

GSA Minutes 3-13-13

- I. Call to Order
- II. Guest Speaker – Larry Backer – Chair of the Faculty Senate – Mr. Backer spoke on how Penn State could bounce back using transparency. He discussed what the senate was and how they worked. He stated that the critical stakeholders of the University are on the inside (students, faculty, staff) instead of on the outside which is normal with for-profit enterprises. The senate works throughout many facets of the University including classes and programs. Faculty has substantial effect on teaching courses, and a somewhat less but significant authority over the development of programs. The faculty tends to have an advisory and consultant group in the University. There are three elected representatives in the faculty senate: chair, chair elect, and secretary. There are also many committees. Email lcb11@psu.edu phone 814-863-3640 – feel free to contact with questions.
- III. Approval of Minutes – Motion by Bill Dusch. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.

Change of the agenda for Alan Janesh to give his report sooner. Motion – Katie, seconded and passed.

Alan Janesh – Mr. Janesh is the director of the Penn State Grassroots network. Captial Day is April 9th. It is a large rally with speeches, the blue band, and time to meet with a state representative. It helps undergrads more, but can also help graduates with money to help with research, creation, and dissemination of knowledge. Christine Sylvester – Asked if someone was registered in another state, could they still be involved? Mr. Janesh – Yes, you could meet with legislators that are particularly interested in your research area. Katie – If there are too many people registered in State College to meet with that representative, what happens? Mr. Janesh – Those students could meet with reps from their area if they are from another part of the state or a connection with certain legislators. David – Is there funding for transportation? Mr. Janesh – The grassroots network doesn't fund it directly but CCSG and UPUA are arranging some transportation.

- IV. Report by the President (See PowerPoint)– Graduate Cup is coming up on Saturday April 13th. There are 411 people. They really need more volunteers and are meeting Sundays at 3pm in the GSA office until the date of the event. Emails will be coming next week for captain and volunteer training sessions. They are working to get the Nittany Lion, blue band, and other special guests to be there.

Where's Wanika – Board of Trustees meeting tomorrow. Blue and White vision council, funding consideration in increasing auxiliary services, white course and meal plans will go up. They are looking into more graduate housing but it is a 10-15 year plan. They are working on housing for two campuses outside of Philadelphia.

Wireless is being installed in housing at University Park and will cost around \$7 million.

1 GSA informational session left. Wednesday March 20th at 6:15-7:45 in Room 241 in the Katz building. There is free parking in the lot after 4pm. Any GSA questions can be asked or if you are interested in running in the upcoming elections, you are encouraged to come.

Investment Workshop Monday March 18, 7-8:30.

GSA is a co-sponsor for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Workshop. It is an informational workshop about undocumented students.

- V. Report by the Executive Vice President – No Report
- VI. Report by Vice President of External Affairs (See PowerPoint) – Wasn't present but Robbie gave his report - Freeh Advisory Council – Had a conference call and discussed the Culture Freeh Recommendation. Plan outlined to determine all core values from various PSU stakeholders.

Sustainability Advisory Council met on 3/12. The Council makes recommendations on sustainability to the President and to the University as a whole. They are currently looking for a new GSA liaison. They are preparing Facility Fee proposals.

Capital Day is April 9th. Registration is now open, the link is in the GSA newswire. If you attend you will have a class absence form and you are asked to tweet using #CapitalDay2013.

- VII. Reports from Liasons
 - a. UPAC – Discussed child care subsidy, which is for anyone who needs money for childcare for students with children. Next week they are discussing recreational sports proposal and after that BJC ticket subsidies on the 26th. They are still looking for graduate student reps for next year.
 - b. UPUA – Not in attendance.
 - c. Borough Round Table – They are discussing possible new ordinances for the borough. They are looking into updating the point system for more points per violation. The issue was brought up that the borough doesn't distinguish between undergrads and graduate students. There will be other meetings in the future.
- VIII. Report by the Secretary – Not in attendance.
- IX. Report by the Treasurer – No report.
- X. Report by the Faculty Senate (See PowerPoint) – There will be a modest increase in tuition. They are working on a new registration status for active military personnel to provide extra seats in classes to accommodate these students in the interim. Small salary increase for faculty. Effects of sequestration could be in the \$40 million zone.

- Paid accepted students are on par with previous years. Changes in BoT may be made this week. 78 Freeh recommendations have been implemented. There is a focus on refurbishing old buildings instead of building new ones. Report on Joint Diversity Task Force. Updates on State Patty's Day and Career Services in the Student Life Committee. International Programs and services lacking at Commonwealth Campuses.
- XI. Report by the Judiciary – Elections are open for intent to run forms and they are working with publicity.
 - XII. Standing Committee Reports
 - a. THON – Need male models from all colleges for the Male Calendar for next year. Please see the Newswire for details.
 - b. Community Service – Working with Habitat for Humanity on Saturday March 23rd. Email Cherelle if interested.
 - c. Professional Development – Investment 101 workshop on March 18, 110 registered and registration is closed.
 - d. Programming – Next Tuesday gathering for trivia at Dark Horse at 9 pm.
 - e. Student Concerns – No report.
 - f. Internal Development – Having a meeting after this one.
 - XIII. Delegate Reports – Judy Smith coming to speak on March 20th at 6:30 at the law school. She is a crisis manager.
 - XIV. Open Forum – Wanika would like everyone to make a short, comprehensive memo to help others in your position for years to come. Email the office manager when finished. Scott – Delegate review taskforce will meet next week. Dave – updated the constitution and bylaws as per the legislation.
 - XV. Adjourn – Motion by Katie, Seconded and passed.