

Graduate Student Government of Michigan Technological University

Meeting Agenda: August 29th, 2016

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Agenda: Approved with no changes.

III. Welcome new GSG Members

IV. New Business:

A. Business cards: Business cards would be excellent for graduate students since they will help with networking at professional events. Rupsa Basu has looked into this issue to determine the best way for graduate students to obtain business cards inexpensively. She has found that going to the printing services of MTU is a way in which this can be achieved. Many students brought up the point that students should not bother using the website. Will brought up the possibility to include business cards as a either an award or package for the travel grants.

V. Officer Reports:

A. President (Will Lytle)

1. Connect with new members of your department. Make sure they know who their representative is.
2. Meet and Greets will need to be conducted this year for a department in order to be in good standing. It is recommended to do this sooner rather than later as it is a good way for old and new graduate students to become acquainted. Funding is based on the number of representatives within the GSG, attempt to have a larger portion of the funding needed to be contributed by the department.

B. Vice President (Jiongxun (Justin) Zhang)

1. Softball
2. IPS organized Walmart Shopping trip: due to poor planning the event was not so great. Next year it is recommended that the GSG plan and provide volunteers for the event.
3. Student commission meeting: please send concerns about housing and transportation to Justin so he can start a dialogue in the Student commission meeting about these topics.
4. Surveys for evaluating committee members will be distributed.
5. A survey for grad student health insurance will be created soon to voice the concerns of graduate students.

C. Treasurer (Ulises R. Gracida)

1. Brief overview of current funds in the GSG
2. Travel grant applications will be open for Monday September 5th
3. Discussed was the possibility of changing the deadlines of applications to provide more graduate students with money back. Also discussed was the idea of increasing the total money awarded for the travel grants.

D. Secretary (James Rauschendorfer)

1. The Social Chair has stepped down from her position. Syed Fuad has taken over in her place and planned the events needed.
2. Nominations for social chair are now open. Any graduate student may run for an e-board position and can be nominated.
3. An election will be held next meeting.

VI. Committee Chair Reports

A. Academic (Tyler Capek)

1. Planning subcommittees for the 3MT, graduate professional development days, and lunch and learn events are formed.
2. Will discuss the concerns of graduate students with IT shortly.

3. A textbook strategy study group is being formed to determine if course books are fair for the course they are required for.

B. Social (Syed Fuad)

1. Successful event for the picnic and a discussion session will be held in the future to discuss how the event could have been approved

2. Quincy mine tour: for the most part was successful however there was one issue concerning a graduate student and mother of two who could not take her children on the tour. This will be addressed soon so this problem does not repeat next year.

3. First Friday social will be occurring outside the ROTC building (weather permitting). The MUB is a backup in case the weather is rainy or snowy.

C. Public Relations (Muraleekrishnan Menon)

1. Website has been update with health insurance.

2. Check the representative information to make sure everything is correct. Photos will be added soon as well.

3. Discussed if a new logo should be created

4. Discussed the need to have a banner for events and name tags to indicate representatives.

5. Future prospects for website: a blog and web newsletter.

VII. Liaison Reports (only recording liaisons that have something to report)

A. Diversity Council (Divya Kamath and Stefan Huperts): The council is in planning stages

B. Sustainability (Erin Burkett and Hossein Tavakoli): A presentation on sustainability was given to undergraduates, very few attended. A new student coordinator has been appointed.

VIII. Old Business And Discussion Items

A. LGBT Flag at Canterbury house: in an act of vandalism, the flag was torn down. Canterbury house will be putting a new flag up soon and says they will also be putting up black lives matter flags soon. Be ready to discuss these issues in future GSG meetings.

B. HuskyFan Magnets: there are a lot of these. Just put them place wherever a student could find the information helpful.

IX. Adjournment: Approved