**ALL-ASG RETREAT MEETING MINUTES**

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2016**

**REYNOLDS ENTERPRISE CENTER**

**GSC SEPARATE SESSION, 9 – 11 AM**

ATTENDING: Baker, Gerner, Gilley, Jeter, Johnson, Kimbrough, Marino, Morse, Nguyen, Ordorica, Shahria, Sims, Vranovci, Ward, Wilkinson, co-advisor McCallister. NOT ATTENDING, WITH REASONS: Burbridge (family), Hawkins (ill), Park (ill).

I. CALL TO ORDER: Johnson, 9:09 am.

II. SWEARING-IN of new representatives: Michael McAllister

III. ATTENDANCE (above). Quorum met.

IV. APPROVE AGENDA: Motion to approve. 2nd. Approved.

V. REPORTS:

1. SPEAKER JOHNSON.
2. Vacancy election ended. There were 33 vacancies, 13 graduates ran, and 3 failed to turn in expenditure report. We netted 10 in the elections. 2 resignations and 25 representatives left.
3. We can ask for special election with 5 or more vacancies. However, adding only a small number would be burdensome in cost and recruitment time and energy.
4. MARINO: Discussions with those not running would be burdensome. Headlining and hand-holding through the process might be an answer. The GSC could advertise through the NewsWire and the Web. Discussion of recruiting.
5. WARD: I don’t know what the hand holding would look like, but I’ve done it.
6. JOHNSON: obstacles? MARINO: technology; several sets of rules; quiz wrong/not active; it’s happening before school starts and with all of the activities at semester’s beginning, which gives limited time for recruitment
7. WARD: representatives can recruit fellow graduate students
8. MORSE: people don’t know times and days of meetings, how many times a month or semester. Information needs to be clearer. No information on line to help candidates.
9. WARD: we would need a motion to call for an election, with a bill. We can pick up on Wednesday’s meeting re: special vacancy election.
10. GRADUATE STUDY SPACE: available in Mullins, but will disappear because of disuse if we don’t use it
11. UNIVERSITY GRADUATE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: any graduate student can apply. Many spots available for graduate students during the academic year.
12. VICE-SPEAKER WARD
13. We have partnered with GSIE to conduct a professional development series this fall. He encouraged us to attend or it will disappear. Participation can go onto your CV. We have social media. Please join these. We also have Dean Koski’s listserv.
14. SECRETARY JETER:
15. Announcement of fall focus group project. Focus groups coming up: 9/27, Fulbright, GSIE Graduate Student Lounge, 7 pm; 9/29, WCOB, Willard Walker 303, 7 pm; 10/5, COEHP, 7 pm, GSIE Graduate Student Lounge. Representatives encouraged to attend especially where one’s college/school is involved.
16. GivePulse: encouraged everyone to record volunteer/service hours
17. All email dissemination will be through the Secretary
18. TREASURER’S REPORT: no report. Vacant through resignation.
19. INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS CHAIR PARK: no report.
20. SOCIAL CHAIR HAWKINS: WARD reported for Hawkins.
21. The general-call lunches we had last year did not work out well, so this year we will have coffee and donuts by college and school. This week: International students.
22. We’ve scheduled 2 lunches with deans, 1 around Homecoming, also on social media.
23. LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS/ADVOCACY DIRECTOR SIMS: Reported on his experience with National Association of Graduate and Professional Students’ 2016 Legislative Action Days in Washington, DC this September. Sims reported that the met with representatives, discussed open access, student health insurance, domestic visa revalidation, graduate student debt and interest on loans. The representatives seemed receptive.
24. PARLIAMENTARIAN BURBRIDGE: no report
25. GRADUATE STUDENT LIFE CHAIR BLANCHARD: no report.

VI. SPECIAL ORDERS (JOHNSON):

1. STANDING RULES HIGHLIGHTS (JOHNSON):
2. We’re updating the SRs right now, and they should be on the website this week
3. Everyone will serve on a committee and meet once a week, with committees determining the time and day
4. Reps will perform service hours instead of conducting office hours because of some negative feedback from last year. A service hour can involve helping grads, going to a coffee-and-donuts event, etc. The Vice-Speaker tracks service hours with a Google spreadsheet on the website. We have legislation pending that will make the service hours accumulate monthly.
5. SRs may be changed during a meeting without legislation with a 2/3 vote of the quorum as long as the body has a copy of the SRs with it.
6. General meetings for the semester set. Representatives may have proxies as long as proxies are enrolled with at least 1 credit hour as graduate students.
7. Meeting, agenda-item, and legislation-submission deadlines. General meetings: Oct. 20, Nov. 17, Dec. 8. Cabinet meetings are on the Monday of the week before the general meeting. All legislation and names of guest speakers due to the Speaker 8 days before the Cabinet meeting.
8. CABINET ELECTIONS:
9. TREASURER. WARD: outlined duties of the office. We’ve already set the budget for the year. No nominations (***see below***)
10. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/MARKETING DIRECTOR. JOHNSON: outlined duties of the position.
    1. Nominations: GERNER and WILKINSON, both self-nominated
    2. Each nominee gave a speech on qualifications
    3. Discussion re: possibility of a co-directorship. 2 people could work together. Other discussion: one should be point of contact, not 2; it muddies the waters.
    4. Balloting: GERNER elected by 7-5 majority.
    5. MARINO: Motion to amend SR to create a co-chair. Second. MARINO: change language in SR to reflect co-directorship: change wording to “co-director” from “Chair.” JOHNSON: this change would add another person to the Cabinet and pull another person off of a committee. JOHNSON: propose another amendment to the amendment: co-directors will be expected to serve.
    6. JOHNSON: change language re: Parliamentarian and Treasurer having to serve on a committee.
    7. MARINO: move to previous question. No opposition to voting. Amendment to amendment passes. JETER: co-directors an advantage because the 2 candidates can dovetail their talents and because of underrepresentation in the GSC, we need all of the help we can get with 2 instead of one—a big job. Move to vote by acclamation. No opposition. Amendment passes unanimously. Move to appoint Wilkinson as co-director. No other nominations. MARINO: move to suspend rules and move to vote by acclamation. WILKINSON voted co-director by acclamation.
11. TREASURER NOMINATIONS REOPEN: VRANOVIC self-nominates. Vranovic spoke on his qualifications. Move to suspend rules. No debate on candidate. Second. No opposition. VRANOVIC elected.
12. FACILITIES CHAIR. Gilley outlined duties of the position. Nominations: NGUYEN nominated self and spoke on his qualifications. MARINO: motion to suspend rules, with no debate, and vote by acclamation. Second. Vote by acclamation.

VII. OLD BUSINESS: no old business.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

1. WARD presented on GSC Bill 1, GSC Budget, 2016-17. Motion to suspend rules, no debate. Passed unanimously.
2. WARD presented on GSC Bill 2, ASG Budget, 2016-17. BAKER: would like to see more funding for sexual assault awareness. The allocation is minimal. No further funding allocated right now--$1000 is ASG Cabinet funding. GSC can have a sexual assault awareness program. WARD said he could help with this program. Legislation can come in for Wednesday evening meeting. Motion: extend by 3 minutes. MARINO: suggest passing budget as is. Outlined aspects of the budget for awareness of allocations. Motion: vote by acclamation. No opposition. Vote by acclamation; passes unanimously.
3. APPROVE UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS (JOHNSON). The list that the GSC received is the only one of accepted spring 2016 applicants. Vacancy appointments open right now. None is a graduate student. Motion: acclamation vote. Second. No opposition. Vote: acclamation; passes unanimously.

IX. COMMITTEES: WARD outlined number and types of committees available for choice of service. He will ask for preferences.

X. CAUCUSES: WARD stated that each college/school caucus will select a chair and meet with the appropriate dean at least once a semester.

Question: Is there a member cap on committees?

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT: no public comment

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. JOHNSON announced dates and times of all fall general meetings, with location
2. McCALLISTER announced the names of the co-advisors and offered to meet with representatives at any time.
3. JETER repeated dates, times, and locations of fall focus groups
4. WARD announced that he would send out committee preference emails

Motion to adjourn

XII. ADJOURN: 10:55 pm

**JOINT SESSION: ASG AND GSC**

**REYNOLDS CENTER AUDITORIUM**

**SEPTEMBER 18, 2016**

I. CALL TO ORDER: JOHNSON: 1 pm.

II. APPROVE AGENDA. Approved.

III. MOTION by MARINO to switch the order of treatment of Joint Resolutions 1 and 2. Passed.

IV. PRESENTATION OF ASGJ NOMINEES: Associate Justices Julianna Powell, Theandre Freeman, Zana English, Andrew Hansen, Brendan Cook, Dana McGee, Jace Motley; Proxy Justices Bailey Simon, Manny Meija.

1. Each presented on her/his qualifications
2. Questions from the floor (followed by answers from various candidates)

1. JETER: If a case touching on graduate student issues or concerns were to come before you, would you be willing to have someone inform you on these matters so that you could make a more well-informed decision?

2. MARINO: How would you treat something that is not in the Constitution?

C. MOTION to suspend all rules and approve all nominees by acclamation. Vote by

acclamation—unanimous.

V. ASG JOINT RESOLUTION 2 (Life Event) (JOHNSON)

1. This Resolution adds previous language respecting only graduate students to undergraduates on fellowship or university-funded scholarship.

1. We want to set out university-wide comprehensive accommodation plan across all of the student body.

2. Interim measure—we want the Graduate Council and Faculty Senate to adopt a stance of accommodation respecting situations in which life events arise.

3. MARINO: MOTION to remove 2 lines from footnotes on pages 1 and 2, one respecting employee status at public universities. Seconded Vote by acclamation. Amendment passes. Motion and second for 2nd reading. JOHNSON: this is us working for students who are funded. MORSE: This measure does not sound necessary until it hits family. Rep. Morse noted a family issue in which her son lost funding due to a life event and did not proceed to graduate school because of it; this is very necessary legislation. VOTE: Senate: Yes 37, No 2; GSC Yes 13 No 0

VI. ASG JOINT RESOLUTION 1 (Symbols of Divisiveness)

1. JOHNSON. This Resolution’s intent is to foster diversity. It calls out symbols of hatred. Noted that she grew up displaying the Confederate flag until she researched the history of it, then put it away. We can’t let a symbol be used for hatred.
2. DANIELS: encouraged the body to take a stand. We have to take a stand. We have to consider the next generation and should be unified. The flag is either a symbol of hatred or heritage. We need to show love. We can use our petition for a speaking tool of love and dialogue regarding race. The ASG plans to send/will send a letter to the proper people in the Fayetteville government.

Question from the floor: Where did you get the number 500. Answer: those who live in Arkansas/Fayetteville area.

1. MARINO AND DANIELS: the roots of American history are slavery and colonialism. We need to look at current history.
2. MOTION to move to a 2nd reading. Passes.
3. MARINO: America and the University have had a checkered past with African-Americans as part of its population. Marino reviewed the history of the South, including the playing of “Dixie,” then reviewed the history of treatment of African-Americans and racial relations on the University campus. This history included treatment by the ASG Senate. This body can send a message for equality and diversity, that we will not stand for this.
4. DANIELS: We have spoken with the city of Fayetteville, with lawyers, about personal rights. We are going forward with the petition.

Question about majority and minority. JOHNSON: majority is not always right. We’re the leaders.

1. KIMBROUGH: feels uncomfortable in the presence of the flag because of her family situation; she has a biracial child.
2. JETER: it depends on how we define hate. A flag/symbol by itself is not hate. Spoke about political correctness and argued that it was politically correct. Objected to the first paragraph language about the foundation of the United States.
3. MOTION to extend by 5 minutes
4. BAKER: We’re not preventing anyone from expressing speech. To students who feel the threat of fear—we recognize and hear what you’re saying; students, we want to protect you.
5. MOTION to table resolution till next regular meetings of ASG and GSC. Passed—Resolution tabled until next meetings of each body separately.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT (comments separate by letter):

1. I have siblings that are mixed African-American and white. As a body we have to ensure the University should be welcoming.
2. Feelings are hurt. People are still offended.
3. We are far from agreement. We need to tone down JR 1’s rhetoric. There’s division—we’re not unified.
4. It’s not our job to enforce our personal beliefs on others. We represent all students.
5. DANIELS: We can just love each other. I have talked with people on and off campus. African-Americans have suffered mistreatment. People can use things to create supremacy. We need to promote love. Rhetoric is an issue. The first paragraph of JR 1 hits home.
6. ASG TREASURER CORMACK: this issue is how we impact students.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. HOG OUT THE VOTE will be on September 28, 6:30 pm, Giffels Auditorium. There will be a RED Talk addressing voting.
2. September 27: CAPS and Housing program addressing suicide prevention.
3. GERNER: October 6: Technology Forum

IX. ADJOURN: 2:15 pm

SUBMITTED FOR REVIEW,

**Garrett C. Jeter**

Garrett C. Jeter

ASG Secretary