

Graduate Student Council
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 9, 2013
4:30 pm, Otero Room

- I. **Call to order / Welcome**
- II. **Secretary's Report / Approval of Minutes**
- III. **Treasurer's Report**
 - A. All of the funds have been allocated. Remember you can apply retroactively in the Fall semester of 2013.
- IV. **ASNMSU Graduate Senator's Report**
 - A. Collin: ASNMSU has operated within their budget. They will be going over, but does have the endowment to work with. ASNMSU is expecting to get \$56 thousand next year. Email [Collin](#) if you have any legislation that you *really* need to be passed.
 - B. Jessica Lail: She will not be accepting the Graduate Student Senator position – someone will need to be appointed.
- V. **Guest Speakers** – Associate Provost Menking of International & Border Programs
 - A. His task is to achieve comprehensive internationalization. He works closely with faculty and their departments to bring in international students and help NMSU students travel abroad. He mentioned that “Study Abroad” has now changed to “Education Abroad.” The Office International Student Scholar Services is responsible for taking care of all international students. They really want to integrate domestic and international students.
- VI. **Elections**
 - A. Nominations for positions, Elections will be held April 30. We have a formal candidate for the President position: Romina Pacheco; one candidate for Vice President: Jessica Lail; no candidate formally announced for Secretary; one candidate for Treasurer: Jean McKeever; no candidate for Activities Director/GRAS Chair. No nominations were made in this meeting.
- VII. **Graduate Education External Review Response**
 - A. NMSU President finalists: <http://www.nmsu.edu/pressearch/finalists.html>
 - B. We think it is important for graduate students to be a part of this process. A draft of questions for the Presidential Finalists has been created. We would like feedback from students on these questions.
 - i. One graduate student would really like to emphasize a question about NMSU's Strategic Plan/Goals as a priority relative to the other questions. Another student suggested that this questions should be tied to a question on Developing University Leadership.

- ii. After taking a vote, GSC will be taking these questions as an organization to the finalists.

VIII. Graduate Funding Survey Update

- A. So far there have only been 98 responses. In order for administration to take them seriously, we need at least 200 more. Please make sure to fill out the survey and remind other graduate students to do so! The link will be sent out through various channels to make sure we have higher response.

IX. Announcements & Updates

- A. GSC will present at upcoming annual graduate faculty meeting
- B. NMSU is working on going tobacco free and NMSU will be creating committee to discuss this. The legislature passed this, but before the policy happens, forums and discussions will occur. [Here](#) is an article from the Round Up on this topic.
- C. NMSU will soon be mandated to offer health insurance to all full time employees and dependents – Graduate assistants will not be allowed to work over 30 hours per week.
- D. Understanding the Affordable Care Act – Annual Healthcare Symposium: Wednesday, May 1, 8:00AM-2:00PM in the Las Cruces Convention Center.
- E. Bookstore Innovation Committee – Thursday April 11, 9:00AM-10:30AM in Corbett Center, Rio Grande Room #228.
- F. Last First Monday will be May 6
- G. Dean Lacey will be retiring in June
- H. Next meeting: April 30, Doña Ana Room
 - i. GSC Elections will be held

X. Open Forum

XI. Adjournment

