

Minutes for the September 19, 1999 GSA Meeting

ATTENDANCE:

Officers: Nikola Stojsin (President), Sailaza Pal (Vice-President), Kyle Haidet (Treasurer), Nuri W. Emanetoglu (Secretary)

Representatives: Maria Carvagal-Garcia (Spanish), Christopher Pye (A Little Knight Music), Leonardo Mazzara (Spanish), Johnelle Lamarque (Anthropology), Fionnuala Rose (Anthropology), Sabine Hageman (Quaternary Studies), Jason Delo (MCIS), Joanne Cattafesta (MCIS), Markus Hiller (Linguistics), Heather Robinson (Linguistics), Dan Bodak (Linguistics), Graham Horwood (Linguistics), Lawrence Kowerski (Classics), Alfonso Cantu (MG ?), Jim Jeffers (MG ?), Wayne Hodge (MG Visual Arts), Lynn Barnes (MG GAAPAAI), Clifford Owen (MG GAAPAAI), Julie Silva (RAPS), Dajie Li (Christians on Campus), Nicholas Giordiono (Clinical Psych.), Tom Akbari (Event Horizon), Virginia Kowalski (RUSLA), Jeff Wayne (LISSA), Lee Rushworth (GMLS), Tami Videon (GUSS – sociology), Brian Clancy (Rutgers Art Review/Art History), Romina Gutierrez (Art History), Jeany Zimeri (Food Science), Hsien-Yuan Hsu (Taiwanese GSA), Chiwei Lu (Taiwan Study), Dagmar Voith-Leeman (German), Tithi Dutta Roy (Biomedical Engineering), Matthias Stephan (Italian), Suresh Gopalakrishnan (Computer Science), Tomeaka Fladger (BGSA), Max Likin (History / Sussman Conf.), Liang Chen (Yan Xin Qigong Assoc.), Michael Galla (GSE), Paul Chen (CIE)

The meeting is called to order at 7:26 PM.

OLD BUSINESS:

A) Approval of Minutes

The officers of the Executive Council introduce themselves. Kyle Haidet explains the procedures of the GSA, who the members are, and who is entitled to vote in GSA meetings. Nikola Stojsin continues with the approval of the minutes of the April 1999 meeting. While the Floor reviews the minutes Nikola explains that Robert's Rules of Order are legally binding for Rutgers. The minutes are accepted unanimously.

B) Executive Report

Nikola begins by announcing that the Executive Committee will retire at the end of the year, as well as the administrative assistant, Deirdre Kane. He asks for interested people to start working with the GSA. Kyle explains that all except Nuri W. Emanetoglu are term limited this year. He invites interested people to join the External Allocations Committee (EAC). Those working in the EAC can take over the GSA next year.

C) GSA Barbaque

Nikola describes the GSA BBQ, held on Aug. 31st as a success. He explains that for 20 years the GSA was run as a party place, in the 70s and 80s. During the past 10 years the GSA has shifted to supporting graduate student activities. The GSA has gone too far, and needs to organize social events. Volunteers are need for the Social and Cultural Committee. Nikola thanks Jeff Perlman for organizing the event.

D) Request for nominations

Nikola explains that there are 10 positions which need to be filled every year by the GSA, Senate, Executive Committee of the Graduate School – NB, three student center governing boards, and positions in GSA committees.

Kyle encourages people interested in the University to fill the Senate seat, and the Exec. Council is another important seat. The campus governing boards run the student centers. And there are many open positions in the GSA itself, EAC, Social/Cultural, etc.

Nikola adds that these committees are important. The Senate, and more importantly the Executive Council of GS-NB impact heavily on graduate student life. He gives an example about the EC GS-NB, reminding that the Council that it is the final arbiter of graduate student complaints on faculty and administration. If there are no graduate student representatives on the committee, the decisions the committee will make will be one-sided.

Matthias Stephan (Ital. Grad. Sci.) nominates himself for the position.

Sailaza adds that the Senate and campus governing board committees are dominated by undergraduates, and that there is no graduate representation., no input from graduate students.

Nikola explains that these committees have the authority to change the GSL to UGSL... Give the Coca-Cola products contract as an example of their authority. Nikola thanks Matthias for volunteering.

Jeff Wayne (LISSA) asks if he can recruit another graduate student. Nikola says yes.

Kyle asks for nominations from the floor. Michael Jackson, current graduate student representative to the Board of Trustees, has been nominated previously for the Senate. The voting will take place during the next meeting. Nikola seconds the nomination.

The Chair moves to appoint Matthias to the Executive Committee of GS-NB. Kyle and Nuri second, and the motion is unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

A) Welcoming New Members:

Nikola reviews the GSA Council Member's Guide. On the first page the dates of meetings are listed. The GSA wants to move two meetings to other campuses, one to Busch and one to Douglass, with hopes of improving attendance. The dates are still pending from Central Reservations. Nikola relinquishes the floor to Kyle to speak on the funding application and guidelines.

Kyle explains the new funding application packet. The two page Funding Guidelines is a summary of the Funding Policies, which is also provided in the Member's Guide. Kyle describes the Post-Event form, and asks members to contact him if they have any questions regarding the policies.

Deirdre explains the list of dos and don'ts. Especially important is the one contact person only requirement – some organizations had several people who didn't communicate with each other and went way over budget, so they didn't get reimbursed.

Kyle continues, explaining the current constitution and the draft of the new constitution. Kyle hopes to form an Ad-Hoc committee to finish the constitution work.

Nikola adds that the dos and don'ts list is forced by external circumstances. For example reimbursement checks. Daily Targum and vendor invoices frequently just say GSA, with no explanation of which organization and which event. And there are too many instances of organizations going over budget.

Fionnuala Rose (Anthropology) asks for the differences of the two constitutions. Kyle explains there are many details which were added to reflect the current conditions of the GSA. Jeff Wayne adds that the language was cleaned.

B) New Recognitions:

Nuri W. Emanetoglu reports that one new recognition application has been received, for the Rutgers University Special Libraries Association. He asks for clarification on differences with LISSA and MCIS, also GSAs of SCILS. Virginia Kowalski (RUSLA) explains that it is a subset of SCILS students interested in special libraries, such as University and special collection libraries. Jeff (LISSA) adds that this organization is basically a subset of LISSA, and they want to form a group so that they can reserve meeting rooms in Rutgers. Nuri moves that RUSLA be recognized by the GSA, with the condition that it is considered as one with LISSA for budget purposes. Nikola seconds the motion. The motion is approved unanimously. The Graduate Association for the Advancement of Post-Academic Arts Involvement is also recognized.

C) Pauper's Guide:

Nikola invites Annand Commissioning to explain the Pauper's Guide and the Publication Office and graduate journals. Annand explains the PG is a guide to NB & surrounding areas for graduate students. The GSA will update the guide this year – asking for input from the graduate student body. Nikola adds the rules for the reviews – one restaurant and two other things. Geographic limitations – no NYC, Princeton is OK. Only GSA representatives will be reimbursed. A sign-in sheet is provided. The Executive Committee is not eligible for fairness. Sailaza gives an example of a review. The sign-in sheets will be posted Monday.

D) Proposals from the Floor:

Nikola explains the proposals and question time items on the agenda. Proposals is for Council members to inform the GSA of graduate student concerns, question time is for clarifying policies and actions of the GSA. Jeff (LISSA) asks if the GSA sends out condolences. Sailaza and Nikola answer that if he drafts a letter, the GSA would be able to send it. Romina Gutierrez (Art History) makes a correction to a mistake in the publications part of the budget.

E) Reports:

1) *Executive Report:*

Nikola asks for volunteers. Tomeaka Fladger (BGSA) may be able to fill the RSCGB seat. The BCCGB meets on Wednesdays. Michael Gallo (GSE) takes the DSCGB.

2) *ISAC*

Atul, the new president of ISAC, is not present.

3) *Treasurers Report:*

Nikola recognizes Kyle. Kyle asks for volunteers for the EAC. He explains the categories listed on the first page of the budget. Nikola explains if the GSA funds an L&P event, it must be open to all graduate students. Operations Budget groups internal meetings. Legal counseling – the GSA has a lawyer to come and give legal counseling twice a week. He gives 20 minutes to each interview, free to graduate students, and covers all issues except taxes and immigration.

Kyle expresses the concern on spending graduate student fees on what are departmental lecture series. The GSA wants to fund specifically graduate student events which wouldn't happen without the GSA.

Lee Rushworth (GMLS) objects to the allocation made by the EAC. Lawrence Kowerski (Classics) asks which criteria their proposal did not meet. Kyle explains the EGS – NonEGS distinction. Nikola adds that some departments view the GSA as a pot of money which they can use. The EAC tries to determine which applications are such events.

Graham Horwood (Linguistics) states that they will be re-applying. Asks why they were not informed on the GSA rules. Nikola answers that the GSA Council discussed the new Funding Policies throughout the 1998-99 year, in almost all meetings.

Brian Clancy (Art History) states that they will re-apply.

Sailaza talks about graduate conferences and graduate student lecture series, and explains how and why it is easier to distinguish the first.

Max Likin (History) asks about the procedure for appeal for those organizations who object to their allocations. Nikola & Kyle go through the Funding Policies document, page 5, Appeals Procedure.

After 90 minutes of discussion the treasurer's report is unanimously accepted.

4) Senate Report

The GSA senators have nothing to report, as the first Senate meeting was cancelled due to Hurricane Floyd.

F) Question Time:

ADJOURMENT:

At 21:55 the Chair moves adjournment. This motion is adopted by unanimous consent.