



ASSEMBLY MEETING AGENDA

February 19, 2014

- I. Call to Order (6:31)
- II. Approval of 2/5 meeting minutes 1 Min
  - a. Tabled until next weekend.
- III. Vote for VP Exec 20 Min
  - a. Question before the Assembly was whether Brad Sottile should be confirmed as VP of External Affairs.
  - b. Motion passes 14-2.
- IV. Brad Sottile's Update 5 Min
  - a. Ad hoc meeting about building security.
    - i Whether buildings should be locked after 6:00pm?
    - ii Original estimate was to have three meetings and the administration
  - b. Doug Whalen received various concerns about whether the new security mechanisms would kick grad students out.
    - i Brad mentioned that students would need to get swipe access to the building, but no students would be kicked out.
- V. Standing Committee Reports
  - a. Internal Development 1 Min
    - i May have a meeting next week.
  - b. Community Service 1 Min
    - i Meetings are at 5pm on every Wednesday opposite the GSA Assembly meetings.
  - c. Student Concerns 1 Min
    - i There will be a student concerns meeting next week. Email Evelyn Miller if you have any questions.
  - d. Grad Cup 1 Min
    - i Grad Cup will be April 27.
    - ii 10 people per team.
    - iii Registration.
  - e. Professional Development 1 Min
    - i Dissertation boot camp was very successful.
    - ii Next meeting is in March.
    - iii Question was raised whether there was an opportunity for ESL students to get more language experience.

- 1 There is a program through applied linguistics.
  - f. Programming Committee 1 Min
  - g. Publicity and Media 1 Min
    - i Send Brittany Wong updates.
  - h. Human Diversity 1 Min
  - i. THON 1 Min
    - i THON is happening this weekend!!! Good luck teams.
    - ii GSA is listed on the donation website for THON.
    - iii Total funds raised by GSA will be announced next meeting.
- VI. Report by the President - Scott Rager 10 Min
  - a. New President-elect for the University! Welcome, Dr. Eric Barron.
    - i He took an hour out of his time on Monday to meet with PSU student governments.
    - ii Scott asked him specifically about research funding.
    - iii Barron mentioned that he hopes that graduate students will engage in interdisciplinary engagement.
  - b. President's Commissions for Equity
    - i Applications for appointed and affiliate membership being accepted...contact Scott if you are interested.
  - c. ACA Update
    - i No new restrictions on employment for full-time students going forward.
      - 1 May work in multiple departments.
      - 2 No further hour limit.
  - d. New GSA Office Manager will begin in two weeks
  - e. Student Trustee Position
    - i Permanent position proposal being considered
      - 1 Governance and Long-Range Planning Committee in March meeting.
      - 2 Full board in May meeting.
    - ii Applications for trustee position and selection committee posted on GSA website soon (next week).
    - iii Scott will find out when this position will be filled.
  - f. Health Care Costs
    - i General information
      - 1 Insurance Advisory Board proposed plan for 2014-2015
      - 2 Costs to increase because
        - a Benefits paid > premiums paid this year
        - b ACA taxes added to premiums
        - c ACA platinum plans < 92% AV = higher out-of-pocket
      - 3 Request for funding for subsidies sent to budget office

- a Decision should be made by the end of the semester
    - 4 Budget feasibility to be determined approximately by end of semester
    - 5 Scott met with various administrative members to try to get a good picture
    - ii Scott plans to send ACA information out to the general GSA listserv.
    - iii There is a spring retreat this Saturday, February 22.
  - g. Elections are scheduled for first meeting in April.
- VII. Report by the Vice President of External Affairs 0 Min
  - a. Congratulations to Brad Sottile, our new VP of External Affairs.
- VIII. Reports from Liaisons 3 Min
  - a. UPAC
    - i March 4 UPAC allocation meeting.
    - ii UPAC going to have a survey next week.
  - b. Healthcare Advisory Committee
    - i Ask Katie if you have any questions.
- IX. Report by the Secretary - Brandon Merritt 1 Min
- X. Report by the Treasurer – Marika Merritt 2 Min
  - a. Co-Sponsorship golf outing for law school.
    - i Motion passes
  - b. Marika is meeting with Internal Development for Constitution.
- XI. Report by the Faculty Senate – Brian Aynardi 2 Min
  - a. Send Brian Aynardi an email if you would like to be on the Faculty Senate.
  - b. Joint Diversity Task Force: March 18 meeting
  - c. Congratulation to Scott and Katie for taking the time to talk about Healthcare and Trustee business.
- XII. Report by Graduate Council 2 Min
  - a. Collecting information about Professional Development and career placement.
  - b. Academic standards committee will be discussing grade change procedures for graduate students
  - c. Interim Dean of Graduate School mentioned the following article:
    - i [Chronicle.com/article/To-Improve-Equity-Focus-on/144759/](http://Chronicle.com/article/To-Improve-Equity-Focus-on/144759/)
    - ii Send input to Grad Council about your reaction.
- XIII. Report by the Judiciary – Nicole Omni 1 Min
  - a. Nicole resigned
  - b. Need two members for the judiciary.
- XIV. Report by the Executive Vice President – Evelyn Miller 10 Min
  - a. Movin’ On 1 Min
    - i Making offers...more soon!
    - ii If you want to volunteer let Evelyn know
    - iii Battle of the Bands: March 22<sup>nd</sup>

(67 Min)

XV. Open Forum

- a. At large delegates
  - i Danielle Rhubart is confirmed as delegate
- b. Graduate exhibition contact grad school

XVI. Adjourn (8:01)

**Spring 2014 General Assembly Schedule: Next Meeting:** March 5th  
6:00pm Exec. Ed. Building

**Save the date:** Feb 22, Spring Retreat

President- Scott Rager | [str5004@psu.edu](mailto:str5004@psu.edu)  
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