

Minutes



General Assembly, 04-03-2008.

1. Call to convene. Welcome and introduction of GSS Executive Board and School of Graduate Studies Deans. Voting ballots were distributed to each senator at the entrance, and each ballot was counted.
2. RTA referendum update. Jimmy Harris presented the evolution to today of the voting process, so far 1000 graduate students have voted, this mean that after 2 weeks $\frac{1}{2}$ of the students have voted, for more information see ppt presentation in the GSS web site.
3. Update GSS annual budget. Oliver presented and passed out a copy of the GSS updated budget.
4. GSS Officer election for '08-'09. The procedure is described in the ppt presentation posted in the GSS web site. Each candidate presented his or her program for next year if there were elected. Jimmy (see ppt presentation in the GSS web site), and Katherine propose to continued the participation of GSS in all Faculty Senate committees and increase representation of departments not represented yet in the GSS by visits to those departments to invited them to participate in the senate. After all candidates presented their plans, they received questions. What are your plans for the GSS web site? They answer that he plans to use new software that allows faster and better updates. Jimmy also plans to ask for a permanent place for the GSS. How feasible is to do a monthly billing for the fees? He has already contacted some CWRU officials regarding to this issue. The other candidates presented their plans for the next year if they are elected. Kevin asked for a non-Executive Committee volunteer from the Senate floor to verify and double-check Jose Gomez as he counted the votes. Timothy Peshek volunteered. The voting started and Timothy and Jose collected the ballots and leave the room to count them.
5. Update Mentoring committee. Kevin introduced the committee and its members, and complimented their work. Katherine polled the GSS-GA to see how many of the meeting's attendees read the handbook (10 did). Craig then gave an overview of the mentoring guidebook:
 - Faculty reviewers
 - Table of contents/overview

- Appendices added to end i.e.: worksheets to help mentoring process

Oliver motion to approved the handbook, Matt motion to table (this motion takes priority), Saad seconds the table motion, and the motion was voted. Vote to table 14 yes, 9 no, and 1 abstention. Neuroscience senator asked for when the handbook will go to the Faculty Senate. Dean Rosek explained that the committee on grad studies needs to approved 1st then send it to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Jimmy motion to make the mentoring committee a GSS standing committee, Matt seconds and the motion was voted. Votes: 23 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention. Olivier mentions that money may be raised to print the mentoring guidebook, and the raise could start with the alumni, in answer to Rachael question of whether Faculty version will be available to students to take with them when they graduate.

6. Jose and Timothy announce the elections results at this point.
Total number of votes 29 (26 present at the GA, 3 proxy by email)

President: Katherine Crispin: 14
Jimmy Harris: 15

Vice President: Maria Deslandes: 13
Chris Roberts: 16

Treasurer: Olivier Arnoult: 19
Kenneth Rys: 10

Corresponding Secretary: Daniel Anderson: 29

Recording Secretary: Rachael Volokhov: 29

The GSS president's vote was used to break a tie in the president raise. Hard copies of the votes will be kept in the GSS office in a folder.

7. Announcement: Dance Marathon. Christine Gosen and Steve Healan presented the event, which will raise money for Children medical services. The plan is to raise \$ 100,000 in a 24 h dance marathon. The event will be in late September this year. For more information please email Christine or Steve to: christine.gosen@case.edu, or steve.healan@case.edu.

8. Other business. Alex The Pharmacology Department senator talked about the IT fee. Based on the presentation of Kenneth in the last GSS-GA about the IT fee discussion in Faculty Senate Committee in information, and he commented that the committee's decision of leaving the IT fee as a source of revenue is not right. He mentioned that the graduate students in the Pathology department circulated a petition to ask CWRU to cancel the IT fee or put it into the tuition, all students signed the petition. At the same time, Alex presented to the GA a new proposal to discuss in the next GA the possibility of making a petition to CWRU to get rid of the IT fee or put it into tuition. Motion to vote to discuss the IT as proposed by Alex in the GSS-GA was voice, seconded and voted. The motion passed and this will be discussed in the next GSS-GA.

9. Katherine asked the senators to posted flyers for the barbeque.

Meeting was adjourned at 1 pm.