

# Meeting Minutes of the Michigan Technological University Graduate Student Council

15 June 2009 Meeting

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## Synopsis:

### The Graduate Student Council:

- 1) Approved the 2009/2010 Annual Budget.
  - 2) Tabled a vote on a Student Activities Funds request made by Rachel Wussow.
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## I. Call to Order

President Randal Sean Harrison called the Graduate Student Council (GSC) meeting to order at 5:03pm on Monday, June 15 2009.

## II. Modification and Approval of Agenda

Fredline Ilorme made a motion to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Jaspreet Nayyar. The approval of the agenda **PASSED** with all in favor.

## III. Approval of Minutes from Monday, May 18 2009

David Fritz made a motion to approve the minutes from May 18 2009. This was seconded by Benjamin DePew. The minutes were **PASSED** with all in favor.

## IV. Old Business

## V. Officer Reports

### A) **President:** Randal Sean Harrison

1. According to the administration, the university will be moving to radically increase the ratio of graduate students in the next decade.
  - a) Randy provided a link to a copy of the student satisfaction survey online. The written comments were omitted for anonymity's sake, but the dean mentioned several clear trends:
    1. Most people responded unfavorably to the ETF .
    2. A Request for less cross-listed courses (more graduate-specific courses).
    3. Students felt there was a lack of peer-mentoring and strong faculty advising
    4. Weather was a big deterrent for incoming graduate stude
2. Experience Tech Fee committee.
  - a) Randy appointed David Fritz to head the ETF exploratory committee and tasked him with appointing an additional student.
  - b) Discussion concerning the Experience Tech Fee.
    1. Ganesh S.- You can use the experience tech fee even if you don't pay because they just check to see if you are an active student.
    2. Jaspreet N.- Several times we (GSC) have said we don't approve of the fee.

3. Fredline I.- We should continue to discuss the fee.
4. Guest- Why is the fee not optional for grads?
5. Randy H.- The fee only works if all pay.
6. Ben D.- If optional, they don't know their budget.
7. Guest- Grads should be allowed to select a "package" of events we would use and only pay that portion of the fee.

**B) Vice President:** David Fritz

1. As GSC we want to become more of our own government. Currently USG gets all of our student activity fee money and gives us half of it back. We should get all of the money and give them half of it.
2. MTU is searching for a new provost.

**C) Treasurer:** Warren Powers

1. The only budget changes since last meeting was money for pizza.

**D) Secretary:** Sean Gohman

1. Excused absence. No Report.

**VI. Committee Reports**

A) **Academic:** Anna Pereira- Excused absence. No report.

B) **Social:** Anish Chandwani- Excused absence. No report.

C) **Public Relations:** Marianna Mueller- No report.

**VII. New Business**

A) 2009/2010 GSC annual budget.

1. Warren Powers presented the proposed budget.
  - a) Jaspreet Nayyar moved to approve the budget, David Fritz seconded. Budget **PASSED**. The vote was a nearly unanimous voice vote with one vote in the negative.
  - b) Quorum was met with 16 voting representatives.

B) Katie Snyder-Marr accepted the appointment to liaise with the Gender and Diversity Group.

C) Mariana Mueller accepted the Student Conduct Board appointment.

**VIII. Discussion Items**

A) Discussion and voting on The Student Activities Funds Request was postponed until the next meeting. Warren will meet with Rachel Wussow to discuss her presentation. General feeling was that the request was problematic, since:

1. It is for an event during Welcome Week, which is primarily an undergraduate event.
2. It requests funding from GSC from more than half the proposed amount of the event.
3. It comes from a University department/organization and was not submitted by a student or student organization.

B) Upcoming meeting with Library Director.

1. Richard Basary, Paul Pawelzik, Marianna Mueller, and Randy Harrison will meet with the Library Director Candidate for ½ hour when s/he visits campus.
  - a) Before the meeting, this group will meet or communicate by email and come up with a list of important considerations to hand to the prospective candidate.

C) Warren Powers announced the discovery of the traveling Softball Trophy and will pass this

to representative from E.E. (Kumar) for the remainder of the softball season.

1. Randy Harrison argued for the importance of a second trophy for the tier 2 teams. A second trophy for the second tier teams would mean increasing involvement and community spirit by recognizing the hard work of the other teams—the ones other than the same small group of teams who always win the currently single trophy every year.

D) Possible new office space.

1. Jaspreet N.- What about the new office space?
2. Randy H.- Still a 90% chance we will get it.
3. Jacque S.- Heard the same thing.
4. Ben D.- Who else is up for the space?
5. Marriana M.- Heard that the marketing department also wants the space.

## **IX. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 5:56pm.



