



## General Meeting Minutes

2/23/2016

Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2016  
5:00 pm, O'Donnell Hall Room 111

1. Call to order
  - a. 5:09 pm
2. Secretary's Report
  - a. Minutes approved.
3. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Money is gone for travel funding.
  - b. If you did receive funding, after conference, go to Debbie Peel with original receipts to get refunded.
  - c. Working with Debbie Peel, to see if the money that was taken out of travel funding for the payment of GRAS.
  - d. Need to have GSO representation at the finance committee meeting.
  - e. Will have to try to change the by-laws to deal with the issues that we have had this semester, especially with the travel funding.
  - f. Suggest having those that are putting in requests for travel funding be present at the finance committee meeting.
4. VP of Activities' Report
  - a. A survey has been sent out concerning GRAS, so please respond.
  - b. We have had low attendance at GRAS in the past, so changing the general format.
    - i. Will be similar to Gradulicious, except that we will be having presentations and posters during the event.
    - ii. The presentations will be shorter talks, like an elevator talk.
    - iii. Short presentations that are more for a general audience, in a shorter style format.
    - iv. 3-4 hour event that is split up with food, talks, and posters, with gift card drawing at the end, where you must be present. A number of suggestions for the time to be given on talks, 10 min., 7 min., and 2-3 min.
    - v. Hoping that by changing the format we will get more exposure to the various disciplines at NMSU. This should be for the graduate students sharing with their peers.
    - vi. If you have any suggestions for GRAS please get in touch with Tara
5. Graduate Senator's Report



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- a. Packages for the Big Event registration will be available on March 1<sup>st</sup>, which will take place on April 9<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Resolution 18 has passed and been sent to university administration for their approval. Covers items such as health insurance, higher pay for grad students, etc.
  - c. Short on money, get your paperwork in ASAP. Budget for ASNMSU will need to be cut by \$200,000 for next year, due to a decline in enrollment.
  - d. Kevin Prieto running for vice president of ASNMSU. Getting signatures for getting on the ballot. Will be in the ASNMSU offices if you wish to talk to him.
6. Updates and Announcements
- a. None
7. Open Forum
- a. Question about why perform community service if there is no money for travel funding.
    - i. Response, unfortunately that is the way life is, there is no guarantee that you are going to get the funding. Unfortunately the budget is limited. Looking into how we can go about stretching the budget in the future, hopefully changes to the bylaws will help this situation.
    - ii. Do not go into the process believing that you will get funding, it is a possibility that you will get money, not a guarantee.
  - b. Money does not roll over. At the end of the year this money goes back to the university.
  - c. Last semester there was an attempt to try to get a cap put on the spending that would take place during the fall semester, so that there would be funding available during the spring semester. Many of the conferences that occur during the summer get money during the Fall semester.
  - d. A large number of conferences occur in November or during the thanksgiving break.
  - e. It would be nice if GSO presidents would send conference information to GSC so that we can start compiling that information. This would allow a better breakdown of the funding and planning in the future.
  - f. Need to change bylaws to better plan for these issues.
  - g. Need to try and get the advisor to add money into proposal for conference travel if this is going to be required.
8. Adjournment
- a. 6:06 pm