Graduate Student Organization

Fall Meeting #1: 20 September 2017

Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order
   1. Called to order at 4:37PM
2. Approval of Summer 2017 Meeting #1 Minutes and Representative Training (Special Meeting) Minutes.
   1. Approved by majority of Council
3. Current Budget
   1. Presented by Layla Touchet

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Travel** | $31,601.41 |
| **Research** | $13,543.46 |
| **Operational** | $500.00 |
| **Total Funding** | $45,644.87 |

1. Update from the president on obtaining grant from VP of research.
   1. Spoke with Dr. Sandoz on the situation
   2. No further information
2. Review Applications for Funding/Report from Funding Committee
   1. Applications that were approved:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Department** | **Student** | **Amount Request** | **Category** | **Meeting Notes** |
| PETE-Petroleum Engineering | George Parapuram | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| CODI-Communicative Disorders | Marissa Young | $400.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| CODI-Communicative Disorders | Stefanie Becerril | $400.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| PETE-Petroleum Engineering | Shuzian Jiang | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| CODI-Communicative Disorders | Monica Kania Mattam | $400.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| GEOL-Geology | Kohl Koppens | $500.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| CODI-Communicative Disorders | Kelly Koch | $160.00 | Research | approved |
| GEOL-Geology | Lauren Martz | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| MODL-French | Marie-Laurie Boudreau | $500.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Ana Costa | $500.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Ariana Rupp | $400.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | W. Ryan James | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | W. Ryan James | $100.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Claudia Laurenzano | $160.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Justin Lesser | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Justin Lesser | $100.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Samantha Hauser | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Marques Jackson | $500.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Majdi Chaari | $160.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Lesley Kim | $400.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Paige Byerly | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | David Behringer | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | David Behringer | $100.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Jaymes Awbrey | $160.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Jonas Mendez Reneau | $160.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Terri Cain | $160.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Paige Byerly | $500.00 | Grant | ULL Symposium open to all students |
| BIOL-Biology | Md Noman Siddiqui | $160.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Sanjana Banerjee | $160.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Sabrina Tabassum-tackett | $156.35 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Ivan Meberly | $160.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Michael Fulbright | $160.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Michael Fulbright | $240.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Upasana Ganguly | $160.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Sheila Moaleman | $160.00 | Research | group, approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Shelcie Menard | $160.00 | Research | group, approved |
| COUS-Counselor Education | Laura Loewer | $200.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| GEOL-Geology | Roxanna Vaught-Mijares | $500.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| CODI-Communicative Disorders | Karie Kuecker | $400.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| CODI-Communicative Disorders | Brittany Falcon Rutland | $400.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| CODI-Communicative Disorders | Shelby Oneal | $400.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| GEOL-Geology | Amanda Johnston | $498.40 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| COUS-Counselor Education | Jenna Landry | $200.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| COUS-Counselor Education | Maria Istre | $120.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| COUS-Counselor Education | Erika Herring | $200.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| COUS-Counselor Education | Rhea Cooper | $200.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| COUS-Counselor Education | Houston Champagne | $200.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| ENGL-English | Jeanna L. Mason | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Erik Yando | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Erik Yando | $100.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Scott F Jones | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Scott F. Jones | $100.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Meagan McCoy | $100.00 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Meagan McCoy | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| PETE-Petroleum Engineering | Fatick Nath | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| PSYC-Psychology | Madison Gamble | $400.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Deborah Rogers | $500.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Jack Craig | $400.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Maxwell Bernt | $400.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Andrea Jaugge | $159.90 | Research | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Maunmayee Pathare | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Jaylyn Babitch | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| BIOL-Biology | Justin Scioli | $160.00 | Research | **approved** |
| BIOL-Biology | Katie Musser | $160.00 | Research | **approved** |
| BIOL-Biology | Sarah Bolinger | $160.00 | Research | **approved** |
| BIOL-Biology | Eric Tobin | $160.00 | Research | approved |
| ENGL-English | Jessica Doble | $400.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| CODI-Communicative Disorders | Anne Williams | $400.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| ENGL-English | Samantha Castleman | $400.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| ENGL-English | Kimberly Southwick-Thompson | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| ELEC-Electrical Engineering | Majdi Chaari | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| CACS-Computer Science & Engineering | Oladiran Gideon Olaeye | $500.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| ELEC-Electrical Engineering | Jacob Martin | $500.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| PHYS-Physics | Sakib Mahmub | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| GEOL-Geology | Taylor Dorn | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| GEOL-Geology | Cynthia Ledet Cook | $160.00 | Research | approved |
| CACS-Computer Science & Engineering | Baijun Wu | $500.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| MUSC-Music | Jesse Delgizzi | $100.00 | Nondutied Travel | approved |
| COUS-Counselor Education | Houston Champagne | $75.00 | Research | approved |
| PHYS-Physics | Shankar Prasad Kharal | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| PHYS-Physics | Peter Achi | $300.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |
| ENGL-English | Courtney Bodin | $400.00 | Dutied Travel | approved |

1. Vote on bylaw amendment and Constitution update.

* New Business
  + Constitution update
    - After much discussion, it seems as if it were decided to not vote on it, since no changes were made to the Constitution.
  1. Applicable to all Committees
     1. Vote to Amend Bylaws in Section X and any other applicable sections if constitutional language for subcommittees is passed.
        1. After much discussion, it was brought to a vote for the Communication Committee to proofread & edit the proposed bylaw changes and to bring a final draft in front of the Council when completed.
        2. Ana made the motion, and Blair seconded the motion.
        3. There was unanimous approval.
     2. Discuss creating Language Consistent in Constitution and Bylaws
        1. For example, Membership, Council, Executive Council, etc.
     3. After much discussion, Ana motioned to move to the next topic, and Marissa seconded this motion.

1. Report from Advocacy Committee
   1. See attached below.
2. Report from Communication Committee
   1. See attached below.
3. Old Business:
   1. Funding Committee
      1. Funding Concerns and Long-term Solutions
         1. How to move forward with fee increase
            1. Hold on this if we get the grant from Dr. Kollaru each year.
            2. It wouldn’t be as necessary if we have this grant
            3. Jessica showed concern that we already voted on the fee increase, so she was trying to understand how this was being discussed.
            4. It was clarified that we will go through with the fee increase, it was just a matter of moving forward with the fee increase now or waiting to do it until later
         2. Looking at other funding opportunities
            1. Subhash will be meeting with Dr. Kollaru on October 11th. He pulled data to present in order to obtain more funding from Dr. Kollaru. It has been said that he seems positive about providing this funding.
   2. Advocacy Committee
      1. Married Housing
         1. Dean Farmer-Kaiser said that they are still working on it and hopefully have good news for the following semester.
         2. Discussion and clarification was led by Mathematics rep/Public Relations Officer about why this issue is especially pertinent for international students.
         3. Discussion was led among Reps involving why this is an issue.
      2. Interlibrary Loan Issues
   3. Communication Committee
      1. Website Updates
   4. Advocacy Committee
      1. Creative Writing Students Concerns
         1. Tabled to next meeting with motion by Layla Touchet and seconded by Sanjeev
      2. Transparency Concerns
         1. Deadlines Confusion brought by Jessica Doble.
         2. Kim and Emily (from English) brought their concerns involving the transparency issue and the confusion involving the deadlines for an outside perspective
            1. What will be brought to help resolve this issue?
            2. What can we do to help with this precedent?
            3. There was concern for the students who did not know that were disadvantaged.
            4. Orgsync could be a way to message whole grad school body to let them know about deadlines.
         3. Funding committee will create a deadline for applications.
4. Other Advocacy/Concerns/Questions
5. Adjournment
   1. Motion by Marissa Young
   2. Seconded by Layla Touchet
   3. Adjourned at 7:27PM

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Advocacy Subcommittee Minutes

Meeting September 13th, 2017

5:05pm – Meeting called into session

1. First Order of Business:
2. Motion called to address the upcoming council meeting agenda
3. Advocacy issues need to be moved to “Old Business” as these are issues that remain from the summer meeting
4. Main Order of Business:
5. Finalize text to be presented for vote among the council at the September 20th, 2017 meeting

Issue: introduce language to the committee and sub-committee language clarifying the role of committees and subcommittees are to formulate ideas and address possible interests when preparing agendas to be voted upon by the council. Committees and subcommittees do not make decisions on behalf of the council without the council voting on said recommendations

1. Further Orders of Business:
2. Once language is established, the Advocacy Committee needs to address the issue of research assistants pay and evaluation issues
3. Seek permission to hold a “grad student forum” to hear issues grad students need addressed
4. Introduce language to the constitution further outlining the President’s duties to include reports from the president of meetings and discussions made on behalf of the committees and council
5. Reminder for minutes to be clear to those not present at the meeting (include more description on issues being discussed and voted on along with the decisions made in those votes)
6. Consider clarifying representative duties in the constitution
7. Consider previous offer for GSO to have a paid graduate assistantship position to handle administrative duties

6:10 – Meeting called to close, meeting adjourned

Proposed change to constitution to be voted on at council meeting:

Definition of committees and subcommittees – Committees and subcommittees role in the Graduate Student Organization is to discuss and make recommendations on issues and legislation in a smaller group with the goal of clarifying much legislative language and many actions before being brought for further discussion and voting before the council.

Advocacy- to survey graduate students for issues that may affect a graduate student’s life and academic progress, and to take appropriate action in attempting to remedy these issues, including; drafting legislation with the Graduate Student Representatives in the Student Government Association, writing letters to University of Louisiana system officials, working with the Dean of the Graduate School, writing letters to the Louisiana legislature.

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Communication Subcommittee Minutes

Meeting September 12, 2017

11.10 AM – Meeting called into session

1. Communication subcommittee discussed the extent of the proposed communication committee’s purpose, objectives, deliverables etc. in GSO.
2. Addressed issues about the future possible Web Ambassador Training to the President.
3. Finalized the possible language for the amendment of the bylaws to create and properly function the communication subcommittee to present in front of the council for voting.
4. Upon the request of the President, the subcommittee agreed to send prepared document to all the members of the subcommittee to further clean up and make suggestions before it goes to the council for voting.

12.20 PM – Meeting adjourned