Graduate Student Senate (GSS) Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, October 16, 2018
Campus Center 905-09
5:00 pm - 6:45 pm

Dinner -- 5:00 PM

Call to Order -- 5:10 PM

25 Senators present

Welcome
Approval of September 2018 meeting minutes

- Raven from Economics- Move that we approve the minutes
- Derek from Education- Seconds the movement
- Senators to move- 20 (oppose and abstain- 0)

Announcements --
- Jiya Nasir, Student Trustee (absent: if senators want Jiya to attend their meetings, they may email her at studenttrustee@umass.edu, office hours mo,w, f @time…., 3rd floor, Bartlett hall)
- Student Government Association
  - Not present
- Graduate Employee Organization
  - Not present
- GSS Office/Senators/Graduate Students
  - Canan announced that the University Writing Committee needs volunteers
    - No volunteers
  - Dean of School of Public Health and Health Sciences needs grad student for committee
    - One potential volunteer
    - Canan will follow up with Volunteer
  - November/December meeting time- body decided on Tuesdays at 5pm
  - Johnny Tooson (GSS Advisor) introduced himself
  - Nadia made an announcement about the International Graduate Student Advisory Board
    - Social Justice Committee on October 19
  - Bianki shared with the new senators info on how to learn to pass motions, etc.
  - Justin discussed the Administration Committee on Finance: asking them to match the money GSS give for childcare
    - Would like a graduate student who is a parent to be at this meeting to discuss their story
Presentation 5:25 PM

- Introduction of new Campus’ Sexual Harassment policy, by Rolanda C. Burney, Ph.D. Chief of Staff of the Chancellor Office, and Debora D. Ferreira, Executive Director of the Equal Opportunity Office, and Title IX Coordinator.
  - Policy includes harassment and discrimination of any kind (INTERESTING)
  - Still doing cold revisions of policies
  - Prevents discrimination and harassment on multiple basis
    - Providing accommodations and resources to victims.
    - Title IX dating, domestic violence are included
    - Responsible employee (for example student affairs people, rez. Life employees).
    - Procedures on how to receive and disseminate reports. Protecting reporter’s privacy.
    - Online training course on Bridges. Online course teaching how to receive title IX complaint.
    - Graduate online course similar to bridges course. (Also trying to build a home-grown version of this. Center women and communities are working on it.)
  - Raquel Bryant- question about availability of procedures
  - Johnny Tooson- question/clarification about definition of responsible employees
  - Canan- question about development with Title IX committee

- Presentation ended at 5:55pm

Committee Formation -- 5:50 PM

- Executive Committee (GSS President Canan Cevik, Chair)
  - We need two senators to be on the committee
    - Emmett Witherspoon and Charles Hsueh nominated themselves and were selected
- Finance Committee (GSS Treasurer Bianki Torres Chair)
  - We need three senators to be on the committee
    - Derek Dunlea, Ian McCahill, and Emily Bechold nominated themselves and were selected

Committee and Working Group Reports -- 6:20 PM

- Senator Elections (Beyza Alpaydin, GSS Vice President & Chair)
- Childcare (Beyza Alpaydin, GSS Vice President & Chair)
- GSS Food Security (Molly Hansen, Co-Chair)
  - Meeting next week October 22nd (2-3pm)
    - Opening a food pantry (opens tomorrow, Monday-Thursday 10-7, Friday 10-2, in Bartlett Hall)
      - Working on Graduate Student only hours
      - Hoping to have departments host food drives

Motions -- 6:30PM

- F2018-1: Ratification of Senator Elections
  - Charles from Music, Scott from Music seconded, 20 senators approve, 0 abstain/against
- F2018-2: Executive Committee Formation
  - Motion from Kelsey (Economics), Eric Hernandez (Engineering) seconded it
    - 22 senators voted to pass the motion, abstain/against- 0
  - Ran Executive Committee election again (a student not present from the English department sent in an email self-nomination)
    - Motion to rescind vote: Kelsey motioned, Mary seconded motion
6 motion, 7 oppose, 7 abstain

Election stands

- F2018-3: Finance Committee Formation
  - Motion Charles (Music), Raven second,
  - 25 senators voted to pass the motion, abstain/against - 0

- F2018-4: Ad-Hoc Request: Chinese Christian Lunch Fellowship, $500
  - Not Present
  - Tabled: Mary motioned, Ian seconded, 20 senators approve (oppose/abstain 0)

- F2018-5: Ad-Hoc Request: Economics Graduate Students, $500
  - Motion from Jennifer, Second from Raven, 15 in favor, 7 abstained, 0 opposed
  - Motion passes

- F2018-6: Ad-Hoc Request: Environmental Conservation Graduate Council, $500
  - Motion from Eric, Ian seconded, 21 approve, 0 opposes/abstains
  - Motion passes

Reminders/Events -- 6:40PM

- GSS-GWIS Halloween Party, Saturday October 27th, 2-5PM
  - Location: Events Hall in the Honors College
  - Family friendly and there will be food.

Adjourn -- 6:50PM