

GSC minutes from Sep 11th, 2006 Meeting

- I. Call to order: 5:05 pm
- II. Approval of Agenda: Approved
- III. Approval of minutes from Aug 28, 2006: Approved
- IV. Officer Reports:

- a. President - David Tobias

Resolutions on the a-c sections of the old business will be drafted and presented in the next meeting and therefore no discussion on the same will be held today.

- b. Vice- President - Nick Nanninga

Not present.

- c. Treasurer - Emily McCarthy

Presented the budget for months of June and July.

- d. Secretary - Rajalakshmi Krishna

Some of the departments are under represented in GSC. An e-mail will be sent out indicating the corresponding departments and the serving reps are requested to take initiative towards filling the vacant positions. In case of any difficulty in finding a rep, please consult the election chair.

V. Committee Reports

- a. Academic: Fall poster session - Niranjana

Posters will be on display on Friday Oct 13 at the Rosza center and judging will take place on Saturday Oct 14 from 11am-1pm. About 50-60 students are expected to participate in this event. There will be a training session for the alumni judges. Banquet after the poster session to be held at the president's house from 3-5 pm. Grad school will bear the Rosza center, banquet and refreshment expenses. GSC budgeted \$1200 towards the fall poster event out of which 70% percent will cover the rewards and the remaining amount will be utilized for media/publicity. A 3 minute presentation by the participants a week in advance may give some additional insight to the judges. About 3-4 e-mail reminders will be sent and an ad on tech lode will be published on October 9.

- b. Social - Brian Ott (Absent)

David suggested that Brian can plan on organizing a picnic/ barbecue/softball social. Daniell heights venue could be an option.

- c. Orientation

Julio R - Fall picnic, waterfall hike and Quincy mine tour organized as a part of GSC orientation was a success.

Aaron T - Kewenaw star cruise is scheduled to be on Sep 24. The cruise can accommodate 120 people and is free of cost for new graduate students. The regular fare is \$15.

d. Lecture -Laura Walz

i. SFI Poster session - Abstracts deadline extended to friday (Sep 15). Not many abstracts received so spread the word. Poster presenters are invited to attend the banquet following the poster session. People's choice cash award will be presented at the banquet.

Casey questioned as to how far can one extend the meaning of sustainability to which Dan replied that the SFI would welcome creative stretches.

ii. 9/13 'Lunch-n-Learn' - If interested to attend, send an e-mail to ll-walz@mtu.edu

e. Public relations -Katie Granlund

David noted that GSC allocates funds for PR(newsletter/publicity). Requested Katie to work on a news letter (fall edition).

Katie asked for input from the council regarding the newsletter.

f. Student Issues -Dan Adler

i. Finished compiling Graduate student footprints. A copy of the same will be sent out to the council and any feedbacks/suggestions are welcome.

ii. 8% hike in tuition and 25% hike in Engg and CS fee was reported this year. Efforts are on to investigate the reasons for the current hike in Engg and CS fee.

iii. Drew attention about the alleged missing pay check during the transition from summer to fall semester. Investigations are under way.

iv. Students commission is looking for a graduate student representative. Dr.Cook, VP for student affairs, leads the group and they address issues in ad-hoc fashion. This committee meets once a month.

VI. Liasons-

a. Grad Faculty Council (GFC) - Sep 5 meeting

David - GFC is an advisory body for the Dean of graduate school and addresses issues concerning graduate education and research programs. GFC is a subset of faculty having their terminal degrees and can teach graduate classes. Presently the subject of discussion is the proposal for a new PhD program in atmospheric sciences. Dr.Huntoon is the head of the GFC and David is serving as the secretary. If the proposal gets a nod from the GFC it will then go to the University senate.

Adam D- What is the time line for the proposal to get approved.

David T- Suggested talking to Dr. Raymond Shaw.

b. Sabbatical issue

Niranjan - some students have complained about faculty on sabbatical. They are left with no choice and hence faculty planning to go on sabbatical should inform the departments/graduate students well in advance and make the necessary arrangements.

Lakshmi K - New graduate students interested in working with a professor should indicate it in their statement of purpose or in any manner well in advance of their arrival. This would help the department to keep the students informed if the professor is on sabbatical or is planning on one. Suggested prompt update of course listings by the department.

VII. Old Business

a. Proposal to eliminate 9 credit/semester requirement for 'ABD' PhD's and equivalent MS students

Resolution being drafted. Will discuss next meeting.

b. Companion proposal to give pay rise to for 'ABD' PhD's and equivalent MS students

Resolution being drafted. Will discuss next meeting.

c. Offer letters: add 'total package' cost (include tuition, fees, health insurance) so offer seems more competitive

Resolution being drafted. Will discuss next meeting.

d.Request from Physical Education Dept. for Discretionary Funds- signage for new 'Disc Golf' course

David - Dennis Hagenbuch requested to approve \$560 to support the purchase of a sign for the disc golf course.

Julio R - asked for a demo of the game

Jim R - Plans are underway to redo the golf course in the near future, If so, will this be a useful investment?

David T - this sign is basically a laminated paper map and will be relatively easy to change if there was a change in disc course location.

Katie G - If GSC agrees on funding for the sign board then GSC should be credited for appropriately in the sign board.

Dan A - SDC fee should be utilized for this purpose.

Adam D - agrees with Dan.

Aaron T - Motion to table to ask Dennis H to give a report of the efforts taken to get funds for the disc golf course.

Katie G - Seconds the same.

Motion passed and will be discussed in the next meeting

e. Sept 28 Board of Control (BOC) meeting

i. Attempt to gain approval of the GSC Resolution 2006-12

David T - Include copies of bylaws and constitution in the bylaws deck. Open to any suggestions.

VII. New Business

a. Meeting time

Kris - Can meeting time be moved to 5:30 pm.

David T in consultation with the council decided to go with the current meeting time (5 pm).

b. Building access

David - Dr.Huntoon has arranged EERC, DOW and Dillman Grads (and Faculty) to have swipe card access to each of those buildings.

Raghav - Interconnects should be accessible to all the people sharing the same building.If this poses a security threat, then how do other universities handle this situation.

David - Asked Raghav to look into this matter.

IX. Discussion Items

Adam D will send out an e-mail for the kewenaw star cruise sign-up.

2. Track B class timing conflicts resulted in postponement of the next summer meeting time to 5:00 pm

X. Adjournment: 6:10 pm

Attendance

Lakshmi K, MSE
Madhana S, MSE
Jim R, SS
Emily M, GMES
Muatala M, GMES
Adam D, GMES
Gaurav K, EE
Niranjan L, MEEM
Dan A, MEEM
Julio R, MEEM
Aaron T, CEE
Lisa T, CEE
David T, CEE
Laura W, BME
Iman B, Buisness
Katie G, Buisness
Kris N, Biology
Kiran K, MEEM
Nathan C, HU
Casey R, HU
Raghav V, Phy
Warren P, CS
Excused

Tara E, SFRES
Oystein, CS

GSC minutes from Sep 25th, 2006 Meeting

- I. Call to order: 5:05 pm
- II. Approval of Agenda:
 - a. Addition of an item -MTU Sailing Club Discretionary Funds Request by Adam Durant in the New Business
 - b. Agenda approved as amended.
- III. Approval of minutes from Sep 11, 2006: Approved
- IV. Officer Reports:
 - a. President - David Tobias
 - i. Speakers please introduce yourself for proper minute taking.
 - b. Vice-President - Nick Nanninga
 - i. Wanting to get relieved of University senate liaison responsibilities. Willing candidates are welcome to take on this responsibility. The University senate meets every other wednesday. First meeting of the fall semester was held on Sep 13. New CIO Walt Milligan reported on the survey he conducted to identify the issues associated with IT on campus. One of the issues identified - lack of communication on campus.
 - c. Treasurer - Emily McCarthy
 - Excused absence.
 - d. Secretary - Rajalakshmi Krishna
 - i. Physics and EE departments are short of one rep each.
- V. Committee Reports
 - a. Academic: Fall poster session - Niranjan
 - i. Allocation of Reward money- 10 cash awards to be given out. The split is one overall best and 3 awards each for poster, presentation and CWS. Added that having many cash awards this time may create shortage of funds for Sigma-Xi and will have to request GSC for more funds.
 - ii. Center for Water and Society (CWS)- Dr. Alex Mayers, director CWS, has announced a competition for posters pertaining to water related studies as part of the Graduate Student Poster Session. The CWS will offer cash awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd best posters on the same. The CWS welcomes posters on water-related topics from any discipline, including engineering, the natural sciences, the social sciences, and the humanities.

David T - Welcomed the idea of co-sponsoring the GSC poster session with CWS.

Dr.Huntoon - Best overall award recipient can be given a travel grant to present the poster elsewhere.

Casey R - Insisted upon a condition that split the award money to \$175 cash and (remaining) travel grant.

Jill W - Forestry department poster session competition has 10 awards(2-\$500 and 8-\$100). Can GSC awards match with that?

David T - GSC does not have budget for this for the time being but is planing to take some positive steps in this direction.

Dr.Huntoon - Suggested the possibility of forestry joining the GSC poster session next time.

Madhana S - Departments should contribute so that we can give attractive prizes.

Casey R - Can Discretionary funds be used?

David T - They are meant for funding student groups but if we still have money left we can use it .

b. Social - Brian Ott

i.Requested input from the council on having a bar social or a family oriented social at D.H and also may be a softball pick up game at softball fields.

Katie G - Suggested on having a philanthropic event and then a social.

David T - Most of the GSC social activities are not tailored for people with family. So organizing an event at heights would be nice alternative. Also softball trophy can be presented at this social.

Iman B - Suggested on having a bonfire.

c. Orientation - Aaron and Julio

Aaron T - Kewenaw star cruise was a success with 106 students attending the event.

David T: Thanks to Aaron and Julio for organizing the orientation events successfully.

d. Lecture - Laura Walz

i. SFI Poster session - The event went on well and about 26 posters were presented.

ii. 10/5 'Lunch-n-Learn' - Lecture by Dr.Huntoon on poster presenting skills at the blue room. E-mails will be sent out soon. If interested in attending, send an e-mail to llwalz@mtu.edu

e. Public relations - Katie Granlund

i. Fall News letter: Requested David to include an article highlighting the accomplishments and outlook of GSC in the newsletter. Also articles from department reps and committee chairs will be highly appreciated.

Aaron T: Suggested to do an e-newsletter.

f. Student Issues - Dan Adler

i. Search Database- Few students have expressed concerns about the availability of personal information in the MTU search database. Working on to explore options to limit the amount of information.

ii. Talks are underway with the provost Dr.Reed about the issues concerning the cost of education and the percentage of grad students without funding on campus.

iv. Access to the building- Casey talked to DPS about the blanket building access and looks like DPS is not keen on it. Each building is under the responsibility of the the department that runs the building and if you have a legitimate reason to be on the building you can approach the department head for access.

v. Online booking of parking lots- Mutala reported that the online parking system is likely to be up by spring 2007 meanwhile commuter lots can be booked online. Plans of using an e-mail system to book parking lots are underway.

Laura W - Can the parking form be made available online?

Raghav V - Could this be integrated with student registration?

Muatala M - Will work on this and get back at the earliest.

VI. Liaisons

a. COE Dean search- David Tobias

i. Applications are being accepted. A process is set up to rank this applications and develop questionnaire for the applicants and their references.

b. USG - Dan Adler

A committee is looking into why ASMTU failed and are trying to propose the idea again.

VII. Old Business

a & b. Proposal to eliminate 9 credit/semester requirement for 'ABD' PhD's and equivalent MS students and Companion proposal to give pay rise to for 'ABD' PhD's and equivalent MS students .

i. President Tobias drafted the GSC Resolution No. 2006-2 to modify current Graduate Student tuition structure to allow 'ABD' PhD (and equivalent MS students) to waive the current '9 credit per semester' requirement to be considered full-time.

ii. Thanks to Dan A for help with drafting the resolution

iii.Dan A moved and Katie G seconded the motion to accept the GSC Resolution No. 2006-2 .

iv. The motion to approve resolution No. 2006-2 was passed unanimously on a voice vote.

c. Offer letters: add 'total package' cost (include tuition, fees, health insurance) so offer seems more competitive

- i. President Tobias drafted the GSC Resolution No. 2006-1 to add ‘total package’ cost in the offer letters.
 - ii. Thanks to Casey R for help with drafting the resolution.
 - iii. Adam D moved and Dan A seconded the motion to accept the GSC Resolution No. 2006-1 .
 - iv. The motion to approve resolution No. 2006-1 was passed unanimously on a voice vote.
- d. Request from Physical Education Dept. for Discretionary Funds- signage for new ‘Disc Golf’ course
 - Aaron T reported that the Physical Education department seems to be not in good terms with SDC and therefore approached GSC for funding the signage for new disc course. Also noted that the disc course was developed by the intramural sports.
 - Aaron T- Motion to fund half the amount requested by the Physical Education department for the signage.
 - Nick N -Seconds the motions.
 - Nathan C - We need to figure out how this will impact sailing club funding.
 - David T - Discretionary funds are meant for funding university groups and sailing club holds eligibility for the same.
 - Dan A - Physical Education department should approach SDC for funding and not the GSC. Funding for the signage would mean misallocation of resources.
 - Dan A- Motion to table this request indefinitely.
 - The motion fails (hand counts).
 - Motion made by Aaron T to fund half the amount fails.
- e. Sept 28 Board of Control (BOC) meeting
 - i. Proposed updates-David T presented the slides to the BOC on the talk to be given at their first meeting scheduled at 9 am on Sep 28 at the MUB ballroom. Talk will highlight the orientation events, Lecture series - lunch n learn and socials held.
 - ii. Everyone is welcome to attend the BOC meeting.

VII. New Business

- a. Request for GSC Discretionary Funds from MTU Sailing club (MTUSC)
 - MTU faculty advisers, Dr. James Hertel and Dr. Ralph Hodek, were present at the meeting to address questions pertaining to MTUSC. Sailing club serves more than just as an activity for Tech and can grow out as a racing club and foster constructive relationships with other schools. The club wishes to purchase three 420 sailing dinghies and have requested up to \$1362.20 from the GSC Discretionary funds .
 - Dan A- What kind of membership do students pay?
 - MTUSC: \$60 per semester and \$100 for annual membership.

Casey R - How many grad students are members of the sailing club as of now?
MTUSC - We got about total 15 members in the club which includes 2 grad students.

Raghav V - When was the sailing club established and what efforts are taken to advertise?

MTUSC - Feb/Mar 2006 and we had advertised at the k-day and will be soon sending out flyers in the campus.

Raghav V - Have you approached elsewhere for funds?

MTUSC - Parents Fund has committed \$4000 and USG has also been approached for \$2000.

Nick N - If your request gets approved will the boats have a MTU/GSC logo on them?

Adam D - We may have the logo on the life jackets.

b. Make a Difference Day (MADD)

MADD will be held on Oct 21. Make a Difference Day is a day where staff, faculty and students are encouraged to spend the day “making a difference”. Online registration will begin Friday, Oct 6. Katie will work on assembling a group for GSC.

IX. Discussion Items

i. Physical Education (PE) credit

Raghav V - PE courses are worth half credit . If we want to take a PE class instead of one research credit, we have to take two PE courses in a semester. Is there any provision for research credits to be split into half or is there any other wayout?

David T - Can Student Issues committee look into resolving this issue.

Dan A - Will work on it.

X. Adjournment: 6:25 pm

Attendance

Dr. Jacqueline Huntoon, Dean of Graduate School

Lakshmi K, MSE

Madhana S, MSE

Nick N, MSE

Jim R, SS

Muatala M, GMES

Adam D, GMES

Niranjan L, MEEM

Dan A, MEEM

Julio R, MEEM
Aaron T, CEE
Santosh G, CEE
David T, CEE
Laura W, BME
Iman B, Buisness
Katie G, Buisness
Kris N, Biology
Nathan C, HU
Casey R, HU
Raghav V, Phy
Warren P, CS
Jill W, SFRES
Tara E, SFRES
John F, Chemistry
Ming N, Chemistry
Brian O, Chem Eng

Excused

Oystein, CS
Emily M, GMES

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GSC minutes from Oct 9th, 2006 Meeting

I. Call to order: 5:07 pm

II. Approval of Agenda:

- a. Addition of a-f in Discussion Items.
- b. Agenda approved as amended.

III. Approval of minutes from Sep 25, 2006: Corrections by Casey Rudkin noted.

- a. Insisted on Pg 2 changed to suggested.
- b. One Grad student on sailing club.

IV. Officer Reports:

- a. President - David Tobias
 - i. Speakers please introduce yourself for proper minute taking.
 - ii. Sep 28 Board of Control (BOC) meeting - BOC approved the resolution passed last fall. This can be significant if USG tries to reiterate ASMTU. Could not deliver the 15 minute talk because of time constraints. Will do it in the next BOC meeting.
- b. Vice-President - Nick Nanninga
No report.
- c. Treasurer - Emily McCarthy
 - i. Presented the budget for September.
- d. Secretary - Rajalakshmi Krishna
No report.

V. Committee Reports

- a. Academic: Fall poster session - Niranjana Londhe
 - i. Received 50 abstracts for the Poster session which includes 5 abstracts for CWS poster competition. Soliciting proactive faculty from all the departments to volunteer as judges for the poster session. Judging will take place on Oct 14 from 1-3 pm in the MUB Peninsula room.

Raghav V - Are there any set guidelines for the judges of the poster session?
Niranjana L - Dr. Huntoon will brief the judges on the guidelines to rank the posters prior to the poster session.
- b. Social - Brian Ott
No report (absent).
- c. Orientation - Aaron Tice and Julio Rivera
No Report (absent).
- d. Lecture - Laura Walz

- i. 10/5 'Lunch-n-Learn' feedback - Lecture by Dr.Huntoon on poster presenting skills was well received.
 - ii. 11/16 'Lunch-n-Learn' - Lecture on Tricks & Tips for getting through the graduate school. E-mails will be sent out soon. If interested in attending, send an e-mail to llwalz@mtu.edu.
- e. Public relations - Katie Granlund
 - i. Fall News letter: Pleased to receive Adam D and Dan A articles for the newsletter. Requesting the department reps to contribute an article.
 - Casey R: What aspects are you looking for in the newsletter articles.
 - Katie G: Department news, like some student/professor getting an recognition/awards or anything that appeals the grad students are welcome.
 - David T: We need few more weeks to work on the article.
 - Raghav V: Inquired abt the submitted article. Was the number of words within limit?
 - Katie G: Working on it.
- f. Student Issues - Dan Adler
 - No report (excused absence).

VI. Liaisons

- a. COE Dean search - David Tobias
 - i. No updates as the committee did not meet this week.
- b. USG - Dan Adler
 - No report.
- c. GFC - David Tobias
 - i. Masters thesis committee - A proposal to reduce members in the committee from four to three. Reason - having four members in the committee is not an efficient use of faculty time.
 - ii. Electronic Testing Center - MTU is in the process of becoming an electronic test center for GRE and other electronic tests beginning next fall (tentatively).
 - iii. Last term fee waiver - Graduate students in their last term are eligible for a fee waiver. No graduate student will be eligible for this benefit more than once. If a graduate student extends the program to the next semester, then full tuition will be billed. Technically the due date to get paper work done is by monday of first week of classes. But the Grad school gives some grace period and accepts papers till friday.
 - Nick N - Does proposal passed last week correct this issue?
 - David T - Relaxing 9 credit policy is not in effect and has to be considered by GFC first. Dr.Huntoon wants to wait for the enrollment to increase, to take this issue to GFC.

VII. Old Business

- a Offer letters
 - i. Resolution made on offer letters was sent to GFC and Dr.Huntoon forwarded it to the dean's list .
- b. Sailing club fund request
 - David T - Motion to fund the amount of \$1362.20 to the sailing club.
 - Iman B - Seconds the motion.
 - Discussion
 - Adam D - MTUSC's 'A Day Out on the Water' was a success. Hoping to see more graduate student members in future.
 - Casey R - Discussed with home department about discretionary funds being used for the sailing club. There seemed to a general opposition to this idea and the common feeling was to use the discretionary funds for humanitarian/educational activities.
 - Jim R - Polled the home department and expressed the same view point as Casey.
 - Katie G - Interacted with 4-5 students from Business school and they seemed to be excited about the sailing club idea.
 - Raghav V - What kind of membership do students pay?
 - Adam D - \$60 per semester and \$100 for annual membership.
 - David T - Motion to fund the amount of \$1362.20 to the sailing club fails (hand counts-7/6, 4-abstentions).
 - Nick N - Motion to fund half the amount (\$681.10) requested by the sailing club.
 - Katie G - Seconds the motion.
 - Motion passes (hand counts-14/2, 1-abstention).

VII. New Business

- a. Make a Differece Day (MADD) involvement
 - Katie G - MADD is on Oct 21. Anyone interested can sign up for any one of the projects mentioned on the MADD website.
- b. Student Debate Team
 - David T - Soliciting grad students to put a team in Rock the Vote. Anybody interested can email Dan A (dpadler@mtu.edu).
- c. Physical Education(PE) credit
 - Raghav V- Talked to Dr. Huntoon about the half credit PE course issue and reported that the graduate school does not want to have any half credit courses. Dr.Huntoon will consult the graduate school to explore alternatives.
 - David T - Suggested a zero credit PE course for graduate students.
 - Nick N - Consult the Physical Education department for some input.
 - Raghav V - Will talk to the PE department and get back.

IX. Discussion Items

a. Roundtable on Diversity at Tech

Sponsored by the Educational Opportunity Diversity Corporate Advisory Board. The topic being "Diversity is a competitive edge for all students". David T and Muatala M represented GSC at the roundtable. Corporates like GM and Daimler Chrysler are keen on bringing more diversity in the work force. They are encouraging Michigan Tech to be more diverse.

b. Sex Signals

Will perform skits on issues relating to inappropriate behavior on campus. Pat Gotschalk, Director of Student Judicial Affairs, wants few graduate students to meet them before their performance to get an insight about the local culture. This event is on Oct 17 at 7 pm in Fisher 137. A soup and sandwich dinner will be served at 3 pm.

c. USA Today

They'll distribute free news papers on campus. Based on the response from the students, they may be willing to ship the papers to tech at a reduced cost.

d. Senior Grad Fest

There will be a stall in campus store on Oct 18 from 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm. Theme-Why should you go to graduate school at Michigan Tech. David T- Soliciting any rep/ reps to volunteer to man the table on Oct 18 from 4:30-6:00 pm.

e. Diversity, Integrity and Justice

Rob Bishop, Director of Student Judicial Affairs, will deliver a lecture on tue Oct 10 at Alumni Lounge Mub. Will address issues on diversity, integrity and Justice.

David T- Soliciting reps to attend the lecture.

Iman B- Will attend.

f. Fall Travel Grants

Deadline - Friday Oct 13 and draw will be held on monday Oct 16.

Adam D - Will an application without a confirmation letter be accepted?

David T - Applications without confirmation letters will not be accepted.

X. Adjournment: 5:55 pm

Attendance

Lakshmi K, MSE

Nick N, MSE

Jim R, SS

Muatala M, GMES

Adam D, GMES

Emily M, GMES
Niranjan L, MEEM
Rohit G, MEEM
Brandon D, MEEM
David T, CEE
Lisa T, CEE
Laura W, BME
Iman B, Business
Katie G, Business
Kris N, Biology
Casey R, HU
Raghav V, Phy
Warren P, CS
Tara E, SFRES
John F, Chemistry

Excused
Dan A, MEEM

GSC minutes from Nov 6th, 2006 Meeting

I. Call to order: 5:05 pm

II. Approval of Agenda:

- a. Addition of an item in the New Business by Casey Rudkin: Graduate student parking.
- b. Agenda approved as amended.

III. Approval of minutes from Oct 9, 2006: Approved

IV. Officer Reports:

- a. President - David Tobias
 - i. Participation of an invited speaker during GSC meetings. Marilyn M. Cooper, president MTU-AAUP, is the invited speaker for today. Speaker for the next meeting will be Chris Anderson from Education Opportunity.
 - ii. USG president Liz Heusden has plans to update the USG housing website, incorporating more detailed information on tenant rights. Students who have any grievances pertaining to the above mentioned issue are encouraged to take it to GSC/USG.
- b. Vice-President - Nick Nanninga
No report.
- c. Treasurer - Emily McCarthy
No report.
- d. Secretary - Rajalakshmi Krishna
 - i. Physics department is short of one rep.
 - ii. Two new reps - Senthil V(EE) and Sowmya S (Chem).

V. Invited Presentation

- a. Marilyn M. Cooper, President MTU-AAUP
MTU's tenured and tenure-track faculty have chosen the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) as their legal representatives. MTU's AAUP supports professional autonomy and academic freedom in the conduct of teaching and research. Believes that collective bargaining is sometimes the only recourse if to preserve long-standing traditions of tenure, academic freedom, and shared governance. One of primary reasons attributed to faculty retention is the pay scale. MTU's average faculty pay scale is low compared to the other benchmark universities. Encourages GSC's representation in MTU-AAUP.
Nick N - How will you give merit based pay increase?
Dr.Cooper - Every department sets their own criteria.
Madhana S - What are the sources for possible appropriations?
Dr.Cooper - Cutting down the salaries of administrative officials may help.

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Academic: Fall poster session - David T

- i. Checks for the winners are ready to be dispatched.
 - ii. The process of drafting the letters to be sent to advisers congratulating on their student's success is underway. The content of the letter will also include request for their participation as judges for the next poster session.
- b. Social - Brian Ott
 - i. Fall bar social is scheduled on Nov 11 at Keweenaw Brewing Company .
- c. Orientation
 - No Report
- d. Lecture - Laura Walz
 - i. Planning on the next Lunch-n-Learn session with JRVP library about services offered by them for study/ research .
- e. Public relations - Katie Granlund
 - i. Awaiting articles for the fall news letter.
- f. Student Issues - Dan Adler
 - i. Approximately 2/3 of University's expenses come from salaries and wages of faculty, staff, and graduate students.
 - ii. A little less than half of the University's revenues come from state appropriations, about half comes from tuition and fees.
 - iii. In past 7 years, tuition has increased on average approximately by 70%.
 - v. When advocating for increased student stipends or health insurance benefits, it's important to know the other players that are affected (undergrad students, unsupported grads, faculty and staff).

VII. Liaisons

- a. COE Dean search- David Tobias
 - Received 34 applications for the post of COE Dean. Shortlisted five applicants. Awaiting letters of recommendation from references. After which three candidates will be shortlisted. On campus interviews with the candidates scheduled for month of December.
 - Nick N - Will the current COE dean serve till the new dean takes over?
 - David T - Depends on the present dean's commitments for the coming year. An interim dean will be appointed in the event of unavailability of current dean.
- b. Provost search - Emily McCarthy
 - Six step ranking process is to be put in place for shortlisting the applications for the post of provost. Negotiating with the search forum.
- c. USG - Dan Adler
 - i. Voted down the resolution to go against Michigan Civil Rights Ballot Initiative (MCRI).
 - ii. USG is planning on changing their funding policy.
- d. Senate - Nick Nanninga

- i. Aims to increase the first year student retention.
- ii . Approved proposal for changes in non-tenure-track Instructor and Lecturer appointments.
- iii. Proposal for an Undergraduate certificate in International Sustainable Development Engineering.
- iv. Introduced proposal for Ph. D. Program in Atmospheric Sciences.
- v. Proposal for Departmental Name Change from Department of Fine Arts to Department of Visual and Performing Arts.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Travel Grant Application - David Tobias
 - i. Revised travel grant application form to be consistent with the GSC resolution No. 2005-5. 'Academic year' in the previous application form is now changed to 'Calendar year'.
 - Jim R - How many times a person is eligible for the travel grants?
 - David T - Once a calendar year.

IX. New Business

- a. Request for GSC Discretionary Funds from Peers Offering Wellness Education Resources (POWER)

Requesting \$400 for the financing of the Bigfoot Snowshoe event. The event will be held on Saturday, February 3, 2007 and will take place in the woods near the MTU Student Development Complex. Last year a total of 309 Michigan Tech students (74-graduate students) and community members took part in the event.
- b. Graduate Student Parking - Casey Rudkin

Standing in long line to purchase parking permit is very inconvenient and time consuming. Some other process/eligibility criteria would be a better alternative.

Katie G - Issuing online parking permit will create additional logistic problems.

X. Discussion Items

- i. Student registration
 - Casey R - Can grad school send reminders about the registration dates?
 - David T - Will check with the graduate school.

XI. Adjournment: 6:10 pm

Attendance

Dr. Marilyn M. Cooper, MTU-AAUP, Professor of Humanities
 Lakshmi K, MSE
 Madhana S, MSE

Nick N, MSE
Jim R, SS
Adam D, GMES
Dan A, MEEM
Brandon D, MEEM
Abigail C, MEEM
Rohit G, MEEM
Julio R, MEEM
Santosh G, CEE
David T, CEE
Laura W, BME
Katie G, Business
Casey R, HU
Raghav V, Phy
Warren P, CS
Jill W, SFRES
Tara E, SFRES
Soumya S, Chemistry
Brian O, Chem Eng
Chris C, Chem Eng

Excused

Niranjan L, MEEM
Aaron T, CEE
Abishek T, MEEM

GSC minutes from Nov 27th, 2006 Meeting

I. Call to order: 5:07 pm

II. Approval of Agenda: Approved.

III. Approval of minutes from Nov 6, 2006: Approved

IV. Officer Reports:

a. President - David Tobias

i. Health care - Dr. Huntoon plans to study the health care facilities offered at Finlandia University to explore any scope for partnership.

b. Vice-President - Nick Nanninga

No report (Excused absence).

c. Treasurer - Emily McCarthy

Presented budget for the months of Sep and Oct.

d. Secretary - Rajalakshmi Krishna

i. Last meeting for the fall semester is on Dec 11.

ii. Tentative spring meeting schedules will be sent out before the next meeting.

V. Invited Presentation

a. Chris Anderson, Executive Director of Educational Opportunity.

The department of Educational Opportunity provides Outreach&Multi-Ethnic and Special Academic programs (Summer youth, Conferences&Institutes).

The main focus of the outreach program is to groom the youth. They are encouraged to visit the campus. Research shows that youth program participants are more likely to be incoming freshmen. Summer youth program (SYP) is currently in its 35th year. SYP aims to introduce youth to challenging careers. The division of Conferences&Institutes helps coordinate workshops, seminars etc. A climate survey was also initiated to gain an understanding of how students, faculty and staff perceive and experience their life at Michigan Tech. The 2006 preliminary climate survey results are available online at www.climatestudy.mtu.edu.

David T - Can GSC work with Educational Opportunity to invite speakers to MTU?

Chris A - We encourage speakers from minority class/women/ working in a diversity related area and can offer financial assistance.

VI. Committee Reports

a. Academic: Fall poster session - David T

i. Checks for the winners are dispatched.

ii. The planning for next poster session is underway. There is a proposal to move the poster session event from family weekend to the career fair week.

b. Social - Brian Ott

i. Fall bar social at Keweenaw Brewing Company was well received.

ii. Next social will be held in Jan. Possible activities for the social are skiing/curling.

- c. Orientation
 - No Report
- d. Lecture - Laura Walz
 - i. Lunch-n-Learn session on surviving the grad school was well attended .
- e. Public relations - Katie Granlund
 - i. Deadline for submission of articles for fall newsletter is Nov 30.
- f. Student Issues
 - i. Student Issues chair Dan Adler offered his resignation, citing hectic workload as reason.
 - ii. Casey Rudkin nominated to take over as Student Issues chair and was elected unanimously.

VII. Liaisons

- a. COE Dean search- David Tobias
 - On campus interviews with the short-listed candidates scheduled early next year.
- b. Provost search - Emily McCarthy
 - Hired a search firm. The application deadline is set to Feb 1st 2007.
- c. USG - Dan Adler
 - i. Planning on hosting an online teacher evaluation.
 - ii. Proposal to regulate after 5pm parking. Permit mandatory.
 - iii. Student commission conducted a student satisfaction survey and parking was identified as one of the issues. They also are working on a fee structure which enables students to get a blanket access to events on campus and skiing etc.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Request for GSC Discretionary Funds from Peers Offering Wellness Education Resources (POWER).
 - i. Kartikeya Srivastava, POWER representative, was at the meeting to address questions of the council regarding the requested funds. POWER requested \$ 400 towards the Big Snowshoe event. They have presented a surplus budget of \$2800. The council was hesitant to approve the requested funds because of the excess revenue mentioned. POWER has also approached IRHC, Tech parents fund for funds but not yet heard from them.
 - Madhana S - How many have pledged?
 - Kartikeya S - None as of now.
 - Tara E - When do you expect to hear from other groups?
 - Kartikeya S - By mid December.
 - Katie G - Does POWER ever plan to be self sufficient in hosting the snowshoe event?

Kartikeya S - It is unlikely because POWER does not get any support from USG and all the money received from donations goes toward procuring snow shoes and awarding prizes.

Adam D - Since POWER has chances of getting more money than budgeted for the event, GSC should only contribute if POWER does not get funds from others.

Brian O - Made a motion to fund POWER contingent to the condition that contribution from other sources do not make up the required amount. President Tobias will sanction funds after the necessary appropriations.

Adam D - Seconds the motion.

The motion passed unanimously by a hand vote.

IX. New Business

a. CSSA Discretionary Funds request

Requesting \$500 for Chinese festival to be held on February 18, 2007. There was a concern in the council regarding approving funds to groups which have student fee support. Voting will be take place at next meeting.

b. By-Laws revision

Voting on the revised By-Laws will take place at the next meeting.

X. Discussion Items

i. Meeting length - Casey R expressed her concern about meeting length. Inviting speakers for the meeting is increasing the meeting time and requested for alternatives.

Katie G - Inviting speakers is a good idea provided the speaker adheres to the 15 minute time slot.

Casey R - Suggested having speakers on alternate Mondays.

XI. Adjournment: 6:08 pm

Attendance

Dr. Jacqueline Huntoon, Dean of the Graduate School
Chris Anderson, Executive Director of Educational Opportunity
Kartikeya Srivastava, POWER representative
Lakshmi K, MSE
Madhana S, MSE
Jim R, SS
Adam D, GMES
Muatala M, GMES
Emily M, GMES
Dan A, MEEM

Brandon D, MEEM
Abigail C, MEEM
Radheshyam T, MEEM
Santosh G, CEE
Lisa T, CEE
David T, CEE
Laura W, BME
Katie G, Business
Iman B, Business
Casey R, HU
Raghav V, Phy
Warren P, CS
Jill W, SFRES
Kris N, Bio
Nathan C, Humanities
Brian O, Chem Eng

Excused

Niranjan L, MEEM
Nick N, CEE
Julio R, MEEM

L^AT_EX document

GSC minutes from Dec 11th, 2006 Meeting

I. Call to order: 5:05 pm

II. Approval of Agenda:

- a. Addition of an item in New Business - Senate Calendar modifications.
- b. Agenda approved as amended.

III. Approval of minutes from Nov 27, 2006: Approved

IV. Officer Reports:

- a. President - David Tobias
 - i. Health care - Finlandia University has only basic health insurance coverage plan. Indeed they are looking forward to have synergism with Michigan Tech.
 - ii. Annual health insurance bidding has started.
- b. Vice-President - Nick Nanninga
No report.
- c. Treasurer - Emily McCarthy
No report.
- d. Secretary - Rajalakshmi Krishna
No report.

V. Invited Presentation

- a. Nancy Byers Sprague, Assistant to the Dean of the Graduate School .
Soliciting feedback on the above mentioned proposed changes to tracking forms(M/D forms).
 - i. Proposal to change D3 “Preliminary Degree Schedule” to a planning document which would not be submitted to the Graduate school office.
 - ii. Eliminate need for the entire committee (excluding advisor and department chair) to sign D5 “Final Degree Schedule” .
 - iii. Eliminate need for entire committee(excluding advisor and department chair) to sign D7 Scheduling of “Final Oral Exam”. Also, eliminate need to submit draft of entire dissertation to Graduate school.
- Niranjan L - Are we responsible for D4 forms?
Nancy S - Department graduate secretaries are incharge of the D4 forms.
Raghav V - Will eliminating the entire committee to sign on the D7 form lead to any confusion?
Nancy S - Students are responsible to check if the committee is available before scheduling the oral defense and that can be done without the D7 form too.

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Academic: Niranjan Londhe
No report.
- b. Social - Brian Ott
No report.
- c. Orientation

President Tobias is asking Social committee to plan on providing some refreshments for the upcoming spring orientation.

- d. Lecture - Laura Walz
 - i. Hans Kishel, Coordinator of Library Instruction, will talk about the services library has to offer to graduate students and potential faculty (like ILL, Husky fetch etc.). There will be two one hour sessions in the spring semester. Mr. Kishel would also like to conduct mini session on some topics like using endnote etc. If you have any suggestion for mini session please e-mail llwalz@mtu.edu.
- e. Public relations - Katie Granlund
 - i. Fall newsletter is ready and will be sent out to the council soon.
- f. Student Issues - Casey Rudkin
 - Excused absence.

VII. Liaisons

- a. COE Dean search- David Tobias
 - On campus interviews with the short-listed candidates scheduled for last two weeks of Jan and first two weeks of Feb'07. The candidates will be on campus for two days, meeting with the department on the first day and participating in an open forum on the second day.
- b. Provost search - Emily McCarthy
 - No Report.
- c. USG - David Tobias
 - President Tobias will attend the USG meeting till someone volunteers to be a USG liaison.
- d. Faculty Senate - Nick Nanninga
 - i. PhD program in Atmospheric Science approved.
 - ii. Department Name change for the former Fine Arts Department.
 - iii. Proposal to move the mid-term grade due date to week 6 instead of week 7.
 - iv. Proposal to strictly adhere to scheduling of evening exam in the 6-7 time slot.
 - v. Proposal for a BS in Health and Physical Education Major.
- e. Career Centre - Kiran Khadke
 - i. Lay emphasis on career advising.
 - ii. Set up a virtual interview with computer for the students to get some practice.
 - iii. USG is proposing to relax few hours on career fair day and to compensate for the hours by moving the k-day to saturday from friday.
 - iv. Tied up with h1visajobs.com to provide company contacts for thousands of American firms, all over the US, in all disciplines that actually offered H-1B jobs to international professionals.

VIII. Old Business

a. CSSA Discretionary Funds request.

There was a concern in the council that if we fund such student bodies (which have USG support) then we may have to solicit requests from other student bodies. This may eventually end up us serving as a funding agent every year. Also, council members were of the feeling that the event is mostly in Chinese language. Since there was no representative from CSSA to address the concerns of the committee, an invitation will be sent out to CSSA.

Nick N - Motion to table the issue to the next meeting.

Muatala M - Seconds.

The motion passed by a voice vote.

b. By-Laws revision

Voting on the revised By-Laws took place and was passed.

IX. New Business

a. Senate calendar modifications

i. Proposal to shorten Thanksgiving break to three days (Wednesday through Friday) with the intention of having another short break.

ii. Spring break in Houghton/ Hancock high schools don't match with that of Tech. The concerns expressed by Tech staff with the high schools may have some futuristic impact on the spring break timing.

X. Discussion Items

None.

XI. Adjournment: 6:20 pm

Attendance

Nancy Byers Sprague, Assistant to the Dean of the Graduate School

Lakshmi K, MSE

Madhana S, MSE

Nick N, MSE

Muatala M, GMES

Emily M, GMES

Rohit G, MEEM

Julio R, MEEM

Niranjan L, MEEM

Kiran K, MEEM

Abigail C, MEEM

Lisa T, CEE

David T, CEE

Laura W, BME

Katie G, Business
Raghav V, Phy
Warren P, CS
Kris N, Bio

Excused
Casey R, Hu
Jim R, SS
Soumya S, Chem
Tara E, SFRES

GSC minutes from Jan 22th, 2007 Meeting

- I. Call to order: 5:05 pm
- II. Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved.
- III. Approval of minutes from Dec 11, 2006: Approved
- IV. Officer Reports:
 - a. President - David Tobias
 - Congratulated Katie for doing a good job on fall newsletter.
 - b. Vice-President - Nick Nanninga
 - Will attend the US-41 crosswalk focus group meeting with other interested GSC representatives on Jan 23.
 - c. Treasurer - Emily McCarthy
 - Presented budget for the months of Nov and Dec 2006.
 - d. Secretary - Rajalakshmi Krishna
 - i. An e-mail was sent to the Math department seeking representation to the GSC. Lack of responses will lead to, election chair taking up the issue.
 - ii. EE reps are not making it to the meetings. This may have them disqualified for the travel grants again.
- V. Invited Presentation
 - No invited presentation this week.
- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Academic - Niranjana Londhe (On Co-Op)
 - i. President Tobias requested a volunteer for Academic chair. Academic committee will have to work on organizing the spring colloquium.
 - b. Social - Brian Ott
 - Tentative dates for upcoming social are 23/24/25 Feb 2007. It will most likely be a Bar social. More updates during the next meeting.
 - c. Orientation
 - President Tobias informed that about 30-40 new graduate students enrolled for the spring semester. The talks held as a part of orientation events were only of 2 hrs duration and the rest of the orientation was available online.
 - d. Lecture - Laura Walz
 - i. John dee talk on Tue 23 at 7pm in Fisher. Please spread the word.
 - ii. Library Information sessions by Hans Kishel (Coordinator of Library Instruction) is scheduled on Tue Jan 30 5-6pm in the library instruction lab. This event repeats on Wed Jan 31 12-1pm.
 - iii. Plans underway for inviting the guest speaker in April.
 - e. Public relations
 - President Tobias requested volunteer for Public Relation Officer. The PRO will work on publicizing events held by GSC and also helps GSC publish a spring newsletter.
 - f. Student Issues - Casey Rudkin

- i. In the past concerns were expressed by the student community about the amount of personal information available on the MTU website. This issue is now addressed by having privacy settings which enable the student to display the information they are comfortable with.

VII. Liaisons

- a. COE Dean search- David Tobias
 - i. Of the short-listed five candidates, two (Dr. Schulz and Dr. Predebon) were internal candidates. The interview with the candidates were held and the next two scheduled interviews for two external candidates are on Jan 29 & 30 and Feb 1 & 2.
 - ii. GSC and USG representatives are allotted half an hour time slots (Jan 29 9am & Feb 2 9am) to meet with the College of Engineering Dean candidates. GSC reps are encouraged to participate.
 - iii. Input from the students who attended the open forum or the GSC/USG session with the candidates are strongly advised to submit their evaluation online or writing to anyone on the dean search committee.
- b. Provost search - Emily McCarthy
 - Applications deadline is February 1st 2007.
- c. USG - Lisa Tomlinson
 - USG is planning on passing a resolution to change the final exam policy. The resolution under consideration is that no student shall be required to take more than 3 exams in a 24 hour period. The justification was that having more than 3 exams in 24 hour period could be detrimental to the students grades.
- d. Faculty Senate - Nick Nanninga
 - i. Transfer of tenure proposal got approved.
 - ii. Proposal for a Minor in Diversity study.
- e. Others - PCSAP; Diversity, Integrity, Justice;
 - i. PCSAP (President's Council for Substance Abuse Prevention) coordinates activities pertaining to substance abuse and wellness issues on campus. They are interested in working with all constituents (departments and student groups) to spread awareness among students about events and organizations on campus sharing the same goals. To promote responsible drinking, they plan to send out this message to the students with their 21st birthday card.

- ii. Diversity, Integrity and Justice - Synopsis from the last meeting-
 - a. Use of laptops in classes.
 - b. Difference between free speech and hate speech were discussed.
 - c. Planning on organizing an international film festival where every month an international movie will be featured.
- Santosh G - Have all the movies to be featured as a part of the film festival decided?
- David T - May be they have only decided on the films to be featured during the first few months . They are looking for sponsors.

VIII. Old Business

- a. CSSA Discretionary Funds request.

The motion was tabled.
- b. Senate Calendar Issues
 - i. Thanksgiving break - There is a proposal being discussed to shorten thanksgiving break from 5 days to 3 days with the intention of having another 2 days break in early mid-october.

GSC reps will poll their home departments and will discuss the outcome in the next meeting.
 - ii. Evening exam policy - Scheduling of evening exam proposal was rejected. For more information on the policy visit www.sas.it.mtu.edu/usenate/propose/07/12-07.html.

IX. New Business

- a. College of Science and Arts Dean search committee
 - i. Provost Reed has formally requested the GSC to nominate a representative for the Dean of College of Science search committee.

President Tobias is requesting nominations for the same.

X. Discussion Items

- a. MTU salary list

USG has a link to the MTU staff salary list.
- b. Bluesky Health

Bluesky health is a personalized medical clinic in Houghton run by a local Physician-Dr Jeffrey Huotari. The physician is proposing an outpatient based system of care at an enrollment fee of \$49 per person or \$99 per family for an year. Every medical condition will be charged a consultation fee of \$29. An e-mail will sent to the departments by the council reps and more will be discussed at the next meeting.
- c. POWER Discretionary Funds request.

Sanctioned \$400 to POWER.
- d. New representatives

Haiying He from Physics and Miriam R from GMES are the new GSC reps.

XI. Adjournment: 5:56 pm

Attendance

Lakshmi K, MSE
Madhana S, MSE
Nick N, MSE
Muatala M, GMES
Emily M, GMES
Adam D, GMES
Miriam R, GMES
Lisa T, CEE
David T, CEE
Santosh G, CEE
Laura W, BME
Haiying H, Phy
Raghav V, Phy
Tara E, SFRES
Kris N, Bio
Jim R, SS
Casey R, Hu
Jill W, SFRES
Warren P, CS
Brian O, Chem Eng

GSC minutes from Feb 5th, 2007 Meeting

- I. Call to order: 5:07 pm
- II. Approval of Agenda: Approved.
- III. Approval of minutes from Jan 22, 2007: Corrections by Nick N noted.
 - a. Nick N will not be able participate in the US 41 focus group meetings.
Raghav V and Muatala M volunteered to attend the meetings.
- IV. Officer Reports:
 - a. President - David Tobias
 - i. Request for bids to the health insurance companies will be sent out. Any issues with the current vendor can be addressed to Maryann Wilcox (mawilcox@mtu.edu).
 - b. Vice-President - Nick Nanninga
No report.
 - c. Treasurer - Emily McCarthy
No report (Excused absence).
 - d. Secretary - Rajalakshmi Krishna
 - i. Welcomes new GSC rep Rebecca Targove from Math department.
- V. Invited Presentation
 - USG - Associated Students of Michigan Tech University (ASMTU) by JD Hill.
ASMTU plans to restructure the current USG constitution to improve student governance and communication between the student organizations at Michigan Tech. The proposed structure mainly aims at effectively allocating the USG budget and attempts to recognize USG as the "Voice of Students". Under the proposed structure two seats in the student senate are reserved for Graduate students.
Muatala M - How does the proposed constitution ensure that the decision making process is fast ?
JD - Vice president will attend at least a board meeting each from all the student organizations with the intent to advise them.
- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Academic - (Open)
 - i. Volunteers for Academic chair are solicited.
 - i. Academic chair will work with Dr. Neil Hutzler, Chair Sigma Xi, to organize and publicize the annual Sigma Xi colloquium, jointly sponsored by GSC and Sigma Xi.
 - iii. Tentative date for colloquium is on Apr 14, 2007.
 - b. Social - Brian Ott
No report (absent).
 - c. Orientation
No Report.

- d. Lecture - Laura Walz
 - i. Library information sessions went well. A session on Endnote is being planned. Any ideas on mini sessions can be sent to llwalz@mtu.edu
 - ii. Presentation on preparing for the GRE by Dr. Joseph Brown is on Feb 12, 2007 at 6:30pm in Fisher 101. Dr. Brown is the director of student affairs for the school of Humanities and Sciences at Stanford University.
- e. Public relations - (Open)
 - President Tobias requested a volunteer for Public relations officer .
- f. Student Issues - Casey Rudkin
 - No report (absent).

VII. Liaisons

- a. COE Dean search - David Tobias
 - i. Interview with Dr. Cerry Klien, final candidate for the post of dean of the College of Engineering, is scheduled on Feb 12 & 13, 2007. Time slot for GSC- Feb 13 9am. The search committee is entrusted with recommending three candidates to Provost Reed.
- b. Provost search - Emily McCarthy
 - No report.
- c. USG - Lisa Tomlinson
 - i. USG voted to expand current recycling program to include cardboard and plastic.
 - ii. Working with Dr. Bill Kennedy to get the teachers evaluations posted online.
- d. University Senate - Nick Nanninga
 - i. Proposal for a Minor in Diversity study got approved.
 - ii. Proposal for departmental name change from Department of Education to Department of Cognitive and Learning Sciences got approved.
- e. Graduate Tuition Reform Task Force - Dr. Huntoon
 - Responsibilities include:
 - i. Examining the current practices related to graduate tuition and stipend.
 - ii. Develop a comprehensive set of recommendations with well-defined financial [revenue neutral or positive] and appropriate behavioral implications that will facilitate growth of graduate programs and research at Michigan Tech.
 - Members - Jackie Huntoon, Richard Elenich, Jason Keith, Debbie Lassila, Pat Martin Nick Nanninga and David Tobias.
- f. US 41 Focus group - Raghav V & Muatala M

Michigan Department of Transportation is funding \$1.5 million to construct a safe pedestrian crossing for US-41 by the Wardsworth Hall. Representatives from residence halls, staff, student organizations and UPEA met to discuss the proposed plans and welcome any new ideas to improve the safety of the students crossing. Some initial proposed designs were - an enclosed walkway, skywalk from Fisher to Wadsworth hall. Any new ideas can be sent to rvanga@mtu.edu or mmuvitji@mtu.edu.

VIII. Old Business

a. Science & Arts Dean search committee.

Rebecca T and Kris N volunteered to serve on the committee .

b. Senate Calendar Issues

i. Thanksgiving break - GSC reps polled students from their departments and there was hardly any interests for the proposed short thanksgiving break .

ii. Final exam policy - President Tobias will draft a resolution supporting the USG views on the final exam policy.

IX. New Business

a. ASMTU - Council concerns

i. Effective representation may not be possible.

ii. Campus wide elections are held there may yield in no graduate student representation on the executive council.

iii. Budget allocation not clear.

Alternatives suggested were to drop GSC from senate or to add GSC as another house etc. The ASMTU by-laws will be sent out to the council once they are available.

X. Discussion Items

a. MTU Student Leaders group

Proposed with an intention to have an effective representation on campus.

This group may comprise of President / Vice-President from USG,GSC,Lode etc and will help successfully pass a resolution when it goes to the Board of Control.

XI. Adjournment: 6:18 pm

Attendance

Dr.Huntoon, Dean of the Graduate School

JD Hill, Sophomore representative on Judiciary committee, ASMTU

Lakshmi K, MSE

Nick N, MSE

Madhana S, MSE

Rebecca T, Math

Muatala M, GMES

Miriam R, GMES
Rohit G, MEEM
David T, CEE
Lisa T, CEE
Laura W, BME
Iman B, Business
Kris N, Biology
Haiying H, Phy
Partha P, Phy
Raghav V, Phy
Oystein T, CS
Tara E, SFRES
Senthil V, EE
Rohit I, EE

Excused
Jill Witt, SFRES
Emily M, GMES
Gaurav K, EE

GSC minutes from Feb 19th, 2007 Meeting

I. Call to order: 5:07 pm

II. Approval of Agenda: Approved.

III. Approval of minutes from Feb 5, 2007: Approved.

IV. Officer Reports:

a. President - David Tobias

i. Updating the GSC website to include the changes in By-Laws made over the previous semesters.

b. Vice-President - Nick Nanninga

No report.

c. Treasurer - Emily McCarthy

Presented budget for the month of January.

d. Secretary - Rajalakshmi Krishna

No Report.

V. Invited Presentation

BlueSky Medical - Dr. Jeffery Huotari.

Synopsis - Out-patient based health care system, affordable cost & quality service, planning on 24/7 accessibility, flexible payment system (credit card or cash).

Jill W - Do you refer to any clinic for lab tests?

Dr. Huotari - Lab facilities are presently not available. In case any lab test is needed, will provide available options here. Patients have liberty to choose a clinic.

Jill W- Do you provide prescription samples?

Dr. Huotari- No.

Jill W- What are the services Bluesky health offers now?

Dr. Huotari- Full-spectrum outpatient family medicine services including evaluation, diagnosis, and management (or appropriate referrals for management if needed) of most new problems, ongoing management of chronic diseases, preventive care, and office procedures done under local anesthesia such as lesion removal, joint injection, and repair of small lacerations. We do not currently offer contraception management, disability exams, workers' comp evaluations, or a formal chronic pain management program.

Dr. Huotari can be contacted at jhuotari@blueskyhealth.org.

VI. Committee Reports

a. Academic - (Open)

No Report.

b. Social - Brian Ott

No report (absent).

c. Orientation

No Report.

- d. Lecture - Laura Walz
 - i. 03/01 'Lunch n Learn' - Presentation by Jim Turnquist, Director of the Career Centre, on the job hunt process aimed at the graduate students. This event will be held at the Alumni Lounge from 12-1 pm.
 - David T - Dr. Volger sent a thank you card for collaborating to invite Dr. James Brown on campus.
- e. Public relations - (Open)
 - No Report .
- f. Student Issues - Casey Rudkin
 - President Tobias suggested the student issues committee work on health care insurance and on campus clinic.

VII. Liaisons

- a. COE Dean search - David Tobias
 - i. The dean search committee has requested vision statements from all the COE dean candidates. This will assist the search committee in shortlisting the candidates along with the input from campus community.
- b. Provost search - Emily Mccarthy
 - The search committee is in the process of shortlisting the applications. The shortlisted candidates are tentatively scheduled for campus visits after spring break.
- c. USG - Lisa Tomlinson
 - i. USG voted to present ASMTU without any structural modifications.
 - ii. Will call for referendum from the student body.
 - iii. Polls are scheduled from Feb 28 to Apr 1 2007.
- d. University Senate - Nick Nanninga
 - No update.
- e. Graduate Tuition Reform Task Force - David Tobias
 - i. Trying to identify peer institutes and study their tuition structure.
- f. Science & Arts Dean search committee - Rebecca Targove
 - No meetings held.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Senate Calendar Issues
 - President Tobias is working on drafting a resolution for the previously discussed senate calendar issues (Thanksgiving break and Final exam policy).
- b. ASMTU

After reviewing the ASMTU By-Laws the council expressed the following concerns:

- i. Including “Graduate Student Affairs (GSA)” committee can be a cause of possible conflict of opinions with the GSC in the future. Therefore GSA committee should not be included in the ASMTU. Issues common to graduate and undergraduate students can be addressed by ASMTU with input from GSC.
- ii. To remove GSC from special budget group as GSC has no role in the USG’s budget allocation to student organizations.
- iii. Since USG receives 50% of graduate student activity fee, including one grad student representation in the ‘Joint ways and Means Committee’ would serve in preserving the interests of GSC in ASMTU.

IX. New Business

a. Experience Michigan Tech/ Inclusive Fee Proposal

Student commission has taken this initiative to provide students at Tech to have access to theatre productions, performances at the Rosza centre (excluding Great Events), Skiing, Tennis court, golf course at a mandatory flat fee of \$60 per student . Student commission has presented the budget to USG for vote.

Nick N - We need clarification on how long the MUB expansion fee would have to go before voting on this proposal.

Oystein S - This is a good opportunity for students to experience all the events and activities in and around Tech.

b. Engineer’s without Borders- Discretionary funds request

EWB representative will be at the next GSC meeting. Voting on the EWB requests will take place during the next meeting.

Nick N - We should clearly define guidelines to distribute discretionary funds.

X. Discussion Items

a. Spring Travel Grants

The deadline for the spring travel grants is 5pm Feb 23 2007 . The applications must be dropped in the Blueroom mail box, ROTC.

b. BOC cancelled

The Board of Control meeting was cancelled because there was no quorum.

c. Leadership in the New Millennium

Lecture on Thu Feb 22 at 9pm in MUB Alumni Lounge.

d. International Club

International club is soliciting volunteers to participate in their annual nite “Spectrum of Cultures”. This event will be held on Apr 7 2007 at the Rosza Center.

e. Student Banquet Awards

Nominations are due by 5:00pm on Fri, Mar 9 2007. Each time you nominate a student, advisor or an organization, your names will be included in a drawing. Two apple iPods will be given away as prizes. For more information, Visit www.sa.mtu.edu/awards/.

XI. Adjournment: 6:10 pm

Attendance

Lakshmi K, MSE

Nick N, MSE

Rebecca T, Math

Muatala M, GMES

Miriam R, GMES

Emily M, GMES

Vaibhav K, MEEM

David T, CEE

Lisa T, CEE

Laura W, BME

Kris N, Biology

Raghav V, Phy

Oystein T, CS

Warren P, CS

Jill W, SFRES

Casey R, Hu

James R, SS

Nathan C, Hu

Rajni K, Chem

Excused

Tara E, SFRES

Madhana S, MSE

Soumya S, Chem

GSC minutes from Mar 5th, 2007 Meeting

- I. Call to order: 5:06 pm
- II. Approval of Agenda:
 - i. Addition of item a in New Business.
 - ii. Agenda approved.
- III. Approval of minutes from Feb 19, 2007: Addition by Nick N noted.
 - a. IV b : MDOT will not allow a traffic control device at the crossing near Wadsworth hall since it does not meet certain pedestrian criteria.
 - b. Minutes approved.
- IV. Officer Reports:
 - a. President - David Tobias
 - Covered below.
 - b. Vice-President - Nick Nanninga
 - No report.
 - c. Treasurer - Emily McCarthy
 - No Report.
 - d. Secretary - Rajalakshmi Krishna
 - i. EE department was ineligible for the spring travel grants due to insufficient representation during GSC meetings.
 - ii. Chemistry department rep is advised to be regular for the council meetings.
 - iii. Department reps are advised to look for alternatives during their absence.
- V. Invited Presentation
 - None.
- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Academic - (Open)
 - i. Soliciting volunteer for Academic chair.
 - ii. Academic committee will work with Dr. Neil Hutzler on organizing the spring colloquium.
 - b. Social - Brian Ott
 - i. President Tobias is planning on organizing a social at the MUB for grad students during the finals week. Any suggestions can be sent to detobias@mtu.edu or baott@mtu.edu
 - c. Orientation
 - No Report.
 - d. Lecture - Laura Walz
 - i. 03/01 Lunch n Learn was well attended.
 - ii. Working on the upcoming sessions.
 - e. Public relations - (Open)
 - i. Casey R will get fall newsletter printed .
 - f. Student Issues - Casey Rudkin

- i. Muatala M is working towards dependents passes for Rozsa events and grad student parking issues.
- ii. Proposing an increase in graduate parking space incommensurate with the 10% increase in graduate student intake.
Nick M - There are few lots which are not always full and slightly overbooking these lots(34,14) may help.
- iii. Counseling services has assured to fill the vacant nurse practitioner position. Nick C suggested free advertising options for the same.
- iv. Jill W is working on health insurance related issues.

VII. Liaisons

- a. COE Dean search - David Tobias
The dean search committee has shortlisted two out of five candidates.
- b. Provost search - Emily Mccarthy
The search committee shortlisted four candidates for on campus interviews. The candidates are Dr.David Bejou (VSU), Dr.Alex King (Purude U), Dr.Lesley Lovett-Doust (Lakehead University), Dr.Robert Marley (Montana State U). They are tentatively scheduled for campus visits in late March or early April.
- c. USG - Lisa Tomlinson
Will discuss ASMTU under old business.
- d. University Senate - Nick Nanninga
 - i. Presentation by Pat Joyce on Intercollegiate athletics at Michigan Tech.
 - ii. Presentation by Ingrid Cheney on Retirement health care.
 - iii. Proposal for a 6 credit hours requirement for a minor.
 - iv. 2008-09 Academic and Provisional calendar proposed. No changes to the current calendar.
- e. Graduate Tuition Reform Task Force - David Tobias
 - i. Studying the tuition structure of administration listed peer universities.
- f. Science & Arts Dean search committee - Rebecca Targove
No meetings held.
- g. Student Health Services - Jill Witt
 - i. No bid will be sent out for health insurance this year as our previous health insurance provider (Megalife) has not raised the premium.
 - ii. Working on healthcare flexible spending plan.
 - iii. Trying to come up with a questionnaire on health care/insurance related issues. Soliciting input from the campus community on what areas health insurance is lacking.
Jim R -In some cases, the current deadline for opting health insurance plan is before the financial aid situation is known. Suggested that deadline be extended for a reasonable amount of time.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Senate Calendar Issues

- i. President Tobias drafted the GSC Resolution No. 2006-3 to convey the opposition of GSC to the idea of shortening the thanksgiving break.
 - ii. Thanks to Karl H for help with drafting the resolution.
 - iii. Casey R moved and Lisa T seconded the motion to accept the GSC Resolution No. 2006-3.
 - iv. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. ASMTU
 - i. Lisa T reviewed the ASMTU By-Laws and sent out a summary to the council suggesting the changes to be incorporated.
 - ii. USG officers responded positively to the suggestions and readily made changes to the by-laws
 - iii. The changes made were to remove GSC from the special budget group, include a grad student rep in the Joint ways and Means committee and drop Graduate Student Affairs committee.
 - iv. President Tobias drafted the GSC Resolution No. 2006-4 to support USG's proposed reorganization as ASMTU.
 - v. Lisa T moved and Emily M seconded the motion to accept the GSC Resolution No. 2006-4.
 - vi. Motion passes (hand counts 15-yes, 1-abstention).

The council had concerns if the proposed ASMTU passes, what will happen to GSC?. President Tobias replied that the main focus of the restructuring USG was to manage budget issues more effectively and devote more time to the student issues. The intention of having graduate student representation is to get campus wide student body representation in the senate. There will be no changes in the functionality of GSC and the funds GSC receives are directly from grad school. Nick N also supported the idea and noted that in the proposed ASMTU structure grad students have an active representation (which was not there in USG) and have control of some form over the budgeting by having a representative in Joint ways and means committee.
- c. Experience Michigan Tech/Inclusive Fee
 - Will be discussed in the next meeting.
- d. Engineer's Without Borders (EWB) discretionary funds request
 - i. EWB requested for \$1000 funding for the Guatemala project.
 - ii. Casey - motion to fund the amount of \$1000 to EWB. Lakshmi K - seconds the motion.
 - iii. Motion fails (hand counts, 12-no, 4-yes)

President Tobias insisted on chalking out comprehensive guidelines for issuing discretionary funds.
- e. MTU Drug & Alcohol Policy
 - President Tobias sent the proposed revised "MTU Drug & Alcohol policy" draft to the council.

IX. New Business

a. Officer nominations for 2008-09.

i. Nominations for principal officers are open until 5:00 pm of the next meeting (Mon, Mar 19).

ii. Nominations for committee chair positions will open in the next meeting.

iii. E-mail nominations to the council list (gscouncil-l@mtu.edu). Self nominations are welcome.

X. Discussion Items

None.

XI. Adjournment: 6:27 pm

Attendance

Lakshmi K, MSE

Nick N, MSE

Madhana S, MSE

Rebecca T, Math

Muatala M, GMES

Miriam R, GMES

Emily M, GMES

David T, CEE

Lisa T, CEE

Chris C, Chem Eng

Brian Ott, Chem Eng

Laura W, BME

Kris N, Biology

Raghav V, Phy

Oystein T, CS

Warren P, CS

Jill W, SFRES

Casey R, Hu

James R, SS

Rajni K, Chem

Excused

Tara E, SFRES

Rohit G, MEEM

Vaibhav K, MEEM

GSC minutes from Mar 19th, 2007 Meeting

- I. Call to order: 5:10 pm
- II. Approval of Agenda: Approved.
- III. Approval of minutes from Mar 5, 2007: Corrections by Casey R noted.
 - a. VI f : Nick C changed to Nathan C.
 - b. VIII d: \$1000 changed to \$500.
 - c. Minutes approved as amended.
- IV. Officer Reports:
 - a. President - David Tobias
Covered below.
 - b. Vice-President - Nick Nanninga
No report.
 - c. Treasurer - Emily McCarthy
 - a. Presented the budget for the month of Apr.
 - b. Budget for the upcoming year will be presented at the next meeting.
 - d. Secretary - Rajalakshmi Krishna
 - i. In the sign-in doc please indicate if you'll continue to be a rep for next term.
- V. Invited Presentation
None.
- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Academic - Rebecca Targove
 - i. Academic committee met with Dr. Neil Hutzler to plan for the Sigma Xi colloquium on Apr 14 2007.
 - ii. President Tobias requested council's input on using the blueroom as the venue for colloquium.
 - iii. The committee will look for better rooms for colloquium and luncheon.
 - iii. Few suggestions that came up included rooms in Rekhi and Fisher hall. President Tobias encourages graduate students for involving undergraduate participation. Requested Lisa T to bring this up at the USG meeting and have it written in the USG minutes summary on the Lode.
 - b. Social - Brian Ott
 - i. President Tobias is planning on organizing a social at the MUB for grad students during or a week before finals.
 - ii. Trying to get Pasi cats perform for the social.
 - c. Orientation
No Report.
 - d. Lecture - Laura Walz (Excused absence)
 - i. President Tobias informed the council that Lecture committee is working on list of speakers for the next year.
Raghav V - We are trying to invite Dr. Chris McKay, NASA.
 - e. Public relations - (Open)
No report .

- f. Student Issues - Casey Rudkin
 - i. Committee will meet on Fri Mar 23.
President Tobias attended the health insurance meeting. The health insurance provider is not increasing the premium this year. There is also an increase in the prescription drug cap from \$1000 to \$1500.

VII. Liaisons

- a. COE Dean search - David Tobias
 - i. Provost Reed is satisfied with the Dean search committee's progress and said they serve the purpose of being role models for other on-campus search committees.
- b. Provost search - Emily Mccarthy
 - i. No meeting held last week.
- c. USG - Lisa Tomlinson
 - No report.
- d. University Senate - Nick Nanninga
 - No report.
- e. Graduate Tuition Reform Task Force - David Tobias
 - i. Data gathering is underway for peer and aspiration peer universities. Comparing tuition & fee structure, full-time credit requirements, MS vs. PhD differences, Engg. vs. Sciences vs. other differences .
- f. Science & Arts Dean search committee - Rebecca Targove
 - i. First meeting will be held on Mar 20 2007.
- g. Student Health Services - Jill Witt
 - No report.
- h. School of Business chair Search Committee- Iman Blyther
 - No report.
- i. Grad Faculty Council (GFC)
 - President Tobias is the secretary for GFC.
 - i. Discussed proposed Nanotechnology Certificate.
 - ii. Proposing changing MS Plan C to allow written in addition to oral final exam.
 - iii. Copyright issues with MS theses in MTU library.
 - iv. Modified continuous enrollment policy to eliminate current last term 1-credit policy.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Experience Michigan Tech/Inclusive Fee

- i. President Tobias requested the reps to poll their departments on the Experience Michigan Tech fees.
- ii. There was a positive feedback from MSE, Phy, Humanities, Bio, GMES. Math did not welcome it.
- iii. If USG decides to support this fees then this will be put up for campus wide referendum.

b. MTU Drug & Alcohol Policy

The clause which defines the mere presence of any student organization members as an official endorsement of the student organization is a cause of concern. President Tobias will ask the concerned person to clarify or rephrase the clause.

c. Discretionary Funds guidelines

Nick N was requested to come up with draft of guidelines for sanctioning discretionary funds.

IX. New Business

a. 2007-2008 Officer Elections.

i. Nominees for the post of President - Casey R and Emily M. Emily McCarthy elected as the president for 2007-2008.

ii. Nominee for the post of Vice President - Lakshmi K. Elected unanimously.

iii. No nominations received for the post of secretary. Nominations are open.

iv. Nominee for the post of Treasurer - Madhana S. Elected unanimously.

b. 2007-2008 Committee Chair Nominations.

i. Moved and seconded.

ii. Send nominations to the GSC council list at gscouncil-l@mtu.edu

X. Discussion Items

Lecture by Dr. Harry Mika . Will send a note out to council.

XI. Adjournment: 6:15 pm

Attendance

Lakshmi K, MSE

Nick N, MSE

Madhana S, MSE

Rebecca T, Math

Rohit G, MEEM

Vaibhav K, MEEM

Muatala M, GMES

Miriam R, GMES

Emily M, GMES

David T, CEE

Lisa T, CEE

Brian Ott, Chem Eng

Kris N, Biology
Raghav V, Phy
Partha P, Phy
Oystein T, CS
Warren P, CS
Jill W, SFRES
Tara E, SFRES
Casey R, Hu
Rajni K, Chem
Iman B, Business

Excused
Laura W, BME
Rohit I, EE

GSC minutes from Apr 2th, 2007 Meeting

I. Call to order: 5:14 pm

II. Approval of Agenda: Approved.

III. Approval of minutes from Mar 19, 2007: Approved.

IV. Officer Reports:

a. President - David Tobias

i. Discussed health care issues involving on campus clinic, walk-in service at Portage etc., with Ellen Horsh, VP for administration. Horsh expressed interests in taking on health care initiatives .

b. Vice-President - Nick Nanninga

No report.

c. Treasurer - Emily McCarthy

i. Presented the proposed budget for next year (2007-2008).

ii. Emily M moved and Iman B seconded the motion to approve the proposed budget.

Nick N - How does budget accommodate changes in grad student numbers?

David T - Budget has increased over a couple of years but has projected a slow growth. Budget keeps up with student growth.

d. Secretary - Rajalakshmi Krishna

i. Will contact the reps regarding department elections.

V. Invited Presentation

Sue Bieske-Diehl - Child Care Center

“Little Huskies” is scheduled to begin from Fall’07. It is managed by Gretchen’s House and can accommodate 44 little ones. The child care board comprises of faculty, staff and students. Enrollment has begun. The enrollment is prioritized on the basis of currently enrolled ones, their siblings, children of full time (greater than 75% in time) faculty, staff and students , children of part time employees and community members in that order. Child-care board is trying to see if State provides subsidized child care for low-income families and also exploring alternatives to make up for the remaining amount in the form of scholarships for graduate students. Soliciting ideas/comments on allocating available resources.

VI. Committee Reports

a. Academic - Rebecca Targove

i. Abstracts for Sigma Xi colloquium are due 5pm Friday 6 Apr 2007.

ii. Colloquium will be held in Fisher 101 on 14 Apr 2007.

b. Social - Brian Ott

i. Social will be held on 27 Apr 2007 from 5pm-10pm at the MUB ballroom
A. There will be appetizers, a cash bar and a band playing.

ii. Either Pasi cats or Moon Dogs will perform during the social.

c. Orientation

No Report.

- d. Lecture - Laura Walz
 - i. Sent an e-mail to the council soliciting suggestions for the next Lunch-n-Learn.
 - ii. Received suggestion on fitness and stress relief during exams.
 - iii. Also planning on having an evening lecture on setting up a local business.
- e. Public relations - (Open)
 - i. Casey R is almost done with reworking the newsletter. Only representatives' names have to be updated .
- f. Student Issues - Casey Rudkin
 - i. Had some fruitful conversation pertaining to parking permit with President Mroz. He was very receptive to suggestions and shared the same concerns. President Tobias suggested that over booking the lots say by 10 % and making more space available would be a good idea.

VII. Liaisons

- a. COE Dean search - David Tobias
 - i. Provost Reed has to decide on the final candidate.
- b. Provost search - Emily Mccarthy
 - i. Open forums of Dr.Alex King & Dr. Lesley Lovett-Doust were held.
 - ii. Open forums of Dr.David Bejou & Dr.Robert Marley are scheduled during the second week of Apr 2007.
 - iii. Encouraged graduate student participation in the open forums.
- c. USG - Lisa Tomlinson
 - i. Working to make Rozsa center available for student groups for a cost.
 - ii. Ways & Means committee wants to spend \$80,000 to purchase roofing system. This will affect the funding of other student groups and is a cause of concern. More will be discussed at the next USG meeting.
- d. University Senate - Nick Nanninga
 - i. Two proposals passed - Residency requirement for Minor degree and Academic and Provisional calendar 2008-2009.
 - ii. Proposal to change MTU's policy regarding the required number of committee members for MS.
 - iii. Revised wording on Proposal for extension of the tenure clock passed as emergency proposal.
- e. Graduate Tuition Reform Task Force - David Tobias
 - No meeting held.
- f. Science & Arts Dean search committee - Rebecca Targove
 - i. Mark S Gockenbach is the chair of the search committee.
 - ii. Committee met with the Dean of Science & Arts to get information on the job specifications.
- g. Student Health Services - Jill Witt
 - i. Developing health care survey questions.
 - ii. Updating the FAQ section and health care providers list on the website.
- h. School of Business chair Search Committee - Iman Blyther
 - i.No meetings held.
 - ii. Katie M is the new rep from Business on the committee.

VIII. Old Business

- a. Experience Michigan Tech/Inclusive Fee
 - i. Reps polled their departments on the Experience Michigan Tech fees and the overall outcome was neutral. So GSC is not going to take a position in this regard.
- b. MTU Drug & Alcohol Policy
 - i. President Tobias talked to Pat Gotschalk, Director of Student Judicial Affairs, to discuss the possibility of clarifying/ rephrasing the clause in the Drug & Alcohol Policy.

IX. New Business

- a. 2007-2008 Officer & Committee chair Elections.
 - i. Nominee for the post of Secretary - Karl H.
 - ii. Committee chair nominations - Rebecca T (Academic), Laura W(Lecture), Jill W(Student Issues), Casey (PRO), Warren P(Election) .
 - iii. Brian O moved and Iman B seconded to accept the all nominations. All nominees elected unanimously.
- b. Discretionary funds request - Students for Environmental Sustainability (SfES).
 - i. SfES requested \$500 for programming Alan Weismann lecture.
 - ii. Lecture committee will explore means, if they have any, to support this lecture.
 - iii. If this has to go through the discretionary funds request, it will be up for votes during the next meeting.

X. Discussion Items

None.

XI. Adjournment: 6:25 pm

Attendance

Dr.Huntoon, Dean of the Graduate School

Dr.Sue Diehl, Chair Childcare Board

Lakshmi K, MSE

Nick N, MSE

Madhana S, MSE

Rebecca T, Math

Rohit G, MEEM

Vaibhav K, MEEM

Muatala M, GMES

Miriam R, GMES

Emily M, GMES

David T, CEE

Lisa T, CEE
Santosh G, CEE
Brian Ott, Chem Eng
Kris N, Biology
Raghav V, Phy
Warren P, CS
Jill W, SFRES
Tara E, SFRES
Carrie A, SFRES
Casey R, Hu
Nathan C, Hu
Rajni K, Chem
Soumya S, Chem
Iman B, Business

GSC minutes from Apr 16th, 2007 Meeting

- I. Call to order: 5:06 pm
- II. Approval of Agenda:
 - i. Social committee chair Brian Ott will report following approval of agenda ¹
 - ii. Agenda approved.
- III. Approval of minutes from Apr 2, 2007: Approved.
- IV. Officer Reports:
 - a. President - David Tobias
 - No report.
 - b. Vice-President - Nick Nanninga
 - No report.
 - c. Treasurer - Emily McCarthy
 - i. Presented the budget for Mar.
 - d. Secretary - Rajalakshmi Krishna
 - i. Sent out an e-mail to reps regarding department elections.
 - ii. Will send out the tentative summer meeting schedule following the discussions with the secretary elect Karl H.
- V. Invited Presentation
 - None
- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Academic - Rebecca Targove
 - i. Sigma Xi colloquium - 19 participants. It was a long and tiring day for judges and participants. Suggestion for the next colloquium included - having this event spread out over a week, raising the prize money, honorarium for judges.
 - ii. Poster Session - Plans to conduct the poster session coinciding with the career fair week to generate more outreach.
 - iii. President Tobias commended the academic committee (Rebecca T, Raghav V and Madhana S) for organizing the colloquium.
 - iv. Encouraging the participants to turn in their presentations in advance and strict adherence to allotted time .
 - b. Social - Brian Ott
 - Spring Social
 - i. Spring Social will be held on 27 Apr 2007 in the MUB ballroom A, starting 6 pm. The menu includes veggie pizza, mini-sandwiches, BBQ meatballs, mini-egg rolls, salad, cheese & crackers, chips & dip. Beverages include lemonade, fruit punch and a Cash Bar.
 - ii. Moon Dogs will perform during the social.
 - iii. Kids are also welcome for the social.
 - iv. This is a gala event - spread the word.

¹Brian O had to leave early. See the concerned section for his report.

- Softball Coordinator
 - vi. Social committee is also incharge of the coordinating the softball game. Plans to hire a coordinator for an honorarium of \$50 .
 - c. Orientation
 - Orientation chair position open. Send nominations to detobias@mtu.edu
 - d. Lecture - Laura Walz
 - i. Evening lecture - Panel of Local Entrepreneurs in the UP on 26 Apr.
 - ii. Lunch-n-Learn - Physical wellness by Terry Smythe, Keweenaw Memorial Medical Center on 27 Apr.
 - e. Public relations - (Open)
 - None
 - f. Student Issues - Casey Rudkin (Excused absence)
 - i. Muatala M talked to Valerie Pegg, Director Rozsa center, regarding dependents pass for Rozsa events. Pegg will take this up at their next board meeting but feels that this may not get a major support.
- VII. Liaisons
- a. COE Dean search - David Tobias
 - i. Dr.Tim Schulz named the Dean of College of Engineering.
 - b. Provost search - Emily Mccarthy
 - i. Open forums of Dr.David Bejou & Dr.Robert Marley were held.
 - ii. Search committee is meeting with President Mroz on May 1 2007.
 - iii. Encouraged to watch the forums of all the candidate online and give feedback.
 - c. USG - Lisa Tomlinson
 - i. USG has reserve funds to support the purchase of roofing system costing \$80,000. This will not affect the funding of other student groups. Motion passed at the USG meeting.
 - d. University Senate - Nick Nanninga
 - No Report.
 - e. Graduate Tuition Reform Task Force - David Tobias
 - No report.
 - f. Science & Arts Dean search committee - Rebecca Targove
 - i. Dr. Alex Meyers, COE Dean search committee, shared his experiences regarding the candidate search process .
 - ii. Draft of the Job description is almost done and will be up on the website.
 - g. Student Health Services - Jill Witt
 - No Report (Excused absence)
 - h. School of Business chair Search Committee - Iman Blyther
 - i. No meetings held.
- VIII. Old Business
- a. Discretionary Funds guidelines

- i. Nick N and Madhana S drafted the discretionary funds guidelines. Additions to the existing guidelines include the President requesting the appropriate standing committees to examine the proposal or form an ad-hoc committee if needed. Newly formed organizations that lack adequate start up funds, events that are open to all graduate students and organizations that show sufficient graduate student participation will be given priority.
 - ii. Council members suggested to have a timeline mentioned for the discretionary funds to allow sufficient time for processing (like 4 weeks before the event).
 - iii. Vote on the by-laws revision will take place next meeting.
 - b. Discretionary Funds request - Students for Environmental Sustainability (SfES).
 - i. Lecture committee is funding \$250 towards the programming of Alan Weismann lecture, of the requested \$800.
 - ii. SfES requested the difference to be covered from discretionary funds.
 - iii. Due of the short notice of the request, the council did not show any interests.

IX. New Business

- a. 2007-2008 Budget.
 - i. Nick N noted the annual budget is much less than what GSC's share from SAF (student activity fees).
President Tobias clarified, whatever money doesn't get spent stays in the account. We can either choose to increase the budget or vote to reduce the SAF to use this amount. He noted spending involves careful planning and execution which may not result in spending the entire amount.
 - ii. The council was of the feeling that the budget of standing committees need to be increased. The cash prizes for the colloquium should be increased to encourage more student participation.
 - iii. A health fair for graduate students was also suggested.

X. Discussion Items

- a. GSC Resolution No:07-01- Introduced by Nick N
 - i. The purpose was to amend sections VII b 3&4 of of the Graduate Student Council bylaws to reflect the current travel grant expenditures provided by the Graduate School.
 - ii. Presently travel grants worth \$18,000 are budgeted whereas only \$15,000 is received from the grad school towards the grants and the rest is covered from SAF.

- iii. Realizing that the distribution of SAF by GSC to cover the travel grants difference will only benefit the recipients, this resolution seeks to bring in additional funds of \$3,000 from the grad school to support the travel grants.
- iv. Until this request is approved the bylaws will be modified to reflect current graduate school funding of travel grants.
- v. GSC Resolution No:07-01 will be voted during the next meeting.

XI. Adjournment: 6:25 pm

Attendance

Lakshmi K, MSE
Nick N, MSE
Madhana S, MSE
Rebecca T, Math
Karl H, MEEM
Muatala M, GMES
Miriam R, GMES
Emily M, GMES
David T, CEE
Lisa T, CEE
Brian Ott, Chem Eng
Kris N, Biology
Raghav V, Phy
Partha P, Phy
Warren P, CS
Oystein T, CS
Laura W, BME
Carrie A, SFRES
Rajni K, Chem
Soumya S, Chem
Iman B, Business

Excused

Casey R, Hu
Jill W, SFRES
Jim R, SS

GSC minutes from Apr 30th, 2007 Meeting

I. Call to order: 5:10 pm

II. Approval of Agenda:

- a. Invited presentation - Mike Abbott.
- b. Travel grants resolution by Nick N.
- c. Agenda approved as amended.

III. Approval of minutes from Apr 16, 2007: Approved.

IV. Officer Reports:

- a. President - David Tobias.
 - i. Enjoyed working with GSC. Will attend summer meeting and help Emily with the transition .
 - ii. Rest covered below.
- b. Vice-President - Nick Nanninga
No report.
- c. Treasurer - Emily McCarthy
No report.
- d. Secretary - Rajalakshmi Krishna
 - i. Summer meeting schedule - May 21, Jun 18, Jul 16 and Aug 10.

V. Invited Presentation

Mike Abbott - Director, Sports and Recreation

SDC advisory board comprises of reps from athletic department, exercise science, USG & GSC etc. Its main responsibility is to prepare the budget and allocate resources to improve the facilities. One of the items on their agenda is to update three classrooms (Rm 235, 237 & 238) in SDC which are not a part of general campus. These classrooms are extensively used by students from athletic department, WSI, first aid classes and other student groups. The advisory board solicits student governments input on whether they are willing to part with some of the SDC funds to support room renovation. According to the proposed plan if all three rooms were completely renovated it would cost \$124,000 and if renovation included only changing carpets chairs and tables it would cost about \$38,000.

Bob N - USC will pass a resolution authorizing \$21,000 towards the renovation.

The council supported USG's views. Resolution will be drafted before the next meeting.

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Academic - Rebecca Targove
 - i. Will call on the Career Centre manager to discuss about having poster session at the centre.
President Tobias suggested that having the poster session at SDC would generate more exposure.

- b. Social - Brian Ott
 - i. Spring social at the MUB was very well attended (120 guests).
- c. Orientation
 - No Report.
- d. Lecture - Laura Walz
 - i. Lunch-n-Learn session and evening lecture by local entrepreneurs in the UP was not very well attended as it was held a week before finals.
- e. Public relations - (Open)
 - No report.
- f. Student Issues - Casey Rudkin
 - No report (Absent)

VII. Liaisons

- a. Provost search - Emily Mccarthy
 - i. Search committee has put forward their recommendations. President Mroz has to decide on the final candidate.
- b. USG - Lisa Tomlinson
 - i. USG passed resolution supporting the building of storage units.
 - ii. Any student groups needing place for storage can contact USG.
- c. University Senate - Nick Nanninga
 - i. Proposal to change MTU's policy regarding the required number of committee members for MS from four to three was passed.
 - ii. Presentation by Larry Davis on saving for retirement health care.
- d. Graduate Tuition Reform Task Force - David Tobias, Nick Nanninga
 - No meeting held.
- e. Science & Arts Dean search committee - Rebecca Targove
 - i. Will be eligible to vote in the committee
 - ii. Working on advertising options.
- f. Student Health Services - Jill Witt
 - No report.
- g. School of Business chair Search Committee - Kristen Maroney
 - No report.
- h. Student commission; PCSAP; SDC Liaison - David Tobias
 - i. Student commission meets every week during Summer.
 - ii. Drafted a student satisfaction survey.
 - iii. Asking budget office to look at all the fees - SAF, MUB in comparison with other universities.
 - iv. SDC advisory board meets once every semester. Plans on their agenda include renovating restrooms, locker rooms, update lighting, buying treadmills. Also plans to hire an architect for future renovations.

v. US41 crosswalk plan - elevating US41 in front of the east side of Wadsworth hall and creating pedestrian tunnels under it.

Council had questions about parking. Raghav V will further review the proposals and send updates to the council list.

vi. Pat Gotschalk has dropped the ambiguous wording from the Drug & Alcohol policy.

vii. Planning on having a personalized student calendar linked to university calendar.

VIII. Old Business

a. Discretionary fund guidelines

i. Modified discretionary funds guidelines presented by Madhana S.

ii. Nick N moved to accept the proposed changes and Madhana S seconded.

iii. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Travel grant resolution

i. Lisa T moved and Brian O seconded to accept the GSC resolution No. 2007-01.

c. GSC budget

i. E-Board will discuss the budget.

IX. New Business

None

X. Discussion Items

a. Summer softball

i. Iman B volunteered to be a softball coordinator.

ii. Meeting to be held at noon on May 3 in Alumni lounge-MUB.

b. Mentor award

i. Two outstanding nomination received.

ii. Council decided to honor both the nominees with plaque.

XI. Adjournment: 6:47 pm

Attendance

Mike Abbott, Director SDC

Lakshmi K, MSE

Nick N, MSE

Madhana S, MSE

Rebecca T, Math

Rohit G, MEEM

Karl H, MEEM

Miriam R, GMES

Emily M, GMES

David T, CEE

Lisa T, CEE
Santosh G, CEE
Brian Ott, Chem Eng
Laura W, BME
Partha P, Phy
Raghav V, Phy
Warren P, CS
Oystein T, CS
Jill W, SFRES
Tara E, SFRES
Carrie A, SFRES
Heather J, Hu
Nathan C, Hu
Louis P, Chem
Soumya S, Chem
Iman B, Business
Bob N, USG

Excused
Kris N, Biology

GSC Meeting Minutes -May 21, 2007

- I. Call to Order: 5:05 pm
- II. Approval of Agenda: approved
- III. Approval of Minutes from April 30, 2007: approved with two changes
 - a. Final meeting of the summer should be August 13, rather than August 10.
 - b. Muatala, M (GMES) was excused
- IV. Officer Reports
 - a. President – Emily McCarthy
 - i. Emily is excited to be able to work with the GSC reps over the next year.
 - ii. Report of the GSC Executive Board meeting
 1. The E-board will be developing a planning calendar for the next year to aid in organizing and preparing for events.
 2. Over the next month, Committee Chairs will be preparing budgets for the 2007-08 year.
 3. Due to several complaints, even to the Dean of the Grad School, the GSC Officers will prepare “GSC Meeting Highlights” to be sent out to the Graduate Students shortly after GSC Meetings to improve communication between the GSC and its constituency.
 - iii. Encourage Graduate Students and your Advisors to attend the First Friday Social – June 1 in the MUB Alumni Lounge.
 1. Dr. Huntoon (Dean of Grad School and GSC Advisor) wants Grad Students to be involved
 - iv. Talk to Grad Students in your departments about what problems GSC should be working on. Report back to the Council.
 - b. Vice President – Lakshmi Krishna
 - i. We will be getting a list from the Grad School in the next few weeks to ramp up the First Contact Program.
 - c. Treasurer – Emily McCarthy (past treasurer); Madhana Sunder was running late.
 - i. Reviewed budget – there is money left to spend.
 - d. Secretary – Karl Haapala
 - i. Let me know, or note on the attendance sheet, which committee you are interested in. Tasks are outlined in the GSC Bylaws.
 - ii. Committee Chairs will review the tasks of the committees in their reports.
- V. Committee Reports
 - a. Academic-Rebecca Targove
 - i. Reviewed committee tasks.
 - ii. Reported on discussions with Career Center concerning coordinating the Fall Poster Session. General discussion followed.
 1. Posters could be put in the Career Center hallway on Tuesday for the recruiters to view. Some would be moved on Wednesday and others remain in the Career Center for judging.
 2. Casey (Humanities) felt that the posters should not be split up.
 3. Jim (SS) asked when judging would take place. Rebecca said Wednesday.

4. Emily mentioned Jacque (Grad School) had mentioned the balcony of the Wood Gym. Some felt the balcony was too remote and not a good setting for the posters.
 5. Laura (Biomed.) thought it would be good to move them to the SDC.
 6. It was mentioned that recruiters would want to have some “quiet time” from their busy day and students should not be present.
 7. There was a consensus that the posters should at least all be in the MUB on Wednesday for judging.
 8. Rebecca was charged with continuing to work with the Career Center to determine the best solution.
- b. Social – Emily McCarthy (Heather Jordan – absent)
 - i. Emily reported that Heather Jordan was nominated and would take over as Social Chair.
 - c. Orientation – Open Position
 - i. Nominations will be accepted.
 - d. Lecture – Laura Walz
 - i. Reviewed committee tasks: Lunch-n-Learn (about 7 per year), evening lectures (2 small, 1 big), other random lecture events
 - e. Public Relations – Casey Rudkin
 - i. Would like GSC to become a dynamic, visible group
 - ii. Let Casey know if you need help with advertising/PR for events
 - f. Student Issues-Jill Witt
 - i. Jill is focusing on the health insurance aspects. She would like someone to help out with parking issues.
 - ii. Jill wants reps to solicit feedback on health insurance issues from their departments.
- VI. Liaisons – No liaison reports.
- a. Graduate Tuition Reform Task Force-Nick Nanninga and David Tobias
 - b. Sciences & Arts Dean search-Rebecca Targove
 - c. Student Health Services-Jill Witt
 - d. School of Business search-Kristen Maroney
- VII. Old Business
- a. Resolution for SDC Advisory Board’s use of SDC fees for renovation of three classrooms
 - i. Last meeting, it was agreed to vote on a resolution regarding use of the SDC support fee (paid by students) for renovation and technology upgrades in three SDC classrooms. USG approved the use of student fees for 1/3 of project costs, up to \$21,000.
 - ii. Two versions of GSC Resolution No. 2006-07 were presented
 1. Version A (by Emily McCarthy) was parallel to USG’s decision.
 2. Version B (by Iman Blyther - SBE) would allow use of an unrestricted amount of fees.
 - iii. Much discussion followed, comments included:
 1. Nick mentioned that talked with Iman (Summer Softball Organizer), and they thought grad students would benefit more from upgrades to the softball fields than upgrades to the SDC classrooms.

2. Laura expressed that she didn't understand why new chairs and carpeting was needed in the rooms, especially since one is used for Pilate's classes.
 3. Madhana stated that we need to let the SDC know what we think about the use of fees.
 4. Jim (SS) felt that they will do what they want regardless of what we say, since GSC doesn't have control over the money.
 5. Casey (Humanities) said she would come up with a new resolution if the resolutions fail.
- iv. Laura moved and Karl seconded to accept Emily's version (Version A)
 1. All opposed (0 for, 0 abstentions) – Resolution fails
 - v. Rebecca moved and Jim (SS) seconded to accept Iman's version (Version B)
 1. All opposed (0 for, 0 abstentions) – Resolution fails
 - vi. Nick (MSE) suggested that Emily send both resolutions to Mike Abbot (SDC), and let him know why the resolutions failed.
- VIII. New Business
- a. Grad Student Representation on MUB Board
 - i. Madhana stated his concern over the graduate students paying fees to the MUB and paying high prices, when it is run as a separate business entity. He felt there should be a GSC liaison on the MUB Board.
 - ii. Lakshmi mentioned that the MUB Board meets at 5pm every Wednesday. Members receive two free lunches per week. In the past, there were two graduate student members, but they have graduated and not replaced.
- IX. Adjournment: 5:45 pm
- a. Casey (Humanities) moved, Nick (MSE) seconded a motion to adjourn. All were in favor.

Attendance (Officers/Chairs appear first, Orientation Chair open)

Academic Unit *	Voting Representative	May 21, 2007		
		Present	Excused	Absent
(Non-voting)	Emily McCarthy	P		
Mat. Sci. & Eng.	Lakshmi Krishna	P		
ME-EM	Karl Haapala	P		
Mat. Sci. & Eng.	Madhana Sunder	P		
Biomedical Eng.	Laura Walz	P		
Computer Science	Warren Powers	P		
For. Res./Env. Sci.	Jill Witt	P		
Humanities	Heather Jordan			A
Math	Rebecca Targove	P		
	OPEN			
Biology	Kristopher Nitz	P		
Biomedical Eng.	OPEN			
Bus. & Econ.	Kristen Maroney			A
Bus. & Econ.	Iman Blyther			A
Chemical Eng.	Brian Ott			A
Chemistry	Louis Pignotti			A
Civil & Env. Eng.	Santosh Ghimire			A
Civil & Env. Eng.	Adam Mickel			A
Civil & Env. Eng.	Sanjeev Adhikari	P		
Computer Science	Oystein Thorsen		E	
Computer Science	OPEN			
Elec./Comp. Eng.	OPEN			
Elec./Comp. Eng.	OPEN			
Elec./Comp. Eng.	OPEN			
For. Res./Env. Sci.	Carrie Andrew	P		
For. Res./Env. Sci.	OPEN			
Geo. & Min. Eng.	Lorna Henney	P		
Geo. & Min. Eng.	Miriam Rios	P		
Humanities	Casey Rudkin	P		
Humanities	OPEN			
Mat. Sci. & Eng.	Nick Nanninga	P		
Math	OPEN			
ME-EM	Reena Thomas	P		
ME-EM	Rohit Gujarathi		E	
ME-EM	Niranjan Londhe		E	
ME-EM	Chelsey MacNeill			A
ME-EM	OPEN			
Physics	Raghav Vanga	P		
Physics	Partha Pal			A
Social Sciences	James Rudkin	P		

* Officers / Chairs do not count toward departmental voting rep allotment.

GSC Meeting Minutes – June 18, 2007

- I. Call to Order: 5:04 pm
- II. Approval of Agenda: approved
- III. Approval of Minutes from May 21, 2007: approved
- IV. Officer Reports
 - a. President – Emily McCarthy
 - i. The First Friday Social in June was successful, with possibly more grad students than faculty in attendance.
 - ii. Emily asked Dr. Huntoon if the social would be on July 6.
 - iii. Dr. Huntoon said she would let Emily know when she found out.
 - b. Vice President – Lakshmi Krishna
 - i. Lakshmi thanked all of the volunteers for the First Contact program, especially those from ME-EM, EE, and Comp. Sci. who had a lot of new applicants to send e-mails to.
 - c. Treasurer –Madhana Sunder
 - i. Madhana presented the budget. There was a slight change from what was expected because of honoraria given in June. There were no comments.
 - d. Secretary – Karl Haapala
 - i. Let me know, or note on the attendance sheet, which committee you are interested in. Remember to sign in, so I know you are in attendance.
- V. Committee Reports
 - a. Academic-Rebecca Targove (excused)
 - i. No Report
 - b. Social – Iman Blyther (Heather Jordan, excused)
 - i. Iman requested feedback on having a “Summer GSC Softball Social” this coming Thursday (June 21) or next (June 28) at the East Hancock Pavilion. He is planning a barbeque, which has typically been informal at the ballfields in the past.
 - ii. He reported that food would be \$12/person from the MUB, with the need for GSC to prepare it; \$8/person from the Library, who would take care of everything; or GSC could probably do it for less if GSC members took care of everything.
 - iii. It was discussed whether it would be open to only GSC Softball participants or all grad students. The feeling was that it should be open to all, since GSC monies would be used.
 - iv. It was a consensus to ignore the MUB option, and discussion followed regarding the other two options. Nobody seemed willing to take charge of food preparation, especially with a potential second summer social and the GSC Orientation picnic. Purchasing pizzas was suggested, but the thought was expressed that hamburgers and hotdogs would give more of a summer softball feel.
 - v. Brian Ott reported that from his experience, socials typically run about \$800, including the band and food. This would be comparable to the Library charge for the number of softball participants and usual participation of grad students in social events.

- vi. The question was asked when the season would end. Iman stated that August 2nd is the first day of playoffs, with August 9th being the final game. After that, chances would be that people would be gone since it is the end of summer semester.
- vii. Emily asked for a show of hands, and the majority agreed with having the event catered. Nobody was opposed, and a few were undecided.
- viii. Iman said he would schedule the event for June 28, and get back to the council on what he figures out with the Library.
- c. Orientation – Open Position
 - i. No report.
- d. Lecture – Laura Walz
 - i. The committee is planning to invite a NASA engineer who studies life to present at the end of Fall term. They are also thinking to invite a speaker on the topic of Global Warming, or some other relevant issue in the Spring.
 - ii. They are planning about 6 or 7 Lunch and Learn lectures for the next year.
 - iii. Madhana suggested that a debate format would be good. Karl stated that there was a panel discussion at one time regarding the war in Iraq.
 - iv. Nathaniel asked what the committee is geared for, since he is new to GSC. Laura said they are typically geared to bringing in lecturers. Nathaniel thought it might be good to also include student researchers who are knowledgeable about a topic.
- e. Public Relations – Casey Rudkin (excused)
 - i. No report.
- f. Student Issues-Jill Witt (excused)
 - i. No report.
- VI. Liaisons – No liaison reports.
 - a. Graduate Tuition Reform Task Force-Nick Nanninga and David Tobias
 - i. No report.
 - b. Student Health Services- Emily McCarthy (Jill Witt, excused)
 - i. Emily reported that the committee is in the midst of discussions and will be forming two groups.
 - ii. Dr. Huntoon stated that Ingrid [Cheney] would be setting up a meeting with the MTU subgroup after July 17.
 - c. School of Business search-Kristen Maroney
 - i. No report.
- VII. Old Business
 - a. None.
- VIII. New Business
 - a. Dr. Huntoon introduced the newest member of the Grad School staff.
 - i. Debra Charlesworth is the new Assistant to the Dean.
 - ii. Debra said she is open to suggestions for improvements to the Grad School webpage, which is one of her tasks. She also reported that the new graduate bulletin was just put on the web today.
- IX. Adjournment: 5:35 pm
 - a. Laura moved, Iman seconded a motion to adjourn. All were in favor.

Attendance (Officers/Chairs appear first, Orientation Chair open)

Academic Unit	Voting Representative	June 18, 2007		
		Present	Excused	Absent
(Non-voting)	Emily McCarthy	P		
Mat. Sci. & Eng.	Lakshmi Krishna	P		
ME-EM	Karl Haapala	P		
Mat. Sci. & Eng.	Madhana Sunder	P		
Biomedical Eng.	Laura Walz	P		
Computer Science	Warren Powers	P		
For. Res./Env. Sci.	Jill Witt		E	
Humanities	Heather Jordan		E	
Math	Rebecca Targove			A
	OPEN	n/a		
Biology	Kristopher Nitz	P		
Biomedical Eng.	Melissa Roberts	P		
Bus. & Econ.	Katie Maroney		E	
Bus. & Econ.	Iman Blyther	P		
Chemical Eng.	Brian Ott	P		
Chemistry	Louis Pignotti	P		
Civil & Env. Eng.	Santosh Ghimire	P		
Civil & Env. Eng.	Adam Mickel		E	
Civil & Env. Eng.	Sanjeev Adhikari	P		
Computer Science	Oystein Thorsen		E	
Computer Science	Chris Brown	P		
Elec./Comp. Eng.	Shwetha Bolagond			A
Elec./Comp. Eng.	OPEN			
Elec./Comp. Eng.	OPEN			
For. Res./Env. Sci.	Carrie Andrew			A
For. Res./Env. Sci.	OPEN			
Geo. & Min. Eng.	Lorna Henney	P		
Geo. & Min. Eng.	Miriam Rios	P		
Humanities	Casey Rudkin		E	
Humanities	Nathaniel Gbessagee	P		
Mat. Sci. & Eng.	Nick Nanninga			A
Math	OPEN			
ME-EM	Reena Thomas		E	
ME-EM	Rohit Gujarathi		E	
ME-EM	Niranjan Londhe		E	
ME-EM	Chelsey MacNeill			A
ME-EM	OPEN			
Physics	Raghav Vanga	P		
Physics	Partha Pal	P		
Social Sciences	James Rudkin		E	
VISITORS and GRAD STUDENTS AT LARGE				
Academic Unit	Name	June 18, 2007		
		Jaqueline Huntoon		
		Debra Charlesworth		

GSC Meeting Minutes – July 16, 2007

- I. Call to Order: 5:10 pm
- II. Approval of Agenda: approved
- III. Approval of Minutes from June 18, 2007: approved
- IV. Officer Reports
 - a. President – Emily McCarthy
 - i. Carol from the Grad School Office needs grad student volunteers for a round table discussion at the New Grad Student Orientation (Aug. 28, 3-4 pm).
 - ii. Website has had some updates including a planning calendar on the homepage. Emily will send out a calendar to the reps once it is firmed up.
 - b. Vice President – Lakshmi Krishna
 - i. Received the second list for the First Contact Program and sent it out to the First Contact Reps.
 - ii. Updated firstcontact-I email list. Lakshmi reminded First Contact Reps to email any questions to the list.
 - c. Treasurer –Madhana Sunder
 - i. The budget year closed positive \$4075, which adds to the buffer currently in the GSC account. Last year's budget was \$30,270.
 - ii. The new budget year started on July 1, 2007.
 - d. Secretary – Karl Haapala
 - i. Julio Rivera (ME-EM) will be the Orientation Chair. He was Orientation Chair last year.
 - ii. Some academic units (ECE, Forestry, Math, ME-EM) have open positions. Some are due to the fact that officers and chairs are not counted against the rep allotment for their respective departments.
 - iii. Let Lakshmi know if you are interested in being a Liaison for the MUB Board. There may be free meals associated with this position. Laura Walz expressed interest.
- V. Committee Reports
 - a. Academic-Rebecca Targove
 - i. No Report.
 - b. Social – Heather Jordan
 - i. Let Heather know if you have ideas for kid/family friendly social events.
 - ii. Heather went through the tentative list of social events for next year.
 - iii. One idea was a sledding social at Swedetown. Casey offered her home has a staging area.
 - c. Orientation – Julio Rivera
 - i. Julio went through the list of events, dates, and tasks based on last year's schedule.
 - ii. There are sign up sheets for duties. Everyone should sign up.
 - iii. There will be a CD player for music at the picnic. Bring your favorite CDs.
 - d. Lecture – Laura Walz
 - i. No Report.
 - e. Public Relations – Casey Rudkin
 - i. Talk to Casey about articles and ideas for the newsletter.
 - ii. Casey will cover GSC Softball and Orientation for the Fall newsletter.

- f. Student Issues-Jill Witt (excused)
 - i. No report.
- VI. Liaison Reports
 - a. Registration Review Committee – Emily McCarthy for David Tobias
 - i. Issues are more relevant to undergraduates, such as getting locked out of registration and changing instructors.
 - ii. Talk to Emily or David if you have any problems with registration.
- VII. Old Business
 - a. None.
- VIII. New Business
 - a. Travel Grant Drawing
 - i. Presenting grants: Jeremy Rickli, ME-EM; Eric Minner, BioMed; Vikram Bapat, ME-EM; Ziyou Zhou, Physics; Zhen Chen, Chemistry; Derek Fultz, ME-EM; Kiran Khadke, ME-EM; Cynthia Weber, Humanities; Cory McDonald, CEE; Anne Mareck, Humanities; and Ming Ning, Chemistry
 - ii. Attending grants: Heather Wright, CEE and Mark Griep, ME-EM
 - b. Softball Issues
 - i. Casey identified three problems dealing with GSC Summer Softball: 1) the bases and equipment are in disrepair, 2) the field is in bad shape (someone twisted their ankle on a rock), and 3) difficulties with the PE teams (she suggested having umpires). Casey asked how she could make a change.
 - ii. Emily stated that the umpire issue is more difficulty. Casey said the use of coaches hasn't solved the problem. Last week, for example, she reported that the PE coach was using expletives toward members of the HU team.
 - iii. Emily suggested that GSC could spend money on new equipment.
 - iv. Chris made a motion to conduct an inquiry into the equipment, fields, and umpires. Heather seconded. All were in favor.
 - v. Casey volunteered to charge the effort. Emily said she would help, and perhaps Iman could provide valuable input. Madhana stated that issues about the field have continually come up.
- IX. Adjournment: 5:45 pm
 - a. Chris moved, Heather seconded a motion to adjourn. All were in favor.

Attendance (Officers/Chairs appear first)

Academic Unit	Voting Representative	July 16, 2007		
		Present	Excused	Absent
(Non-voting)	Emily McCarthy	P		
Mat. Sci. & Eng.	Lakshmi Krishna	P		
ME-EM	Karl Haapala	P		
Mat. Sci. & Eng.	Madhana Sunder	P		
Biomedical Eng.	Laura Walz	P		
Computer Science	Warren Powers	P		
For. Res./Env. Sci.	Jill Witt		E	
Humanities	Heather Jordan	P		
Math	Rebecca Targove	P		
ME-EM	Julio L. Rivera	P		
Biology	Kristopher Nitz	P		
Biomedical Eng.	Melissa Roberts		E	
Bus. & Econ.	Katie Maroney		E	
Bus. & Econ.	Iman Blyther		E	
Chemical Eng.	Brian Ott	P (Josh Carlson)		
Chemistry	Louis Pignotti	P		
Civil & Env. Eng.	Santosh Ghimire	P		
Civil & Env. Eng.	Adam Mickel		E	
Civil & Env. Eng.	Sanjeev Adhikari	P		
Computer Science	Oystein Thorsen		E	
Computer Science	Chris Brown	P		
Elec./Comp. Eng.	Shwetha Bolagond	P		
Elec./Comp. Eng.	OPEN	n/a		
Elec./Comp. Eng.	OPEN	n/a		
For. Res./Env. Sci.	Carrie Andrew	P		
For. Res./Env. Sci.	OPEN	n/a		
Geo. & Min. Eng.	Lorna Henney	P		
Geo. & Min. Eng.	Miriam Rios	P		
Humanities	Casey Rudkin	P		
Humanities	Nathaniel Gbessagee	P		
Mat. Sci. & Eng.	Nick Nanninga			A
Math	OPEN	n/a		
ME-EM	Reena Thomas		E	
ME-EM	Rohit Gujarathi		E	
ME-EM	Niranjan Londhe		E	
ME-EM	Chelsey MacNeill		E	
ME-EM	OPEN	n/a		
Physics	Raghav Vanga	P		
Physics	Partha Pal			A
Social Sciences	James Rudkin	P		

GSC Meeting Minutes – August 13, 2007

I. Call to Order: 5:06 pm

II. Approval of Agenda: approved

III. Approval of Minutes from July 16, 2007: approved

IV. Officer Reports

a. President – Emily McCarthy

- i. Will be attending leadership summit at Eastern Michigan University on Sep 29, 2007.

b. Vice President – Lakshmi Krishna

- i. Incoming graduate students looking for temporary accommodation may contact IPS (International Programs and Services) for temporary housing arrangements. The current daily rent is \$14 per person.
- ii. Asked the first contact representatives to convey the same to incoming students looking for temporary accommodation.

c. Treasurer – Madhana Sunder

- i. Revised budget closing figure is \$3974.

d. Secretary – Karl Happala (Excused absence)

- i. Lakshmi Krishna will submit the meeting minutes.
- ii. First fall meeting is on Sep 10, 2007.

V. Committee Reports

a. Academic – Rebecca Targove

- i. No Report.

b. Social – Heather Jordan

- i. No Report.

c. Orientation – Julio Riviera (Absent)

- i. Emily informed that Julio still needs volunteers for the GSC orientation events. E-mail will be sent to the council list with the sign-up sheets. Please volunteer to help.
- ii. The first orientation event is at Hancock beach on Aug 28, 2007. A live band from Marquette will be performing.

d. Lecture – Laura Walz

- i. Send e-mail to Laura (llwalz@mtu.edu) if you have any ideas for lecture/lunch-n-learn.
- ii. Lecture team will help coordinate Sustainable Futures Institute with their poster session. Will send out e-mail with specifics.

e. Public Relations – Casey Rudkin

- i. Casey will start working on the GSC newsletter ‘Out of the Blue’ this September.
- ii. Soliciting articles from all departments.

iii. Softball field issues -Below is an account of Casey in her own words.

a. Bases - I spoke to Gowtham. He told me he had previously spoken with people at the SDC, and they told him the bases were fine. Of course, this season, several of the bases were actually torn in half and still being used. Gowtham suggested that church leagues had their own bases, so we might want to consider doing the same. I checked at Dunham's online, and found that a set of complete bases (including pitcher's rubber, four field bases, the homeplate and the additional homeplate extension) would cost about \$75. Therefore, to equip our league with four complete sets of bases would run about \$300. This would be a one-time expense, with the exception of replacing worn out bases as needed.

b. Field Condition - Again, I spoke to Gowtham, and he told me that during the 2006 season, he paid about \$100 to the City of Houghton for grading and watering the fields three times during the season. This would have been a huge help during this year's dust-bowl play. I presently have calls in to the City of Houghton and the MTU Ground Department regarding possible options for next year.

c. Umpires - Owing to a few problems with umping this season, especially in regards to PE teams, it has been suggested we consider hiring umpires for the games. This could actually make it more fun and less stressful for everyone playing because we wouldn't have to ump our own games. I spoke with Dennis Hagenbuch, the Director of IM, and he can provide umpires for our games. It would cost us about \$100 per week, but we would have a student umpire at each game, as well as a supervisor to schedule and manage the umps for us, as well as substitute in if we were short an ump. This means we could expect \$1000-\$1200 for the season.

Personally, I think all of these expenditures are a good idea, as approximately 25% of all graduate students participate in the GSC softball league.

f. Student Issues – Jill Witt

i. If there are any student issues, please bring it to Jill's attention.

ii. Heather inquired about the vacant nurse practitioner position. Jill informed that a new nurse practitioner was hired.

iii. Madhana noted that sometimes the registration status is on hold for unclear reasons.

iv. Health insurance is due prior to financial aid is a cause of concern. Ingrid Cheney is considering the option of allowing deferment of health insurance premium until the financial aid status is resolved.

VI. Liaison Reports

a. None

VII. Old Business

a. None

VIII. New Business

a. None

IX. Adjournment: 5:35 pm

a. Heather Moved, Jill seconded a motion to adjourn. All were in favor.