

## **GAPSA Assembly Meeting Minutes**

*January 19th, 2009, Uptown Campus LBC 203 Stibbs – 7:00pm*

- I. Call to Order**
  - 7:00 p.m.
- II. Roll Call**
  - Please see attendance list below
- III. Approval of Minutes**
  - Approved unanimously

### **IV. President's Report (Jerina Pillert)**

#### *A. Upcoming ASB meeting*

- Welcome back! Thank you for attending the meeting today. Please mark the meeting schedule for this semester on your calendars, including the ASB meeting on February 9, 2009. Please remember that it is mandatory for GAPSA Senators to attend the ASB meeting.

### **V. GAPSA Division Reports**

#### *A. School of Continuing Studies*

- Not in attendance

#### *B. Graduate Business Council*

- Not in attendance

#### *C. Graduate Studies Student Association*

- No report

#### *D. Medical School Student Association*

- No report

#### *E. Public Health and Tropical Medicine Student Government*

- A mixer will be held January 29 between Public Health and BMSSA at the Rock-n-Bowl

#### *F. Student Bar Association (Law School)*

- No report

#### *G. Student Government Association of the School of Social Work*

- No report

#### *H. Biomedical Sciences Student Association*

- See above announcement about January 29 mixer

### **VI. Executive Council Reports**

#### **A. Executive VP: Erin Beyerstedt**

##### *i. GAPSA Spring Mixer?*

- Would you all prefer a mixer or a banquet or both?
- No preference expressed; EVP will look into possibilities and report back at the next meeting.

#### **B. Administrative VP: Andrew Tuozzolo**

##### *i. Constitution – first reading*

- Please see handout in tonight's packet for proposed changes to the constitution.
- Is there any discussion about eliminating the Downtown Vice President position?
  - Senator Wendt, SBA: Katie knows this position best. If she says that it is expendable, perhaps we should consider eliminating it.
  - Senator Reilly, SPHTM: If we have GAPSA Senators but not a DVP, we might be more informed. I feel clueless about what goes on in GAPSA.

- President Pillert: Kaite has cut my work load in half and members of the administration have actually *been* to the downtown campus because of Kaite. She does a lot of work behind the scenes. Katie gives neither herself nor her position enough credit.
- AVP: I will entertain motions to amend the proposed constitutional changes both tonight and at the next meeting.
- Senator Powers, GSSA: What is a Parliamentarian? AVP: One who keeps order (votes, motions, decorum, etc...) at the meeting.
- Senator Wendt, SBA: Can I amend the proposed constitutional changes to eliminate the DVP position? AVP: Yes, and if the amendment passes, tonight will be its first reading.

C. Downtown Campus VP: Katie Izenour

*i. Update on Downtown Safety Commission*

- On December 15, 2008, a walkabout of the downtown campus took place. The Administrators who attended saw the new lights and acknowledged unsafe areas on the downtown campus. On March 2, the GAPSA meeting will take place downtown. BBQ will be served for dinner at that meeting. The Fall 2008 report from the Downtown Safety Commission will be completed soon.

D. Treasurer: Kourtney Thomas

*i. Update on reserve application submission procedure*

- All those applying for GAPSA funding (either travel or reserve) MUST contact their school's treasurer before submitting the application.

*ii. Conference Reserve Requests*

*a) R. Musler*

- \$500 request
- Approved unanimously

*b) L. Jahnke*

- \$500 request
- Approved unanimously

*c) K. Hofer*

- \$465 request
- Approved unanimously

*d) A. Rueda*

- \$475 request
- Approved unanimously

*e) U. Jayaranthe*

- \$500 request
- Approved unanimously

E. Secretary: Megan Holt

- Please send me the names of proxies at least twenty-four hours prior to the GAPSA meeting. There are several proxies here tonight, and I was not informed about any of them.

## **VII. Committee Reports**

### A. Grad Club Committee (Marc Blainey)

- Idea for a space solely for all Graduate and Professional Students
- Ideally, the space would contain a pub, a computer lab, and offices for GAPSA and other graduate school governments
- Meetings with university services have taken place; the idea was met with approval and encouragement. University services seems to want ideas from graduate students.

- EVP Beyerstedt met with Brian Mitchell, Associate Provost for Graduate Studies. Mr. Mitchell also approves of this idea.
- We have proposed a space in the old Anthropology Annex building. We are looking for other venues as well.
- The committee needs more people; ideally, someone from each school would be on the committee.
- Please e-mail [mblainey@tulane.edu](mailto:mblainey@tulane.edu) with questions or concerns or to join the committee.

#### B. Health Insurance Committee Update (Matt Austin)

- We held a meeting last week.
- Senator Vincenti from SPHTM and a member of MSG are our newest members.
- We are attempting to meet with Risk Management, who has been ignoring us.
- We are meeting with the deans of each school this week. Liberal Arts, School of Medicine, Science and Engineering, and SPHTM deans are covered. We need people from the other schools to meet with their respective deans on our behalf.
- We have put together charts and graphs with the data that we have collected.
- Senator Hambly, MSG, is working to negotiate a discounted rate with Tulane University hospital.
- We are looking at shortcomings in wellness care, vaccinations, and immunizations.
- We will soon be sending a poll to graduate students about the current health plan. We will send it through the GAPSA chain. DVP: SurveyMonkey works very well and is very user-friendly.
- President Pillert: It will be a good idea to get a committee member to go to each school's meeting. I will put you in touch with the presidents of the schools.

#### VIII. ASB President's Report (Tim Cullen)

- No report

#### IX. USG President's Report (Margaret Walker)

- We have reorganized based on school governments and resident hall governments. I am a member of the Quality Enhancement Plan committee, which needs ideas for making Tulane better. The committee is taking proposals for a "big idea." There may be a chalking competition taking place sometime in the near future. Blainey: Can they fix the Newcomb clock?

#### X. Adviser Report (Jered Bocage)

- No report

#### XI. Old Business

- None

#### XII. New Business

- None

#### XIII. Open Forum

- Senator Hua, GSSA: What about the furniture proposal that we tabled last time?
  - President Pillert: The ASB President gave us incorrect information, and as a result, the proposal is incorrect.
  - Adviser Bocage: The fire safety inspector was very concerned about the logistics of the project.
  - President Pillert: We are keeping the proposal tabled until further notice.

#### **XIV. Announcements**

- Proxy Ellis, SBA: The Environmental Law Society will be coming to request funding soon. GAPSA has supported us in the past, and we hope to continue to receive support.
- Senator Hua, GSSA: This year is the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Darwin's *Origin of the Species*. There may be some events in the near future.

#### **XV. Adjournment**

- 8:00 p.m.

#### **Attendance**

##### **Graduate Studies (GSSA)**

Rebecca Powers  
Joyce Bennett  
Jeremy Nelson  
Scott Jereb  
Lisa Hua

##### **Medical School (MSSA)**

Chris Stark  
Bryan Hambly

##### **Biomedical Sciences (BMSSA)**

Bryan Kaplan

##### **Public Health & Tropical Medicine**

Marco Vincenti  
Tamala Gondwe  
Katie Reilly  
Jason Houdek (proxy, Laura DeBoer)

##### **Law School (SBA)**

Patrick Hernon (proxy, Melissa Swabacker)  
Lindsay Ellis (proxy, Guillermo Cancio)  
George Wendt  
Camille Dizon

##### **Social Work (SSWSGA)**

Tiffany Singleton  
Matt Langedyke