Graduate Student Organization

First Spring Meeting 27 February 2019

Agenda

1. Call Meeting to Order
   1. Jonah starts the meeting
2. Attendance
   1. Quorum made
3. President’s Welcome
   1. Jonah discusses working with the campus food bank to tackle food insecurity.
4. President’s Report
   1. Guest Speaker – Dean Dr. Mary Farmer-Kaiser
   2. Guest Speaker – Dr. Philip de Mahy - arrived at 4:54
      1. 2/28, computer lab in Moody, bring manuscript for formatting. Philip and formatters will be there. Another event will take place next month
      2. Lunch and learn 2/28 in Moody – getting the most out of internships
      3. Advertised SU&W (see announcements below)
      4. Grad student appreciation week – week of April 1
         1. Research showcase – win money!
      5. Food events – register so the Graduate School and food vendors have a head count
5. VP’s Report
   1. Report from Advocacy Committee
      1. Daniel talks about going to grad council meeting and that he can’t talk about it due to confidentiality
      2. Advocacy committee meeting previous week
         1. Discusses about grad students not having enough funding left from their advisors at UL
         2. Need to look into this issue for students who deal with this to find a solution
         3. Parking is still a huge issue going on at campus and still needs to be addressed
6. Treasurer/Secretary’s Report
   1. Current Budget
      1. Justin – current budget – $21,425 – provided by Sue Broussard
7. Report from Communication Committee
   1. Jamie talks about bylaw changes/clarifications so the website can then be updated
8. Old Business
   1. Bylaw Edit – General Language Clarifications
      1. Jonah – any major changes? Spelling/grammar?
         1. No one says anything.
         2. Jamie motions to vote in, Blair seconds, all vote for the changes - APPROVED
   2. Bylaw Edit – Section VI-8a – Defining Travel Distance
      1. Justin – travel to a city with the tier system must be IN the city. Many conferences are not within that city. Talked to travel office, fund based on tiers within 30 miles of the city center.
      2. Jonah –
      3. Justin and Jamie – motioned, Justin/Informatics seconds, all in favor - APPROVED
   3. Bylaw Edit – Section VI-5 – Funding Regarding TWOAD
      1. Unclear in bylaws. Heard at the second GSO meeting of the semester
      2. Fumy motioned, Justin/Informatics seconds, all in favor - APPROVED
   4. Bylaw Addition – Section II – Addition of Public Relations (PR) Chair to the Executive Board
      1. Jonah – PR isn’t an e-board member even though she does a lot of work for us.
      2. Jonah – questions? none
      3. Jamie and Kemi motioned, Justin/Informatics second, all in favor - APPROVED
9. New Business:
   * 1. Justin discusses to make sure that applications are complete before submission.
     2. When filling out applications – amount requested line MUST BE A TIER AMOUNT, not a tallied up amount of expenses. Makes it easier when sorting through applications.
   1. TWAD Appropriations
      1. No money for travel after approval.
         1. Jonah – issues? Justin – no
         2. Justin – some apps in the list that are approved conditionally until confirmation of academic duties
         3. Motioned to approved – Jonah, Jamie and Kemi second, all in favor - APPROVED
      2. Funding Issue – Early Application – Jude Marr
         1. Jude – complete, approved application that was given to the graduate office before the first day to submit applications (before January 16; January 14). Not trying to jump out of line and doesn’t know why her and Clinton didn’t know about the rule. Graduate office says they don’t know about this rule. Says this was out of the blue. Concerned with costs of other things and being an international student that she can’t afford to not get this $300 reimbursement.
         2. Clarification of the issue by Jonah to the General council.
         3. Justin – application was received a full WEEK before acceptance date. Reps need to pass this information along to their reps.
         4. James – this falls on the reps shoulders.
         5. Fumy – when was it signed? Justin – Dec 4 after the rule change
         6. Clinton – was this voted in?
         7. Fumy – didn’t know about the rule, wasn’t at the meeting
         8. Jamie – emailed everyone
         9. James – is money all spent?
         10. Jude – why don’t we check the apps the day in question?
         11. Justin – not everyone arrives on campus at the same day.
         12. Jude – disadvantaging some people and shifting boundaries
         13. Justin – motion to fund this application in emergency capacity so everyone funded doesn’t lose funding and Jude gets funding.
         14. Jonah clarifies this motion
         15. Clinton seconds, all in favor but 2 – APPROVED
         16. Rep (missed name, was typing when asked) – is there a way to notify the graduate school?
         17. Jonah – grad school is not responsible for knowing when to accept applications
         18. Maggi – not a big deal to leave a sign saying when they accept the applications
         19. Justin – good suggestion, didn’t do because of rep responsibility
         20. Fumy – will sign to make sure application is in on time despite this rule
         21. Clinton – agree with suggestions, we need a sign or something to communicate this (via MFK?) to make this very official so it’s not a secret to anyone. Would help to tell the grad school office for this purpose
         22. Maggi – cheat sheet for them
         23. Justin – great suggestions
         24. Justin/Informatics - websites have calendar system, lets make these events and share with grad school and departments
   2. Research Appropriations
      1. Remaining after approval = $372.53
      2. Funding Issue – Clint Bergeron
         1. Incomplete application, no cover letter so wouldn’t be funded. Rep willing to sacrifice own funding for this student with the cover letter.
         2. Justin – will be returned and must be resubmitted. But wants to use funds to specifically fund said application despite being incomplete. Vote to fund or not fund.
         3. Clint – I want my rep to keep the money! I want this situation to be prevented in the future. Ex filter?
         4. Justin – does exist, it’s the rep. No one looks at it. It’s not a problem because multiple people looked at it
         5. Clint – moodle form to check?
         6. Justin – no we are paper based
         7. Ayotunde – I still want to vote to volunteer and this doesn’t make sense
         8. Justin – it does bc its incomplete. Must be returned to grad school to be time stamped
         9. Jamie – jumping the line doing this
         10. Tolu – just take the money and give it to him after reimbursement
         11. Daniel – get application back during this meeting only. Pick app up after the meeting
         12. Decided to give Clint his money after the fact
10. Other Advocacy/Concerns/Questions
11. Announcements
    1. Encourage Representative attendance at all GSO council and committee meetings
    2. Graduating Executive Board Members and Representatives
       1. President and Secretary positions
          1. PR and VP also graduating.
          2. Jonah and Jamie encourage reps to attend eboard meetings to see what its all about
       2. Filling representative positions
          1. Jonah – determine your department voting process, GSO eboard doesn’t have a rule for what way to do it
          2. Jamie – vote new reps in ASAP so they have the possibility to attend a S19 meeting to check it all out
          3. Keep GSO updated on contact information
    3. Shut up and Write
       1. Tuesdays from 9-11 – Louisiane Room (219)
       2. Wednesdays from 11-1 – Bayou Room AB (211)
          1. Philip advertises
12. Adjournment
    1. Jonah motioned, Jamie seconds, all in favor – adjourned.