

**Council of Graduate Students**  
**Minutes from 2<sup>nd</sup> Summer Quarter Meeting**  
**July 27th, 3:30-5:30, Delegate Meeting**  
**RPAC Meeting Room 1 & 2**

President Boley called the meeting to order at 3:32 pm. Those in attendance were: David Boley, Jason Lai, Patty Cunningham, Kerry Hodak, Jason Marion, Sara Ray, Liza Toher, Sougata Bardhan, Jamiylah Butler, Raymond Craig, Robert Ellis, Matthew Fitzsimmons, Paul Flournoy, Kirk Gaston, Oluwatobi Gbemi, Jeremy Gouldey, Amy Headings, David Chiu, Robert Calhoun, Alina Bennett, Rose Palumbo, Jessica Pliley, Eric Ritchey, Erin Sharp, Romel Somavat, and Corey Beck.

**Agenda Issues:** The executive committee was not able to approve the agenda for the meeting today at their last meeting. Therefore, the agenda needs to be approved through the delegate body before we can continue. We would like to make the following changes: strike H (“Final Report of the Treasurer”) & I (“0708-SU-005 An Act Amending Standing Rules on Ray Travel Award Policy”) from section four in new business. H & I will be discussed during the treasurer’s report. Vice President Emeritus (VPE) Hodak made a motion to accept these changes to the agenda and Delegate Sharp seconded. The motion carried.

- I. Approval of Minutes:** VPE Hodak presented a grammatical issue as far as the proper way to word when a motion is made. VPE Hodak made a motion to approve the minutes and Delegate Sharp seconded. The motion carried.

**II. Reports of Officers and Standing Committees**

- A. President’s Report: There has been a lot going on in the life of the president. He has met with the president and the acting provost who is excited about where the organization is going. He is going to meet with the chancellor next week. He also met with the vice president of research Dr. McGrath and Dean Osmer about the future of the Hayes Research Forum.
- B. Vice President’s Report: We need to focus on the vacancies in the delegate ranks as well as those outside of the delegate body. We need people to serve on standing university committees. OUAB needs graduate representation to give us a voice in the planning of the activities. The other area in need of committee members is the Hayes Research Forum. There are some plans in motion to improve the Hayes Forum. We are taking advantage of some University resources such as Carmen to simplify the submission process for applicants. We are also looking into the library knowledge bank as a way to publish the forum proceedings. This method would save a significant amount of money for CGS. We still need people for the Organizations and Elections Committee as well. Two people cannot do it all. The website will update in the fall so no worries if your name is not present on the delegate list at this time. We are also working on updating the CGS website to make it more user

friendly, more visually appealing, and adding a vacancies page so everyone knows where we need people.

- C. Secretary's Report: I have begun work on updating the governance documents along with President Boley, Treasure Toher, and Student Trustee Alvarez-Breckenridge. The goal is to complete the updates for presentation to the Council in the Fall for approval.
- D. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Emeritus Mrozek and Treasurer Toher have been working on finalizing the 2006-2007 budget and preparing the 2007-2008 budget. The finalized 2006-2007 budget was in the meeting packet. They have made some changes in order to make the format easier to follow. They would like to have clearer specifications as to what money comes from the University account and what funds are from the CGS checking account. The items listed as encumbrances are money we have spent but that has yet to clear so those funds are not available for the coming year. **Questions:** When is the final closing? The final closing was July 20<sup>th</sup>. At the end of the fiscal year, how is the remaining money allocated in the coming year? Currently, we carry it over in a lump sum and distribute it as we see fit.
  - a. The Ray Travel Award procedures pertaining to faculty representation on the selection committee are not the procedures currently in the standing rules. Treasurer Toher proposed that we suspend the rules as they are through the end of the summer and then amend the rules as need be for the autumn. VPE Hodak made a motion to suspend the rules through the summer selection until the standing rules could be adjusted as needed. Events Chair Cunningham seconded the motion. **Discussion:** What procedure exactly is not being followed? The standing rules state that there must be two faculty representatives on the selection committee. Currently, there are no faculty members on the committee, as we cannot get them to volunteer. Was it ever changed to make the faculty participation a permissive? We will look into this. It was suggested that our advisor should also have a role in finding the faculty members. The motion carried.
- E. Events Chair Report: The main issue is we do not have as much money in the events budget as we have in previous years. Therefore, she is looking for other ways to find funding or plan events. There is a fund called Moonlight Madness that provides up to \$5000.00 but there are restrictions such as no alcohol and the event would have to be at the RPAC. Would people be interested in such a thing even with the restrictions? The overall consensus is yes. The fall picnic will be on September 20<sup>th</sup> during Welcome Week, which is a Thursday rather than a Friday this year.
- F. Public Relations (PR) Chair Report: PR is somewhat of a renewed initiative this year since it has faded in the past. This committee is the mouthpiece and ears of CGS. We need to figure out the protocol for getting the word out about the happenings of this committee and then do it. He would like to recruit 1-2 individuals to help him and the time commitment would be minimal (4 hours a month) but it should be an exciting time. Jason's contact information is [lai.152@osu.edu](mailto:lai.152@osu.edu).

### **III. Elections**

- A. College of the Arts – Robert Calhoun – elected
  - a. Candidate's Address: This would be senator Calhoun's 3<sup>rd</sup> year as a senate member. He also serves on the council of academic affairs. He finds the role of senator important and he is glad that the attempt to remove graduate representation from the senate failed as he has seen good work there.
  - b. Questions: With our new president, do you think the institute of race and ethnicities is in jeopardy of being overlooked? It is too early to tell but is something to keep an eye on and fight if they try to ignore it or remove it. All institutions undergo a review process. Are some institutes going to be excluded from the review and how were those chosen? This is something the senator was unaware of but promised to look into.
- B. College of Professional and Biological Sciences – Eric Ritchey – elected
  - a. Candidate's Address: none
  - b. Questions: none
- C. College of Business – Suzanna Budke – elected
  - a. Candidate's Address: none
  - b. Questions: none
- D. College of FAES - Paul Flournoy – elected
  - a. Candidate's Address: A Masters student in the school of natural resources, he is finishing up his first year on CGS and served on the senate diversity committee last year. He is excited to have this opportunity to serve his college.
  - b. Questions: Do you have a special plan on maintaining contact with students from your college who attend sister campuses? There does seem to be a gap in communication and he would like to work towards lessening that gap.
- E. College of Math and Physical Sciences – Kimberly Walters – elected
  - a. Candidate's Address: none
  - b. Questions: none
- F. College of Biological Sciences – Kirk Gaston – elected
  - a. Candidate's Address: He has been a student at OSU for 5 years and served on CGS last year. He was also a member of the Hayes Research Forum committee.
  - b. Questions: none

### **IV. New Business**

- A. **Act 0708-SU-004 – An Act Establishing 2007-08 Meeting and Special Events Dates and Times**
  - a. Rationale: This act is presented by President Boley to establish all meeting and special events dates for the coming year.
  - b. Questions: Some amendments were brought forth concerning the act. The Hayes Forum needs to be on the 12 not the 14 of April to put it on a Saturday. The Spring Cookout will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May and not the

11<sup>th</sup>. Do we want to send the act back to the executive committee or do we want to vote on it?

- c. Debate: It was decided to pass the act with the current amendments. Senator Flournoy moved to approve the act with the amendments discussed previously. Senator Calhoun seconded the motion and it carried.

## **V. Delegate Questions, Issues, or Concerns**

- A. What are the parameters (rules) for this section of the meeting? Are there any restrictions? All questions are open for discussion. We will either refer your question to committee or provide you with an answer. You could also bring up something you would like to see on the agenda for an upcoming meeting. Basically, it is an open forum.
- B. How was the turnout for the “Meet the President” event? 10 graduate students were present and he met each person individually. He definitely plans on meeting with us on a more regular basis. He would like a special meeting for a round table discussion before he joins us at one of our regularly scheduled meetings.
- C. Senate reviews for race and ethnicities were brought up earlier in the meeting. For the sake of those who are new, could we talk more about what that entails? There has been a continued drive for increasing the diversity of the university and continuing the multicultural center and the woman’s place. There is a feeling that President Gee might not be diversity minded, as he was not in his first term of office at Ohio State. It is thought that he will go where the money is and these smaller facilities will be overlooked. We need to make sure that President Gee knows we want a diverse university. He does put value on student input so we need to make our voices known.
- D. What is the latest information on the suspension of the outside representative on the candidacy exam? We do not have the research and graduate council right now which is the committee that would focus on these decisions. They are supposed to be creating a new advisory committee to take the place of this. Is the graduate school acting outside the rules by not having a research council? There has not been a formal resolution from CGS on our stance concerning the outside representative, but one could come forward from the delegate body. What is the purpose of this outside person? They are there for a checks and balances type of process. They are present to make sure the exam goes fairly.
- E. What decisions were made about changing the meeting format? It is going to happen. We are moving towards having regular reports from the committee chairs and not having speakers at every meeting.
- F. There was some discussion to role a few of the existing fees into the fee waiver. Has anything been done about this? The Graduate Compensation and Benefits Committee (GCBC) has been created through CGS and is now an official senate committee. Their primary focus is to work towards reducing fees for graduate students. There was also discussion about students on fellowships not having healthcare subsidy. GCBC looked into it and unless

the granting program wants to provide the money to do so, the university will not. However, they are looking into getting the money taken out on a monthly basis for these students so they do not have to pay it all in one lump sum. Taking fees out on a monthly basis is actually going to be in effect for all graduate students soon. However, the system is in lockdown to any and all changes until the new student information system goes into effect. **VPE Hodak moved to extend the discussion time by ten minutes. Delegate Sharp seconded the motion and it carried.** The fee methods were actually initiated by the undergrads based off of the old Ohio Union fee. We do need to make a point that it is awfully easy for the university to add fees rather than increasing tuition. Therefore, we need to be ready to take a stance against this if necessary.

## **VI. Announcements**

- A. Delegates who were present last year and plan on continuing through next year may need to reapply on the website to stay consistent with the system. If your name disappears by the first week of September, send Vice President Marion an email and he will let you know whether or not you need to reapply.
- B. We need ideas for speakers in the coming year. Please email President Boley with any suggestions. We will work on getting them onto the agenda.
- C. The next delegate meeting will be on September 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **VII. Adjournment**

- A. The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.