

Graduate Student Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

MLK Room, The Bernhard Center

10-13-06

Representatives Present: Rosana Alsaud (Chair), Kelly Daniels (Vice Chair), Kazuhiro Iwamoto (Biological Sciences), Deondra S. Ramsey (Poli Sci), Mustafa Sanver (Comp Sci), Erich Sommerfeldt (Communication), Jennifer Messana (Public Admin), David Shoup (History), Melissa A. Kehoe (Accountancy), Ali Fadhel (Paper Eng., Chem. Eng., Imaging), Kelly Davidson (Student Affairs), Theresa Kohler (Math), Patrick Trimbath (Art), Nate Michon (Comp Religion), Roy Henry (Poli Sci), Emily Schrimpf (Social Work), Doris Dirks (Past Chair)

Guests: Dr. Lewis Pyenson (Graduate College), Dr. Julie Scrivener (Graduate College), Youssouf Sy (MSA), Salman Anwar (PSA)

1. Call to order: 3:00
 2. Introductions
 3. *Approval of Minutes from 9/15/06: moved by Erich, seconded by Doris. Motion carries.
 4. *Approval of Minutes from 9/29/06: moved by Patrick, seconded by David. Motion carries.
 5. Report from Dr. Lewis Pyenson, Graduate College Dean: Haenicke Dean search ad should go out Mon or Tues, to The Chronicle of Higher Education and the Economist. Thanks to GSAC for supporting Grad Research and Travel Award for International projects. Grad College now has a webmaster, working on website, who would be interested in GSAC's input. We now have a receptionist at Grad College, Dr. Amanda Warren. She is well qualified. Poster has been sent out for upcoming Graduate Colloquium. Theme: World Peace and Its Problems.
 6. Report from the Chair
 - a. Haenicke Institute Dean search: Deciding on the budget. The posting is drafted; it's comprehensive and well written.
 - b. President Search Committee: The first meeting included introductions and plans for future meetings. Future meetings will be closed, until top three candidates are decided upon.
 - c. Welcome Back Picnic: Didn't go well. GSAC received 300 RSVP's, but only 30 people showed up. No organizations would take the leftover food. In the future we must figure out a way to guarantee that RSVPs actually show up.
 - d. Rainbow Reception: Erich: went well. He answered many questions from participants.
 - e. Dinner with the President: Haenicke isn't interested, given the current situation.
 - f. \$20,000 Proposal: submitted to Haenicke. He hasn't yet responded.
 7. GSAC Sub-Committees and University Councils
 - a. Web Committee – Kelly Daniels: unable to meet. No changes
 - b. Public Relations – Folashade Ogunleye: Not in attendance. She is working on what to move from print to electronic in terms of the handbook. A recent survey had a small response, but suggested that most students prefer electronic to paper.
 - c. Graduate Research Symposium and Journal (Hilltop) – Chris Jones – needs members! Jones not in attendance. He is currently making articles into PDF files. Patrick suggests art department may be interested in supplying the cover
 - d. University Councils
 - i. Research Policies Council – Chris Jones & Adam Milewski: not in attendance.
 - ii. Graduate Studies Council – Rosana Alsaud – Needs a member! Grad College presents new recruiting plans. Dr. Pyenson plans a recruiting faculty “road show” to other universities. Provost's rep questioned grad review after Bailey left, but will not engage in creating new programs until permanent Provost exists. New talk of Ombudsman because of a problem with inconsistent rules around campus. Pyenson: there is a university wide body, located in the Provost's office, to be the final word for contentious issues. Soon it will be better streamlined.
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- iii. Campus Planning and Finance Council – Kelly Daniels: 1. Greg Rosine explained legislative issues concerning WMU’s representation in Lansing. 2. The parking lot near Sangrin Hall will be turned into green space next spring. In the meantime, it will be blocked off to reserve it.
- iv. International Education Council – Kazuhiro Iwamoto (Rep. Rosana Alsaud) : 2 new hires for office of international students. Reduced backlog. Commitment to globalization. The numbers look dire.
- e. GFAC – Kelly Daniels
 - i. Proposals
 - 1. *MSWSO: GFAC recommends funding \$500. Moved by Erich, seconded by David. Motion carries.
 - 2. *Pakistan Student Association: GFAC recommends funding \$2,000. Moved by David, seconded by Ben. Motion carries.
 - 3. *Muslim Student Association: GFAC recommends funding \$1,789.09. Moved by Erich, seconded by Ali.
 - 4. *Project Uplift: not in attendance.
 - 5. *OUTspoken: GFAC recommends funding \$2,000. Moved by Teresa, seconded by Kazu.
 - ii. *GFAC Policy Changes: 1. we propose to increase maximum event funding to \$2,500. Doris moves to begin the process in January. Seconded by Ali. Motion carries. 2. Make RSOs place GSAC logo on all advertising of funded events. Moved by Ali, seconded by Erich. 3. Place a new column on the request form to show funding from other WMU bodies. Moved by Ali, seconded by Kazu. Motion carries.
 - a. MLK Committee – Doris Dirks: Doris must be replaced. Congratulations on new job!
 - b. CAB representative –
 - c. WSA representative – Jo Lau: could not attend.
- 2. Unfinished Business
 - a. Intellectual Activities Sub-Committee – Taking suggestions.
 - b. Committees Replacements sheet is passed around
- 3. New Business
 - a. Professional Development Day survey is passed around
 - b. End-of-Year Reception: A PhD comic. 45 minute talk, Q and A, and a reception with food and wine. Friday evening from 5 to 8. December 1st. Fetzer Center.
- 4. General Announcements & Briefs
 - a. Union – Keith Russo and Jason Olson: not in attendance
 - b. NAGPS 2006 – National Conference: Doris, Rosana, Jennifer will attend.
 - c. Announcements for the Good of the Order: Doris to attended a forum on international students. Will publish findings of meeting at www.gao.gov
 - d. Next GFAC meeting(s) – November 10, December 8
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- 11. General Discussion “The State of Graduate Schools”
- 12. Adjourn: 4:31