

**Graduate Student Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, January 22, 2013**  
**4:30 pm, Doña Ana Room**

- 1. Call to order / Welcome**
- 2. Secretary's Report / Approval of Minutes**
- 3. Treasurer's Report**
  - a. We have \$12 thousand to spend. If you did a conference during the break we just had or since school started, you have until the next GSC meeting (the very latest *at* the GSC meeting) to turn in applications without having a late fee.
- 4. Guest Speakers**
  - a. Lori McKee – Director of Health and Wellness: will discuss funding proposal for Graduate health and wellness fees
    - i. For the last 18 years, the Graduate Health and Wellness fee was \$15.50, since 1995. As of this year the fees are going to be increased in order to match the services being used. This fee gives us access to the health center, activity center, and natatorium for “free.”
    - ii. The Student Fee Review Board will ultimately decide on this but it is still important that the Board gets input from us. Today she would like feedback from us to see if graduate students prefer the first or the second proposal. Of the two proposals we chose the second (explained below). There were 24 graduate students in favor. One graduate student opposed.
- 5. GRAS Report (March 11 – 13<sup>th</sup>)**
  - a. Upcoming Volunteer Meeting
    - i. Next Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at 5pm Campus Activities Office.
  - b. All grads receiving GSC or Graduate School funding are required to present at GRAS
    - i. The proposal deadline is February 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have received funding through the graduate school and/or the GSC, you have to present at GRAS
    - ii. We encourage you to also reach out to students from other departments who are doing research on a similar topic

## **6. Graduate Senator's Report**

- a. [Jacob](#) would like feedback from all graduate students in order to represent us when speaking to the Student Fee Review Board. Don't hesitate to contact him.
- b. Talk to any of the graduate senators ASAP if you attended any conferences over the break before it is too late. Talk to your senators AS SOON as you know you are going on a trip. Graduate students are not required to go to the senate meeting, but they do ask that you attend the meeting the Thursday evening when your bill is going to be voted on, *only if you can*.

## **7. Old Business**

### **8. New Business**

- a. Vote to appoint new Vice President
  - i. There are not enough representatives present to have a vote; this is postponed until the next GSC meeting.
- b. External Review of Graduate Education at NMSU and Graduate School response
  - i. The [report](#) from those reviewers is now available. It can be found on the [GSC](#) website. Dean Lacey is putting together a response to this. Contact [Tia](#) if you are interested in making sure that something is really done about this.
- c. Committee to lobby for graduate student priorities during university presidential search
  - i. We will talk more about this on the next meeting.
- d. Committee to assess financial support of graduate conference travel at NMSU
  - i. Tia will be sending out more information on this. We will talk more about this at the next meeting. This is another way of telling the university how to improve the system.

## **9. Announcements**

- a. Pay delay for grad assistants has been eliminated

## **10. Open Forum**

## **11. Adjournment**

**Proposal Option #2** – A graduate level student enrolled in nine credits pays \$477.90 in

fees and an undergraduate level student enrolled in twelve credits pays \$637.20 in fees, for a difference of \$159.30. Given this is a mandatory fee, it is felt that student should pay 50% of the fee difference, \$79.65 ( $\$159.30 \times 50\%$ ). In order to minimize the financial impact of this fee increase, a four year phased-in approach is suggested. *\*In the event that undergraduate Wellness/Fitness fees increase, the graduate fee will increase automatically to the same rate changing the formula calculation.*

Year 1 (2013)- increase fee to \$47.50 [ $(\$79.65 - 15.50)/2 + 15.50 = 47.58$ ]

Year 2 (2014)- increase fee to \$79.65 [50% of fee difference between 9 and 12 credits]

Year 3 (2015)- increase fee to \$119.48[75% of fee difference]

Year 4 (2016)- increase fee to undergraduate rate \$159.30