MINUTES

February 17, 2016
AU 640
2:00 PM

I. Called to Order at 2:09 p.m.

II. Attendance

III. Approved Minutes, Jan. 20 Executive Cabinet Meeting

IV. Approve Agenda – moved Social Chair to first report

V. Special Orders
   A. Adviser Amanda Cantu – no report
   B. ASG Adviser Rainer Gall – Election applications are due Feb. 24; have to take quiz to run – don’t forget! The quiz link is on the elections tab on the website. Talk to Jamie or Rainer with any questions. Welcome to Mary Skinner who has been out on maternity leave.

VI. Reports
   A. Social Chair, Jessica Guinn – March events haven’t been planned yet but will be working on it. Shout out to Jade for running coffee and donuts this week. Hoping to get the bid for the NAGPS Leadership Summit. Bid is due Sunday. We will start working on an etiquette event.
   B. Speaker Scout Johnson – Recruit people for elections! Each person needs to recruit at least one person (two if you aren’t running). We really want to fill the whole chamber.
      Question – We have 50 seats, 35 designated, 15 at-large. How do we logistically do this? Once all the college spots are filled, the next 15 qualified candidates will receive the 15 at-large seats.
      If the law school referendum passes, do we have a plan? It seems a little convoluted at this point. We will work on this at a later time. This is a Code & Constitution issue. One idea is to have one less at-large seat this election.
   C. Vice Speaker Madeleine Forrest –
      Recruit via emails! Send email to head of International Students and Scholars, GDSAB; please let me know if you think of someone else we can email.
   D. Treasurer Arley Ward – no report
E. Secretary Mark Nabors
   a. Absent.
F. External Relations and Marketing Chair, Jade Newsome –
   Working on graphics to illustrate the legislation we’ve been
doing this semester. All committee chairs needs to email Jade with
what their committees have been working on and legislation that has
been passed.
G. International Concerns Chair, Supriya Thote
   Absent
H. Legislative Affairs Director, Rachel Spencer –
   RAG is working on the Legislative Honor Roll;
planning a GSC trip to Little Rock to focus on grad
student issues – there is a chance we could speak at the
Higher Education Committee
I. Parliamentarian, Frankc Berlanga-Medina – if anyone
needs help with legislation, please let P&P know!
   Question – where are we in the process of
reviewing the C&C for errors? Committee will start
working on that.
J. Graduate Student Life Committee Chair, Rodica Lisnic –
   Met with Vice Chancellor for HR to discuss Family Leave
proposal; Met with Head of International Scholars and Students and
there is a process for international students to leave during the
semester if necessary. Most problematic issue with international
students is housing – can Philip’s committee meet with him?
   Rodica put together a committee report for Jade. Graduate
students are more likely than undergrads to be food insecure. No
surprise there.
   Garrett and Rodica are meeting with the Chartwells people to
negotiate a meal plan for graduate students.
K. Facilities Committee Chair, Philip Gilley –
   Poor attendance at meetings. Committee has discussed
housing but it’s hard since each meeting includes different people.
   Let Madeleine or Scout know if you need us to drop the
hammer!
L. Engineering Caucus, Philip –
   We planned for 30 people but roughly 60 people showed up.
Awesome! It was hosted by the dean’s office. We want to put
together an Engineering-wide colloquium. Ask about sending out
an elections email.

VII. Old Business

VIII. New Business
A. GSC Bill 5: A Bill to Establish a System of Accountability through
   Censures: Representatives Joshua Burbridge
   Authorship – It’s a three strikes kind of deal with responsibility or
any action that is spelled out in our standing rules that are not
becoming of our representatives. On Clause B, these censures are
issued at the sole discretion of the speaker. However, a majority
vote of the GSC Cabinet can overturn it so still balance of power.
Questions – Concerned about the sole discretion of the speaker –
should it be an automatic thing if you break the rules?
But, what about if a Representative does something wrong during a meeting? Perhaps say instead censures dealing with clause B and C would be at the sole discretion of the speaker but censures for failure to meet, etc. would be automatic.

Amendment – move to amend lines 20, 24, and 25
Line 20 - “Censures for violations of clause C subsection A shall be automatic; Censures for violations of Clause C subsection B&C shall be issued at the sole discretion of the speaker...”

Question – Is it up to the speaker to excuse absences? Yes, but Vice Speaker has the discretion for committee meetings.
Question – Do we announce this publically? Yes, at each meeting
Question – When is your censure announced? If you miss one meeting, it will be announced at the next meeting.
Amendment carries.
Amendment – add to line 23 “to the GSC Standing Rules”
Amendment carries.
Question – who keeps track of how many times people have been censured?
Amendment – add “(H) Censures shall be tracked by the GSC Secretary.”
Amendment carries
Question – there are multiple places where it says representative, should we add GSC Representative? But, if this is in the GSC Standing Rules, is that just assumed?
It is sufficient to say representative.
Debate –
We need a way to track office hours. Perhaps use the clock-in system used by undergrads for office hours.
Vote –
Send to second reading with a recommendation to pass as amended.
Any objection? No.
Bill moves to second reading.
B. GSC Bill 6: A Bill to Stop the Standing Rules of the Graduate Student Congress from Expiring Between Terms: Representatives Joshua Burbridge (not present so Frankc is presenting)

Authorship –

We are trying to prevent the new representatives from having to deal with adopting a document they don’t totally understand. If it could carry over between terms, people might have a better understanding of the ways in which we function as a body and to be as fair and impartial as possible. We need our standing rules to be in effect whether we’re meeting or not. Please do note that on line 26 it should say “this bill” not “this resolution.”

Amendment – to change line 26 (seconded)

Debate –

In opposition, this needs to go back to committee as it currently doesn’t say that the Standing Rules expires (as is written in line 2)

Vote – Recommendation to hold to send back to committee. No opposition so bill does not move to second reading.

C. GSC Bill 7: A Bill to Establish the Annual Graduate Student Congress Awards: Treasurer Arley Ward

One of our goals is to make life better for graduate students on campus and off. This bill aims to help do that.

Question – where will it be located online? Under ASG Forms.

On lines 21-34 (section 2), will that amend or alter the standing rules as it creates more duties for the treasurer?

Formation of the committee will be an ad-hoc committee which is at the discretion of the speaker.

Amendment – on line 114 add section VI, “This bill will amend the standing rules by naming the Treasurer as chair of the Awards Committee.”

No opposition – amendment passes

Motion to strike line 48 – approved

Amendment – on line 53, add “of nominee” to the end

No opposition – amendment passes

Amendment – on line 37, add “not to exceed $10 each.”

No opposition – amendment passes

Amendment – line 54, move to amend word “discussion” to “description”

No opposition – amendment passes

Point of information – line 6, put administration before faculty

Amendment – line 6, add “administration” before faculty

No opposition – amendment passes

Amendment – line 115, add “NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS, FAYETTEVILLE,

That the Annual Graduate Student Congress awards be enacted.”

No opposition – amendment passes

Motion to send to second reading with a recommendation to pass.

No opposition – bill moves to second reading
D. GSC Bill 8: A Bill to Authorize Funding to Send a Delegation to the NAGPS Regional Conference 2016: Treasurer Arley Ward

We have not created the line for Conference funding so we are now creating that line. This is an estimation of what we will spend but I really feel that this is an inflated rate. This is Arley estimating on the high side. The original discussion had been for 8 individuals but Arley moved it to 7 because then you would have to rent a larger van (per university rules)

Question – where did the per diem come from? It’s the high end but it is the federal rate.

Point of Information – SouthCentral is now South-Central

Question – why do we have 8 hotel rooms? Because we have to have doubles (4 rooms each night)

Debate – no additional debate

Amendment – line 32, add “NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE GRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS, FAYETTEVILLE,

To create the funding line “NAGPS Regional Conference” under the LG PROG line on the RSO allocations budget.”

No opposition – amendment passes

Move to send to second reading with a recommendation to pass as amendment.

No opposition – bill moves to second reading

E. Discussion: ABD Doctoral Students and Co-curricular Requirements

Rainer – to provide context, he received a list to see who qualifies to serve on ASG based on co-curricular requirements. For some reason, GSC reps were not re-checked to make sure they qualify. This matters because according to ASG you have to be enrolled in at least 6 hours for grad students. This doesn’t fit with ABD students. Currently all ASG members must have a 2.2 GPA and be full time (which is 6 hours for grad students). This policy is currently being reviewed with an idea to change the requirement.

Scout – idea is to change the wording to “Graduate students must fulfill the fulltime hour commitment for their classification.”

Rainer – it would be difficult and time consuming for OSA to determine each grad student’s classification. OSA’s suggestion was to simply put that all grad students must simply be enrolled in one credit hour. We will continue to work on this issue this semester to clear everything up.

Question – what about with elections since the emails have already been sent out? Rainer will send a follow up explaining the situation.

IX. Public Comment – no comments

X. Announcements

A. GSC Meeting: Thursday, February 25, 6:00 PM Grad Ed Auditorium; All-ASG All Call at 5:30 p.m.

B. Rainer – a test ballot is going to run to make sure that vote.uark.edu is working. We need to find the problems now before the actual election.
C. Arley – GSC Cabinet had two members win the 3 minute thesis competition. Way to go Arley and Jade!

XI. Adjourned at 3:34 p.m. Running time was 1 hour 24 minutes, 58 seconds.