



## General Meeting Minutes

4/19/2016

Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
5:00 pm, O'Donnell Hall Room 133

1. Call to order
  - a. 5:07 pm
2. Secretary's Report
  - a. none
3. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Met with Dean Reyes, Rita, and others to simplify funding. Will meet again soon.
  - b. Looking to develop a one stop shop to receive funding, will be able to onto the graduate school website to fill 9out paperwork and upload documentation. When submit the documentation will bounce to the proper area for a number of places to be funded from. Then each entity can look at the submitted paperwork and tell that individual or group whatever paperwork is still required. Have not looked into the final details at this time, but all involved are in agreement that something needs to be done and all of those involved are very excited about this and will continue to work on it during the summer.
4. VP of Activities' Report
  - a. Tara will be sending out a survey to ask for your feedback on GRAS. There will be a \$25 gift certificate.
5. Graduate Senator's Report
  - a. Health insurance representative Standing Chair for ASNMSU Health Insurance
    - i. Mostly focused on international students this semester, companies making 82% profit from what they are charging. So asking why we had to purchase from the company that they did, find out that there were no guidelines set up for choosing the company. So over the summer will be looking to get a new company that does not have the same incredible profit margin, will be contacting different insurance companies and see what their bids are and if there is someone is more competitive. So if have comments or concerns please get in touch with your senators to find out who needs to be contacted for this issue.
    - ii. There will need to be two different plans one for international and one for domestic.
    - iii. Contact information; Ahmed De Alba Garza – [dahaka4593@gmail.com](mailto:dahaka4593@gmail.com) – 575-650-1180
  - b. Syrian refugee benefit dinner for a couple of hours this Friday
    - i. msalaz12@nmsu.edu

- c. Last senate meeting next week
  - d. Two graduate students will be nominated by GSC president that will represent graduate concerns in Santa Fe.
6. Updates and Announcements
- a. Bylaw Changes
    - i. Arryn Robbins talking about the proposed changes to the bylaws, to make it more in line with ASNMSU, will vote on changes at the next meeting.
    - ii. Covering the changes today.
      - 1. Remove the GSO disbursement system – is not used very often and GSO seem to get this money from other areas. This is so that the money could mainly stay for research.
      - 2. For the GSO's to apply for money the GSO's must have already had at least one representative participate in a finance committee meeting at least once during the semester. Must attend the meeting prior to putting in the funding bill.
      - 3. If you are an individual applying for funding, then you can use a finance meeting to count as your meeting attendance. The Treasurer and Vice President of GSC are required to be present at each meeting.
        - a. A question about consistency was brought up in that if the group is changing all the time then certain things will not be brought up, basically history of previous discussions and precedence. Some rebuttals are that if you have a more diverse group this will increase the checks and balances that should have been inherent with how the bylaws are written. The individuals getting funding are going to be spending more than the GSC can give them so this might not be an issue.
      - 4. If you are presenting or receiving professional training to receive your degree then you can get funding, otherwise you cannot get funding through the GSC.
      - 5. Will limit funding for an individual to \$400, up to \$200 per additional person. Up to \$1,000 for the total group cost.
        - a. Suggestion made to look at the average amount funded in the past for groups. If it is a big group, should they be able to get more money? There is a question about gender mix. If a male and female are traveling together, ASNMSU does not fund CO-ED rooms.
        - b. Cap is not being changed. Some feel that keeping the cap at \$1,000 is reasonable and equitable.

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- c. Point made that as the group increases the average cost per person decreases.
  - d. One of the problems is that groups take a lot more time to get the paperwork done.
  - e. May be able to set it up so that after a certain number of people could have it so that it would be an extra \$100 per person.
  - f. This would be spreading out the money more through the various groups.
  - g. GSC should not be the only place that you look for money.
  - h. Can always suspend the bylaws for a case by case basis by a full vote of the committee.
6. Applications are due by the first GSC meeting after travel or 2<sup>nd</sup> to last council meeting whichever comes first.
    - a. Does not change the fact that if you did travel over the break still need to get paperwork in by the second meeting of the semester following the travel.
  7. Reserve 65% of the funding for the fall semester of the year. Therefore, 35% of the money would be saved for the spring semester. Will follow academic schedule.
    - a. There was a question where if you apply in the fall for spring conference travel what happens. The funding committee could hold this bill until the spring.
    - b. Money does not roll over from year to year.
- b. Executive Committee Elections
    - i. Webmaster
      1. Sam Schonfeld – voted in
    - ii. Treasurer
      1. Swagotom Sarker – voted in
    - iii. Secretary
      1. Arryn Robbins – voted in
    - iv. VP of Activities
      1. Tara Young – voted in
    - v. Vice President
      1. Trevor Harris – voted in
    - vi. President
      1. Adam Amador – voted in
7. Open Forum
    - a. Resolution 18 will force the university to look elsewhere to look for cuts, other than at graduate students and their programs.



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8. Adjournment
  - a. 6:20 pm