

Compiled by Secretary Jordan Hardy

Minutes for GPSA Senate Meeting #7

- Meeting called to order by Connor at 6:32 PM
- Approval of Minutes
 - No calls for edits
 - Motion to approve, seconded.
 - Motion passed unanimously.
- New Senators
 - Chemical and Materials Engineering – Arnab Kundu
 - Vote to approve appointment of senator called.
 - Passed unanimously.
 - Lionel Hampton School of Music – Megumi Taylor
 - Vote to approve appointment of senator called.
 - Passed unanimously.
 - Sociology/Anthropology – Cynthia Hannold
 - Vote to approve appointment of senator called.
 - Passed unanimously.
 - Fish and Wildlife – Stacey Nerkowski
 - Vote to approve appointment of senator called.
 - Passed unanimously.
- Executive Report – Ananth
 - Grad 101 Panel
 - There are 7 panel slots needing volunteers. One person can serve both days.
 - It is an informal Q and A session.
 - Photo-Media Privacy Policy Updated
 - Students by default wave photo privacy rights. Inform event hosts if you don't want your pictures/videos taken.
 - +/- Grading System
 - The university is moving toward a +/- system. It has support among faculty and the GPSA board. We have no plans to either support or oppose it officially.
 - Continuous Registration
 - Currently grad students can take 5 years of leave without reapplying. This is being reduced to 1 year.
 - For longer than 1 year students need to register to a "continuous registration" credit.
 - We are planning on opposing this move.
 - Action Items

- Default health insurance for Tas: not funded, will try again.
 - Parental Accommodation Policy: more later.
 - Health insurance provision for dependents: ongoing discussions.
- Grad Student Orgs
 - Received two applications. Seeking more on a rolling basis.
- New Business – New Constitution – Ananth
 - Changes from last version:
 - Council members:
 - Minimum: one from each college except Law and COGS
 - Maximum: determined by council on ad-hoc basis.
 - Appointed by 2/3 majority vote of the Council.
 - Elections committee chair
 - President by default or appointed by 2/3 majority of Council, or GPSA Faculty Advisor.
 - Further minor changes were recommended.
 - Motion to pass constitution subject to edits moved by Louis Land, seconded by Janneka Schwaner.
 - 29 voted to pass. 2 abstained. None opposed.
 - Passed. The new constitution will take effect at the end of April.
- New Business – Parental Leave Policy – Connor
 - Updates
 - Addition of Parental Leave Academic Plan
 - COGS can't excuse you from classes
 - Create a temporary study plan that is approved by instructors/advisor
 - How Policy Works – Application
 - At least 10 weeks (ideally) before due date, agree on a temporary study plan with instructors and advisor, complete request form, and submit the request to COGS.
 - How Policy Works – During Leave
 - Take 4 weeks leave. Your tuition waivers, appointments, and enrollment status is maintained.
 - We'd like to guarantee pay. We can't yet.
 - How Policy Works – After Leave
 - Regular duties resume. You return to your appointment. If for some reason more than 4 weeks is needed, you can discuss with your department. Possibly you need a medical withdrawal.
 - Moved by Louis Land to approve the policy
 - 30 in favor, 1 abstained.
 - This will be brought up at the next Grad Council Meeting on the 27th.
- Committee Reports
 - Madison – Coffee Hours
 - Steam Coffee is hosting coffee hours for free. Half of hour coffee hours will be there, the other half in IRIC,

- The next one is March 1st.
 - At the next one, there is a possibility of prospective students visiting.
 - We could also have another event the week after Spring Break.
- Announcements
 - David – New Senators, please email GPSA-Comms@uidaho.edu to get on the email list.
 - Travel Awards due next right after Spring Break.
- Motion to Adjourn called and seconded.
 - Meeting Adjourned at 7:23 PM