Graduate Student Organization

Fall Meeting, 4:00pm Wednesday 23 October 2019

Agenda

1. Call Meeting to Order
   1. Called to order, 4:05 pm.
2. Attendance
   1. 16 of 29 (55%) representatives present. Quorum met.
3. President’s Report
   1. No report
4. VP’s Report
   1. No report
5. Treasurer Report
   1. The GSO has received more travel applications than could be sustained by current levels of funding. However, students should continue to submit applications to GSO so that a degree of need for funding can be established. There is still research funding available and students are encouraged to apply.
6. Secretary’s Report
   1. Rex apologizes that the agenda was not sent out before the meeting. Remember that his contact information and the date and time of meetings is posted to the GSO website: GSO.louisiana.edu.
7. Report from Communication Committee
   1. No report
8. Old Business
   1. NAGPS
      1. The GSO is considering send a delegate to the National Association of Graduate-Student Professionals conference. Please contact President John Miller if interested at jxm8956@louisiana.edu
   2. Bylaw Amendment - $5,000 Discretionary Funding Stipulation
      1. Per last meeting, the proposed bylaw amendment would stipulate that $5,000 of the GSO budget be classified as discretionary funds. Currently there is no discretionary funding allotment in the GSO budget. Representative Guillory, (Systems Technology,) identified that per Article VI of the bylaws, 2/3 of the total membership must be present at a GSO meeting to amend any bylaw. That requirement was not met, and there for the discretionary fund bylaw amendment is tabled.
9. New Business
   1. ILL Article Resolution “A resolution to enhance research access”
      1. See attached amendment for full text. This resolution is currently under debate in the SGA. Motion heard, seconded, and carried to suspend rules and procedures to move this resolution to old business. Resolution was unanimously carried after no debate. This resolution will be presented to the Student Technology Enhancement Program (STEP) office.
   2. Undergraduate Student Pay
      1. See attached amendment for full text. Secretary Jones introduced this resolution in the SGA. He indicated that this issue, while not technically applying to graduate students, is of concern to the GSO. Jones explained that by the next meeting of the GSO, the SGA will have already debated and decided upon the issue.
   3. SGA Balance Transfer
      1. The SGA has $2,200 each semester to spend upon a project of benefit to the entire graduate school. Secretary Jones indicated the possibility of transferring that amount to the GSO general budget.
10. Other Advocacy/Concerns/Questions
    1. n/a
11. Announcements
    1. Dr. Jan Allen, Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs at Cornell University, will join us next Tuesday, October 29 at 12:30pm to discuss strategies for becoming a more productive writer. Sign up using the link: <https://calendar.louisiana.edu/graduate-school/view/event/date/20191029/event_id/3139>
    2. SGA Graduate School Vacancies - the Student Government Association still needs 3 graduate representatives. The SGA is a critical vehicle for Graduate advocacy. Next year the Graduate school will gain another senator position bringing to the total up to 5 senators.
    3. SGA Multiple Research Requests – As of Monday, October 28, the SGA has passed an amendment to allow students presenting research to submit multiple conference registration funding requests. The SGA bylaws now read (Article VIII,Section 1, Subsection 4, page 13) now reads, “Any campus organization or individual requesting funds shall do so only once. This rule shall not apply to academic organizations or individuals presenting.”
12. Adjournment
    1. Adjournment at 5:46 p.m.

**A Resolution to Enhance Research Access**

*A proposal to utilize students’ STEP funds to purchase ILL articles*

**WHEREAS** access to research materials is essential to the operations of a Tier-1 Research University; and

**WHEREAS** current Inter-Library Loan (ILL) policy is as follows: “*There is always a non-refundable $2.00 handling charge to support article delivery. It is drawn from the user’s Cajun Cash account at the time the request is handled. If the lending institution requires any payment, the ILL staff obtains the user's agreement to pay those charges before submitting the request. ILL accepts Cajun Cash, Departmental Charge Account or money order.* [*Cajun Cash*](https://cajuncard.louisiana.edu/cajun-cash) *is the default method of payment*;” and

**WHEREAS** students have access to a semesterly printing allowance currently managed through PaperCut application and such funds might be used to secure articles through the ILL system.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that this Graduate Student Organization requests the University to make the necessary arrangements to allow students to opt to pay for ILL articles using their remaining Student Technology Enhance Program printing balances if possible.

**A Resolution for Equitable Student Pay**

*A request on behalf of student employees*

**WHEREAS** undergraduate student-employees are paid, and have been paid, the federal minimum wage since 2009 and said wage represents only the absolute floor for earned compensation; and

**WHEREAS** the cost of attendance at this university has increased nearly fifty percent within that same ten-year period; and

**WHEREAS** the University has an ethical obligation to equitably compensate its employees.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that this Student Government hereby implores the university to fulfill its obligations by meaningfully exceeding the federal minimum hourly wage for all undergraduate employees.