



Indiana University - Bloomington

Graduate & Professional Student Organization

Assembly Agenda | September 6, 2013

“Advocating for an inclusive and empowered graduate and professional student community”

Agenda:

- Meeting called to order at 3:07pm
- 3:00 Introductions
 - Welcome!
 - Logistics
 - Usually we meet from 3:30-5:00pm, but we meet in the same room.
 - Agendas sent out 2 days before meeting; print them if you want to have them in hard copy.
 - If not receiving emails, talk to Cayla.
 - Intros:
 - Executive officers provided intros about themselves and discussed their positions.
 - Brady discussed how we have two vacancies and how we have elections today.
- Mission & Vision of GPSO
 - How many are new?
 - Majority of reps new this year.
 - Purpose on campus – we are the student gov’t on campus – the sole representative of the grad/prof students
 - Appoint committees
 - Address matters of importance to grad student life.
 - Advocacy – policy recommendations
 - Community building – pull people out of academic silos; provide networking opportunities; done through programming.
 - Academic support – grants (over \$22,000 per year); partnership support.
 - Resource – our website is a hub of information; we provide information to students and as reps you provide info to your constituents.
 - The goal this year is to focus on advocacy.

- Vision statement: Advocating for an inclusive and empowered graduate and professional student community.
 - Committee chairs have goals, don't let that stymie you.
- Summer Updates – Brady, Cayla, Nick
 - Brady – transitioning; setting up retreats; meeting with key people
 - Nick – social hour in July with over 70 in attendance. About 150 hours preparing and readying orientation events. Let him know if anything needs to be changed/suggestions
 - Cayla – communications – push to improve web-presence; new webpage; social media push; reaching out to people not on the listserv.
 - Committees – later; Retreat – mission, vision, and Action items
- Role of the GPSO Assembly
 - Largely not programming body ---- governing body
 - Great power in resolutions ---- not a scary thing
 - Assembly --- speakers and discussion/committee time
 - Committee participation – ownership; 1x outside of this ...
 - Communicate --- newsletter, emails, website, GSA
 - Liaison between grad students and Ex Comm.
 - Legislature – representative body, ownership in org. decision making done by assembly, not Ex Comm.
 - Question: what type of communications does GPSO have?
 - Listserv comprised of people volunteering to signup.
 - Take ownership of the assembly
 - Must attend assembly meetings or send a proxy.
 - Must sit on committees
 - Committees meet at Assembly and once outside Assembly.
 - Must communicate with department
 - Question: are committees being formed today?
 - Yes. You can serve on a committee even if you're not a rep, but if you are a rep, you are required to serve on at least one committee.
- 3:30 Guest Speaker – President Herb Terry, Bloomington Faculty Council
 - Professor emeritus of telecommunications, very busy, happy to have
 - Professor Terry described the importance of faculty governance and importance of student collaboration in process
 - Shared governance is very important, even if not for personal gain.
 - Shared governance – everyone is in charge; shared by trustees, faculty council, general assembly, etc.

- BFC represents others besides faculty – IUSA, GPSO, professional organizations.
 - It is up to you to determine how effective you are.
 - Good representatives are involved and informed.
 - GPSO can name members to the committees of the council. When active grad students on committees the committees work better.
 - Engaged student members are very influential
 - Can learn a lot about how universities work.
 - Can contribute student perspective to the changing world of higher education.
 - Changes are coming.
 - Graduate programs are greatly subsidized by undergraduate education.
 - International students also very needed.
 - Please take advantage of being asked to serve on the committee. Ask questions of Terry. Will be happy to answer. Please contact Terry even if not sitting on committee
 - Professor Terry ended speech at 3:36pm
- 3:37 Basic Robert’s Rules Tutorial
 - Brady requests reps not to be scared of him.
 - Only business items will be fully within RONR
 - Today the only business is elections.
 - Once in business realm follow RONR.
 - Motions, seconds, debates.
- 3:45 Business:
 - Confirmation of Appointed Officers – three appointed officers taken from pools of applicants. Must be introduced.
 - Will allow the candidates to field questions, without objection.
 - Awards – Josh de Leeuw – cognitive psych
 - Very good at what he does; did this last year. Changes made to be more inclusive of all prof/grad students. He was reappointed.
 - Josh: focus on empowerment – making sure everyone has the tools to fill out successful applications; publishing more information; publishing sample applications.
 - Motion to confirm Josh as awards officer. Seconded.
 - All in favor: 47
 - Opposed: 0
 - Abstention: 0

- Josh confirmed.
- Question: how do we know these people? How can we know if they're qualified? What is assembly's roll? Answer: To confirm appointments; that's why they're being introduced.
 - Benefits – Katherine Wheatle – HESA
 - Masters in Public health policy; knows about benefits as SAAs.
 - How will you improve position from last year?
 - Met with previous benefits officer who did a great job, ACA changes are coming officially in 2014 and university as a corporation is preparing, some of those things are explicit, some aren't; intends to explore this further. Work closely with benefits committee.
 - How much are you willing to invest/lobby for something that is important to students?
 - That's my role – to play an advocacy role.
 - Brady: she will serve on the BFC
 - How much are you personally eager about fighting for something?
 - I think everything should be done politically; won't burn bridges; I have nothing to lose as a grad student as well, my benefits aren't a question for me, I know many students are in a position to question benefits. Will not burn down buildings.
 - What do you hope to achieve?
 - My understanding that the fee remission committee will meet in spring; excited to be part of that process – facilitating issues from grad students to the committee; benchmarking report how IU compares to other schools; what are core issues still pertinent?
 - Motion to approve made. Seconded.
 - 46-2-1
 - Motion to confirm
 - Sustainability – Jeff Meek – SPEA
 - Public Affairs and Environmental Sciences Degree in process; already involved in sustainability activities on campus.
 - What do you hope to achieve?
 - 1) getting committee more engaged
 - What do you see as most important sustainability issue with grad students presently?

- A lot of different issues on campus, hard to say which impacts grad students the most. That's what I'm helping to learn from the community. Biking; energy use; etc. I look forward to hearing from the committee.
 - Motion to approve made and seconded.
 - 44-1-3
- Nomination & Election of Vice President & Treasurer
 - No one ran in the spring, so we must fill them now.
 - Last few years nominations have been opened to anyone; this is contrary to our constitution. You cannot suspend bylaws/constitutions. Therefore we come to you with a question. Representatives and officers can be nominated. We think proxies should be able to vote/nominate.
 - Your task to interpret the constitution. We don't want to exclude half the population, so we ask that you interpret the constitution to allow proxies to run.
 - Constitution states that they have the same voting rights as representatives.
 - I think that we should open the nominations to every graduate/professional student.
 - Constitutions cannot be suspended.
 - Encouraged people interested in the positions to be proxies.
 - I would like this changed next week.
 - Motion to allow proxies to nominate/run for office through their power granted to them as proxies.
 - 46-0-4
- Where are documents?
 - On webpage
- VP and T are open.
 - VP fills in for president; serves on committees (AUSA, BFC); manage committee representatives.
 - Treasurer manages the budget.
 - How large is budget? ~100,000
 - Are ballots secret?
 - Yes.
 - Can we wait?
 - We must do elections at the meeting following the vacancy.
 - Motion to open floor for nominations – Seconded. Opened through unanimous consent.

- Nominations for VP:
 - Shuai (Mike) Liu
 - Dave Breed
 - Nominations for Treasurer:
 - Ronald Arruejo
 - Motion to close floor passed through unanimous consent.
- Candidates will speak and answer questions. Then discussion will follow.
 - Shuai Liu – 2nd year MPA student; last year GPSO rep – served on sustainability and legislative committees; representatives work on issues that matter to the students. We should speak with students in class and via email about issues that matter – student fees, transportation, green initiatives, etc. We can really make an impact on students’ lives.
 - Do you have other previous leadership experience?
 - Class chairman in middle/high school; Chinese Chess club created in middle school; nothing in university level, but I have commitment, drive and willingness and love to serve in this function.
 - Dave Breed – 3L; from Michigan, served as VP in undergrad, ran USG, served as program board president; responsible for \$330k budget; served on academic senate, co-wrote gen. ed. Program. I know how important shared governance is. We want to make sure we leave a great campus behind when we leave.
 - Have you worked with GPSO before?
 - Not with GPSO, but I was involved with the Law School Survey of Student Engagement; School of Ed. How to get students more engaged on campus.
 - Why VP not Treasurer?
 - Work in undergrad matches VP better; would enjoy it more than working with budgets – prefers student issues.
 - Ronald Arruejo – MPA student concentration in local gov’t management and financial management; has knowledge and skills for position; involved in undergrad program with \$75k budget. Previous experience with funding. Chaired committee with \$200k budget in USG. Sat on two other boards handling \$500k. appointed last year on committee for fee review. Additionally, did student lobbying.
- Secret ballots for VP; consensus for treasurer.
- Treasurer: Ron elected through consensus.
- Discussion of VP

- Dave seemed to have good experience and handle on what would be necessary, not that Mike wouldn't.
- Last year Mike ran for president, but last year he wasn't elected. There aren't many opportunities in China for leadership. He definitely has the enthusiasm.
- How many are law students? Two/10
- Served as USA, Dave would make great candidate.
- Percentage of international students reflected in GPSO would be good.
- 4:15 Guest Speakers – Deans Daleke, Watson, Trevino, & Schmit, University Graduate School
 - Introductions
 - Daleke _ Academic Affairs
 - Contact for issues with tracking your requirements per your program
 - Adjustments for graduate programs to offer more initiatives for grad students.
 - Trevino – Associate Dean, GPSO Ombudsperson
 - Intro Dean Watson
 - Contact for post doc work and McNair
 - Trevino – offers institutional memory
 - Works with STEM and SBES to promote jobs in the professoriate
 - Schmit – new guy; wants to provide support.
 - Should be a full-time position who does graduate alumni relations.
 - There is a strong affiliation with graduate alumni; Trevino is involved with alumni relations, particularly with international alums.
- VP Election results:
 - Dave Breed: 29
 - Mike Liu: 18
 - Abstention: 1
- Announcements & Open Floor
 - New officers: Dave and Ron.
 - President's Report
 - If interested in serving on campus committees, please let Brady know.
 - Strategic planning process for this campus; we have seats on this committee. In 2020 it's the 200 year anniversary of IU's founding; wants plan finalized and implemented before 2020. Meets weekly; at very beginning stages. More info will be provided in the future.

- Parking privatization committee – no decision made. Didn't want to do anything over the summer because no one was here. Committee recommendation coming soon.
 - Grad Commons Grand Opening & Tour– Mike Courtney, Wells Library
 - Over past year GPSO has been working with Wells Library to find space for grad students only. Undergrads are sticky and smelly. Accessible only with grad swipe cards; has computers, outlets, etc. Grad Commons is open and functioning – 8th floor in the library. Tour following meeting at 5pm. Will be used for programs in the future. Printer there too. 2500 square feet.
 - Great!
 - Use the space!
 - Committee governing space needs committee members! Creating policies for space.
 - East tower, behind elevators.
 - Join us for a tour after meeting.
 - GPSO Social Hour Tonight! – Nick
 - Once a month 7-9, free pizza. Come and meet new people. Please try to meet new people.
- 4:40 Committee Breakout Time
 - Committee assignments announced. Committees moved.
 - Why no legislative committee?
 - Ad-hoc committee; renamed student affairs because legislation is to be done through all committees.
 - Elect committee vice chairs
- Further Announcements
 - Social hour tonight!
 - Pick up totebags
 - Return placards
- Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 4:59pm
- Optional: Tour of Grad Commons
- Upcoming Events:
 - Next Event: Social Hour, Sept. 6th (Tonight!), 7:00 – 9:00pm, The Vid
 - Next Meeting: Oct. 4th, 3:30 – 5:00pm, Woodburn 100