1. Call Meeting to Order
   1. Meeting called to order at 5:04 PM
2. Dean Farmer-Kaiser
   1. Dean Farmer-Kaiser spoke on the importance of the GSO. She discussed the concerns about married student housing and rent/payment options. The issue is not settled, but it is being worked on by Dean Farmer-Kaiser and the upper administration. Next week, she will be meeting to discuss the process of getting a payroll deduction set up for Graduate Assistants. Please, continue to advocate and provide to support to the Dean as she works through this process.
   2. She also discussed that all GSO funds were requested at the first meeting. There is no easy fix to this issue, but an increase in the GSO fee is long overdue. Whether or how much it should be increased is not for administration to decide, but for the graduate student body. This will not happen while most of the current Graduate Student Body is here, so you may not get the benefits, but future students will. To increase the fee, the graduate student body must decide to do this, and make a case for increasing that fee to fellow graduate students. The first hurdle is getting a proposal through the GSO. The next hurdle is to get SGA to support the request. It would be put out as a ballot to graduate students. If passed by the graduate student body, it goes for approval through the University and ultimately the Board of Regents. Additionally, be cognizant that tuition has also gone up, so there will be push back. GSO is never going to be able to fund things completely, but it can provide important resources to assist. The Graduate School Office is also working with the Vice President of Research to see if they can get more grant dollars to work with for graduate student research.
   3. She concluded that she will persist, and that she would be happy to meet with any students individually.
3. Approval of Fall 2016 Meeting #3 Minutes
   1. Motion from Amber Slaven (English), Seconded by Brad Wedlock (Education); Approved.
4. Rollover Funds from Fall 2016; Report given by Ellie Spain (Secretary/Treasurer, MBA)
   1. Travel- $0.00
   2. Research- $0.00
   3. Operating Costs- $637.06
5. Current Budget; Report given by Ellie Spain (Secretary/Treasurer, MBA)
   1. Travel - $16,823.96
   2. Research - $7,210.27
   3. Operating Costs – $1137.06 - $255.00 (Application Printing Cost) - $30.00 (Title Card Printing Cost) = 847.06
6. Allocation Voting Results; Report given by Sarah Gawronski (President)
   1. Ms. Gawronski gave a quick introduction to the situation. Requests for funding were greater than allotted funds at the first meeting. A vote was given to representatives with the option to proceed without adjustment and leave many students unfunded, or to cut all applications by 40%. The results of the email vote were 26 representatives voted in favor of cutting individual application funding, and 1 voted against it. Upon a more thorough review of applications, the deficit was not as great as originally thought, and this was reduced to a 30% cut. She discussed some of the complications of first-come, first-serve: 70% of applications were turned in within the first week, 20% were turned in before February 1, many students do not get the required proof of acceptance until later in the semester, which puts them at an unfair disadvantage. She concluded by reminding those present that the bylaws state: “I. Graduate students may request financial support from the Graduate Student Organization. Council-determined funding limits should be in line with the anticipated budget for that semester. A graduate student is allotted a $400.00 maximum limit in funding per semester enrolled ($500.00 if traveling to a Tier IV city). This limit may be used for travel or split between travel and research.” Students are allotted a maximum of $400, but that also needs to fall in line with the GSO budget. As the budget was not adequate to fund the applications received at the maximum, applications will be reviewed at 70% of the application request. Students are invited to voice concerns regarding this situation after the application review.
   2. A student voiced a concern that she felt there was no chance for her representative to communicate with their department. Ms. Gawronski stated that the purpose of a representative body is to make decisions on behalf of their department. She agreed that communication gets to be improved, and that, when an urgent situation arises, a representative should be able to vote within the council.
7. Review Applications for Funding
   1. Marie-Laure Boudreau- Proxy- no questions- Approved
   2. Amanda Capelli- no questions- approved
   3. Kimberly Southwick-Thompson- no questions- approved (1 abstention)
      1. A student raised an unrelated question about what constitutes “academic duties”. Another student raised a concern that the discussion is prejudicial to the appeal, and the discussion closed.
   4. Cassandra Pfeifer- no questions- approved- $400
      1. Clarification of title by Ana Costa (Biology)
   5. Leigh Rourks- no questions- approved
   6. Amanda Capelli/EGSA- 2 opposed- approved
      1. Discussion raised by Ana Costa (Biology). The registration fee is $45.00, and funding has been received from other departments. Ms. Costa stated that, given the current budget issues, this should not be funded. Amber Slaven (English) stated that it is a good value. Nick Connell (Psychology) asked if it will stay at UL Lafayette. Ms. Capelli answered in the affirmative. Ms. Costa argued that if the conference is not dependent on GSO funding, and will happen either way, then this money should be used for individual students. If the situation were different, it would be a good investment, but we are experiencing a budget crisis. Sarah Gawronski (President) reminded the council that funding can be allotted to grants per the by-laws, and that, up until this point, “worthiness” has not been a factor in allocating funding. Ms. Costa reminded the council that we have the right and need to be able to deny requests. Ms. Capelli closed with an appeal to have the GSO invest in the Deep South Conference.
   7. Amber Slaven- no questions- approved
   8. Tingting Tang- no questions- approved
   9. Christina Bertrand- no questions- approved
   10. Koffi Prosper Amanoua- no questions- approved
   11. Pierre-Emmanuel Ros-Barbier- no questions- approved
   12. Alaa Ali- no questions- approved
   13. Mahmoud Darwich- no questions- approved
       1. After approval was completed, Nicole Barry (Mechanical Engineering) clarified that Mr. Darwich qualifies for Tier IV. The Council indicated that he did not ask for the maximum of $500.
   14. Ashley Veillon- no questions- approved
   15. Margaret G. Bienvenu- no questions- approved
   16. Jennifer van Alstyne- no questions- approved
   17. Landon Jones- no questions- approved
   18. Shelcie Menard- no questions- approved
   19. Lori Rubin- no questions- approved
   20. Deborah Rogers- no questions- approved
   21. Deborah Rogers- no questions- approved
   22. Marques Jackson- no questions- approved
   23. Eric Tobin- no questions- approved
   24. Alex Kascak- no questions- approved
   25. David Behringer- no questions- approved
   26. Claudia Laurenzano- no questions- approved
   27. Claudia Laurenzano- no questions- approved
   28. Justin Lesser- Proxy- 13 in favor, 7 against, 2 abstentions
       1. Sarah Gawronski (President) reminded the council that hardware upgarades are not something the GSO normally funds, so the proxy must defend this. Brad Wedlock (Education) asked if it is a RAM issue or a memory issue. The proxy indicated that it is a RAM issue. Salman Sakib (Civil Engineering) stated that there are many students who need such an upgrade. If we fund this one, we may have to fund many more. It was raised that this is an upgrade to Mr. Lesser’s personal computer, so he will maintain the upgrade when research is complete. Ms. Gawronski asked how vital this upgrade is to Mr. Lesser’s dissertation project, and are there other options? His proxy answered that it is vital to his research and he has no access to other options, except when his advisor can run his simulation. It was recommended that he check with surplus with the University.
   29. Fatick Nath- showed up late- no questions- approved- $300
   30. William Ryan James- no questions- approved
   31. Ivan Moberly- no questions- approved
   32. Ivan Moberly- no questions- approved
   33. Michael Fulbright- no questions- approved
   34. Michael Fulbright- no questions- approved
   35. Erik Yando- no questions- approved
   36. Samantha Hauser- approved
   37. Lesley Kim- no questions- approved
   38. Sarah Bolinger- no questions- approved
   39. Jaymes Awbrey- no questions- approved
   40. Arianna Rupp- proxy- no questions
   41. Arianna Rupp- proxy- 28 in favor, 3 opposed, 1 abstention- approved
   42. Kassandra Ford- no questions- approved
   43. Meagan McCoy- no questions- approved
   44. Katrina Gundlach- no questions- approved
   45. Jack Craig- 27 in favor, 1 against- approved
       1. Nicole Barry (Mechanical Engineering) asked if the calipers are more than $100? Mr. Craig answered yes. Salman Sakib (Civil Engineering) asked if the department provides them. Mr. Craig answered yes, but not enough.
   46. Justin Scioli- no questions- approved
   47. Justin Scioli- no questions- approved
   48. Catherine Craig- no questions- approved
   49. Catherine Craig- no questions- approved
   50. Brittany Foret- no questions- approved
   51. Kory Jackson-Evans- 28 in favor, 1 against, 1 abstention
   52. Brandon T. Waltz- proxy- 28 in favor, 1 against, 1 abstention
   53. Maxwell Bernt- no questions- approved
   54. Shelcie Menard/Katrina Gundlach- no questions- approved
   55. Rebecca Copell- no questions- approved
   56. Matthew Pincus- no questions- approved
   57. Cristian Rivera- no questions- approved
   58. Jude Marr- no questions- approved
   59. Jantzen Collette- proxy- no questions- approved
   60. Bin Wang- proxy- no questions- approved
   61. Jacob King- no questions- approved contingent on proof of acceptance clarification
   62. Clint Bergeron- no questions- approved contingent on proof of acceptance clarification – 1 abstention
   63. Amirhossein Tavanaei- no questions- approved
   64. Scott Jones- no questions- approved
   65. Caroline Sciarrillo- no questions- approved
   66. Andrew Savage- no questions- approved
   67. Olayinka Ayotunde- no questions- approved
   68. Luke Perreault- no questions- approved
   69. Haley Fedor- no questions- approved
   70. Seema Mallaualli- no questions- approved
   71. Saisreeteja Amirineni- no questions- approved
   72. Mohammadjavad Morshed- no questions- approved
   73. Chiedozie Nwachuku- no questions- approved
   74. Majdi Chaari- no questions- approved
   75. Meghan Sylvester- no questions- approved
       1. Originally requested $1107, but received $1000 grant, so amount was adjusted to the difference.
   76. Ikem Haffner, Akarsh Kandala, Gervais M. Boudreaux, Jacob Martin, Michael Davis, Ryan Kuemper, Ian Madray- approved
       1. This group request would allow use for multiple projects. Sarah Gawronski (President) asked if all applicants would utilize this equipment for their graduation research. The answer was affirmative.
   77. Prabhakar V. Vemavarapu- no questions- approved
   78. Uwem Ekong- no questions- approved
   79. Jason Woodworth- no questions- approved
   80. Oladiran Olaleye- no questions- approved
       1. Needed itemized list, brought to meeting
   81. Appeal: Britton Andrews, Jenny Robertson, Andrew Attana, Krista DeBehnke, Nolan Meditz, Rebecca Hazelwood; applications approved in bulk
       1. The executive council determined that these names did not meet the requirements of “academic duties”, but deferred the decision to the discretion of the council. Leigh Rourks spoke at length about the situation surrounding the applications. The applicants attended a conference, and participated in an off-site event. Off-site events are common at this conference, and are included in the program. However, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette event was not in the program because of a clerical error on the part of the attendees. Ellie Spain (Secretary/Treasurer, MBA) stated that the applicants did not meet a strict reading of the requirements of the bylaws, but she believed that they met the spirit of the requirements. Approved as “with duties” contingent on letters of acceptance.
8. Motion to move old business to after new business; Approved, 2 against
   1. A student inquired when the GSO receives its budget. The council answered that we get the budget after the 14th day of class, and that it is not meaningful until applications are received. The applications have traditionally been picked up after the deadline. This may be changed in the future for weekly pick-ups. A student asked where the applications are turned in and what the oversight of this process is. The council answered that the applications are turned in to the Graduate School office and are date and time stamped as they are received. Sarah Gawronski (President) indicated that the budget has been the same for the last ten years, but requests are increasing. Another student raised the concern that representatives voted to change the allocations in the middle of an application cycle. The question about why an emergency meeting wasn’t called was raised, and an email sent as a secondary option. Another student indicated that they were impartial about the cut, but felt like the GSO is a dysfunctional top-down organization, not a community or democracy. They asked for consistency and communication from the representatives. Another student stated that they understood the nature of the emergency vote, but not why representatives couldn’t have the opportunity to email their constituents. Nick Connell (Psychology) asked about the results of last semester’s survey, and whether a decision was made based on that. A new survey shall be crafted on OrgSync, and OrgSync may also be used for future communication.
9. Motion for old business to be moved to next meeting, as meeting is already over time limit; Approved.
10. Other Advocacy/Concerns/Questions?
    1. Ellie Spain (Secretary/Treasurer, MBA) informed attendees of Ragin’ Recognition. Graduate Students can apply for Graduate Student of the Year and odds are in your favor, as there were only two applicants last year.
11. Adjournment
    1. Motion to adjourn at 8:21; Approved.

\*Minutes amended to include costs at 100% funding, based on grant awarded to GSO by Office of Research

ATTENDANCE:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Department | Name | 2/21/2017 |
| President | Sarah Gawronski | Present |
| Architecture | Katie Leleaux | Present |
| Biology | Ana P. Costa | Present |
| Business Administration | Ellie Spain | Present |
| Chemical Engineering | Aderinsola Oduntan | Present |
| Civil Engineering | Salman Sakib | Present |
| Communication | Gaby Gonzales | Present |
| Communication Alternate | Amy Bourque | - |
| Communicative Disorders | Marissa Young | Absent |
| Computer Science & Engineering | Khalid Alattas | Present |
| Counselor Education | Laura Loewer | Proxy Registered (Laura Touchet) |
| Criminal Justice | Elizabeth Louviere | Present |
| Education | Brad Wedlock | Present |
| Electrical Engineering | Jacob Martin | Present |
| English | Amber Slaven | Present |
| Geology | Sydne Workman | Present |
| Gifted Education | Kristi Gregoire | Present |
| History | Abigail Enicke | Present |
| Kinesiology | Stacy Imagbe | Present |
| Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T) | Ashley Veillon | Present |
| Mathematics | Subhash Subedi | Present |
| Mechanical Engineering | Nicole Barry | Present |
| Modern Languages | Koffi Prosper Amanoua | Present |
| Music | Ted Romero | Present |
| Physics | Adam Trahan | Present |
| Psychology | Nick Connell | Present |
| Petroleum Engineering | Hunter Sudduth | Present |
| Systems Technology | Sharon Haristy | Present |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Department** | **Student** | **Amount Requested** | **Notes** |
| BIOL-Biology | Kory Jackson-Evans | $ 127.98 | External Hard Drive |
| BIOL-Biology | Shelcie Menard | $ 140.00 | New Orleans, LA |
| BIOL-Biology | Katrina Gundlach | $ 140.00 | New Orleans, LA |
| BIOL-Biology | Andrew Savage | $ 160.00 | Bait pump, filter media, test kit |
| BIOL-Biology | Scott Jones | $ 160.00 | Batteries, motor oil, U-bolt, trailer, nutrient analyses |
| BIOL-Biology | Sarah Bolinger | $ 160.00 | Blood and Tissue Kit |
| BIOL-Biology | Justin Scioli | $ 160.00 | Blood and Tissue Kit |
| BIOL-Biology | Catherine Craig | $ 160.00 | Blood and Tissue Kit |
| BIOL-Biology | David Behringer | $ 160.00 | Breathable Chest Waders |
| BIOL-Biology | William Ryan James | $ 160.00 | Breathable Chest Waders |
| BIOL-Biology | Erik Yando | $ 160.00 | Brinno TLC200Pro |
| BIOL-Biology | Jack Craig | $ 160.00 | Digital Caliper |
| BIOL-Biology | Maxwell Bernt | $ 160.00 | DNA Polymerase |
| BIOL-Biology | Arianna Rupp | $ 160.00 | External Hard Drive, Minnow Traps, Storage Boxes |
| BIOL-Biology | Jantzen Collette | $ 160.00 | Filter Paper |
| BIOL-Biology | Shelcie Menard | $ 160.00 | Filter, Animal Food, Cytochalasin |
| BIOL-Biology | Katrina Gundlach | $ 160.00 | Filter, Animal Food, Cytochalasin |
| BIOL-Biology | Meagan McCoy | $ 160.00 | Insecticides, Sprayer, PVC Pipes |
| BIOL-Biology | Brandon T. Waltz | $ 160.00 | Internal Hard Drive |
| BIOL-Biology | Ivan Moberly | $ 160.00 | Lamps and food |
| BIOL-Biology | Deborah Rogers | $ 160.00 | Neurotransmitter Antagonists and Small Weight Boats |
| BIOL-Biology | Landon Jones | $ 160.00 | Radio Telemetry Transmitter |
| BIOL-Biology | Marques Jackson | $ 160.00 | Taqman Genotyping Assays |
| BIOL-Biology | Brittany Foret | $ 160.00 | Taqman Genotyping Assays |
| BIOL-Biology | Justin Lesser | $ 160.00 | Timetec 32GB RAM upgrade kit |
| BIOL-Biology | Caroline Sciarrillo | $ 160.00 | Tubes, scalpel, forceps, tanks, mini-micro scissor |
| BIOL-Biology | Michael Fulbright | $ 160.00 | Waterproof Camera |
| BIOL-Biology | Lesley Kim | $ 160.00 | Waterproof Multiparameter Pocket Tester |
| BIOL-Biology | Claudia Laurenzano | $ 160.00 | WiFi endoscope inspection snake camera |
| BIOL-Biology | Deborah Rogers | $ 174.00 | New Orleans, LA |
| BIOL-Biology | Kassandra Ford | $ 236.50 | New Orleans, LA |
| BIOL-Biology | Claudia Laurenzano | $ 240.00 | New Orleans, LA |
| BIOL-Biology | Ivan Moberly | $ 240.00 | New Orleans, LA |
| BIOL-Biology | Michael Fulbright | $ 240.00 | New Orleans, LA |
| BIOL-Biology | Arianna Rupp | $ 240.00 | New Orleans, LA |
| BIOL-Biology | Justin Scioli | $ 240.00 | New Orleans, LA |
| BIOL-Biology | Catherine Craig | $ 240.00 | New Orleans, LA |
| BIOL-Biology | Lori Rubin | $ 300.00 | New Orleans, LA |
| BIOL-Biology | Jaymes Awbrey | $ 300.00 | New Orleans, LA |
| BIOL-Biology | Eric Tobin | $ 500.00 | Boston, MA |
| BIOL-Biology | Alex Kascak | $ 500.00 | Boston, MA |
| BIOL-Biology | Samantha Hauser | $ 500.00 | Warwick, UK |
| CACS-Computer Science & Engineering | Oladiran Olaleye | $ 160.00 | Miscellaneous Research Expenses |
| CACS-Computer Science & Engineering | Alaa Ali | $ 300.00 | New Orleans, LA |
| CACS-Computer Science & Engineering | Amirhossein Tavanaei | $ 400.00 | Anchorage, AL |
| CACS-Computer Science & Engineering | Prabhakar V. Vemavarapu | $ 400.00 | Los Angeles, CA |
| CACS-Computer Science & Engineering | Uwem Ekong | $ 400.00 | Los Angeles, CA |
| CACS-Computer Science & Engineering | Jason Woodworth | $ 400.00 | Los Angeles, CA |
| CACS-Computer Science & Engineering | Mahmoud Darwich | $ 400.00 | San Francisco, CA |
| EDCI-Educational Curriculum and Instruction | Ashley Veillon | $ 146.00 | PRAXIS |
| EDCI-Educational Curriculum and Instruction | Margaret G. Bienvenu | $ 146.00 | PRAXIS |
| ELEC-Electrical Engineering | Saisreeteja Amirineni | $ 160.00 | Battery, Controller Board, Set |
| ELEC-Electrical Engineering | Mohammadjavad Morshed | $ 160.00 | Digital scale, digital multi meter, wire cutters, allen keys set, screw driver set, electrical tape |
| ELEC-Electrical Engineering | Ikem Haffner | $ 160.00 | LightCrafter 6500 |
| ELEC-Electrical Engineering | Akarsh Kandala | $ 160.00 | LightCrafter 6500 |
| ELEC-Electrical Engineering | Gervais M. Boudreaux | $ 160.00 | LightCrafter 6500 |
| ELEC-Electrical Engineering | Jacob Martin | $ 160.00 | LightCrafter 6500 |
| ELEC-Electrical Engineering | Michael Davis | $ 160.00 | LightCrafter 6500 |
| ELEC-Electrical Engineering | Ryan Kuemper | $ 160.00 | LightCrafter 6500 |
| ELEC-Electrical Engineering | Ian Madray | $ 160.00 | LightCrafter 6500 and supplies |
| ELEC-Electrical Engineering | Chiedozie Nwachuku | $ 160.00 | Parrot AR Drone Motor and Controller, Parrot Drone Screws, Bearing Oil |
| ELEC-Electrical Engineering | Seema Mallaualli | $ 160.00 | Parrot AR Drone Quadcopter |
| ELEC-Electrical Engineering | Majdi Chaari | $ 160.00 | Zip ties, electrical wires, connectors, parts kit, navigation board, tool kit, propellers |
| ENGL-English | Jude Marr | $ 300.00 | Dekalb, IL |
| ENGL-English | Amanda Capelli | $ 300.00 | Springfield, KY |
| ENGL-English | Cassandra Pfeifer | $ 400.00 | Philadelphia, PA |
| ENGL-English | Amber Slaven | $ 400.00 | Philadelphia, PA |
| ENGL-English | Jennifer van Alstyne | $ 400.00 | San Diego, CA |
| ENGL-English | Matthew Pincus | $ 400.00 | San Diego, CA |
| ENGL-English | Jenny Robertson | $ 500.00 | Washington, DC |
| ENGL-English | Britton Andrews | $ 500.00 | Washington, DC |
| ENGL-English | Andrew Attana | $ 500.00 | Washington, DC |
| ENGL-English | Krista DeBehnlce | $ 500.00 | Washington, DC |
| ENGL-English | Nolan Meditz | $ 500.00 | Washington, DC |
| ENGL-English | Rebecca Hazelwood | $ 500.00 | Washington, DC |
| ENGL-English | Christina Bertrand | $ 500.00 | Baltimore, MD |
| ENGL-English | Haley Fedor | $ 500.00 | Baltimore, MD |
| ENGL-English | Amanda Capelli/EGSA | $ 500.00 | Sponsorship of Deep in the Global South |
| ENGL-English | Leigh Rourks | $ 500.00 | Washington, DC |
| ENGL-English | Kimberly Southwick-Thompson | $ 500.00 | Washington, DC; Manning table as editor-in-chief |
| GEOL-Geology | Luke Perreault | $ 400.00 | Houston, TX |
| HIST-History | Meghan Sylvester | $ 107.00 | Indianapolis, IN |
| MATH-Mathematics | Tingting Tang | $ 400.00 | Atlanta, GA |
| MECH-Mechanical Engineering | Olayinka Ayotunde | $ 400.00 | Los Angeles, CA |
| MECH-Mechanical Engineering | Jacob King | $ 500.00 | Washington, DC |
| MECH-Mechanical Engineering | Clint Bergeron | $ 500.00 | Washington, DC |
| MODL-French | Koffi Prosper Amanoua | $ 300.00 | Bloomington, IN |
| MODL-French | Pierre-Emmanuel Ros-Barbier | $ 300.00 | Bloomington, IN |
| MODL-French | Marie-Laure Boudreau | $ 400.00 | Bloomington, IN |
| PETE-Petroleum Engineering | Bin Wang | $ 300.00 | Montgomery, TX |
| PETE-Petroleum Engineering | Fatick Nath | $ 300.00 | Woodlands, TX |
| PSYC-Psychology | Cristian Rivera | $ 290.00 | San Antonio |
| PSYC-Psychology | Rebecca Copell | $ 400.00 | Denver, CO |
|  | **Total:** | **$ 25,487.48** |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | **Research:** | **$ 6,659.98** |  |
|  | **Travel:** | **$ 18,327.50** |  |
|  | **Grant:** | **$ 500.00** |  |