Student Government Graduate House of Representatives

Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2019

I. Call to order
House Leader Le Noc called the meeting to order at 1:01pm

II. Roll Call
Representatives Present: Austin, Ayala, Castillo, Davis, Didion, Douthitt, Gillman, Idema, Larson, Le Noc, Lobo, Nguyen, and Ramos-Karmaker

III. Approval of Minutes
Representative Didion motioned to approve the minutes; Representative Idema second the motion. Vote was unanimous. Minutes from February 1, 2019 meeting approved.

IV. Orders of the Day

V. Guest Speakers
(a) Plunkett/Torpey Campaign
   i. Plunkett & Torpey not present.
(b) Benbow/Thompson Campaign
   i. Still seeking approval to talk, so Senator Gasponi given the floor
(c) Senator Gasponi
   i. Claudia Gasponi spoke about the letter she sent to House members on February 5th regarding impeachment of President Allison Castillo.
   ii. Senator Gasponi stated she has four (4) sponsors from the Senate and needs at least three (3) from the House.
(d) Student Body President Castillo
   President-Elect Castillo addressed the House about the articles of impeachment.
(e) Benbow/Thompson Campaign
   i. Cory Benbow and Tucker Thompson shared information about their campaign platform and answered questions raised by the House.

VI. Public Forum
There was no public forum

VII. Reports
a. Student Government Vice President’s Report: Keely Freund
   - (Acting) Vice President Freund introduced herself and said she will be at all the House meetings.
   - She said an Allies training is planned for February 21; there will be another in March, if anyone is interested and cannot make it next week.
   - She asked if we were familiar with “plogging,” it is a fun run that includes picking up litter while running in designated teams. There will be a plogging run on March 31.
b. House Leader Report: Maël Le Noc
   - House Leader Le Noc explained the process of impeachment; as a representative you can sign the articles of impeachment as an individual and not something that involves the entire House; anyone can contact him with questions at any time.

c. House Secretary Report: Brittany Davis
   Nothing to report

d. House Parliamentarian’s Report: Jennifer Idema
   Nothing to report

e. Committees Reports
   i. Diversity and Inclusion: Thi Nguyen and Lorraine Lobo
      - Representative Nguyen stated that the survey showed collaboration among grad students is important.
   
   ii. Social Media and Technology: Jorlanditha Austin
      - Representative Austin has begun posting on social media and will curate custom images.
      - She plans on three (3) posts a week as the goal and would like to do something on the Quad.
   
   iii. Campus Life: Jenn Idema and Amarilis Castillo
      Nothing to report
   
   iv. Budget and Finance: Blair Didion and Dylan Douthitt
      Representative Didion are working said the issue with the funds has been resolved and the missing $1000 have been returned to our account.

f. University Committee Reports
   i. Council of Inclusive Excellence: Amarilis Castillo
      1. There was a meeting earlier today and it was a sort of workshop on having difficult conversations
      2. Will invite Ameerah McBride to one of our meetings as a guest speaker
   
   ii. QEP Task Force: Jenn Idema
   
   iii. Veterans Advisory Council: Blair Didion
      1. The Veterans Memorial in front of Flowers Halls needs to be updated.
      Representative Didion will author legislation to get this done;
      Representative Idema agreed to co-author.
   
   iv. Graduate Council: Jessica Ramos
      1. Deadline for departments to submit brochure changes is today

g. Advisor’s Report: Dr. Paulson
   i. No report; Not present.

Old Business
   a. Graduate Student Survey
i. House Leader Le Noc said we received over 200 responses to the survey.

ii. Representative Idema suggested we all read the responses, and each choose 2 areas to review and come prepared to discuss at our next meeting.

b. Networking Night/Alpha Chi Partnership
   i. Networking night partnership with Alpha Chi is Wednesday, March 6 from 5-7pm in UAC 208 and the reception will be in UAC 120

c. Graduate Student Appreciation Week
   i. Representative Didion conducted a presentation on how to approach businesses for GSAW donations. He had three main points:
      1. Make the donation/sponsorship valuable for the business so that this is something that will benefit them.
      2. Businesses think that graduate students have more money to spend than undergraduates; this is good because they assume that because you are a graduate student you will come back and spend money at their business if they donate; and,
      3. Find out who the person in charge is and solicit the donation in person; it is harder to say no to when face-to-face than via email or over the phone.

d. Graduate House Advertisement Items
   i. Representative Idema gave a presentation of various items she researched, and the prices associated with those items. The items included grocery bags, USB drives, pens, highlighters/sticky notes/pens set, bookmark/sticky notes/ruler set, popsocket for phones, t-shirt, ID holder, and clip. The two most popular items among the group were:
      1. Grocery Bags amount:350 price:$508.60
      2. Highlighters/sticky notes/pens set amount:400 price: $750.00

All the items can be purchased in our colors.

IX. New Business
   a. Bobcat Build
      i. Representative Idema suggested that we might want to have a Grad House Team; this is a community outreach event; will happen April 13 8am-Noon. Representative Didion said there is a max of 20 per group.
      ii. Idema will send out more information and bring it up with the Senate on Monday.

b. Student Government Scholarship
   i. VP Freund mentioned that there is a Student Government scholarship that awards up to $1000 and is also available for graduate students.

X. Announcements
   a. Representative Didion said that at the baseball game at 6pm, the first of the year, he will throw out the first ball as a Veteran and was inviting everyone to attend.

XI. Adjournment
Representative Didion motioned to adjourn the meeting; Representative Ramos-Karmaker second the motion; meeting adjourned at 2:46pm