General Council Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2016

7:00 PM – Call to Order

7:02 PM – Minutes from the December General Council Meeting reviewed and approved unanimously.

7:04 PM – January General Council Agenda reviewed and approved unanimously.

7:06 PM – Union updates (done by Jay).

- The aim is to set up a channel to support graduate students and value their contract.
- It is aimed to avoid graduate students over-work, and to transfer issues such as space for TAs and graduate student housing.
- Jay passes around flyers for more information.

7:12 PM – Pause for food.

7:20 PM – Call for GSA Webmaster.

- Lewis states the need for a new webmaster.
- Farzad states that he will leave for internship during March.
- Farzad is willing to help the new officer for transition.

7:25 PM – Call for GSA Campus Organizing Director.

- Facilitating addressing issues such as graduate student housing.
- Edgar estimates the new position will take approximately 5 hours per week from the selected individual.

7:27 PM – Call for Sustainability Liaison.

7:29 PM – Conference Travel Grant E-mail Campaign Updates.

- The announcement and the email are sent out in the website.
- The president would like to collect emails and show them to corresponding officials and committees to increase funding for the CTG.
- The president points that everyone should email.
- Folks suggest more templates for the letters with more details.
- They also mention a template letter so that faculties can email would be good as well.
7:48 PM – Housing Food Insecurity Stories.

- The fact that graduate students are so poor that they go to events to get food is sad.
- Graduate students are encouraged to report stories such as landlord abuse.

7:52 PM – Upcoming GSA Housing Survey.

- Graduate students are asked to participate on a survey about housing.
- Affordability for graduate student housing is one of the most important concerns.

7:59 PM – Budget and Finance Updates.

- Officer states that the details can be found in her report.

8:01 PM – Open Forum + New Business discussion.

8:03 PM – Officer Reports.

8:05 PM – Meeting adjourned.