

Meeting: Assembly

Date: Friday, August 7 - 3:30 PM

Location: Wells Library E174

Nick welcomed assembly members and showed attendees where to find the [GPSO Representative Handbook](#) on the [GPSO website](#). Each member of the Executive Committee introduced themselves.

Agenda:

1. Review proposed changes to GPSO Constitution and By-Laws

Proposed changes to the GPSO Constitution and By-Laws were presented at today's meeting and these changes will be voted on at the September assembly meeting. Nick highlighted the following changes:

Constitution:

- Ten new assembly representatives; five from the Graduate Diversity Council and five from the International Center. Both bodies will select representatives as they see appropriate.
- New appointed officer positions; Awards, Benefits, Sustainability, and Grants Officers.

By-Laws:

- Committee structural changes.

2. Updates on GradPad and Staff Changes approved by Assembly last Spring

Nick explained the financial reasons for closing the IMU GradPad. Most likely the new GradPad will be in the library. It could be a year before there is a permanent location for the GradPad.

Approval was given to hire two work study employees to help the GPSO professional staff. Each employee will work five to six hours a week and will cost the GPSO a total of \$750 for the academic year. The employees will be undergraduate students.

3. Update on Executive Committee Retreat

Last May the Executive Committee members had a three day retreat. During the retreat, committee members modified and updated the GPSO Constitution and By-Laws.

In addition, the following initiatives and topics were discussed:

- Advocate for separation of undergraduate and graduate student activity fees,
- Advocate for graduate student university ID to be able to distinguish graduate students and provide them with appropriate benefits,
- Create a GPSO sticker in lieu of a graduate student ID,

- Advocate for mandatory health insurance for all IU students,
- Create a graduate student advisory board,
- Create ten seats in the Assembly for international students and students from under-represented groups, and
- Create a regular family-friendly event.

4. Update on 09-10 Budget

Revenues are expected to be approximately \$95,000 and expenditures are expected to be approximately \$84,000. Among the changes are adjustments to the executive stipend, academic conference expenses, and the closure of the IMU GradPad.

5. Brainstorm Agenda Items for Coming Year

An assembly member asked about SAA stipends and Nick referred the member to the GPSO website where there are two following reports: the [preliminary findings of the SAA Stipend project](#) and the [Report on SAA Stipends across the Big Ten Universities](#).

Miscellaneous Notes:

There are currently ninety seats for assembly representatives. At this time there are only forty assigned representatives. Therefore, quorum today is thirteen.

Peter announced that there will be an information fair in the Wells library on Thursday, August 27th from 2:00-4:00. He is seeking volunteers to sit at the GPSO table to welcome new students and hand out GPSO materials.