

GAPSA Assembly Meeting Minutes

October 6th, 2008, Uptown Campus LBC 203 Stibbs – 7:00pm

I. Call to Order

- 7:06 p.m.

II. Roll Call

- See attendance below

III. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes from 15 September, 2008 approved unanimously

IV. President's Report (Jerina Pillert)

A. Housekeeping

- The binders are yours to keep; please bring them to every meeting.
- Please review your duties, found in the welcome letter from last meeting.

B. ASB Meeting – Oct. 30th 6:30pm

- All GAPSA senators are required to attend.

C. University Services Meeting – Oct. 9th 5:30pm

- Representatives from SBA, MSG, and GBC needed.

V. GAPSA Division Reports

A. School of Continuing Studies

- Not present

B. Graduate Business Council

- No report

C. Graduate Studies Student Association

- No report

D. Medical School Student Association

- No report

E. Public Health and Tropical Medicine Student Government

- Had meeting last Monday
- Held voter registration drive

F. Student Bar Association (Law School)

- Barristers' Ball will be held on October 18, 2008 at the Children's Museum. Tickets are \$35.

G. Student Government Association of the School of Social Work

- No report

H. Biomedical Sciences Student Association

- No report

VI. Executive Council Reports

A. Executive VP: Erin Beyerstedt

i. GAPSA Fall Semester Party – Nov. 14th

- \$1 drinks
- Responsible host training will be held later during this meeting
- Generations Reserved from 9p.m – 3a.m

B. Administrative VP: Andrew Tuozzolo

- Some items for later – BMSSA's constitution; Financial Associate;
- Please review Robert's Rules of Order from last meeting
- Attended two USG meetings. USG hoped to amend its constitution in order to limit GAPSA's ability to bring legislation to USG. That issue did not receive support.

C. Downtown Campus VP: Katie Izenour

i. Downtown Safety Commission

- Representatives from every school attended the DSC meeting.
- There will be one progress report per semester and one official report at the end of each academic year.
- In related news, Dr. Cherry will visit the downtown campus on Wednesday, October 8.

D. Treasurer: Kourtney Thomas

i. Finance Committee Date Change

- The October Finance Committee meeting will take place on Monday, October 20. Please send agenda items at least 48 hours in advance.

ii. Reserve Requests

a) Hurricane Relief for UTMB (Med)

- Requesting \$2,000 for white coats and stethoscopes to help medical students from UT Galveston who lost supplies during Hurricane Gustav. UT Galveston students were very generous to Tulane students during Hurricane Katrina. Please see handout for additional information.
- Finance Committee unanimously approved this request.
- Discussion
 - Senator Cancio, SBA—We should not spend \$2,000; the money could be used for our own students.
 - Senator Wendt, SBA—Respectfully disagrees; we should do our part to help.
 - Senator Owhar, Social Work—How did MSG come up with the \$2,000 amount? Answer—Lots of research and comparison shopping.
 - Motion to approve the Finance Committee’s recommendation.
- Motion passed, 18–1

b) Camp Boggy Creek (Med)

- Requesting \$3,100 to send a group of student volunteers to Camp Boggy Creek, a facility for children with terminal illnesses.
- Finance Committee unanimously denied this request
- Discussion
 - Senator Kaplan, BMSSA—What kind of diseases do the children have? Answer—Many different diseases, all listed on provided handout.

- Senator Wendt, SBA—Why did the request fail at the Finance Committee meeting?
- VPF Thomas—The committee was afraid of setting the precedent of funding groups to go on retreat. Also, there were concerns that Tulane’s name would not be attached to Camp Boggy Creek and that the Medical School does not publicize this volunteer work.
- Motion to overturn the Finance Committee’s decision and award \$3,100.
- Senator Cancio, SBA—Camp Boggy Creek is a good cause, but GAPSA should not fund volunteers.
- Senator Swabacker, SBA—What exactly can groups request from GAPSA?
- VPF Thomas—Nobody should be discouraged from applying for funding.
- Senator Can, MSG—Not in favor of approving the motion.
- Motion failed, 4–7–6

c) Equal Justice Works Conference (Law)

- Public Interest Law Foundation requesting \$5,278 to send fourteen students to the conference. Tulane currently has one of the top public interest law programs in the nation; PILF feels that a Tulane presence at the conference is very important.
- Finance Committee voted to award \$600, on the condition that those attending the conference do a presentation at Tulane.
- Discussion
 - Senator Riley, SPTHM—Why did the Finance Committee deny the full \$5,278?
 - Motion to approve the original amount.
 - Senator Owhar, SW—Motion to amend previous motion and approve \$2,000.

- Senator Cancio, SBA—PILF needs to represent the Law School at the conference; agrees with awarding \$2,000.
- AVP Tuozzolo—Point of Information: What does “public interest” mean?
- Carolyn Depoian (PILF)—Advocacy work, legal aid, criminal/civil law. Public aid is for those who cannot afford legal representation.
- Motion to amend to \$2,000 passes 14—3—2
- Senator Swabacker, SBA—Motion to award \$2,000 to PILF (needs super majority to overturn Finance Committee)
- Senator Hall, GBC—Feels unclear as to what GAPSA is supposed to fund. Is a precedent being set as to how GAPSA is awarding funds?
- AVP Tuozzolo—Is it possible to table this issue until the next meeting?
- Carolyn Depoian (PILF)—Feels that PILF would never be able to ask GAPSA for funds under any other circumstance.
- VPF Thomas—recognizes that PILF does not come to GAPSA at other times, but the Finance Committee is worried about precedent.
- Senator Powers, SBA—Motion to table the issue.
- Senator Kaplan, BMSSA—Second
- Motion to table tied, 7—7—5
- President Pillert votes to break tie; motion to table fails.
- Motion to approve \$2,000 fails, 12—3—5 (did not pass by super majority)

- Senator Swabacker, SBA—Motion to award the Finance Committee recommendation of \$600.
- Motion passes unanimously

E. Secretary: Megan Holt

VII. ASB President's Report (Tim Cullen)

- ASB meeting will take place in the Kendall Cram Lecture Hall in the LBC, October 30, 2008, 6:30 p.m. President Cowen will attend. Formal business attire.

VIII. USG President's Report (Margaret Walker)

- Not present

IX. Adviser Report (Jered Bocage)

A. Responsible Host Training

- Will train everyone to be a responsible host

X. Old Business

A. BMSSA Constitution – second reading

- Motion to dispense with reading the entire constitution passes unanimously.
- Motion to approve constitution passes unanimously.
- Motion to approve BMSSA budget passes unanimously.

B. GAPSA Constitution/Bylaws Changes – second reading

- Motion to dispense with reading passes unanimously.
- Motion to approve the changes passes unanimously.

C. Financial Associate Committee – Andrew Tuozzolo

- Advisor Bocage recaps last month's discussion regarding the Financial Associate position. Please see September 15 minutes.
- Motion to create an Ad Hoc committee to discuss Financial Associate passes unanimously.
- Please designate one person from each school for this committee.

XI. New Business

A. Health Insurance Committee – Matt Austin

- Matt Austin will chair a committee to investigate better health care plans for graduate students.
- Motion to create Ad Hoc committee passes unanimously.
- EVP Beyerstedt—Point of Information: Committee members do not have to be GAPSA Senators.

B. Financial Associate Committee – Andrew Tuozzolo

- See above

XII. Open Forum

- ASB President Cullen—USG sets aside a certain amount for travel funding at the beginning of each academic year. GAPSA should do the same.

XIII. Announcements

- Senator Cancio, SBA—Barrister’s Ball coming up

XIV. Adjournment

Attendance

Continuing Studies

No representative present

Graduate Studies (GSSA)

Rebecca Powers

Joyce Bennett

Lisa Hua

Scott Jared

Public Health (SPHTM)

Laura DeBoer

Tamala Gondwe

Katie Reilly

Melody ???

Biomedical Sciences (BMSSA)

Bryan Kaplan

Graduate Business Council

Brigham Hall

Medical School (MSG)

Cain McClary

Chris Stark

Davis Ogitani

Bryan Hambley

Law School (SBA)

Melissa Swabacker

Sara Lewis

Guillermo Cancio

George Wendt

Lauren Zimmerman

Social Work

April Riddick

Evelyn Owhar