

HGSA MEETING MINUTES
February 18, 2015
8:00AM to 9:00AM

Greg Atkins called the meeting to order 8:02 AM.

Members Present

Brian Stack, Greg Atkins, Jacob Wells, Joni Ford, and Sarah Schraeder.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Greg Atkins will step down from the Elections Committee. Jacob Wells offered to take his position. The Election Committee will send out nomination forms for 2015-2016 HGSA officer positions on March 2, 2015. The election for HGSA officer position will open on Wednesday March 11 at 8am and close on Friday, March 13 at 5pm. Results will be announced on Monday, March 16.

OFFICER REPORTS

GPSA Senators

GPSA voted at the last senate meeting, Tuesday, February 17, 2015 that the organization will now run senator elections for each department. This will require HGSA to change its by-laws for the 2015-2016 school year.

Brian Stack noted that GPSA will place the Old Bookie plans on the March 10-11 ballot. If graduate students chose to vote in support of repurposing the Old Bookie to a CUB-like and recreation center, a fee of no more than \$98 will be applied to student accounts beginning in the semester that the building opens for student use (potentially in the spring of 2017). If graduate students vote against the repurposing of the building, the fee will not be applied to graduate students. However, they would also be denied access to the building outside of food and coffee services, which must be open to all students according to university policies.

Stack presented on information offered by the Health Insurance Survey Task Force. Out of the graduate students on assistantships that responded (about 35%), it was noted that the current plan excludes allergy treatment, preventative and other dental care, sleep disorders, and trans-inclusive health coverages. The survey also showed that graduate students with spouses chose against placing them on the Graduate Student Health Insurance plan. The responders noted that 17% of these spouses are on Washington Apple Health (Medicaid).

The Wiley Exposition is this Friday, February 20, 2015 from 8-5pm in the CUB Jr. and Sr. Ballrooms. There are a variety of workshops available. Please see the following link for more information: http://studentinvolvement.orgsync.com/org/gpsa/Wiley_Research

GPSA is hosting a bowling night at Zeppos this Friday, February 20, 2015 from 6-8pm.

GPSA is considering creating the position of Director of Communications. A sitting District Representative would fill this position if it is approved at the next senate meeting. The creation of this position seeks to address the need of GPSA and graduate students to be presented in local media more regularly.

Colloquium Representative

Joni Ford has received multiple requests for colloquiums this semester. The HGSA officers decided to support a colloquium in March after Spring Break, where PhD students would be provided with the opportunity to present their research and practice for their dissertation defense, if applicable. Ford notes that the following students are interested: Mandy Link, Amir Selmanovic, and Katie Perry.

Reminder: The next colloquium is on February 26, 2015 from 11-12pm Wilson 333. Mary Stormo and Daniel Vickoren will present and answer questions on how to correctly submit your dissertation/thesis.

RCI Steering Committee Representative

Jacob Wells noted a discussion from the last RCI Steering Committee of potential changes to the Library Research Assignments (LRAs). The change would require students to have full bibliography by the second LRA instead of the fourth LRA.

Additionally, the committee discussed changes that will occur when the university moves away from Angel and towards the Blackboard module. All assignments would be submitted in drop boxes, as text boxes are not available on Blackboard.

Brian stack noted the issue of the presentation of questions in the LRAs. Jacob will bring this up at the next meeting to the Steering Committee.

Lastly, Wells noted that a variety of proposals for new issues for RCI are being submitted to the committee. Dr. Faunce recently presented on an issue he covers in his courses on “Global War on Drugs (Globalization).”

NEW BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION

Officers did not present on any new business.

The next HGSA meeting is scheduled for March 11 at 8:00 AM. The HGSA officers encourage all newly elected officers to attend this meeting. Members unable to attend this meeting will review the minutes and forward any questions to any present members if necessary.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 AM by Greg Atkins.