

**GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF RUTGERS UNIVERSITY GENERAL
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 19TH, 2004**

PURPOSE OF MEETING: *This is the second general meeting for the 2004-2005 academic year. The principal purpose was to provide updates from various committees and to distribute and explain funding recommendations*

DATE: Sunday, October 10, 2004

TIME: 7pm to 9pm

VENUE: Graduate Lounge, College Avenue Campus, Rutgers University

NUMBER OF ATTENDEES:

FACILITATORS: Kristen Gilmore (GSA President), Kristen Ross (GSA Vice-president), Karen Mabb (GSA Treasurer) & Grant Law (GSA Secretary)

Topic	Discussion	Action	Person Responsible
1. Determination of quorum and call to order	Done		
2. Approval of agenda	Done		
3. Old Business	6 new groups wishing to be recognized: Badmitten, Mediaeval Studies, Educational Media Association, Asha For Education, Christian Fellowship, Romanian Student Association	A vote for the acceptance of these organizations was moved for and seconded. The vote was positive to recognize the new groups.	
4. New Business			
NJPIRG Resolution	Matt Elliot asked for support on the reaffirmation of the NJPIRG waivable fee on the term bill.	A resolution was presented. A motion to endorse the waivable NJPIRG fee on the term bill was made, seconded and approved.	
Recognition of new organizations	8 new groups introduced: Bioinformatics, Turkish Student Assn., Jewish Student Assn., Asado, Cavale, RAPS, Human Rights Assn., Sociology.	Because RAPS and Sociology are departmental groups, their acceptance was voted on immediately. The vote was affirmative to recognize both groups.	
Proposals from the floor		Scott Bruton suggested a public debate be organized for 7 th District Representative candidates Brozac and Ferguson. Contact Scott if interested in	

<p>5. Executive Reports:</p> <p>Communication</p> <p>Graduate Student Housing Representative</p> <p>Meeting with VP Blimling</p>	<p>Communication issues were discussed. The attendance policy was reviewed.</p> <p>A search committee will be formed to oversee the new housing, College Hall, on George Street. The housing will open for Fall '05. Undergraduate and graduate student representatives should be identified to participate in the committee.</p> <p>Kristen Gilmore, (President), Kristen Ross (Vice President) and Franklin Turner will be meeting with VP Blimling to discuss student affairs issues.</p> <p>H.R. 3412 Higher Ed bill was discussed.</p>	<p>helping.</p> <p>One person in each graduate student organization (GSO) should be chosen to act as a communications liaison between the GSA and the members of their GSO.</p> <p>Off-campus security concerns was raised. The Sears parking lot near Cook. Safety walks lead by Rutgers police are planned. Increased numbers of community officers. Disability/accessibility issues with regard to buildings. Bus drivers should announce the names of bus stops.</p> <p>The committee lobbied well, garnering more New Jersey delegates than any other state. October 20th is a national day of student action – does anyone want to make this happen?</p>	<p>In early October, we will ask for the email address of each GSO's communications liaison. All GSA communications will go to this person, who will then forward the memos to the members of the GSO they represent.</p>
	<p>External Allocations Committee, represented by Karen Mabb. Read list of members, and described the oversight process. Out of \$115,000 requested, only \$49,000 can be funded. No GSO will be given the total amount requested. The committee's first round approved \$78,000 for all requests. A 10% reduction was imposed on all requests, but a significant shortfall remained.</p>		

	<p>The GSA should have more funds this Spring, so we are waiting to consider funding of Spring events until we know how much we will have.</p> <p>Anticipate \$17,000 in the Spring, which will be used to fund new GSO's first. Remainder will be distributed evenly between previously funded GSO's.</p> <p>All are welcome to join the External Allocations Committee.</p>	<p>The EAC will determine the Spring deadline for application submission.</p> <p>If you want to join the External Allocations Committee, please contact Karen Mabb (rugsa_treasurer@yahoo.com)</p>	
<p>6. External committees</p>	<p>Mike Crockford described the Rutgers Student Center Governing Board and our use of the graduate student lounges.</p> <p>We need a graduate student representative on the Douglass College Center Governing Board to support our use of the Graduate Student Lounge.</p> <p>The University Senate can take a long time to recognize issues. Let's decide tonight which issues we care about and start pushing them. President McCormick's address also encouraged working with the University Senate. We should use the senators as a resource.</p> <p>The Executive Committee of the Graduate School</p> <p>Board of Trustees</p>	<p>If you are interested, please contact Mike Crockford (rugsa_help@yahoo.com)</p> <p>Topics to push included: on and off-campus security, accessibility issues, health insurance benefits for graduate students on fellowships. Any further suggestions should be submitted in the next 2 weeks.</p>	

	<p>Parking & Transportation Student Advisory Committee</p> <p>TA/GA Steering Committee</p> <p>Sustainability Committee</p>	<p>Will be meeting next week.</p> <p>Conversation w/ Blimling is planned.</p> <p>Nothing to report</p> <p>We need new members. Contact Kristy King (kking@rci.rutgers.edu)</p> <p>Intent is to bring the many campus subgroups together, and build membership. To get involved, contact Kristen Ross (rugsa_vicepresident@yahoo.com)</p>	
7. Publication Office	Nothing to report		
8. Administrative Assistants	<p>Please stick to budget. We have no safety net. Let us know of any changes you wish to make well in advance.</p> <p>The AA's are Mike Crockford and Jean Henningsen. If you begin working through an issue with Mike or Jean, please stick with the same person on all future conversations.</p>		
9. Announcements	<p>Remember, all GSO's are expected to have a representative present for at least 4 GSA meetings.</p> <p>The next GSA general meeting will be October 10th, in the College Avenue Student Center's multi-purpose room.</p> <p>Presidential Debate Watch hosted by GSA – 10/13/04 Busch Graduate Student Lounge</p>		

CONCLUSION: The minutes of this meeting will be reviewed by the GSA administration, then distributed to the GSO's through their communication liaisons.