



Graduate Student Congress
Associated Student Government
University of Arkansas

AGENDA

20 October 2016
Graduate Education Building
Auditorium
7:00 PM

- I) Call to Order: Johnson, 7:02 pm
- II) Attendance. Attending: Representatives Baker, Blanchard, Burbridge, Callahan, Gerner, Gilley, Hawkins (by proxy), Jeter, Johnson, Kimbrough, Marino, Morse, Ordorica, Shahria, Ward, and Wilkinson; coadvisor McAllister. Quorum met.
- III) Approve Minutes: approved
- IV) Approve Agenda: approved
- V) Special Orders
 - A) GSC Advisor Amanda Cantu: unable to attend. McAllister reported for her.
 - B) ASG Advisor Michael McCallister (reporting for Cantu):
 - 1. Next professional development program will be November 17. Will address job search and include CV review.
 - 2. Registration open online for the Three-Minute Thesis Competition. GSC has had several winners from among its body.
 - 3. The ASG All-Call will be at 5 pm November 16, right before the general meeting.
 - 4. Two thematic events coming up:
 - a. Health Week next Tuesday. Friday: flu shots by the Walker Health Center
 - b. It's On Us Week: sexual assault awareness and Teal Talks.
 - 5. ASGJ is coordinating spring 2017 vacancy elections and 2017-18 elections
 - 6. Office of Vice-Chancellor and Student Affairs will host a Coffee with the Chancellor on Tuesday, November 8, 8:30 – 9:15 am.
- C) ASG President Connor Flocks: updates

1. The new Chancellor had his investiture ceremony today. He has visited all departments and formulated 8 “Guiding Priorities.” The first is Advancing Student Success and one refers to graduate students/education.
2. We have an interim Provost and right now there are 3 final candidates under consideration. There is one more to interview. There is a look at bringing in more graduate students, to increase the graduate population.
3. Apologized for the lateness of the email notice during the last All-Call.
4. The ASG website has a calendar that lists events.

D) Associate CIO Paige Francis & Dean of Libraries Carolyn Allen—New study space in Mullins. Dean Allen unavailable. CIO Francis spoke.

1. Francis: there is still grad space available in Mullins. In 2018-19, the University will gut and completely renovate the top floor of Mullins, with asbestos removal. The new grad study space will be the main floor where the copier room is. The library will darken the windows and provide an electronic card entry. Contemplating a lounge space. There will be a printing station. Asked the body what it wanted in the new space (e.g., computers, charger plugs, laptop areas, etc.)
2. Gerner: space for children
3. Marino: no group space. We need desk space and each station with good lighting and where a student can spread out.
4. Francis: Help Desk is moving. Maybe we can have proper lighting for you.
5. Baker and Callahan: a line of desks would be helpful.
6. Ward: mixed cubicle and desk stations
7. Wilkinson: a bulletin board
8. Burbridge: nap space. Francis: doesn't see that happening.
9. Jeter: computer for the library catalog
10. Marino: computer for the catalog and a printing station. Noted that there would be higher use if there was a printing station in there.
11. Francis: Web printing site is available at printsmart.uark.edu and with the wi-fi. Offered to talk with anyone further and invited the body to contact her.

E) Associate Director of Student & Young Alumni Outreach Ryan Miller—Student Alumni Association: unable to attend.

F) HEI Program Coordinator at the Center for Community Engagement, Claire Allison—Food Insecurity

1. Presented on Volunteer Action Center (VAC) Food Programs and food insecurity nationally, in Arkansas, in Washington County, and at the University.

2. Defined food insecurity

3. Noted that the research is on the VAC page of the university website.

4. Presented on the Full Circle Pantry, the Garden Project, the mobile deliveries and the online delivery request form, SNAP application assistance, and Cooking Matters

5. Presented on GivePulse through the VAC

6. Presented on “Map the Meal Gap,” which has mapped the entire country by each county and defined each county’s food security issues.

7. Presented on SNAP and separating facts from myths as well as SNAP application and eligibility standards—income, etc.

8. Kimbrough: if income is assistantship, you qualify for SNAP.

9. Marino: if money of a student loan is in the bank, that may impact your ability to get SNAP. Allison: you must work 80 hours a week. Financial aid funds in the bank is an issue that impacts. You have to have the funds in a separate account for education purposes—separate assets.

10. Jeter: asked about possible tour of the Pantry on Mondays after 3 pm. Allison: tours available.

VI) Reports

A) Speaker Scout Johnson (10 minutes)

1. Provost search committee: reiterated Flocks’s announcement about the committee’s 3 finalists. The last one will be here on October 21 at the Performing Arts building. Videos of the 3 final candidates will be posted online on October 21. Johnson encouraged the body to view the videos and give feedback by Tuesday. The committee will prepare a report for the Chancellor. McAllister: the posting will be by 6 pm on the 21st.

2. Conference committee re: JR 1 (Bikes, Blues, and BBQ and symbols of divisiveness): there are 2 versions passed between ASG Senate and GSC. We have

to pass 1 version. This situation will pass through a conference committee between both branches. Looking for folks who supported the Resolution to serve on the committee.

3. Johnson will be gone the 1st week of November to the national conference of the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students. Will return November 7 and complete comprehensive exams. Will not be around much in November, and emails will be delayed. The Vice-Speaker will handle things during that time.

B) Vice Speaker Arley Ward (5 minutes)

1. Will send out a Google Doc on Monday re: tracking of service hours.
2. Doesn't have names of college caucus chairs for Bumpers, Fulbright, Walton College, and Graduate School & International Education
3. Reminded representatives that they must go to their committee meetings as part of their responsibilities.
4. Encouraged representatives to participate in the Three-Minute Thesis competition. One can receive honor, cash, and a CV line as well as practice the "elevator speech."

C) Treasurer Korab Vranovci (3 minutes): no report (absent)

D) Secretary Garrett Jeter (3 minutes): no report

E) International Concerns Chair Min-Ji Park (3 minutes): no report (absent)

F) Social Chair, Emily Hawkins (3 minutes): no report (absent, but had proxy)

G) External Affairs and Marketing Co-Chairs Rachel Gerner and Katie Wilkinson (3 minutes): we had a well-attended grad lunch with much food.

H) Legislative Affairs and Advocacy Director Jesse Sims (3 minutes): no report (absent)

I) Parliamentarian Joshua Burbridge (3 minutes): Policies and Procedures Committee met and had a productive meeting. Addressing GSC's role in ASG generally. Will produce results soon.

J) Graduate Student Life Chair Johnathan Blanchard (3 minutes):

1. Committee meeting occurred.
2. October 21: 2 pm at Union Au Bon Pain—meeting with Chartwell's representative Andrew Lipson re: November campus food resources dinner event
3. Wednesday, November 2: focus group for Bumpers students.

K) Facilities Committee Chair Nghia Nguyen (3 minutes): no report (absent)

VII) Old Business: none

VIII) New Business

A) Vacancies

1. Johnson: raised issue of asking for special vacancy election this fall and having representatives in time for the November general meeting.
2. Marino: we missed the boat for a fall election. We need better advertising and better control of advertising materials online. The difficulties lay in ASG branding of our elections and the generic nature of election posts online re: elections.
3. Ward: the timing doesn't work. Per Standing Rules, people can come work on committees, but cannot vote. If each representative could bring one person to work on a committee, that would help.
4. Johnson: referred to last year's Razorback Representative Recruitment (R3) bill that would recruit graduates who have had at least one year of student government experience. Stated that people can come to committee meetings, but not general meetings if they don't want to.
5. Morse: people don't know about time commitments (committees, general meetings, etc.). We need to do a better job informing people of the time commitments.
6. Callahan: law school students didn't know about the GSC.
7. Johnson: we couldn't talk to first-year law students, but could talk to second-years.
8. Gerner: how do graduate students prefer to receive communications? Grads are deluged with emails.
9. Morse: departments have graduate clubs/organizations, some with Facebook pages.
10. Marino (Ward recording temporarily): ASG equated with the undergraduates. No excuse for the structural issues re: advertising of elections. We still have issues re: advertising with election materials online.
11. Morse: my department's Facebook page is closed—FB pages can be targeted to graduates and not shared. We could find other departments' FB pages and target those.
12. Johnson: asked Ward to instruct college caucuses to find out about department clubs/organizations and FB group pages, then get the information to

External Affairs directors, to get contact names for posting, including any other social media platforms.

13. Ward: contacting the departments this way could count as service hours. We could track those hours as contacting departments through FB pages and departmental sites.

B) University Committee Appointments. The body considered the following for appointments by Andrew Counce, Director of Campus Life: Mara Zaback, Ana-Lucia Tomescu, Health and Occupational Safety; Timothy Reynolds, Admission and Transfer Credit Committee; Savanna Spradlin, Program Allocations Board; Morgan Myers, Jordan Blakemore, Public Safety Council; Hope Mosley, Transit, Parking, and Traffic Committee; Carole Samantha Silva-Nash, HPER Building Advisory Committee; Baxter Yarbrough, Elliot Cole, Sustainability Council; Abigail Walker, Distinguished Lectures Committee; Sandra Ezigbo, Health Center Advisory Committee; Trevor Villines, Arkansas Union Advisory Committee; Katie Hicks, University Course and Programs Committee.

1. Johnson: this doesn't fill all vacancies. Still have many vacancies.

2. Burbridge: Computing Activities Council not necessarily for graduates.

3. Ward: we have certain powers of appointment. Our sole one is the Library Committee.

4. Johnson: asked for motion to approve.

5. Marino: opportunity in the past to put in graduate students, but the ASG Executive Committee has cast a wide net. We could recruit and disseminate information to have a bigger list of grads, expand our reach. We should fill the positions with grads. We can make personal connections with people to fill these spots—talk with friends, people in departments, etc. Wants conversation to adopt recruitment attitude toward filling the positions.

6. Ward: reaching out through the caucuses, through deans, departments, FB groups. We can address committees. Also can do recruitment.

7. Kimbrough: as caucus chair I can talk with my dean.

8. Johnson: advertised through *Traveler* and website. Committee applications going live shortly, before next Cabinet meeting.

9. Ward: share with caucuses.

10. Morse: motion to approve appointments. Second

11. Marino: Motion to approve by acclamation. Second.

12. Approved by acclamation.

13. Johnson: market plan to get information out to other grads

IX) Public Comment (10 Minutes)—reserved for those who do not have speaking privileges on the floor: none.

X) Announcements—Reserved for those who do have speaking privileges on the floor

1. Johnson: Next general meeting: November 16, 6 pm. Cabinet meeting: November 7; legislation and speaker slots have to be in by October 30 at 5 pm to the Speaker.

XI) Adjourn: 8:15 pm

Submitted for review,

Garrett C. Jeter

Garrett C. Jeter
GSC Secretary