



Council Meeting Minutes

**GSA Office, 173 Surge
04/09/08**

1. Call to order at 6:11 pm
 - a. Present: Alex, Erik, Kristy, Tony, Joe, Eric, Irene, Vanessa, Laura, Ching-In, Gary and department reps.
 - b. Absent: Susan, Louise, Henry, and Anirban
 - c. Alice Kan withdrew her application so she will be removed from the agenda.
 - d. We will vote on the microbiology conference. Motion to add a vote to approve funds for ASM to the agenda, friendly amendment. It will be under new business for 10 min to follow presentations. Motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded, no objections, motion carries.
 - e. Motion to approve minutes from last council meeting, seconded, no objections, motion carries and the minutes are approved.

2. Reports
 - a. **President** (Alex Cortez)
 - i. Please save questions for end of meeting to reduce the time of meeting.
 - ii. **Chancellor search**- waiting to see what UCOP has to say. We should know soon.
 - iii. **Student regent selection** – met April 5th at UCLA and recommended 5 candidates to move to next round.
 - iv. **Consilience** – The GSA conference will be a kick off for this event. Consilience is off to a good start financially. Although, we are faced with finding a replacement speaker.
 - v. **GSA research awards** – Dean of Engineering has agreed to fund the ceremony and it will be held in EBU-II terrace/conference room. We are collecting abstracts, lots have submitted abstracts already. April 25th is the deadline to submit the abstract. 1000 word limit. The ceremony will be held in May.
 - vi. **AAIII** has been reopened. Let people know, info available through the human resources website. It will close in a month.

- vii. **Future alumni** – you are eligible for reception graduating in spring, summer, or fall. It will be held Thursday May 29th and is co-sponsored by the GSA, Grad Division, and the Alumni Association at the AVC at 6pm. Wine and cheese social, business casual attire.
 - viii. **Rec Ctr. Governing board** – working to have programs geared toward grad students. Currently softball and soccer grad athletic tournaments. Will probably be a Saturday including trophies, plaque, and picnic. They are trying to acquire property in Big Bear and expand outdoor excursions. Looking at expansion plans for the Rec Center.
- b. **Executive Vice President** (Louise Hendrickson as reported by Ching-In)
- i. Want a 7% increase rather than 10% increase in fees.
 - ii. Meeting with Provost Hume on May 16th, she is in the budget subcommittee meeting.
 - iii. March regents committee meeting, selected UC President. Student advisory committee would be able to meet with him over spring break, most unable to attend. He is getting a high compensation package, concerned about this.
 - iv. Action on 4/21 Monday to protest about issues and keeping UC affordable. Sign up sheet was passed around for those interested. Another action at UCLA on May 14th. There will be a picket to the governor's house.
 - v. Ching-In is collecting financial aid testimonials. Please fill out if you haven't done so.
- c. **Vice President of Academic Affairs** (Erik Kolb)
- i. Welcome everyone, there are 16 current official GSA. See him if you want to see if you are official.
 - ii. If you aren't official, you can't access the \$300 for your mini-GSA.
 - iii. He wanted to establish contact with Dean's and colleges in the first half of the year. In the 2nd half he wanted to meet with the administration that deals with graduate students to establish relationships and resources for grad students.
 - iv. He is vice chair of reg fee committee, they have allocated money for mental health to increase the visibility of it on campus. Reg fees are what you pay for each quarter.
- d. **Public Relations Officer** (Kristy Richardson)
- i. Grad student experience survey, now closed 548 respondents which is a great response. We will get a lot of info from it. We are going to pick the winner of the ipod or external hard drive now. Picking random number 534. The winner is Xiaofan Niu.
 - ii. Ice cream social 4/18 so you can vote at the same time. She has flyers about the event.
- e. **GSHIP Chair** (Laura Bellew as reported by Tony)

- i. Laura presented a powerpoint presentation to the Council with the proposed GSHIP plan.
 - ii. Motion to extend time for 5 minutes, seconded, no objections, motion passes.
 - iii. We are in violation of Bylaws by a month (supposed to present in March due to broker living in Santa Barbara). We will negotiate it again next year.
 - iv. Motion to vote on approving the proposed changes, seconded, 15-5-7 and motion passes
 - f. **Finance Officer** (Tony Yang)
 - i. We will have a lot of rollover. If you have input on budget adjustments, please let him know. Accounting fees from ASUCR will eat into our budget and we don't have much control over that. Once we have an AAll, we hope that will disappear. Alex will try to get ASUCR to come to the next meeting. We will see if they show up at the next meeting.
 - g. **Conference Travel Grant Chair** (Joe Steirer)
 - i. Feb 2008 had 22 paid applicants ~\$7,000. Brings us to ~\$80k.
 - ii. We have 28 applicants for March, max payout \$13,300.
 - iii. In July we are supposed to move over to iTravel system, it will lead to large changes with regards to receipts and boarding passes and how the program is managed. You should check to see how the changes are implemented. Look at the website for any questions and current rules of the program.
 - iv. If we have an AAll before the end of the year, he can meet with departments.
- 3. Discussion
 - a. UCSA Report (Gary Coyne)
 - i. Hotel and travel is covered for the 2 actions.
 - ii. Women of color – UCR is hosting in last weekend of May for this conference. Let her know if you're interested in attending or helping to organize this event.
 - iii. UCSA is starting the process to get the budget approved for next year. It will be \$1.50 per grad student each year.
- 4. Presentation
 - a. Botany and Plant Sciences mini-GSA- want funding for their research retreat, held by students for students. It includes all departments but most are from the botany department. All departments are welcome. They have a poster session and a 15 min talk. One speaker is from Cal Poly Pomona and will talk to grad students afterwards about finding jobs. They will have free food and it will be in the Botanic Gardens. They will advertise through flyers, emails, and GSA. They will include the GSA logo in all advertisements. They are asking \$100 from the GSA through their mini-GSA funds. Lunch is costing more than dinner,

this seems odd. They are asking for \$800 from the GSA. They are taking \$300 from their mini-GSA funds. The GSA conference is on June 7th. You can email them if you have more questions.

- b. RCC Professor development program – informing us of recruiting and retaining professors for the community college system. They will have an orientation in the next month to 6 weeks that would be held in conjunction with the school of education. It is a faculty internship program that foresees a career in the community college system. They want to recruit from traditionally underrepresented groups. It is a 3 semester program. Fall semester you will shadow a community college faculty or administrator through their responsibilities. You get a \$1,000 stipend. You would attend some classes, perhaps teaching some of the classes, a lesson or two. Offering supplemental instruction to students, attending department or campus wide committees. They offer faculty development workshops in conjunction with the school of education. Spring semester you get \$1,000 stipend, course design, syllabus prep, etc. They would introduce you to the application process and the intern would get a part-time position at RCC and MV campuses. Parking is paid for. You can apply and at least teach part time. You should have at least a year toward your masters. Part-timers tend to get lost. It does help to get a foot in the door. He would have more info on the orientation. If you advanced to candidacy, that would be fine. They have as many positions as they can get faculty to mentor interns. This year they had more faculty than they had interns. Contact him through Alex if you're interested. They are smaller than the Riverside campus. They have openings for the large traditional disciplines. They have a huge dental program but it isn't applicable here. They have a lot of interest from faculty mentors. A lot of people talk about having multiple part-time teaching positions and struggle. They can't promise future employment, depends on budget and students attending etc. but there are 40-50 positions a year in the Calif. Comm.. college system in English.
- c. Consilience – if you are interested on serving on the committee, see Vanessa or Alex. They don't have a keynote speaker yet. It is on June 7th. You can do a poster or presentation. They will be giving out \$3,000 in awards. It depends on how many people apply. Graduate Research Awards is weighted on how active you are in GSA activities so you would want to apply for this conference as well. The theme is Consilience, unity of knowledge. Good practice for talks and peer review. It is open to postdocs too. Something to put on your CV. You can think of doing a broad overview of your field. You can think of your broad audience and give a good talk without too much details. Feel free to present something you recently presented at a conference. You should be able to convey your info to a broad audience.
- d. Laughs to end Domestic Violence – thanks GSA for their generous donation. It's a comedy show charity fundraiser. Flyers were passed

around. They will have Rex Navarette, popular in the Filipino and asian communities. They have large interest from other southern calif. Universities. It's on May 9th, proceeds go to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

5. New Business

a. Microbiology Research Conference – June 27th Botanical Gardens, 10-4pm. They have grad division, Botany dept., Chem Engr. Dept., Center for Plant and Cell Biology. They now want about \$1,500 down from \$2,000 stated at last meeting. They will proudly display the GSA logo. They want to cover food costs and parking. They have a keynoter from UCLA medical school. They are open to all majors as long as it's relevant to microbiology. Suggestion was made to ask TAPS for funding or a discount on parking. Botanic gardens charges 25 cents per hour. They often ask students to leave. Alex will see if he can help her get a reduced fee for parking. They are willing to make a change to the amount requested. Her formal request is for \$1,500. This money is for parking and catering. Motion to fund at \$1,500 given that Alex will try to get the parking reduced, motion retracted. There is usually parking fees that people need to pay. The letter Alex will write will be very good. The budget has more than \$5,000 left to fund conferences. Motion to fund in the amount of \$1,500 stipulating the president will write a letter in support of parking. Friendly amendment that if the parking is reduced, that would be reflected in the amount we pay to them. If a line item is removed or reduced, then the amount would decrease. Motion seconded, no objections, motion passes 23-0-2.

b. Candidate speeches

- i. Patrick will speak on behalf of John Gust, no discussion allowed.
- ii. There is no candidate for President and Finance Officer.
- iii. Gary Coyne (EVP)
- iv. Tony Yang (VPAA) –
- v. Delyn Chow (VPAA) is not present to speak
- vi. There is a parking committee that you can serve on.
- vii. Anne Hansen (Public Relations)
- viii. Laura Bellew (GSHIP)
- ix. Patrick Linder for John Gust (GSHIP) – reads a statement verbatim with no questions. This statement is available online.

6. Public Forum

- a. Business school – they are expanding, doing marketing with UCLA, Cal Tech, and other schools. More info can be found in Calif. Clean Innovation dot com.
- b. Postdocs get shaft on campus, they are not faculty of students. GSA should have a relationship with postdocs and get them more involved

in our organization. They will be invited to all GSA events. We can take a formal stance at the next meeting.

7. Adjournment – motion to adjourn, no objections, meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.