

# Meeting Minutes of the Michigan Technological University Graduate Student Council

26 January 2009 Meeting

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## **SYNOPSIS:**

The Graduate Student Council

- (1) **PASSED** the funds request to pay for two Council members to travel to and attend the Second Annual Michigan Graduate Student Summit
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## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

President Jill Witt called the Graduate Student Council (GSC) meeting to order at 5:10pm on Monday, January 26 2009.

## **II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Heather Jordan made a motion to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Melissa Roberts. The approval of the agenda **PASSED** with all in favor.

## **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MONDAY, JANUARY 12 2009**

Michelle Freeman made a motion to approve the minutes from January 12 2009. This was seconded by Stephanie Groves. The minutes were **PASSED** with all in favor.

## **IV. OFFICER REPORTS**

### **a. PRESIDENT – JILL WITT**

#### **i. Parking Task Force Committee**

1. Jill Witt was asked to join the Parking Task Force Committee. This committee investigates how MTU can alleviate parking pressures resulting from the Highway 41 construction summer of 2009. The broomball court will be moved to Lot 14. Part of Lot 14 will disappear.

#### **ii. MUB Space Reallocation meeting**

1. Melissa Roberts and Sean Gohman agreed to attend the MUB Space Reallocation meeting.

#### **iii. Outstanding Graduate Mentor/Recognition Awards**

1. Jill Witt asked the Council if it should continue to host these awards. The Council discussed combining these awards with the undergraduate student awards. The Academic and Public Relations committees will investigate this further.

### **b. VICE PRESIDENT – HEATHER JORDAN**

- i. No report

### **c. TREASURER – WARREN POWERS**

#### **i. Discretionary Funds expenditures**

1. Warren Powers apprised the Council that \$2,184.15 of discretionary funds have been spent.

### **d. SECRETARY – CARRIE ANDREW**

**i. Public Relations and Elections Committees**

1. Council members were allowed to switch committee memberships.

**V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a. ACADEMIC – ØYSTEIN THORSEN**

**i. Symposium**

1. The Symposium for 2009 was originally going to be held in the MUB ballroom. The only dates open for rental were the Thursday and Friday prior to Spring Break. The Council recommended switching the venue to the Rosza Center.

**b. SOCIAL – GANESH SUKUMAR**

- i. No report

**c. LECTURE – SUSAN BALINT**

**i. Lunch-n-Learn**

1. A Lunch-n-Learn will be held Friday. No RSVP is necessary.

**d. PUBLIC RELATIONS – RANDY HARRISON**

**i. GSC Website**

1. Randy Harrison requested comments about the new website, as well as photographs.

**e. STUDENT ISSUES – DAVID FRITZ**

- i. No report

**f. ORIENTATION – ANISH CHANDWANI**

**i. Orientation Social**

1. The Council decided on hosting a social for new spring 2009 graduate students at Nutini's in Hancock. The logistics behind a larger social event, such as a snowshow/ski or bowling event, were too complicated.

**g. ELECTIONS – JASPREET NAYYAR**

- i. No report

**VI. LIAISONS / Ad Hoc COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a. GRADUATE STUDENT NEEDS COMMITTEE – MELISSA ROBERTS**

- i. No report

**b. INTEGRITY, DIVERSITY AND JUSTICE DISCUSSION GROUP – RANDY HARRISON**

- i. No report

**c. MEMORIAL UNION BUILDING BOARD – SEAN GOHMAN & MELISSA ROBERTS**

- i. No report

**d. UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT – STEPHANIE GROVES, CARA HANSON**

- i. No report

**e. SENATE – ANNA PEREIRA**

- i. No report

**f. STUDENT COMMISSION – DAVID FRITZ – VIA RANDY HARRISON**

i. The Student Commission is formalizing language for an ethics statement, the Proposed Values Statement, that undergraduate students will be asked to sign. The Council questioned whether graduate students will be required to sign the statement.

- g. **CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS FORUM PLANNING COMMITTEE – ALEX JOSEPH VARGHESE**
  - i. No report
- h. **STUDENT APARTMENT HOUSING – BEN DEPEW & APARUPA SENGUPTA**
  - i. No report
- i. **DISCRETIONARY/SURPLUS FUNDS COMMITTEE – FREDLINE ILORME**
  - i. Three goals were established: (a) establish the difference between discretionary and surplus funds and make this definition clear (b) decide the manner that the two funds should be used in the future, including how to request funds from each (c) change the bylaws to reflect this.
  - ii. Ilorme will deliver this information to the Council no later than the last spring 2009 meeting. Council members asked for the information more quickly.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **MICHIGAN GRADUATE STUDENT SUMMIT**
  - i. Jill Witt will no longer attend the Summit.
  - ii. Randy Harrison and Jaspreet Nayyar submitted a funds request for \$1016 to travel to and attend the Michigan Graduate Student Summit.
  - iii. Melissa Roberts made a motion to give \$1016 to Harrison and Nayyar for travel and lodging expense. This was seconded by Susan Balint.
  - vi. The motion **PASSED** with 25 in favor, 0 opposed and 0 abstentions.

## **I. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **NONE**

## **VIII. DISCUSSION**

- a. **NONE**

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:08pm Randy Harrison made a motion to adjourn, this was seconded by Heather Jordan and all were in favor.

**X. ATTENDANCE**

Academic Unit (# reps. required)	Voting Representative	Committee	January 26, 2009		
			Present	Excused	Absent
For. Res./Env. Sci.	Jill Witt	President	P		
Humanities	Heather Jordan	Vice President	P		
Computer Science	Warren Powers	Treasurer	P		
For. Res./Env. Sci.	Carrie Andrew	Secretary	P		
Computer Science	Oystein Thorsen	Chair: Academic	P		
ME-EM	Ganesh Sukumar	Chair: Social	P		
Social Sciences	Susan Balint	Chair: Lecture	P		
Humanities	Randy Harrison	Chair: Public Relations	P		
ME-EM	David Fritz	Chair: Student Issues	P		
Elec./Comp. Eng.	Anish Chandwani	Chair: Orientation	P		
Elec./Comp.Eng.	Jaspreet Nayyar	Chair: Elections	P		
Biology (1)	Stephanie Groves	Lecture	P		
Biomedical Eng. (1)	Melissa Roberts	Academic	P		
Bus. & Econ. (1)	Alicia Creed	Orientation		E	
Chemical Eng. (1)	Travis Hansen	Social	P		
Chemistry (1)	Louis Pignotti	Student Issues	P		
Civil & Env. Eng. (3)	Baron Colbert	Student Issues	P		
Civil & Env. Eng. (3)	Fredline Ilorme	Orientation	P		
Civil & Env. Eng. (3)	Kristen Roth	Undeclared			
Computer Science (1)	Benjamin DePew	Lecture, Public Relations	P		
Elec./Comp. Eng. (4)	OPEN	Undeclared			
Elec./Comp. Eng. (4)	OPEN	Undeclared			
Elec./Comp. Eng. (4)	Alex Joseph Varghese	Orientation		E	
Elec./Comp. Eng. (4)	Kumar Vanga	Orientation	P		
For. Res./Env. Sci. (2)	Aparupa Sengupta	Academic	P		
For. Res./Env. Sci. (2)	Michelle Freeman	Social	P		
Geo. & Min. Eng. (1)	Miriam Rios	Academic		E	
Humanities (2)	Russ Johnson	Social	P		
Humanities (2)	Mariana Mueller	Lecture	P		
Mat. Sci. & Eng. (1)	Lakshmi Krishna	Student Issues		E	
Math (1)	OPEN	Undeclared			
ME-EM (5)	OPEN	Undeclared			
ME-EM (5)	Anahita Pakzad	Lecture	P		
ME-EM (5)	Anna Pereira	Student Issues	P		
ME-EM (5)	Jorge Kurita	Student Issues	P		
ME-EM (5)	OPEN	Undeclared			
Physics (1)	Partha Pal	Social	P		
Social Sciences (1)	Sean Gohman	Lecture	P		

**VISITORS and GRAD STUDENTS AT LARGE**

Academic Unit	Name	Committee	Attendance
Civil & Env. Eng.	Paul Pawelzik		p