

Meeting: Assembly

Date: Friday, October 2, 2009 3:30 PM

Location: Wells Library E-174

Attendees: 54 department representatives

Agenda:

1. Announcements

- GPSO Ex Comm has the power to create ad hoc committees and last month it created a Campus Affairs Committee to address the possibility of adding a graduate sticker to graduate student IDs in order to distinguish graduate and undergraduate students. The sticker would give graduate students membership and discount benefits. The chair of this committee is Luke Fields who can be contacted at: lufields@indiana.edu.
- GPSO joined The National Association of Graduate-Professional Students (NAGPS) to give graduate students the option to take part in the NAGPS voluntary health plan. Now all IU graduate students are eligible to enroll in this plan. This plan has its shortcomings. For example, there is no maternity leave plan. The pros and cons of this plan can be discussed on the GPSO forums found on the GPSO website.
- The Indiana University Undergraduate Research Conference *Preparing for "The New Normal"* is occurring on the IUB campus this year. The conference will take place November 20. Organizers are seeking graduate volunteers to assist at the conference.

2. Union Board Meal Points Resolution

GPSO has been asked by the Union Board to vote on whether or not to support a resolution to allow students to use their meal points in the Indiana Memorial Union and Wells Library. There was a motion to table this issue in order to gather more information. Vote: 43 yeas, 5 nos, and 6 abstentions.

3. Constitutional Amendment

One constitutional amendment was tabled in September regarding when departments should elect Assembly representatives. GPSO President, Nick Clark, drafted language during the meeting to state that departments will elect representatives for a full year. The proposed language was voted on. Vote: 48 yeas, 3 nos, and 3 abstentions.

4. UITS Resolution

Nick read the proposed printer resolution that asks for rollover of print allotments for graduate students from semester to semester. Vote: 45 yeas, 6 nos, and 3 abstentions.

5. Public Safety Resolution

The GPSO Sustainability Officer, Scott Nissen, read a resolution he drafted regarding safety initiatives that would enforce compliance with traffic and pedestrians laws. Scott asked for the support of the GPSO to take this resolution to the Public Safety and Transportation Task Force and ask for it to be adopted. Vote: 40 yeas, 7 nos, and 7 abstentions.

6. Report on Campus Committees

The GPSO Vice President, Jen Miller, discussed the BFC (Bloomington Faculty Council) committees and directed Assembly representatives to the GPSO website where there is a description of each

standing BFC committee. In addition, on this site there is a place where users can “Have Your Issue Heard” so that it can be brought before a BFC committee. Jen encouraged representatives to tell their departments about the BFC committees to facilitate graduate involvement in these committees.

7. Audit

GPSO Parliamentarian, China Williams, presented the results of the 2009 GPSO Assembly representative audit which is conducted in order to determine accurate representation in the GPSO Assembly. The audit resulted in the removal of three existing Assembly seats. The Assembly proposed and voted to not remove these three seats. Vote: 52 yeas, 0 nos, and 2 abstentions. The Assembly also voted to accept the increased numbers based on increased enrollment. Vote: 53 yeas, 0 nos, and 1 abstention.

8. Maternity Leave Update

Nick stated that there already exists a family medical leave policy at the campus level. The GPSO has adopted this policy.

9. Surveys

Nick announced that the annual GPSO survey will be sent out soon to the IU graduate community. He emphasized the important role the GPSO survey has played in the past in providing valuable information regarding graduate initiatives and providing information to the GPSO about how to better serve its constituents. He encouraged representatives to take the survey and talk up the surveys in their departments.

10. Closing Announcements

- **Survival Week:** Nick announced the planned “Graduate Survival Week” activities and encouraged representatives to share the information with their departments and attend the events.
- **Grad Pad:** The Wells Library is currently talking to architects about having the GPSO Grad Pad in the library. Announcements will be made as more information becomes available.