



## Minutes

### General Assembly, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008

1. *Pizza, drinks, and sign-in*  
Was Quiznos this time, not pizza ☺
2. *Call to convene & welcome – Jimmy Harris*  
Introduction of the officers and the Deans  
Overview of the GSS Structure  
Thanks for your participation in the Case4Community Day
3. *FSM Center for Women & WISE – Mary Rouse [mary.rouse@case.edu](mailto:mary.rouse@case.edu)*  
WISER – meets monthly, has been around for 7 years with a goal to promote women in the sciences. Formerly UG focus, now expanding to support graduate students.  
Centerpiece: mentoring – plan to expand program  
Dr Gates will be speaking on campus  
Q: Program filled up fast, any plans to increase number of mentors so grads can get involved? A: Currently at 40spots and limited by man power to expand size further, working on it.  
Q: What should those do who want to get involved? A: Wait until Spring Semester.  
Left flyers and signup sheet
4. *Health Case Discussion – Ken Rys (and his sweet slides)*  
Video of the health care forum online  
@ Sept 18<sup>th</sup> forum, over 100 students attended. Thought the new plan was decent, but no grad students were involved on committee to select plan.  
Administration looking for input/feedback from grads – what level does GSS want to commit to this?  
Discussion about GSS involvement:
  - Thanks to Ken Rys and Kevin Speer for their hard work on the healthcare issue
  - Healthcare is an important national problem
  - Some schools (CMU) offer a high/low coverage option
  - Currently have same plan as undergrads but we are different
  - Ken feels our input to Aetna/administration would like have an impact
  - Most UGs on parents insurance; Multiple plans? Strength in numbers for cheap premium.
  - Senator Rosales put forth a motion for the need of forming a committee to explore the healthcare issue further. VP Roberts pointed out a committee once existed and should be reconvened. The motion, after several amendments stood at: ***“Motion to reconvene the healthcare committee with the purposes of; interacting with the administration on healthcare issues, making an effort to be diverse, and attempting to address deficiencies and alternatives in student healthcare.”***Vote: 26 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstained – Motion passes.



# GSS

The Graduate Student Senate of  
CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

Maritza Rosales and Ken Rys volunteered to help chair committee

5. *Billing Issues (Forum: October 23<sup>rd</sup>) – Jimmy Harris*  
Will cover topics such as parking and monthly billing, etc  
Rockefeller 301 @ 11:30am  
Issue – reimbursements -> don't get back taxes but don't have tax exempt info  
Jimmy stressed this will take a timely concerted effort to see change  
Bio senator: can parking be put on tuition? Drawn from check monthly?  
Not suggesting committee at this time ☺  
Genetics rep – new SIS should make this process easier according to Dr Hall  
Send questions to Jimmy Harris
  
6. *Dean's Update – Dr Charles Rozek*  
Strategic plan process – has graduate education as a component – look to hear more after it is approved by board of trustees later this month. The document looks at funding for grads, retention, recruiting, student mentoring and prep for future careers. Nov 20<sup>th</sup> UCITE mentoring discussion – be there  
On healthcare – Your issues are different than UGs, and should look into that. Post Docs revised their healthcare by going outside and finding solution: identify that you ARE different and realize there is a disparity across campus about coverage. Some people have it paid by advisers. **Propose to the university to subsidize costs.**  
Administration knows we're not as competitive as our peers and need to move on this. Work in a step-wise fashion in a partnership to make change.  
Q: Who's involved in strategic plan implementation? A: There are metrics in place with periodic reviews and reporting to assess implementation. The President has set the tone that this needs to get done (talk the talk, walk the walk)
  
7. *Upcoming Events and Committees – Chris Roberts*  
Activities and Professional Development committees formed and making good progress. Look for Graduate Night Out in November and other upcoming events to be announced.  
Currently seeking students to serve on the Mentoring, Organizations & Allocations, Healthcare, and Diekhoff Award committees. Contact Chris, [gssvp@case.edu](mailto:gssvp@case.edu) if you are interested in any of these. More information on them can be found at [gss.case.edu](http://gss.case.edu)
  
8. *New Business – Chris Roberts*  
Christa Wheeler ([cew30\(aat\)@case.edu](mailto:cew30(aat)@case.edu)) – Relay 4 Life planning is starting and they are looking for a GSS representative. Contact her for more information. There will be a kick off event on October 10<sup>th</sup> in Thwing at 11:30am  
Jeremy Marvel ([jam98\(aat\)@case.edu](mailto:jam98(aat)@case.edu)) is currently soliciting feedback on the SIS system to pass back grad student input to the administration.
9. *Adjourn at 1:00PM*