

Compiler: Director of Relations Russell

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### **Minutes for GPSA Senate Meeting #1**

- Meeting called to order by President Jillepalli at 06:30PM
  - Welcomed Senate to Meeting #1 of AY 2018–2019
- Executive Report (President Jillepalli)
  - Fundraising strategic plan
    - Crowdsourcing via U&I give platform
    - Tap takeovers / trivia nights at local establishments
    - Work with OAR in ID/ing potential donors
    - Vandals Giving day presence
  - Support for New Clubs (to be covered later in meeting)
  - Parenthood Accommodation Policy
    - Along the lines of tenured faculty policy
    - President Staben is willing to work with us to work towards a policy
    - Have to find out potential utilization numbers
    - Waiting for HR clearance to send poll out because of concerns about legality
  - Graduate Council and Misc.
  - GPSA pushing for a policy change in Grad Council
    - Would allow instructors to serve on committees
    - Question (Speaker Ravichandra): committee member has to be same level degree as degree sought?
      - Answer (President Jillepalli): Yes
    - Question (Speaker Ravichandra): Why can't a masters instructor serve on a PhD committee?
      - Answer (President Jillepalli): Because they don't have the experience of getting that sought degree
    - Default health insurance for all grad teaching assistants
    - Being discussed at UBFC
  - Ombuds: Dr. Laura Smythe, will begin Oct. 2nd
- New Business—Appointments (Speaker Ravichandra)
  - Senator: English Department, Louie Land (not present)
  - Senator: Political Science, Wills Baird (not present)
  - Senator: Natural Resources and Society Department, Brenna McGown
    - Motion for appointment called by President Jillepalli
    - Motion put to vote: Yay – 30, Abstain – 0, Nay – 0
    - Motion carries, Senator McGown is confirmed
- New Business—Grad Clubs
  - Why must GPSA support grad clubs?

- GPSA receives a portion of student activity fee
- GPSA must support all aspects of grad student activity
- Grad student clubs are one such activity
- Was largely ignored in previous years, now trying to rectify situation
- How can GPSA support grad clubs?
  - Funding (\$250), if and only if supported by Idaho dept. (\$ from GPSA rollover budget)
  - Storage space?
  - Mailbox?
  - Awareness w.r.t. best org. practices?
  - Question (Treasurer Lukaszewicz): How many clubs now?
    - Answer (President Jillepalli): Around 5
  - Question (Senator Schwaner): Approval process? Must welcome all grad students?
    - Answer (President Jillepalli): Up to R&A committee
- What is the proposed GPSA support process?
  - Relay between GPSA and R&A committee
- What are the budgetary constraints?
  - FY2018, draw from rollover as applications are approved
  - Don't foresee more than 7–8 applications
  - FY2019 onwards, budget a reasonable amount (based on projections from FY2018 data) for clubs
  - Next steps?
    - Bill has been begun by executive board, will be sent out next week.
    - Review bill
    - Interested senators will sponsor bill, if interested
    - Sept. 11th, vote on the bill if sponsored (need 3 sponsors)
    - Question (Senator Corpus): What's the purpose/attachment of sponsoring? Are there anti-sponsors/opposers?
      - Answer (President Jillepalli): To advocate for it, and no, just voting
- Diversity Chairperson: Appointee: Andre Corpus
  - Statement (Senator Corpus): Senator Corpus will do it because he was asked by President Jillepalli (he served on the Diversity Committee last year)
    - Motion for appointment called by President Jillepalli
    - Motion put to vote: Yay – 28, Abstain – 2, Nay – 0
    - Motion carries, Senator Corpus is confirmed as Diversity Chairperson
- Committee Reports
  - Senator Schwaner: Travel and Publishing Award Committee (summary on slides)
    - 2 applications for Travel awards rejected
    - Why rejected? Useful to know for advisory purposes

- One retracted (budget was wrong)
  - One had many errors
- Need more publishing awards
- Need to email constituent students! There's a lot of money going unused
- September awards: September 17th deadline
- Communicate this deadline with your constituents!
- First-line check of application: Senators! (so, make sure you understand the application process)
- Also: committee is looking for additional staff
- Committee should be in its final form before the September deadline
- Announcements
  - Programming Committee needs members as well
    - Question (Senator Schwaner): When is next coffee hour?
      - Answer: Sometime right before travel awards deadline
  - Sustainability Committee needs members
  - Communications Committee also needs members
  - Comment (President Jillepalli): We'll go over committees and what senators need to do next meeting when VP Hill is back in town
  - Comment (Speaker Ravichandra): Emailing your constituents is important
  - Comment (Senator Schwaner): Also, introduce yourself to your constituents
  - Question (Senator Corpus): Is there a way to email all students?
    - Answer (Speaker Ravichandra): Yes, listserv
  - Comment (Senator Takahashi): Chairs/program assistants sometimes don't approve the email or actually send it out for you, and this is an issue
  - President Jillepalli: GPSA needs a Secretary. Volunteers should email Speaker Ravichandra
  - Question (Senator Jayaraman): Can we get a list of senators and their departments?
    - Answer (Speaker Ravichandra): Yes, VP Hill will go over that next meeting
  - Senator Jayaraman: TEGA committee also needs more members
  - Motion to adjourn by Senator Jayaraman, seconded by Senator Corpus
  - Motion put to vote
  - Motion carries unanimously, senate meeting adjourned by Speaker Ravichandra at 7:30PM