

Minutes – September 22, 2002

I. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM AND CALL TO ORDER – 7:10 PM EST

Officer Attendance –

Jeff Perlman (President), Brian Keane (Vice President), Gary Bartlett (Treasurer)

Robert Hamilton IV (Secretary)

Member Attendance-

52 Members present.

II. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Approval of minutes from May 12, 2002 – Minutes were amended by Markus Hiller to include organizations that were retroactively given official recognition –amended minutes approved
- B. Approval of agenda for September 22, 2002- approved

III. INVITED SPEAKER

Dr Nancy Winterbauer – V.P. for University Budgeting – Dr Winterbauer addressed a number of topics affecting graduate student life during a 20-minute speech. These topics included university budget cuts, the higher education summit, and space limitations on campus, graduate housing, and TA/GA stipends. She also suggested that students lobby for funding at the state and national level via letter-writing and bulk emails.

Q: (Jeff P): Internal fellow healthcare? The University Senate, what is its current status, has passed healthcare?

A: (Dr W):TA/GA healthcare is paid by state. There are no funds for internal fellows. Tuition increases may be able to cover their expenses.

Q: (Avi F): How can students get involved in the university master plan and the New Brunswick CORE vision? Are NB and the university working together on planning?

A: (Dr W): Currently the university is comparing its facilities to other state universities. Soon there will be hearings with a “broad constituency” such as open forums. She assumes that students will be involved. NB and Rutgers are working together, especially on the corridor from College Ave to Douglas Campus and NB Seminary and graduate housing.

Q: (Jeff P): What are your opinions about the merger of Rutgers, UMDNJ, and NJIT?

A: (Dr W): The governor created a panel just to examine UMDNJ. This panel suggested not having a free-standing medical school. Combining two under funded units (Rutgers and UMDNJ) is not a good idea. Higher education funding does not seem to be a state

priority. Contact your legislators and let them know that graduate programs are important.

Q: How effective are emails to legislators?

A: (Dr W): Individual emails are often ignored. Send them in bulk.

IV. REPORTS

A. Executive (Jeff Perlman)

1. Graduate Shopping Van – The van was cut and Jeff talked to Bob Spear, Ed Kozack, and Emmet Dennis to get it restored. Operating costs for the van are \$42/hr which total \$40,000/yr. This cannot be funded due to budget cuts. Ray Han (ISAC) explained that there is an informal shopping network. Students who shop list their time and place and you can sign up to accompany them on a first-come basis. Contact Ray or the GSA website for information.

Q: (Brian K): Can the van be funded on a more limited operating basis?

A: (Jeff P): No, because limited hours don't offer people enough flexibility to use it.

2. Rutgers University Master Plan – This is a 5 – 10 year plan that will identify all university facilities and what their intended uses will be. Students must be involved. At present we have crowded roads and classrooms due to poor planning. For once we can have input before a plan is finalized.
3. Student Housing – There may be grad housing at Seminary Place for 60 –80 graduate students. However, Ford Hall will go to undergrads so there is a net gain of at most 20 students. There is talk of grad housing downtown in the George Street Corridor, but there is no student involvement. Please respond to egroups about housing.

Q: (Avi F): Perhaps we should form an ad hoc committee.

A: (Jeff P): We should resurrect the Student Affairs Committee – this was their jurisdiction.

4. New Brunswick Redevelopment – CORE vision for downtown NB wants to bring in big biotech, turn Ferren Mall into a 32 story building, and tear down housing. Jeff has an issue with the lack of student involvement in the process. Contact him for more information.
5. AAUP Membership – The current contract expires on June 30, 2003. Negotiations will start in January or February. We need strong graduate membership so if you have not joined, please do so. Visit the GSA website for more information.

6. Presidential Search Committee – The process is still ongoing and highly secretive. We could have a new president in October, but it's more realistic that a president is announced and assumes duties in January.

B. Committees

1. Social/Cultural – (Chair Empty; Jeff P) – GSA Film Series - The GSA film series continues on Monday nights at 7:30 PM at Zafra's. Zafra's is located at 46 Paterson St, in downtown New Brunswick. Upcoming films will be announce through email and/or through GSA website. We need people for the social/cultural committee. Consider joining.
2. Publications/Newsletters – (Anand C.) -
 - (a) Check the website for social/cultural committee updates.
 - (b) The primary function of this office is making graduate journals and publications. The second function is maintaining the website. Currently, 2 print journals and the new web journal, Renderings, are coming out.
 - (c) If your group has a website, we can host it, but not design it.
 - (d) If your group is not currently listed on the GSA website, please let me know. aslan@mac.com
3. TA/GA Steering Committee – (Pieter B.) – pblue@math.rutgers.edu
 - (a) A survey was sent to all TAs and GAs. We will try to recruit them all. Please respond. We are planning a general meeting in November.
 - (b) Steering Committee will meet on Sept 30 at 9:30 AM in Au Bon Pain.
 - (c) Half –TAs have been awarded in some departments. Does anyone know anything?

C: (Jeff P): Please invite us to your meetings and we will bring pizza and soda, and discuss pertinent issues.

4. International Student Affairs- (Ray H) – Ray is the new chairperson and introduced himself. He plans more biweekly pizza hours. The next one (TBA) will be in the GSL on Busch.
5. Student Affairs Committee – (Chair Empty) – SAC discussed in New Business

C. Treasurer/EAC – (Gary B) – Report summarized in the annotated GSA Budget for 2002-2003 Fiscal Year.

1. 35 organizations requested Lectures and Productions funds.
2. 42 organizations requested Operations funds.
3. 5 organizations requested Publications funds.
4. Additional GSA funds were allocated.
5. Treasurer's report was approved

D. University Representatives

1. RSCGB – (Jeff P.) – No meeting. Red Lion Café closed. There were complaints about food quality and prices.
2. DSCGB – (Robert H. IV) – No meeting.
3. Representative to the BOT – (Jason R) – Was present, but left by this point.
4. University Senate – (Carrie P) - There is a meeting this Friday at 1:00 PM. Show your support. Email Carrie prestoc@eden.rutgers.edu or Avi afechter@eden.rutgers.edu if you will be attending.
5. Executive Council of the Graduate School – (Carrie P)- No meeting. Carrie will be pressing the issue of graduate healthcare. University is interested in attracting and retaining the best grad students possible.
6. ACIC – (Charvi P) - No meeting. This committee makes recommendations as to where computer fees are spent. If you have any recommendations, email Charvi charvi@paul.rutgers.edu
7. PATSAC – (Jeff P) – First meeting is this Thursday in Brower Commons. We will discuss bus routes, parking fees, Rt 18 construction, and other issues.
8. Bike Task Force Committee – (Jeff P) – The Tour de Rutgers bike tour was a success. There were approximately 150-200 cyclists. The event was covered by the Home News Tribune.
9. Health Services Student Advisory Council – (Kurt S) – Kurt Sturm’s nomination to chair this committee was confirmed. The committee has met once and discussed customer service in university healthcare. If you have any thoughts or ideas contact Kurt ksturm@sol.rutgers.edu
10. Joint Advisory Board – (Jeff P) – JAB is comprised of 15 members – 5 students, 5 university administrators and 5 city administrators. Originally there were no grad students reps, and now there is one.

E. Administrative Assistant Report – (Emily R) – Office hours are posted. Email myself or Mike C with any questions or concerns.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Recognition of new organizations – The following organizations were officially recognized:

Oceanography GSA
Pharmaceutical Sciences GSA
Rutgers E-Commerce Association (RECA)
Chinese Culture Study Association (CCSA)
Rutgers Student Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management GSA (SHRM)

Cook Campus GSA
Labor and Employment Relations GSA
Rutgers Aerobie Seminar

Q: Why is E-Commerce separate from Computer Science GSA?

A: CSGSA is only technology. We deal with the business aspect.

Q: What's the difference between Labor and Employment and SHRM?

A: The main difference is geographic – they're from two different schools with two different environments.

C: (Brian K): Two organizations may not share an officer. Membership of one group cannot be a subset of the other or the groups will be treated as one. In addition, if there is significant overlap of memberships, EAC will determine whether the groups will be funded.

C: (Jeff P): Any departmental GSAs are automatically recognized and can be funded.

B. Student Affairs Committee – The committee was reauthorized and Avram Fechter was nominated and confirmed as chairperson.

VI. QUESTION TIME

Q: (LISA rep): What is the cost for a TA/GA to unionize?

A: You already pay 85% of the cost. It is about \$10 more per year to be a full-fledged member with voting rights.

Q: What can computer science do since it didn't receive funding? Can we resubmit?

A: (Gary B) Yes you can. A rep must be present to receive funding.

C: (Brian K): We have about \$30,000 left. Apply now.

C: (Gary B): We have the highest number of GSAs applying, so there is less money. Apply ASAP

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM EST.