

Graduate & Professional Student Council

Executive Committee

Business Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2016

6:00 PM

Evans 612

I. Call to Order

The General Assembly was called to order.

II. Procedure and Governance

III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the last General Assembly meeting were approved.

IV. Speaker's Podium

a. Transportation Updates: Madeline Dillard, Assistant Director, Transit

- ...

b. SAFAB Committee Follow up: Josh Fuller, SAFAB Chair, Marisa Biondi, SAFAB Member

- Josh introduced the missions of SAFAB, their recent recommendations, and voting results. Slides are attached for details.
- Josh answered the question on how the recommendations are prioritized.
- Paul added comments on the history of the relationship between SAFAB and GPSC
- Marisha and Josh explained the definition of non-traditional graduate students
- SAFAB will be open for new member application the first one or two weeks next semester

V. Voice Reports

a. University Committees

i. Post Doc Association Contact: pda@tamu.edu

- Biochem And Genetics Rep
 - Knowledge-Share Handout
 - Documented started:
 - Mostly STEM
 - Created Google Doc based on prior success
 - What you can contribute
 - Categorize to where data goes and goes to centralize database
 - Database for form to share
 - Long-term goal for seminar and workshops

- Started in Biochem dept and successful
- Asked GA to fill out link through e-mail or MaroonLink
- Knowledge is public
- ---
- Post Doc Association
 - 5 people in cabinet
 - Under VPR (not SGA since not students)
- A-STEM: last seminar in the semester; seminar is Dr. Barbara B. (VetMed and BioSci) on November 30th at 5:30 PM in MSC 2500
 - Pizza and Drinks
 - Please share flyer on GPSC Facebook page
- ---
- Safe spaces in MSC and beyond
 - Too militaryish and aggies-ish
 - Suggestions from Grad Students
 - Contact: Hina to give to MSC BOD
 - Proposal for highlighting students on MSC 2nd Floor Wall
- Bara said Bizzel is being torn down in 2019
- Chris: Campus Master Plan
 - Send e-mails on requests
 - Bicycling: lots of dismount zone
 - Deadline is November 19th
 - Will send out e-mail to GA

b. Department, Program, or Organization Announcements

- ...

VI. Pending Business

**a. Programming/Selfless Service committee consolidation (update):
Paul Taele**

- Paul is looking for talking with the two committees' member before bringing the resolution to the GA for voting

VII. New Business

a. Resolution for Provost Diversity Statement Requirement: Bara Safarova

- Bara introduced the resolution on the request to include Diversity statement as part of the Provost Search
- Departments voting results: Yes, No, Abstain, Absent,
 - Vote was: 45-0-0-20
- The resolution is approved

(Thanks Qi: I will add my paper notes as well)

Thanks Paul! Could you add something for the first speaker? Will do! And I'll take over. You can take a break, buddy. :) Thanks!

b. Resolution in Support of the Silent Witness Project: Alisha Ahamed

- Alisha introduced a resolution
- Voice vote approved
- Bill passes: 45-0-0-20

VIII. Standing Committee Reports

a. Awards (Nahed Abdelrahman)

- Absent

b. Diversity and Inclusion (Bara Safarova)

- NCORE conference have asked Bara to speak to body that anyone who wants to go to conference and want funding, then Bara will ask body for possible more funding

c. Legislative Affairs (Brenna Lin)

i. Requesting Sample Offer Letters

- Request for grad students to send sample offer letters for aggregating for best practices
 - Questions: regarding funding
 - Asking department heads to send offer letters for templates
- Ask department heads of how they determine maternity leave
- Final comment on committee: more research events
 - Outreach events related to science events, but maybe related events in other colleges
 - Socialize and meet other scientists

d. Marketing and Communications (Aradhana George)

- Absent

e. Outreach (Pranav Kannan)

- Call for Nth Degree articles

f. Programming (Courtney Lavadia)

- Ice Skating Tomorrow!
- Tailgating this UTSA game with Breakfast Tacos

g. Quality of Life (Ananya Dasgupta)

i. University Disciplinary Appeals Panel

- Gave presentation

h. Research (Joonhee Kim, Phil Wernette)

- CPI:
 - ConversationUs: website for researchers like grad students to increase visibility of projects shown by TAMU Vice Provost
- Weekend Meeting: OpenCon meeting
 - Many advocates on open shared information
 - Varies across resources such as open data and open textbook

i. Selfless Service (Dustin Wilkerson)

- Absent

IX. Special Committee Reports

a. Student Research Week (Yashwant Vyas)

- Committee has been selected except volunteer coordinator
 - Deciding on wanting to make tailored call
- GOC has been updated on planning

b. Grad Camp (Pankaj Goel)

- none

X. Officer Reports

a. Vice President of University Affairs (Alisha Ahamed)

i. Each one Tell One Campaign

ii. Mandatory Racism Classes

- Mandatory Racism Classes
 - Doesn't directly affect grad students, but high impact to administrations
 - All undergrads here are International and Cultural Diversity (ICD) courses - 6 hours
 - In order to be ICD, no process and rubric, just needs to be approved by faculty senate
 - Split ICD credit hours to 2: half will be "old" module, half for Communicating Diversity? (CD) for how to communicate difficult dialogue (racism-related) module
 - Module focused on experiential experiences
 - Rubric not finalized but was presented to Faculty Senate for review
 - Anti-racism course will also be mandatory in Fall 2019, must be satisfied to graduate
- Each One Tell One Campaign
 - Will be done with MarComm
 - Tell them two things: 1) step in (bystanders), 2) victims
 - Collect CLEAR game day bags and give to another person
 - Ask Alisha for new swag
 - Based on our lead, if successful will send to other organizations

b. Vice President of Information (Qi Wang)

- No report

c. Vice President of Finance (Michael Kalan)

- No report

d. Executive Vice President (Chris Nygren)

i. Speaker Requests

ii. Meet with your internal committees

iii. Looking for a few members for a small constitution/bylaws task force

- ...

e. President (Paul Taele)

i. General Updates and Remarks

- ...

ii. Task Forces Proposal

- ...

XI. Advisor Comments (Jamie Wangler)

- ...

XII. Administrative Comments (Shannon Walton)

- ...

XIII. Announcements

- ...

XIV. Adjournment

- The meeting was successfully adjourned.