Graduate Student Organization

Meeting #3: 15 November 2017

Minutes

1. Call meeting to Order

1. called to order at 4:36

2. Approval of Fall Meeting #2 minutes

3. SACS team to present the QEP candidates from Dr. Jordan Kilman.

1. Students received email to vote
2. SACS accreditation
3. Document is linked in email to students
4. Each 8-page document is a summary of different plans
5. Each plan is linked to the university’s Strategic Plan.
6. Basis for Voting:
   1. Advising and Mentoring
   2. Critical Reasoning
   3. Global Citizenship
      1. Director of Global Position Opening up
      2. More study abroad options
   4. Active Learning Spaces
      1. Classroom technology
      2. Building structures and flexible seating
   5. Enhanced Teaching and Learning
   6. Sophomore-year retention
      1. On last QEP ten years ago
      2. Instituted UNIV 100
      3. Gives freshmen certain experiences to improve retention
      4. Critical time for student development and progress
      5. Developing a sophomore program similar to UNIV 100 for freshmen
   7. Student Research
      1. Research needs for graduate students
      2. Research opportunities for students
      3. Student support or research and publications
   8. Writing
      1. Writing across the curriculum
      2. Strengthen student writing across to the disciplines
      3. Encourage more feedback on student writing
      4. Focus on providing resources to foster good writing
   9. Student Question: WIll there be more library resources for student research?
      1. QEP has to have funds. Some QEPs are more library-intensive components than other.
      2. Current Writing Center has limitations--Could we expand it?
   10. SQ: Active Learning Spaces--would less-technologically advanced buildings have priority, or will money be split?
       1. So far, the university has begun attacking the problem. There is a 4-year plan to get technology in all classrooms. All Liberal Arts money mostly went to Griffin Hall. It is high on the list.
   11. SQ: Who takes the survey?
       1. Sent to student and employee lists, some alum and representatives, some other small groups.
   12. SQ: We vote on what,
       1. We vote on which priority, and then another committee will decide how to implement.
   13. SQ: Is this allocated in tuition and feed?
       1. No added cost to students.
   14. SQ: Critical Reasoning--What time of form will writing take?
       1. Open to the planning process. Ideas are in the one-paper. Curriculum in disciplines and committees, incorporation into UNIV 100.

3. Report from the advocacy committee from Brian

* 1. Letter finalized from and official approval for the international students being taken advantage of

4. Report from the communication committee from Istiaq

* 1. Linda will take the attendance for OrgSync
  2. Waiting on the training for the website

5. Current Budget

5. Review Application for Funding / Report for funding Committee

6. Meeting with Dr. Koloru and Dr. Sandoz has been cancelled.

7. Advocacy Concerns

1. Creative Writing Concerns
   1. Academic language in the by-laws hurts the Creative Writing Program
   2. Section 4 of the By-laws appropriations
   3. Academic Duties are not appropriate for creative writing students
      1. Students in creative writing duties are different.
      2. Different types of professionalism
      3. Book Fair university booth staffings
      4. Workshops, retreats, residencies
      5. Organizing is an academic duty
      6. Publishing and giving readings
   4. By-law language does not reflect reality.
   5. Move to the funding committee agenda for the next meeting
   6. Definition of academic duties.
   7. Motion to put on agenda - Jessica motioned, Blair seconded
2. Letter to graduate school about stipends.
   1. Sent to Dr. Sandoz
   2. Informal discussions with Dean Farmer-Kaiser
3. Married housing issue
   1. Letter attached to the agenda email
   2. Istiaq explained the rent and stipend issue
   3. Subhash explained his situation
   4. Emails to authorities are being unanswered
   5. Problem will continue unless resolved
   6. Proposes to write an official letter from the GSO
   7. Question from Jessica: What would you like to see happen?
      1. Answer: I do not want a reduction. I want month-by-month basis.
   8. Policies are different for different housing places on campus.
      1. Same policy for all housing.
      2. Master’s students’ stipend is eaten up.
   9. Jessica motions and MODL second for formal letter to Dr. Sandoz from GSO.
      1. Make clear the lease length.
4. NEW Business
   1. Nominations for election
      1. If a rep is stepping down, let graduate coordinator know and write a resignation and replacement
      2. Even if you are continuing as a rep, have the coordinator write Subhash that you are continuing.
      3. Subhash will be president until 12/15 and can make decisions. Ana motioned, Jonah seconded
      4. Subhash thanks representatives.
      5. Nominations for President
         1. Istiaq nominated Jonah - rejected nomination
         2. MODL nominated Ana - Ana can stay one meeting. Interim president
         3. Brian for President - nominated himself
         4. Unanimous vote for Brian
            1. New geology representative
         5. Vote for split secretary and treasurer
            1. Jonah motioned, Linda seconded
            2. Effective December 16
            3. Amend by-laws
            4. Will be voted electronically
         6. Ana motioned, Jonah seconded PR officer to be on executive council
            1. Effective December 16
            2. Amend by-laws
            3. Will be voted electronically
         7. Istiaq will continue as PR officer.
         8. Jonah nominated himself for VP
            1. All in favor
         9. Ana nominated Linda for secretary.
            1. All in favor
         10. Sanjeev nominated himself for treasurer
             1. All in favor
   2. Tax Rule Change
      1. Brian explains the new tax change affecting graduate students.
      2. Contact your representatives.
      3. Communications committee can write an open letter.
      4. Motion for pre-approved letter - Ana motined, Blair seconded. Approved
      5. Jessica and Linda will make a Google doc