



General Assembly Minutes, 5 February, 2009

- 11:30 people arrive & gorge themselves on quality pizza
- 11:40 Roberts brings meeting to order – Harris out w/ provost
Tim Franke discovers tandoori chicken on pizza
Introduction of execs & officers
Overview of agenda
- 11:41 CMA rep arrives
- 11:42 Emily Hornack – health care committee insurance survey
Survey going out to all grad students, whether or not they're on health plan
Survey development feedback requested - closed survey
Required purchase of survey monkey \$19.95 /mo for 3 months
What are our priorities for reform?
e-mails to be sent out to GSS as first-response
- 11:46 notice – there's some overlap regarding recent survey sent out to students last month
Open table for questions/comments
When will survey be sent out? - as soon as is possible (round 1)
Anderson : we can send it out today
Any incentive for filling out? - no
Liked last survey tagline, “more money for grad students,” and would like something similar
- 11:48 Tom Welsh from CMA (associate director of music)
June reopening of east wing
Ongoing concert series
concerts going all across the city (CMA concert hall currently closed)
“pay what you can” program – empty seats being sold to student body for whatever you can pay (sometimes concerts sell out, so can't always be as generous) – like rush tickets
Questions
group pricing as well as these student prices? Yes – half price for large groups
are these Friday or Saturday night? – all throughout the week – hard to button hole dates
All these dates are on the GSS calendar
Fliers available & front of room
- 11:54 Relay for life (Christa Wheeler)
Relay is getting close
Last year doubled goal (raised \$60K)
This year's goal is \$80K
April 18-19 is event
Free food & entertainment for participants
Website <http://www.relayforlife.org/crwu>
Fliers available @ front of room – also 2 team captain folders
25 teams currently signed up - \$10 donation (registration fee) to yourself
Try to raise ~\$100, but don't have to raise a certain amount of money
Current leader is BME GSA
All funds go to American cancer society
Fundraising ideas: local restaurants will give you a day to donating percentage of sales
Participation
Join a team or form a team
Encourage family & friend to sign up and participate as survivors
Purchase luminaries
- 12:00 Jeremy Marvel – SIS Survey results
- 12:10 Chris Roberts – bylaws changes
Retreat 1.5 weeks ago
Will be ready by March GA
All changes approved unanimously



What's the process & who can do it?

Quick review of bylaws change process in handbook

What's the impact on the general GSS population?

Changing the bylaws (roadmap) will impact how the GSS is structured & how we impact students through our organization & resources

Formal changes will be distributed

Changes:

- 1 election terms
start dates of senators & execs from 8/1 to 6/1
use summer as ramp up period & minimize lame duck period
get exec board formed before school year begins
- 2 reorganization of standing committees
prof development separate committee (currently part of activities)
merging Diekhoff & mentoring committees
new committee : benefits & compensation (merge ad hoc cmts of health care & transportation)
- 3 composition of exec board – improve collaboration & comm.. w/in & out of GSS
1 rep from each of the schools
Remove @ large execs , put committee chairs onto exec board
Establish firm ties to Graduate professional council
Would being elected to 2 positions be prohibited? - no, but it's unlikely to happen
Olivier: More people will be able to contribute to the GSS, and not just listen to the GA
- 4 recognized events
provide organization & allocation committee w/ recognized capabilities
encourage student participation in committee
increase funding from \$250 to \$500
Olivier - this is maximum value, not an automatically allocated amount
wording changed to encourage multiple events by student groups
allow groups to plan better & more frequent events for grad students
- 5 budget
create budget start date & specify it to align w/ start of execs, senators, etc
new board/gss should be able to propose/decide its own budget
specify how budget managed between new exec board & full senate approval
summer & early fall events cost GSS before budget decided
allows expenditures w/ safeguards
- 6 duties of officers
rebranding of corresponding sec (information officer) & recording sec (info sec)
works w/ computers vs. not working with computers
additional changes in duties to align with expected roles

12:30 Olivier – treasurer financial status

Not much money spent last meeting – we've spent a bit since then

A little more income than we thought, and spent just a little more than expected

We should be prepared not to grow budget due to economic status

Indians game only expenditure that was greater than budgeted

Cavs game money expended fully

Roberts suggests round of applause for Linda LaPinta's handling of the money

12:36 slight digression about leadership event this Saturday morning (2/7)

Endowment income (~\$5000) was expected to be in place

Case endowment down ~20%, so our endowment will also be reduced by ~20%

May be a lack of money due to expected endowment decrease

~\$13000 left for semester



- 12:40 Verification: Is \$11K for pizza actually being allocated? - No, only \$4800
- 12:42 upcoming events
Tiffany Moss - child care for faculty staff & grad students
 suggestions being made to president and faculty senate – update given ~1 month
 want to set up club/group of people w/ children to discuss child care & nursing options
 email to be sent out
 faculty already has this, we are falling behind
- 12:44 Roberts – Diekhoff award call for nominations
 2 grad student mentors awards
 1 grad student teaching award
 Encourage people to submit applications – deadline is 2/17
 If you want to be involved, contact Roberts to join committee
 Every department eligible this year (normally rotating among different schools)
 Reception in April – working with SGS on this
- 12:47 other business? - None
- 12:48 Motion to adjourn, seconded