January General Assembly Meeting – Minutes
“All graduate students are members automatically”

Friday January 24th, 2020 at 3:00 pm
Location: Bernhard Center 157-159
Late lunch was served at 2:45 pm

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – Parliamentarian – Robert Parsons
   a. Parliamentarian Parsons welcomed everyone, briefly explained Roberts
      Adapted Rules of Order, and called the meeting to order.

II. PROCEDURAL ITEMS – Parliamentarian – Robert Parsons
   a. The current meeting agenda was approved by the graduate student body after
      one minor date change.
   b. The December meeting minutes were approved by the graduate student body.

III. WELCOMING ADDRESS – President – Craig Morris
    a. President Morris welcomed everyone to the meeting.

IV. GRADUATE COLLEGE UPDATE – Dean of WMU Graduate College – Dr. Christine Byrd-Jacobs
    a. Dean Byrd-Johnson provided information on graduation application date
       change, called for applications for graduate student ambassadors, and
       emphasized the importance of peer review for the Hilltop review.
    b. Dean Byrd-Johnson provided information regarding Osher Lifelong Learning
       Institute and called for graduate students to participate in giving talks or mini-
       courses in their area of expertise.

V. GFAC AND FUNDING UPDATE – Vice President – Claire Herhold
   a. Vice President Herhold called for a vote to support a change to the
      departmental line item. This change would move $6,000.00 in unused monies
      to support departments. The vote was passed by the graduate student body.
   b. Vice President Herhold announced the status of funding opportunities for
      graduate students.
   c. Vice President Herhold spoke about other funding opportunities available to
      the graduate student body and invited Colton Lynn to speak about
      opportunities from the Western Student Association.
d. WSA Allocations Chair Lynn spoke about opportunities for funding within the WSA and how RSOs can become eligible.

VI. VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES – Director of Outreach – Yolonda Lavender
   a. Director of Outreach Lavender gave details about an upcoming volunteer opportunity with Ministry with Communities on February 18th at 12:45 pm.
   b. Director of Outreach Lavender called for volunteer committee members for outreach.

VII. 3-MIN THESIS COMPETITION – Vice President – Claire Herhold
   a. Vice President Herhold provided information regarding the upcoming 3MT on behalf of Director of Professional Development Katte.

VIII. HILLTOP UPDATE – Director and Editor of Hilltop Review – Alexander Hoffmann
   a. Director and Editor of Hilltop Review Hoffmann congratulated the last round of winners and called for additional peer reviewers for the incoming applications.

IX. GSA EVENTS ON THE HORIZON – Director of Events and Planning – Allison Grime
   a. Director of Events and Planning Grime announced the April 3rd Make a Difference Awards.

X. TUITION CHANGE INFORMATION – President – Craig Morris
   a. President Morris announced that the GSA has received zero feedback via the GSA website regarding the tuition change and called for more input from the graduate body regarding the change.
   b. President Morris announced that he and Vice President Herhold are meeting with chairs and various departments in order to gather more information.
   c. President Morris reminded everyone to maintain professionalism when discussing these changes with the board.
   d. President Morris called for applications for next years GSA board, applications are due March 13th.
   e. President Morris announced that the board will be appointing a PR Director due to the recent graduation of Direction of Public Relations Whitehead.
   f. President Morris announced that the Graduate College is conducting a national search for the next Dean and called for any potential interview questions for that interview by February 15th.
   g. President Morris called for nominations for the Make a Difference Awards.

XI. TABLED MOTION – Parliamentarian – Robert Parsons
   a. Parliamentarian Parsons explained that the upcoming motion will not change existing reporting structures.
   b. Motion: The GSA Eboard members, ambassadors, and committee members will make monthly online reports about their goals, accomplishments, and barriers. The website with the reports will have contact information for each GSA Eboard member, ambassador, and committee. The motion was passed by the graduate student body and will be effective February 2020.

XII. OPEN FLOOR & GRADUATE STUDENT CONCERN UPDATES
a. Diana Hughes invited all graduate students to an upcoming racism workshop that takes place on February 7th, 4:00-9:00 pm in Sangren Hall. The workshop will be posted to GSA social media.
b. Adam Bennett announced the upcoming TAU General Membership Meeting on January 30th. The meeting will feature meetings with faculty union members to discuss their contract. He also announced that TAU elections are coming soon and this is an important year due to upcoming bargaining discussions.
c. Tre Goodhue spoke about constitutional issues within the GSA, specifically Eboard.
d. Ronnie Miller made a motion to cap the Make a Difference Awards budget to $6,000, reducing the budget from its current line item budget of $15,000. Motion failed to garner a second, motion was not voted on.
e. Alyssa DelVecchio announced the upcoming Human Library event at the library on February 12th.
f. Parliamentarian Parsons announced the upcoming MAER breakfast on February 8th at the College of Health and Human Services.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT – Parliamentarian – Robert Parsons

a. Parliamentarian Parsons adjourned the meeting.