

Graduate Student Association, Minutes, October 12, 2016

University of Toledo Graduate Student Association

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Minutes of the Graduate Student Association (GSA) General Assembly: 10/12/16

The regular monthly meeting of the University of Toledo graduate student association was held in the **Health Education Building Room 105 at 6 p.m.** The presiding officers were the President (Eric Simpson), the Vice President (Jessica Sherman), the Health Science Secretary (Neha Nandedkar), Treasurer (Suren Uswatta) and the Communications Specialist (Geethika Liyanage).

The representatives present were: Jaclynn Sullivan, Nykolas McKissic, Nam Tran, Eric Loroff, Bipin Gahire, Emily Van Wasshenova, Mandy Lautzenheiser, Dylan Krendl, Mitchell Haines, Amit Chougule, Emily “Lilli” Fishman, Gopal Dahal, Alisa NAmmvong, Sahar Atshan, Saloni Daftardar, Saleh Alqel.

The representatives absent without proxy were: Abolade Oladimeji, Jeremy Holloway, Iman Samani, Jacob Westfall.

The call to order was made by Mr. Simpson, 70 people were in attendance.

Ms. Sullivan moved to approve the March 2016, April 2016 and September 2016 minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fishman. All GSA representatives voted in favor.

Mr. Simpson requested members from Research and Development committee to be a part of Professional Development committee. Currently, there are two members in Professional Development committee and they need 4-5 members to move in.

Mr. Simpson informed the representatives that he has submitted the request to Student Union so that all representatives will get an access to GSA office room. Mr. Simpson will email all GSA representatives when they should start their office hours.

Mr. Simpson updated the general assembly that President’s Advisory Committee meeting for the month of October was canceled. The Graduate committee introduced the new dean of Students, Dean Phillip “Flapp” Cockrell in their September meeting. The dean of students is interested to provide student health centers at main campus as well as health science campus of University of Toledo.

Mr. Uswatta presented a current status of GSA budget where he talked about the money spent on office supplies and travel reimbursement. Mr. Uswatta also informed general assembly that he

will do his office hours in GSA office on every Thursday from 4.00pm-5.30pm. Mr. Uswatta can meet students at different time if they schedule an appointment with him via email.

Mr. Simpson presented the budget for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018. Mr. Simpson updated the general assembly about the officer tuition and stipend revisions. Ms. Fishman requested Mr. Simpson if he can upload the GSA budget on GSA website and also email to all the representatives. Mr. Simpson agreed with Ms. Fishman.

Ms. Sherman gave the update about MGRS committee coordinator positions. Ms. Sherman provided the following information.

Each year the GSA hosts a symposium where graduate students from across the Midwest can present their research or study topics in either a poster or presentation format. This is a multidisciplinary event and anyone can present projects at the symposium. This will be the 8th year and is the largest event of its kind in the Midwestern United States.

Registration is free. Our symposium has grown from just 11 universities in the first year to over 60 universities participating. The MGRS needs about 90 volunteer to organize the event and we anticipate approximately 170 students to present with many others attending.

The symposium begins at 8.00am and ends approximately 7.00pm. This will be an all-day event and GSA will provide breakfast, lunch and dinner to all attendees. The MGRS steering committee needs 10 coordinators to plan the event.

- a. Lead Symposium Co-Coordinator : (Eric Simpson and Jessica Sherman)
- b. Keynote Coordinator: (Eric Simpson)
- c. Contributions Coordinator: (Open) Appeals to organizations (i.e. Sigma, Xi, AWIS, NSF) and university colleges to sponsor awards and programs for the symposium. Coordination begins immediately.
- d. Recruitment Coordinator: (Mitchel Haines) Contacts other universities to recruit presenters and attendees. Coordination begins immediately.
- e. Scheduling Coordinator: (Open) After the registration deadline, schedule all registered talks into individual symposia based on relatedness. Coordination begins in March.
- f. Program Coordinator: (Open) Design and organize the program used by attendees throughout the symposia. Coordination begins in March.
- g. Volunteer Coordinator: (Open) Recruits volunteers and assigns them to tasks during symposia. Coordination begins around December.
- h. Judges Coordinator: (Open) Recruit UT professors and administrators to serve as judges for oral and poster presentations. Coordination begins in December.
- i. Certificate Coordinators: (Open) At the end of the symposium, all presenters receive a certificate for their work. The Coordinators assembles all certificates for distribution.
- j. Press and Media Coordinator: (Open) Advertise the MGRS in as many news outlets and media forums as possible. Contact local radio, television, and print sources to request

coverage for MGRS. Work with PR committee to design and distribute posters.
Coordination begins in November.

Mr. Simpson informed general assembly that application for graduate research award is available online on GSA website. Mr. Simpson encouraged students to apply for graduate research award. Every year five graduate students receive this award.

Mr. Young from Department of Biological Sciences presented a budget proposal for Biological Sciences Graduate Research Symposium 2016. Mr. Simpson and Ms. Sullivan suggested cutting down a budget on food and printing. After discussion, Ms. Fishman motioned to approve \$1800 for BGRS event. The motion was seconded by Ms. Sullivan. 13 representatives voted in favor.

Mr. Haines gave an update for the social events committee. Social event committee is planning a social event for graduate students, Fall Mixer, at Table forty four on November 11, 2016. Mr. Gabriel has agreed to be the DJ for GSA Fall Mixer with no charges. There are no charges for renting a place either. Committee is planning to use money for food. Other committees explained their role and how they will work throughout the year.

A committee breakout session followed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7.39 pm.

Faithfully Submitted,

Neha Nandedkar

10/31/2016