



## Graduate Student Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, May 11, 2007, 3 PM  
Faculty Dining Room, Bernhard Center

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*Representatives Present:* Rosana Alsaud (Chair), Kelly Daniels (Vice Chair), Birkin Gilmore (English), Erich Sommerfeldt (Communication), Jason Trowbridge (TAU), Laiza Ashraf (Finance), Mustafa Sanver (Computer Sci), Dr. Lewis Pyenson (Grad Dean), Jo Lau (Philosophy), Alyssa Kalata (Psychology)

1. Call to order: 3:12
2. Introductions
3. \*Approval of the Agenda 5/11: Kelly moves to approve, seconded by Jo
4. \*Approval of Minutes from 4/13/07: moved by Mustafa, seconded by Jo
5. Report from the Dr. Lewis Pyenson, Dean of the Graduate College: Research Day took place, to widespread agreement that it was an excellent success. Next year should be bigger and better. Asking junior faculty award winners to contribute worked well, and should be repeated. Next year the Grad College will work on the award criteria for evaluation, which was perhaps not ideal this first attempt. Grad applications are up 25% from last year. Hopefully enrollment might be up by 2-5%, but this is only a guess at this point. Graduate Research and Teaching Awards are posted on the Grad College website. The Grad College has awarded several Gwen Frostic Fellows. Many more should apply next year. Dr. Pyenson spent last week in Washington looking for funding. He's hopeful that we can submit for a number of large grants, which have grad assistantships built into them. Increasingly this kind of funding will become important as the State funds dry up. The Grad College seeks to acknowledge graduate student accomplishments on the website. GSAC would like to help get the word out.
6. Report from the Chair
  - a. Meeting with the Board of Trustees
    - i. President Assessment Committee: Dr. Dunn has accepted the contract, and has turned down another offer to take the position. He starts in July, the new fiscal year. In other news, Rosana would like to ask the Board to change the process by which GSAC communicates with them. Dr. Pyenson asks if GSAC might be interested in hosting a reception in honor of the Board of Trustees.
  - b. Teaching Assistants Union (TAU) – Jason Trowbridge: Contract negotiations are complete. Tuesday at 11 a.m., the contract will be signed. GSAC welcomes the new President.
7. GSAC Sub-Committees and University Councils
  - a. Web Committee – Kelly Daniels: saving updates for meeting with incoming Vice Chair
  - b. Public Relations – Folashade Ogunleye – New GSAC brochure is ready: it looks great
  - c. Graduate Research Symposium and Journal (Hilttop Review) – Roy Henry, Ali Fhadel, Jason Olsen, Kelly Daniels: articles are finished. The hard copy should be ready by next meeting
  - d. GFAC – Kelly Daniels
    - i. Proposals
      1. No proposals
  - e. Ad Hoc Committee (5) – Roy Henry, Chair: have not met yet. This is on hold until we meet with Diane Anderson

- f. University Councils
  - i. Research Policies Council (2) – Amy Noack & Jason Olsen: no GSAC rep attended
  - ii. Graduate Studies Council (2) – Rosana Alsaud & Erich Sommerfeldt: No relevant news concerning GSAC
  - iii. Campus Planning and Finance Council (1) – Jennifer Messana: not in attendance
  - iv. International Education Council (1) – Kazuhiro Iwamoto: wait for next month for news
  - g. MLK Committee – Deondra Ramsey (on hold until Summer/Fall)
  - h. CAB representative –
  - i. WSA representative – Jo Lau: they have set up the Cabinet to prepare for Fall
- 8. Unfinished Business
  - a. Faculty Feedback Workshop 4/19: three students participated and were judged on their skills and content. The feedback was useful. Hopefully GSAC will sponsor another such event next Fall. Mustafa asks if the results of this event could be posted on the website. Kelly points out that the GSAC website’s news page is under utilized. Pyenson suggests a blog style page where GSAC reps can send in informal news, suggesting that the GSAC website is a better arena for this sort of information than any other university resource. General agreement that GSAC and the Grad College should place all student award winners’ bios on the web pages
  - b. Vice-Chair Search – Recommendation: the search committee recommends hiring Alyssa Kalata as the next GSAC Vice Chair. Moved to approve by Erich, seconded by Jo. Motion carries by unanimous vote. Congratulations Alyssa
- 9. New Business
  - a. “Strategic Plan” for GSAC: Rosana; GSAC is not defined enough, so Rosana would like to introduce a Strategic Plan over the summer. We might base it on NAGPS’s Strategic Plan. Rosana asks Business students in particular to participate
- 10. General Announcements & Briefs
  - a. Next GFAC and GSAC meetings: June 8, July 13
- 11. General Discussion “The State of Graduate Schools”
- 12. Adjourn: 4:10 p.m.