

GPSA Minutes 09/22/16

The Graduate-Professional Student Organization met on September 22, 2016 in room 275 of the Miller Learning Center. At 6:30 the meeting was called to order by Vice President Ashley Fallaize. In attendance were 36 graduate and professional students representing at least 10 of UGA's 17 schools and colleges.

- I. A memorial address was read for Ashley Block, followed by a moment of silence
- II. Consideration of Agenda
 - a. Michael Snell moved to approve the meeting agenda, seconded by Johnita Daniel.
- III. Consideration of August 8, 2016 minutes
 - a. Johnita Daniel moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Jackie.
- IV. IRIS Report from Ashley Fallaize
 - a. Call for submissions were reviewed. Reflecting shifting goals, STEM researchers will be especially targeted. Two submission styles (paper and session) will be accepted. A goal was set to double attendance over last year. IRIS Portal submissions will be submitted online.
 - b. A call for volunteers was issued and interested students were asked to stay after the meeting for an organizing session.
- V. President's address reminder. All graduate students are invited and encouraged to attend.
- VI. University Council Report from Ashley Fallaize
 - a. Summary of debate on the 2017 academic calendar. Valuing the importance of summer internships to undergraduate students, GPSA supported changing the Thursday start to Monday.
- VII. Old Business
 - a. Resolution 2016-1-1 To Dissolve and Reform the GSA Constitution.
 - i. Discussion began with Michael Snell, emphasizing the importance of a constitution that not only describes a group that serves students, but which describes the process by which this is accomplished.
 - ii. Dalton Cobra moved to pass the resolution, seconded by Leigh Ann Fall, and passed by voice vote.
 - iii. A Constitution Committee was called to volunteer after the meeting.
- VIII. New Business
 - a. Football Ticketing

- i. Jacob Hoyle, representing the College of Agriculture, discussed the SGA legislation proposing that graduate students be considered last when requesting tickets to UGA football games.
 - ii. Jacob Hoyle, Ashley Fallaize, and Micah Miles agreed to conduct research to determine the extent to which the SGA proposed ticketing system would revoke Graduate Student football ticket privileges.
 - b. Summer Student Fees
 - i. Christine Leer, representing Warnell, discussed the summer student fees direct payment, which can draw multiple times per month, and the payment plan which charges a fee. Discussion was tabled pending research.
 - c. Health Center Payment Plans
 - i. Christine Leer described the current system which requires negotiating with receptionists to arrange payment plans.
 - ii. Michael Snell discussed a resolution exploration to draft an insurance policy statement to be submitted to the Board of Regents in October. Discussion was tabled until the conclusion of the exploration.
 - d. Travel Funding
 - i. Delaram Yazdarsepas, representing Computer Science, discussed the shortage of travel funding within the Department of Computer Science. CS students rely more heavily on presenting work than publishing, and that is not reflected in distribution of travel funding through the university.
 - ii. Micah Miles, representing GAPS, offered that GAPS partly considers its mission to fund travel, and suggested that students apply. GAPS fundraising was promoted.
 - iii. Michael Snell marked progress with the removal of the 12-hour minimum course hours for PhD students applying for the funding, and agreed to bring up the special demand on applied research fields to Graduate Council.
- IX. Promotions
 - a. Betsy Newman, representing Linguistics, promoted the Linguistics Conference at UGA October 7-9, 2017.
 - b. Rachel Martini, representing GRADS: In Coordination with Women in Science, promoted a series of professional development events taking place on October 19, 25, and November 10, 2016.
- X. The Meeting was Adjourned at 7:38 PM.