

## Graduate Student Association (GSA)

### Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2015 Ketchum Hall, Room 219

#### **Call to Order**

**Adoption of Agenda:** The agenda was adopted unanimously.

**Remarks from the President, Christine Matos:** President Matos stated that the aim is to develop and maintain a high presence on campus and within the Buffalo community while helping more Graduate students obtain their academic goals through funding and scholarships.

**Remarks from Administrative Liaison, Dr. Kevin Railey:** Dean Railey reiterated that his role is to support all of the Graduate students. He stated that it has been an honor to reach out and guide those who seek help, all while watching us grow into the professionals that we want to be. He will continue to guide and inform us on *Robert's Rules* so that our meetings can be conducted in a professional manner with ease.

**Secretary Blake** will make sure that the amendments get into the Constitution and provide us more flexibility. **Dean Railey** concluded his statement by saying that he is here for us whether it is just to talk to him or to discuss matters in aims of obtaining feedback/assistance with matters. Topics discussed do not need to be related to GSA matters.

**Remarks from the Treasurer, Danielle Delia:** Treasurer Delia stated that she has received three (3) submissions for funding which are currently under review. The total request for funding of all three submissions is around \$3,000.00. The Budget Committee is to be overlooking the budget of the GSA and will be consulting with **Treasurer Delia**.

**Committee Reports: Social Welfare Committee** has not met yet. The **Budget Committee** met and **Chairman Blake** looked into the cost of cups and concluded that the cost is too much and it would be more financially sound and beneficial to reach out to Graduate students in another way. **Senator McCormick** suggested getting rubber bracelets with GSA information printed on it. **Chairman Blake** reached out to Melaine Kenyon in Instructional Resources regarding the cost of digital signage. The cost for two televisions is \$5,000.00 along with a \$100.00 yearly fee for Visix, the signage program. It was concluded that this is not a viable option as technology develops quickly and the campus needs may grow faster than what we are able to affordably update to. **Chairman Blake** suggested that the GSA reserve a table for the teacher event that is being held in the Student Union on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. **Dean Railey** greatly favored this idea and stated that he already has a table reserved and is more than willing to share the table with the GSA. **Senator Weselak** stated that the GSA website needs to be updated. When conducting a Google search, there are two different links for two different GSA web pages and the one is very outdated.

**New Business:** Monet Lewis was elected Senator for the Senator-at-Large position.

**Organizations asking for funding:** GASPA has asked if they could receive funding from GSA. **Senator Weselak** suggested that the GSA create a set of criterions for funding and that the organizations seeking funding would need to itemize their expenses so that the GSA has full knowledge of where the money is going. In addition to this, any organization that is funded would have to provide a statement on all of their advertisements notifying students, faculty, staff, and community members that GSA funded part of their function. **Dean Railey** suggested that the GSA create an amendment

and create a tightly-worded set of criterions to see what it might be like and whether or not we want to go forth with funding organizations. **Treasurer Delia** wants to go over the wording of the documents and requested that this be brought up one month from now so that we can create something of great quality while having time to discuss and amend things. **President Matos** suggested that the organizations should have their own amendments to ask for funding. **Alfred, Graduate Student Attendee**, stated that GSA represents all Graduate students and GASPA is representing the Higher Education Department and they are doing things with and for the school in our name and by funding them, they are outsourcing our name, which is highly favorable to us. **President Matos** said that she will be creating an **Amendment Committee** and asked the **E-Board Members, Senators, and Student Attendees** if they wanted to be on the Committee. **Alfred, Graduate Student Attendee, President Matos, Senator Lewis, Senator Shaw, Treasurer Delia, and Secretary Blake** committed to being on the committee. **President Matos** also created a **Social Media Committee**. The members of the **Social Media Committee** are: **Senator Weselak, Senator McCormick, President Matos, and Secretary Blake**.

**Marketing Campaign:** **President Matos** said that we need to come up with an idea soon since we have not gone through all of the past testimonies from students who received funding from the GSA for various functions. **Secretary Blake** offered to be one of the people that puts forth a video testimony to be posted on the web page since she was funded for two conferences over the summer. **President Matos** liked this idea and will be meeting with **Secretary Blake** so that a video can be made and posted to the web.

**Alfred, Graduate Student Attendee**, brought up the issue about the library computers

that are designated for Graduate Students only. It was suggested that we have a key entry installed for the Graduate domains in the library because undergraduate students are disregarding the signs and using the computers. There have been multiple incidents where Graduate students go to use the computers and they are unavailable because undergraduate students are using them. This issue will continue to be discussed at future meetings. **President Matos** will be emailing out a schedule regarding the newly developed committees and the meeting dates/times. In addition to this, **President Matos** stated that she will be meeting with Marnie Letzelter so that nametags can be ordered for E-Board members and Senators.

**Movement of Adjourn is seconded. Session has ended.**

**Attendees:**

**Dean Railey**

**President Matos**

**Secretary Blake**

**Treasurer Delia**

**Senator Weselak**

**Senator Lewis**

**Senator Shaw**

**Senator McCormick**

**Senator Cannarozzo**

**Alfred, Graduate Student**

