about it / explain it. Resources on how to do that.
      * BOT Rep: Marketing strategies don’t make it clear that grads can use it; gets lost in shuffle of marketing to UGs
      * Communication Sciences and Disorders) Clarity in kind of jobs employers who come to expos are looking for? Get a worknet account! New people to be hired soon to help make these things clearer as well.
      * College of Tech: How to construct a CV; connect with the different colleges
      * Center for Teaching and Learning: Use the website better – make it clearer; more international-student friendly employers please
      * Asst. Dean Dr. Chavers – GSO, Project SEARCH, supportive/ cooperative of GSS
* Introduction of SEC Members
* Officers Reports
  + Student Affairs Representative: Erin Baker
    - Met with Dick Sipp, Student Health. How the Affordable Care Act affects our policies. If ACA goes into effect, it will affect us on Jan 1. He’ll come next semester to explain how. Should make it easier to get other health insurance than what the University has to offer. We should stay in the University Council which allows for joint plan with a few other universities.
  + Academic Affairs Representative: Rachel Robinson (in absentia)
    - Martha announced this on behalf of Rachel
    - Dean of Health and Human Services Finalists: http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/provost/page119343.html
  + Vice President: Martha Schaffer
    - Committee Assignments – still need some, please come volunteer with Martha after GA
    - Regalia Award Application Deadline Extension to 10/9
  + President: Lingxiao Ge
    - Update from the BOT meeting that BOT ret attended: Strategic plan includes a revision of 2009 goals, but none were about the grad programs. Added goal to link graduate programs to scholarship programs and pursuits – goals can be found online
    - All email accounts will be updated and moved on 10/15 . Most of the movement will happen in fall break, and shouldn’t affect our email use
    - Oct. 10 – new my.bgsu will go live, be permanent. Everyone will be in the same email system. 25 gigs of memory per person. At the10/25 GA, the CIO will come present on this and other things.
    - List of companies and employers you are interested in forward to Lingxiao who will send them to Jeff Jackson
* Committee Reports
  + Send Martha an email before an upcoming meeting if you want on the agenda for a committee report.
* Old Business
* New Business
  + Dissemination of Information to Departments – most important job as a senator. Not all departments are getting updates on the information. Please Just forward the blurb from Martha and Liz.
  + Departmental Professional Development Funds (Martha) – questionnaire re: professional development funds available through GSS. You have departmental funds as well. Every department has their own way for us to access that money, though sometimes it is not well advertised or easily accessible. Senators for department/program should get that information and share it with your department. Report to your constituents! See Martha with questions.
  + Paperless General Assembly Meetings – Faculty Senate and GSS are going to paperless meetings. We’ll send the handouts – use your devices or print your own. Beginning next GA.
* Issues and Concerns
  + Accounting: We need more bike racks on the east side of the BA building. Can we request this?
  + SA Rep: Homecoming parade cancelled.
  + Theatre and Film: Can we get the email President Mazey sent to Fac Staff? Lingxiao will request it if we don’t get it.
  + Senator: For committee service, who should we contact regarding committee work if they didn’t contact us? Contact Alice ([alicec@bgsu.edu](mailto:alicec@bgsu.edu))
    - GSS committee? We’ll contact you soon

* Announcements
  + Next GA: Friday, October 25, 2013, 3-5pm, McFall Gallery (Guest Speakers: Provost Rodney Rogers and Chief Information Officer John Ellinger)
  + Homecoming
  + Katzner Award for Graduate Student Research and Professional Development (Fall Semester Application deadline: November 15th) - Cool award, good funding for research/exploration
    - http://www.bgsu.edu/gradcoll/page27096.html
  + Common Read Experience Adventure Race, October 18, 5-7 pm; explanation of common read by martha
    - Sign up to participate: **https://orgsync.com/75734/forms/84274**
    - Sign up to volunteer: **https://orgsync.com/75734/forms/85179**
  + Accounting: HATCH in the College of Business. Entreprenurial dept. Deadline nov. 1 – go to 1st floor college of business application – work with you over the course of 6 months, present idea to a shark tank who may fund your idea if they like it. There may be a website on the college of business
  + African People’s Association: GA women’s center – Monday Unveiling Silent Witness project – 7pm Islamic center; Womens research network presenters, brown bag speakers – still looking for presenters for next semester
* Adjournment:
  + Accounting motioned to adjourn; many vocal seconds. Meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm.