Meeting: General Council of the Graduate Student Association  
Date: Tuesday, March 18, 2014  
Chairperson: Gretchen Stricker, Vice President  
Recorder: Rachel Bauer  
Location: Room 215, Tate Hall  
Distribution: Posted – http://gsa.missouri.edu/  

Officers Present:  
Maxwell Philbrook, President  
Gretchen Stricker, Vice President  
Sarah Lirley McCune, Treasurer  
Rachel Bauer, Secretary  
Matt McCune, Public Relations Officer  

Call to Order- Meeting called to order by VP Gretchen Stricker at 6:04pm.  

Approval of Minutes- Gretchen asked for approval of the minutes.  
First- Rob Yim (Anthropology)  
Second- Kevin (Sociology)  

Approval of Agenda  
First-Gary Glass  
Second-Adam Galovan  

Presentation:  
- Jake Wright-GPC President Report  
  - Grads Have Debts 2!  
    - Event is on Apr 9  
    - Call legislators, express your concerns  
    - Matt will be sending out an email or you can check in with Matt McCune  
  - University Village  
    - GPC wants to advocate effectively for both long and short term plans.  
    - They are currently looking into housing and child care needs of our grad students.  
  - Town Hall Event will take place the week after Spring Break.  
    - Bring your opinions.  
    - Come and make voice heard.  
  - Grad School will be dissolved.  
    - What happens in short term with Grad School changes?  
    - What functions of Grad School will be shifted?  
    - GPC will be represented.  
    - We want to make sure GSA is represented too.  
  - GPC elections will occur on April 1, 2014  
    - If you are interested in running for GPC, come to the meeting.  
    - Matt McCune (Public Relations)-Are there open at-large and committee openings?  
      - Jake Wright (GPC)-Yes. Committee and at large positions.  

Officer Reports
Public Relations Officer Matt McCune
- Like our Facebook page!
  - Invite your friends! Makes your job easier.
  - Go to page to see the posts. Like them to see more!
- Updates to GSA website
  - Still temporary website.
  - Travel Grants information is posted as usual.
  - All additional documents are now available on the website.

Secretary Rachel Bauer
- Please sign in and get a name badge
  - New sign in sheet
- Do you know anyone who should be on GSA?
  - Ask your friends! Get them involved.

Treasurer Sarah Lirley McCune
- Update on travel grant awards, Cycle I
  - Accepting applications soon.
  - Email at GSA@missouri.edu if you have any questions.
  - Drop off at Mailbox at Grad School in Jesse Hall (or McReynolds)
- Submit applications for upcoming travel grant Cycle I
  - For travel occurring from December 15 to March 14.
  - Deadline is March 30. Since the deadline falls on a weekend, the
deadline is extended to the following business day (Monday, March 31)
by 5 pm.

Vice President Gretchen Stricker
- Awards Banquet Updates
  - Tentative date: April 25, 2014
  - We have been working to find and space and stay within our budget.
- Awards Deadline moved up to Wednesday, April 2, 2014 by 5pm.
  - This change is due to the date we need to get our names to the Graduate
School.
  - All of the applications (for Student and Faculty Awards) are on our
webpage.
  - Maxwell (President)-These awards are exciting, because nominations are
selected by the departments themselves. Then, the executive board will
select three Superior student winners.
- Spring Picnic!
  - Tentative date: May 3, 2014
  - I have been looking at spaces at local parks.
  - We will provide food and drink.

President Maxwell Philbrook
- Academic Affairs Committee Report.
  - I give the floor to Gary Glass
- Gary Glass (Rural Sociology)-We talked about student housing
  - We were not aware that undergrads were the ones making the
decisions about our housing.
  - RHA has reps for every dorm, and we don’t have anyone.
- We are talking about developing Writing Courses for Graduate Students.
  - The Writing Center is geared towards Undergraduates.
  - A survey will be going out right after Spring Break to see what
our students need.
- Student fees committee-
- How many use the rec?
- I don’t use it, but I pay for it.
- Maybe it is something that can be considered voluntary.
- There is no actual fee for the library
  - Maxwell (President)-Let’s table that for the talk from library committee.

**Updates from Dean Rubin.**
- As of Thursday last week, the grad school no longer exists
- It sounds worse than it is.
- There will not be that much change as of now.
- The only thing it affects is interdisciplinary degrees, because those are awarded though the Graduate School.
- There will be major restructuring.
- It is now The Office for Research and Graduate Studies under the supervision of the Chancellor.
- There are quite a few reservations. There will be no central admissions.
- In the Short Term, there is a task force that is assembling now.
- According to the Dean, the only thing that will affect this semester is the degrees.
- If you have questions please directed them to Dean Rubin or the Chancellor.
- Faculty is very concerned about this and rightfully so.

**Open to Questions:**
- Chris Deutsch (History)-Any knowledge on people who get paid through the Graduate School?
  - Maxwell (President)-To my knowledge, it won’t change.
- Nalinda Wasla (MMI)-Certain departments don’t have their own applications. It is handled by grad school.
  - Maxwell-The admissions decision and administrative aspects will be in the hands of the colleges.
- Eric Coate (Vet Pathology)-So, now there is nowhere to go for anonymous reporting?
  - Maxwell-I can’t say definitively. I would like to say that Mizzou has our backs.
- James S. Veverka (SEAS)-There is no central entity for baseline standards?
  - Maxwell-One thing the Dean told me is that admissions will be pushed down to the colleges.
- Naomi Clark-So what does the new entity have oversight over? What will it do?
  - Max-What I know now is that there is a Vice Provost for research and a Vice Provost for graduate studies.
- Heather Smith (Art His)-I never even heard about this. Is this a new thing?
  - Maxwell-Last Thursday at the Faculty Senate Meeting, it was announced. The official word came down last week.
- Matt McCune (Public Relations)-What will happen to GSA?
  - Maxwell-The GSA is funded through Office of Student Affairs. I was assured that those are the types of things that will stay in place. How much we can move forward is yet to be seen.
Kevin Martin (Sociology)-My question is, so basically it was a command from on high? No faculty input?
  ▪ Max-That is my understanding. Raises questions of faculty governance.
  ▪ Kevin Martin (Sociology)-Doesn’t a change like this have to be approved by someone other than the Chancellor? Board of curators? Someone has to help make the decision that affects university at this level. How is he bypassing this?
    ▪ Maxwell-At this point, we are moving forward. We will see how the decision was actually made, but now we have to look forward to advocate for our needs.
    ▪ Jake Wright (GPC)-Stuff like this gets approval at the system level. It is not something that requires a lot of faculty input.
  ▪ Max-To move forward, I will be in Dean Rubin’s office a lot finding out how this will affect us.
  ▪ I have invited Rubin to come to next meeting.

Old Business
  ▪ Housing Committee Update
    ▪ Kevin Martin (Sociology)-There are two things that the HC discussed. We were looking at a resolution coming from GPC on the University Village situation. The E-board suggested that this might be better for us to get on board with GPC. When we meet at the committee yesterday, we agreed that the GPC resolution would be good. But we have problems with how limited it is in scope. When it comes to this resolution, we would like to have some input on the document. Our major concern is the fact that the building is being demolished. We felt it important to add something to the document concerning the relocation of our students and daycare, as well as replacement of University Village. Students in there now will be moving to Terra, or other facility, or moving off campus. Our final issue is that we thought it needs to address the idea that the office needs to give assistance to those currently living there to help them. We think it is a good idea to join GPC.
    ▪ Other point. The good news is that in discussion with Director of Housing Frankie Minor and the RHA, we will be meeting Thursday to discuss the possibility of a board or standing committee for Grad Student housing issues, to be the voice we don’t currently have. The other thing the committee did was set up a list of structural issues and general problems that exist to tell the committee what we feel needs to be addressed. At this point, we are going to submit the purposed the legislation to all of you to decide if we should add to it.
    ▪ Matt McCune (Public Relations)-I think one of the reasons we gave our support for GPC was that housing is a GPC concern, not a GSA. We are trying to stay away from passing resolutions that do not deal with our Mission.
    ▪ Kevin Martin (Sociology)-We feel that this is an issue that effect our academics, and that is what we are here to do. We as a committee feel that it is an important issue that we should deal with. We could put it to the General Council, but the committee has felt that we should deal with it.

New Business
  ▪ Naomi Clark-Talk about University Village incident.
- I’m here to talk about Save the Student Parent Center. A number of people have been talking about it. We have known since 2008 that there is an expiration date on the University Village Complex. What happens when it inevitable goes away? Now the Chancellor is looking into feasibility of reopening the Daycare.
- When the Daycare closes, MU loses a 40 yr. old program that has been very instrumental.
- I keep hearing stories that people would not have come here to MU if they did not have this program.
- Some passed up other schools to come here because of Daycare.
- It allows for breastfeeding mothers to be close to their children and flexible scheduling.
- So what do we want? Three things. We are waiting to hear back from the Chancellor. We sent email to see if we could meet with him, but we think that it would be good to have contact with those affected.
- We would like to see Chancellor take seriously the proposal of an Office of Family Life purposed last fall.
- Please like the Save the Student Parent Center on Facebook.
- Sign the petition. Tinyurl.com/spcpetition.
- If you will help us keep a steady pressure on the Chancellor and the administration. We have been patient for 5 years and we think that now is the time to act.
- Melanie Pavao (English)-SPC allows children under 2, and many other facilities don’t!
- Nalinda Wasala (MMI)-No one was happy about condition of the place, but I withdrew application. So if you are purposing to reopen under the same conditions.
- Heather (Student Parent Center)-We are advocating to keep it on campus with improvements.
- Kevin Martin (Sociology)-How does the SPC work with your Maternity leave? Is it that you can enroll the child after maternity leave? Or do people enroll early?
- Naomi Clark-There is no locked schedule, so it is flexible if your schedule changes.
- Maxwell (President)-There is no graduate student maternity leave.

- Library Representative-Allison (English GPC Rep.)
  - I am the English representative to GPC, and it’s part of my duties with GPC to serve on the Library committee.
  - There is mold in the library depository. There are two locations where they keep the books that don’t get used often. Primary location is housed in a location owned and operated by the library system.
  - The affected location is Depository 2. It houses 20% of total MU collection. Mold Bloom affects 600,000 books. Estimated cost to fix the issue is 1.8 million dollars. That is not feasible for our library. Those depositories are self-ensured, so there is not enough insurance money. We currently estimate that 300,000 can be saved. They are in the process of trying to decide which books are already duplicated, but they have others that are rare or high priority.
  - The main concern is that the student access to the materials will be diminished.
  - You can help by donating to the Library Enhancement Fund. You can donate as much or little as you want.
  - Chris Deutsch (History)-Is the anyway to find out what is being affected? Is there a way to figure out if there is access?
Alison (English GPC Rep.)-No one has access to those books right now. The library is working on a web based list to see what books are there.

Kevin Martin (Sociology)-Is there a possibility instead of spending money to recover the books? Is there technology to scan the books into docs?

Alison (English GPC Rep.)-One of the things they are doing is looking for physical duplicates or electronic duplicates. A lot are available online already, so they are taking that into consideration. Some people that a lot of problems with the loss of these physical sources.

Announcements

- Announcements from General Council
  - English Dept. Book Sale Tomorrow-Downstairs Room 22 in Tate Hall. 9 to 2.
  - Reminder Apr 9 call Congress Day.
    - Like Grads Have Debt too.
  - Next GSA meeting will be April 29, 2014 at 6pm (Tate Hall 215)

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn-
  First: Gary Glass
  Second: Matt McCune

The motion is so passed