

GSC minutes from Oct 9th, 2006 Meeting

I. Call to order: 5:07 pm

II. Approval of Agenda:

- a. Addition of a-f in Discussion Items.
- b. Agenda approved as amended.

III. Approval of minutes from Sep 25, 2006: Corrections by Casey Rudkin noted.

- a. Insisted on Pg 2 changed to suggested.
- b. One Grad student on sailing club.

IV. Officer Reports:

- a. President - David Tobias
 - i. Speakers please introduce yourself for proper minute taking.
 - ii. Sep 28 Board of Control (BOC) meeting - BOC approved the resolution passed last fall. This can be significant if USG tries to reiterate ASMTU. Could not deliver the 15 minute talk because of time constraints. Will do it in the next BOC meeting.
- b. Vice-President - Nick Nanninga
No report.
- c. Treasurer - Emily McCarthy
 - i. Presented the budget for September.
- d. Secretary - Rajalakshmi Krishna
No report.

V. Committee Reports

- a. Academic: Fall poster session - Niranjana Londhe
 - i. Received 50 abstracts for the Poster session which includes 5 abstracts for CWS poster competition. Soliciting proactive faculty from all the departments to volunteer as judges for the poster session. Judging will take place on Oct 14 from 1-3 pm in the MUB Peninsula room.

Raghav V - Are there any set guidelines for the judges of the poster session?
Niranjana L - Dr. Huntoon will brief the judges on the guidelines to rank the posters prior to the poster session.

- b. Social - Brian Ott
No report (absent).
- c. Orientation - Aaron Tice and Julio Rivera
No Report (absent).
- d. Lecture - Laura Walz

- i. 10/5 'Lunch-n-Learn' feedback - Lecture by Dr.Huntoon on poster presenting skills was well received.
 - ii. 11/16 'Lunch-n-Learn' - Lecture on Tricks & Tips for getting through the graduate school. E-mails will be sent out soon. If interested in attending, send an e-mail to llwalz@mtu.edu.
- e. Public relations - Katie Granlund
 - i. Fall News letter: Pleased to receive Adam D and Dan A articles for the newsletter. Requesting the department reps to contribute an article.
 - Casey R: What aspects are you looking for in the newsletter articles.
 - Katie G: Department news, like some student/professor getting an recognition/awards or anything that appeals the grad students are welcome.
 - David T: We need few more weeks to work on the article.
 - Raghav V: Inquired abt the submitted article. Was the number of words within limit?
 - Katie G: Working on it.
- f. Student Issues - Dan Adler
 - No report (excused absence).

VI. Liaisons

- a. COE Dean search - David Tobias
 - i. No updates as the committee did not meet this week.
- b. USG - Dan Adler
 - No report.
- c. GFC - David Tobias
 - i. Masters thesis committee - A proposal to reduce members in the committee from four to three. Reason - having four members in the committee is not an efficient use of faculty time.
 - ii. Electronic Testing Center - MTU is in the process of becoming an electronic test center for GRE and other electronic tests beginning next fall (tentatively).
 - iii. Last term fee waiver - Graduate students in their last term are eligible for a fee waiver. No graduate student will be eligible for this benefit more than once. If a graduate student extends the program to the next semester, then full tuition will be billed. Technically the due date to get paper work done is by monday of first week of classes. But the Grad school gives some grace period and accepts papers till friday.
 - Nick N - Does proposal passed last week correct this issue?
 - David T - Relaxing 9 credit policy is not in effect and has to be considered by GFC first. Dr.Huntoon wants to wait for the enrollment to increase, to take this issue to GFC.

VII. Old Business

- a Offer letters
 - i. Resolution made on offer letters was sent to GFC and Dr.Huntoon forwarded it to the dean's list .
- b. Sailing club fund request
 - David T - Motion to fund the amount of \$1362.20 to the sailing club.
 - Iman B - Seconds the motion.
 - Discussion
 - Adam D - MTUSC's 'A Day Out on the Water' was a success. Hoping to see more graduate student members in future.
 - Casey R - Discussed with home department about discretionary funds being used for the sailing club. There seemed to a general opposition to this idea and the common feeling was to use the discretionary funds for humanitarian/educational activities.
 - Jim R - Polled the home department and expressed the same view point as Casey.
 - Katie G - Interacted with 4-5 students from Business school and they seemed to be excited about the sailing club idea.
 - Raghav V - What kind of membership do students pay?
 - Adam D - \$60 per semester and \$100 for annual membership.
 - David T - Motion to fund the amount of \$1362.20 to the sailing club fails (hand counts-7/6, 4-abstentions).
 - Nick N - Motion to fund half the amount (\$681.10) requested by the sailing club.
 - Katie G - Seconds the motion.
 - Motion passes (hand counts-14/2, 1-abstention).

VII. New Business

- a. Make a Differece Day (MADD) involvement
 - Katie G - MADD is on Oct 21. Anyone interested can sign up for any one of the projects mentioned on the MADD website.
- b. Student Debate Team
 - David T - Soliciting grad students to put a team in Rock the Vote. Anybody interested can email Dan A (dpadler@mtu.edu).
- c. Physical Education(PE) credit
 - Raghav V- Talked to Dr. Huntoon about the half credit PE course issue and reported that the graduate school does not want to have any half credit courses. Dr.Huntoon will consult the graduate school to explore alternatives.
 - David T - Suggested a zero credit PE course for graduate students.
 - Nick N - Consult the Physical Education department for some input.
 - Raghav V - Will talk to the PE department and get back.

IX. Discussion Items

a. Roundtable on Diversity at Tech

Sponsored by the Educational Opportunity Diversity Corporate Advisory Board. The topic being "Diversity is a competitive edge for all students". David T and Muatala M represented GSC at the roundtable. Corporates like GM and Daimler Chrysler are keen on bringing more diversity in the work force. They are encouraging Michigan Tech to be more diverse.

b. Sex Signals

Will perform skits on issues relating to inappropriate behavior on campus. Pat Gotschalk, Director of Student Judicial Affairs, wants few graduate students to meet them before their performance to get an insight about the local culture. This event is on Oct 17 at 7 pm in Fisher 137. A soup and sandwich dinner will be served at 3 pm.

c. USA Today

They'll distribute free news papers on campus. Based on the response from the students, they may be willing to ship the papers to tech at a reduced cost.

d. Senior Grad Fest

There will be a stall in campus store on Oct 18 from 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm. Theme-Why should you go to graduate school at Michigan Tech. David T- Soliciting any rep/ reps to volunteer to man the table on Oct 18 from 4:30-6:00 pm.

e. Diversity, Integrity and Justice

Rob Bishop, Director of Student Judicial Affairs, will deliver a lecture on tue Oct 10 at Alumni Lounge Mub. Will address issues on diversity, integrity and Justice.

David T- Soliciting reps to attend the lecture.

Iman B- Will attend.

f. Fall Travel Grants

Deadline - Friday Oct 13 and draw will be held on monday Oct 16.

Adam D - Will an application without a confirmation letter be accepted?

David T - Applications without confirmation letters will not be accepted.

X. Adjournment: 5:55 pm

Attendance

Lakshmi K, MSE

Nick N, MSE

Jim R, SS

Muatala M, GMES

Adam D, GMES

Emily M, GMES
Niranjan L, MEEM
Rohit G, MEEM
Brandon D, MEEM
David T, CEE
Lisa T, CEE
Laura W, BME
Iman B, Business
Katie G, Business
Kris N, Biology
Casey R, HU
Raghav V, Phy
Warren P, CS
Tara E, SFRES
John F, Chemistry

Excused
Dan A, MEEM