

Meeting called to order 4:42 PM

Officers Present: Nicole, Saira, Dani, Stacey, David

- I. Last Forum Meeting tomorrow 12/5 for the Fall Quarter
 - a. We will be Introducing Hope McCoy as the new Communications Director
 - b. Forum will be earlier at 5:00PM and will definitely be out by 6:30PM
- II. President's Report
 - a. David is now sitting on a Financial Literacy Committee
 - b. It will be a central place to go to for grad students to estimate costs as a grad student
 - c. Dani will update more about SAGE in his report
- III. VPAA's Report
 - a. Nicole will update students about the leave of absence policy
 - b. About 40-50 students showed up to the most recent meeting; many students are upset about the policy change
 - c. If other UC's agree, a referendum for another policy change might be in effect
 - d. It might be a good idea to put up the referendum ballot since voter turnout has been good so far
 - e. The Academic Senate wants feedback from students
 - f. Preliminary meetings from SACBOG and the Unity Center brings up the issue of what do grad students want from it
 - g. Flyers for Writing Center Services have been posted in high traffic areas
- IV. VPEX Report
 - a. Dani just came back from Ann Arbor and went to sessions concerning Dream Act, student fees, student structure, conflict resolution, Graduate Student spaces
 - b. Sessions about Advocacy for certain politicians (taxation, indebtedness, increase in research funding)
 - c. Discussion about what direction GSA's should be going in: financial stability, increased communication, cost of housing, institutional memory (passing down information/duties as positions get filled over the years)
 - d. Dani would like to develop a policy agenda in attending the SAGE Storm the Hill that will happen in March
 - e. SAGE is a lobby group that will go to the Hill to discourage cuts in research funding
 - f. Miguel will be a great resource for issues like SAGE
- V. Saira Report
 - a. In the Winter, an Environmental Night will be held for general awareness
 - b. In the Spring, Saira wants to hold a showcase/competition for sustainability research and to reward the top 5 contestants
 - c. Hopes for transferring the SRC books to a more high traffic library with full time librarians
 - d. Still in need of composts in Weyburn and other Grad Student housing, but it has been unsuccessful because students were not as supportive as hoped

- VI. Stacey's Report
 - a. Workshop with East Scholarship – 43 people – put people in contact with technical aspects
 - b. 6-8 law journals moving to open access. There will be work to transition to open source-templates. Will make it more accessible and allow more efficient law journals
 - c. Will have meetings/workshops before funding applications are due in case people have questions. The application is also a budgeting tool
- VII. Hope's Report
 - a. First year PHD in Education – new communications director
 - b. Worked for the Kellogg School of Management and has extensive communications experience
 - c. Quarter is winding down so hopefully Hope will be trained and ready to start in winter
 - d. Webmaster may need to be hired. Revamp drupal interface. Needs to be updated with security holes closed and more user-friendly. Also needs to be backed-up. Estimated cost of \$2000 or less.
- VIII. Inabstenia
 - a. Had a town hall - success
 - b. Disparate impacts of the policy (gender, race)
 - c. Want to create a you-tube video
 - d. Want to have a protest to chancellor
 - e. Tried to get a meeting first
 - i. Lots of people want to attend this meeting. students want to meet /be involved
 - f. Want to create a ballot measure – referendum
 - g. Want to reach out to the other GSAs/UCs
 - h. Covered by DB
- IX. Melnitz issues with film & television
 - a. Look into relationship , their money, dean, theater manager