

Graduate Student Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes

Friday, November 10, 2006, 3 - 5 PM.
Room 204, MLK Room, Bernhard Center

Representatives Present: Rosana Alsaud (Chair), Adam Milewski (Geoscience), Jason Olsen (English), Birkin Gilmore (English), Deondra Ramsey (Political Science), Folashade Ogunleye (Finance & Commercial Law), Darryl Plunkett (CECP), Ali Fadhel (Paper Eng., Chem Eng., Imaging), Doris Dirks (Ed Leadership), Emily Shrimp (Social Work), Kazuhiro Iwamoto, Joel Krauss (Ed Leadership), David Shoup (History), Ron Rikki (English), Erich Sommerfeldt (Communication).

Guests: Limin Zhao (International Program Council), Dr. Lewis Pyenson (Graduate College), Dr. Julie Scrivner (Graduate College), David Zwart (TAU).

1. Call to order: 3:03 p.m. by Rosana Alsaud
2. Introductions
3. Approval of minutes: Moved by Ali, seconded by David. Motion carries.
4. Report from Dean of Graduate College:
 - a. New website of the Grad College is up and running. Planning to activate a new academic affairs calendar on the site. New site will present Grad College & WMU in a good light, easier to keep up-to-date.
 - b. The 2nd speaker in the Grad College Colloquium on peace & social justice will speak on the 15th. Soliciting ideas for speakers in the spring.
 - c. First round of research and travel awards have been dispersed. Second round of applications have been received. These students will benefit from GSAC's contributions to international travel.
 - d. Haenicke Institute Dean search: ads have appeared in journals. Have received a number of applications. Will begin interviews in February.
5. Report from Chair:
 - a. Announced resignation from the Haenicke Institute Dean search committee due to conflict of interest. Claudia Cercon will replace.
 - b. Presidential Search committee: job description near completion, will be posted soon on website and in The Chronicle of Higher Education. Gathered input from the open forum on Nov 1st and from meeting with local businesses. Interviews will be held in March. New president to take office July 1st, 2007.
 - c. Dinner with the president: Dr. Haenicke was previously uninterested, has since changed his mind. Date to be announced soon.
 - d. Power of Procrastination Talk: RSVP for Dec 1st event
 - e. Professional Development Day: will be advertising heavily, concerned about turnout. Hoping to get 40 attendants, limit is 90. Searching for Keynote Speaker.
6. GSAC Sub-committees and University Councils:
 - a. Web Committee—Kelly Daniels not present. No major changes. Announcement of deadline for Hilltop Review is Nov 30th. Patrick has submissions for the cover.
 - b. Public Relations—Folashade Ogunleye: working on revising the handbook. Survey of grad students finds that students prefer to have PDF online rather than printed book. Will still print brochure.
 - c. Graduate Research Symposium and Journal (Hilltop) – Chris Jones/Roy Henry – not present
 - d. University Councils:

- i. Research Policies Council—Adam Milewski: Working on strategies to increase research funding to the university, trying to establish workshops, and student recruitment and retention. Research day scheduled for sometime in April; there will be poster and oral presentations with faculty awards in the evening.
 - ii. Graduate Studies Council—Rosana Alsaud: Provost warns there will be future cuts to account for deficit. University is focused on recruitment and retention. There are high expectations for enrollment next year. There will be staff increases in Admissions and Financial Aid. GSC and RPC will have joint meeting to talk about G.A./D.A. funding.
 - iii. Campus Planning and Finance Council—Kelly Daniels not present
 - iv. International Education Council—Kazuhiro Iwamoto: In recruiting process for international students for next year. New recruiting strategy: having people who have been here for a year call students from their home country, “Big Brother” type idea. Council guarantees an increase in international student enrollment for next year.
 - e. GFAC – Kelly Daniels not Present. Replacement: Rosana Alsaud
 - 1. Project Uplift: Not present. No money allocation is approved.
 - 2. International Programs Council: Recommends to approve \$2,000. Moved y Ali Fadhel, seconded by Darryl Plunket.
 - f. MLK Committee—Deondra Ramsey: Finalized poster for Jan 14th event in Miller auditorium. Interested in obtaining funds from GSAC (perhaps fund the V.I.P. reception).
 - g. CAB –
 - h. WSA -
7. Unfinished business:
- a. Surplus: Intellectual Activities Sub-committee has met and come up with ideas for full committee approval:
 - i. \$8,000 for speaker: 11 to 6 votes select Diane Rehm as speaker for spring event. Motion carries.
 - ii. \$2,000 for Anti-Racism panel organized by Ron Rikki sometime in April. Unanimous committee consent. Motion carries.
 - iii. \$10,000 for bus trip to Chicago to include dinner and a show. Unanimous committee consent. Motion carries.
8. General Announcements:
- a. David Zwart, new president of TAU asks for representatives to attend meetings scheduled Sundays at 3 p.m. at the Campus Point Plaza under Video Hits Plus.
 - b. NAGPS—Doris, Jennifer, and Rosana will attend National Conference in Seattle. Will report next meeting.
9. Meeting Adjourned: 4:25 p.m.