

Tentative GSA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes October 6, 2014

Attendance: Alecia Page (new member serving on the Tuition and Fees Committee who would like to join the executive council), Brian Kloeppe, Paul Farmer, Leigh Ann Parrish, Elizabeth Nissly, Tonya Anderson, Thom West, Adam Ray, Sabrina Teeter, Jamie Stancliff

Committees: We need people to serve on committees. Jamie Stancliff volunteered to serve on the Catamount Stores Committee as well as the ICC. Alecia also volunteered to share the meetings and communications with Jamie. THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING!

3 Minute Thesis Event: Reminder it is happening this Fall. So far we have about 6 participants. They are considering separate competitions for main campus and Biltmore Park, but there needs to be more interest. If so, we will need to divide the prizes in half. Please help spread the word!!

Budget Update: We discussed allocations for travel being marked \$3,000.00 for fall, and \$3,000.00 for spring. Tonya is going to confirm this with Roxanne to make sure we have this allocation. We will not have enough funds for food at our speaking events unless we partner with someone, but we will try to get better estimates before a final decision is made regarding refreshments.

As of 10/6/14 we have \$4916.20 (\$1,916.20 for fall) left in our travel grants budget; and \$2,218.48 in other funding. (\$7134.68 total)

Travel Grants: People must submit proposals properly according to the online instructions. We voted on 2 travel grant applications, and both are pending more review. We also discussed the need for new language on the grant application to be more inclusive for professional development and unique opportunities not covered in the current language. There was also concern for voting on proposals from your own department.

Committees Updates: Alecia- Tuition & Fees: So far Undergrad tuition is frozen, but we expect to see increases in fees, and Graduate tuition may be increased per departmental needs. They also anticipate another Athletics fee increase, Parking fee increase, and other fees to make up for budget reductions and increased cost of services. Please give Alecia feedback at alpage@email.wcu.edu; Jamie- ICC, nothing to report; Elizabeth- Grad Council Finance Advisory Committee discussed a way to hold departments accountable for GA and TA jobs. They are collecting and reviewing job descriptions from each department and matching these to the actual jobs we are doing.

*We had a side discussion about **Assistantship Pay**. Tonya is going to speak with Elizabeth Frazier in the Graduate School for more information. Many students can't live on the assistantships, but we are told not to get other jobs. There is a disconnect that needs to be addressed.

Events: GSA representatives will meet with Laura Cruz about the Leadership Academy soon; We have 3 Open House events left, and Elizabeth would like to see us have a table set up at the November 22nd event to see if it would be good to have a presence at these events in the future.

Strategic Plan 20/20: Please read the Strategic Plan and email Elizabeth your ideas!

*At the end of the meeting Leigh Ann brought up a concern for the College of Art and Design who would like a full time dedicated graduate coordinator.

**There was much discussion, and the meeting was adjourned.