

## Graduate Student Advisory Committee

### Meeting Minutes

Connable Board Room, The Bernhard Center

08-11-06

**Representatives Present:** Rosana Alsaud (Finance Chair), Kelly Daniels (vice chair), Jason Olsen (English), Yogin Patel (Mech Engineering), Manik Kapoor (Mech Engineering), Jonathon Thurn (History), Angela Simmon (Sociology), Kelly Davidson (Student Affairs), Kazuhiro Iwamoto (Biological Science) Christopher Ciptadjaya (Chemistry), Folashade Ogunleye (Chemistry), Chris Jones (Geosciences), Joanne Lau (Philosophy), Lokendra Pal (Paper Eng, Chem Eng, Imaging), Kelly Davidson (Student Affairs),

**Guests:** Dr. Lewis Pyenson (Graduate College), Doris Dirks (Past Chair),

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1. Call to order: 3:03
2. Introductions
3. Approval of Minutes (pgs. 2-4): Dr. Pyenson corrects minutes, concerning his report. Approved by Lokendra, seconded by Doris. Motion carries.
4. Report from Dr. Lewis Pyenson, Graduate College Dean. Follow up from last month: There are many parking places in Walwood for students. We must fix the sign that forbids them from parking there. Annual lecture series: waiting on a high profile speaker. The Grad College bought a powerful printer, which is available to GSAC. We must work out a cost sharing system concerning large printing jobs. Report from Grad Studies Council: we will improve the process of the development of theses and dissertations. New points: a new direction will soon emerge, in terms of attitudes toward students, emphasis on retention, major focus by President and Provost, the whole university is involved. Flat rate fee no longer applies to graduate students. The university is solid, and the bump will be overcome. The value of graduate diplomas will remain solid. Discussion ensues regarding retention and proposed improvements
5. Report from the Chair
  - a. Haenicke Institute Dean search: GSAC is invited to participate
  - b. Provost Search Committee: Will meet in September
  - c. Meeting with President Bailey: Getting to know each other. Bailey liked the housing proposal and the student award fund, though she didn't know anything about the details. Getting rid of block tuition was a good idea, says Bailey, because it didn't apply to grad students anyway. Dr. Pyenson suggests that some rooms may very well be offered this fall at a discounted rate for grad appointees. Rosana says that Bailey said that no move will be made until next year about the tuition remission for master's students
6. GSAC Sub-Committees and University Councils
  - a. Web Committee – Kelly Daniels: History page is up. Also, links page has been updated.
  - b. Public Relations – Flyer mailed out for CommUniverCity and the Picnic
  - c. Graduate Research Symposium and Journal – Chris Jones: no meeting
  - d. University Councils
    - i. Research Policies Council (2) – Chris Jones & Adam Milewski: no meeting
    - ii. Graduate Studies Council (2) – Rosana Alsaud: no meeting
    - iii. Campus Planning and Finance Council (1) – Kelly Daniels: no meeting
    - iv. International Education Council (1) – Kazuhiro Iwamoto: no meeting
  - e. GFAC – Kelly Daniels
    - i. Proposals: Sociology Graduate Student Association requests \$600 for operational expenses. GFAC recommends \$500 for operational expenses. Moved by Doris, seconded by Joanne.

Motion carries. OutReach requests \$500. Kelly Daniels suggests that they need a budget narrative before we can allocate the money, so upon receipt of a reasonable budget narrative GFAC will allocate \$500.

- f. MLK Committee – Doris Dirks: no activity
  - g. CAB representative –
  - h. WSA representative – Joanne: No activity
7. Unfinished Business
- a. Committee Replacements: Passed around the sign up sheet. Slowly committee slots are being filled
  - b. GSAC Student Programming Awards: Rosana opposes this use of SAF funds. Kelly Daniels concurs. Chris suggests we give it another try with a new draft of the proposal. Kelly suggests we create a sub committee to brainstorm about alternate use of the money. Lokendra supports the award because finding grants are vital to students in the sciences. More discussion next meeting
8. New Business
- a. New Grad Student & GA/TA Training: will happen on the same day. Dr. Pyenson wants to revise the graduate student handbook. The Grad College’s job isn’t to instruct TA/GAs on the details of teaching. That is for each department. The Grad College should encourage and enlighten incoming GA/TAs. Student Insurance will be available at the session
  - b. CommUniverCity planning: Everything is ready to go
  - c. Picnic planning: All set. One detail: tent will be set at 11 AM. Rosana looks for volunteers for help to set up chairs. Several members volunteer
9. General Announcements & Briefs
- a. Unionization –Jason Olson: TAU wants to help with picnic; will have a permanent rep soon
  - b. Announcements for the Good of the Order
  - c. Next GFAC meeting(s) –September 8, October 13
  - d. Next GSAC meeting(s) –September 8, October 13
11. General Discussion “The State of Graduate Schools”
12. Adjourn: 5:00