

## GPSO Assembly Meeting

January 21, 2011

Total attendance: 32

Joel from Psychology

- Forming a neuroscience club, primarily for undergraduates but open for everyone
- On facebook: neuroscience
- Any major that is interested in what is going on with neuroscience
- If someone wants to write science fiction stories about neuroscience, an artist who wants to draw a neuron, etc.

Jacob, Sustainability

- Survey from transportation department about bus usage, fill it out to tell us how much we use buses
- Approx. 15 questions
- Sustainability funding tuition PASSED!!!!
- GPSO is head of sustainability council
- Sponsoring covered bike racks, more bus stops, solar panel on admissions office
- Fall semester is the first semester for the check box, optional \$5 fee

Nick

- Elections coming up soon
- Gather candidates in February, Vote in March
- Many spaces open
- If you have concerns or questions about health insurance, we are collecting that information
  - Benefits officer tried to examine how we would benefit if we changed from Aetna, but IU doesn't want us to really do that, even if they don't give us the best service
  - Even if we can't change from Aetna, we can change our relationship to Aetna in a beneficial way
  - Reminder sent out by announcements
- Survey will be sent soon with a health insurance section
  - Please distribute the survey to your departments
- Potentially eliminating the position of the grants officer – would require a constitutional change
  - Even the most active grants officer could not get much funding because there wasn't a lot of funding available
  - This year, the grants officer resigned
  - Question is: is it an efficient way to spend the money to pay someone \$500 to potentially NOT get any money back into GPSO

- Have been warned that IU is facing a 2% in student fees, so student organizations are being told to expect that we won't have as much money at our disposal because of this decrease.
- We would try to put the money back into events, etc. if we eliminated the position
- Discussion
  - How many hours?
    - 5-10 hours per week, but this amount is not written into the constitution
  - How many grants?
    - He found 2 or 3 grants that we were eligible for, but we didn't get those
  - How would the goal for pursuing money be achieved without this position?
    - This particular goal would no longer be necessary
  - Where do we get the money?
    - Student fees. May either decrease by 2% or increase by 1% -- Trustees haven't yet decided
    - Fees are set on a 2-yr basis
  - Could the position be voluntary?
    - Yes, but it might not be successful
  - If there were grants that were available, then it could easily be absorbed by a current committee or the executive committee
  - What was the grant money supposed to be used for?
    - Depended on the grants, some grants to run programming
- Nonbinding vote to see where people stand on it
  - Yays 30
  - Nays 2
  - Abstention
- Could put it into the Constitution that the Executive Committee would be responsible for finding grants and applying for them as a whole committee
  - Makes sense to do this, since the Executive Committee is responsible for putting together events, that they would be responsible for getting the money for those programs
  - Could write it into the Constitution that the executive committee also has a responsible to "pursue and apply for external funding"
  - Would be more on an ad hoc basis
  - Could also stay in close contact with the grad grants office to form a relationship with them to find grants
- Discussion about the possibility of doing a joint event between GPSO and the Jacobs School
  - Social hour and then grad students go to an opera or another event
  - Possibility that there is a social reception in the lobby of the MAC
  - Could offer a further discount to the student ticket through GPSO
- Adjourned at 4:08 p.m.