

Graduate Professional Council
General Assembly Meeting
October 4, 2005

- I. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm by Vice President Steven Schuster

- II. Adoption of minutes
A motion was passed to adopt the minutes from the September 2005 meeting as distributed the week prior to the meeting.

- III. Adoption of agenda
A motion was passed to adopt the minutes as printed for the October 4, 2005 General Assembly Meeting.

- IV. Action Items
 1. Guest speaker: Dr. Mark Oleson, Clinic Director – Office for Financial Success
A professor from the Department of Financial Planning. This department is now offering a 1 credit hour class for students to teach about personal financial planning. The office also provides financial services for students including one-on-one free of charge sessions. Their goal is to get information to the students and educate them about financial aid and other issues (repayment of aid, consolidation of loans, etc.). Dr. Oleson's job is to research programs that will aid students financially and get this information out to students. He sends out mass emails with a weekly financial tip and provides resources on other types of financial resources. They cater to all types of students, and offer both email and phone counseling sessions. If students are interested they may provide some weekly workshops.

Floor opened for questions (9min)

Mark Beard: Would he present a detailed presentation to individual schools about what is available?
Answer: Yes, they do. It is an individualized workshop, catering to the needs and interest of the student group.

Michael Gramlick asked about the course being offered.
Answer: They are working on this 1 credit course that will cater to students of all backgrounds.

Lucas Kunce asked about the one hour course and its application to undergraduate and graduate students.

Answer: Their long-term goal is to create levels of courses that will cater to entering freshmen, graduating seniors, or graduate students (which would be more in-depth). But at this point they will only have the Financial Survival class.

Robin Mabry Hubbard asked if he was aware that you can combine a graduate and undergraduate course.

Answer: University's focus is on undergraduate, so they are catering to that for now.

2. Guest speaker: MSA Officers
The MSA Officers were not present for the meeting.
3. Funding Request:

Al Ludwig, Treasurer, introduced the funding request from the MU Counseling Center. Our current budget for funding requests is \$6,000. The request was for \$110 and the Finance Committee plans on approving the amount.

MU Counseling Center: Allen Eason and Shane Blasko, interns from the counseling center. They want to extend services to graduate students. In order to do so they are requesting money for advertising. Their services can aid graduate students in learning practical ways to deal with daily stresses (family, financial, teaching, dissertation, etc). Services are free of charge to students and they intend to offer workshops and individual group sessions. The center is requesting \$50 to send out a mass email, and \$60 to make 3 large posters to distribute around campus.

Floor opened for questions:

Michael Gramlick: Are they willing to have individual flyers?

Answer: Yes, Is this part of the budget? Not at this time.

Dirk Charlson asked them what other funding they may need.

Answer: There are needs, but more than anything they are trying to just get this going. In general, they have little funding. Basically going for marketing.

Dirk Charlson asked if they had informational cards that could be given to post-docs.

Answer: Yes, they could do this.

Al Ludwig asked if this program is just a student initiative, or faculty and staff in conjunction with a department.

Answer: They are actually through student affairs and there is no department behind them. Technically this is intern/staff driven, although they are students. The counseling center is supporting them and encouraging them to offer these services.

The students were asked to step out of the room and the floor was opened for discussion.

Al Ludwig stated that traditionally funding is for student organizations, but we are not necessarily restricted to this. The Finance Committee was somewhat split and thought it may be outside of GPC funding. He said that there was enough in the budget. And if need be, an amendment could be made to ratify the conflict.

Pius Nyutu stated that it is a good service that is used by Graduate and Professional students and we should be in support of the center. He also noted that graduate students were asking for the funding.

Robin Hubbard stated that we are holistic, and that these are two students donating their time. She thought it would be a good opportunity for GPC.

Dan Robinson asked if we could round up the request to \$200.

Al Ludwig stated that we could give them the entire budget if we chose to.

A motion to approve the funding request for \$110 was approved by acclimation.

V. Old Business

1. Katrina Victims Support Committee (KVSC) update:

The updated was presented by the chair of the committee, Lisa Rathje. The buttons are now available for \$5 donation, and are in the MU bookstore. At the end of the meeting she will be checking out envelopes to representatives that contain 10 buttons each. She encouraged representatives to begin selling the buttons to people in their department and around campus. If representatives want to turn in money prior to the November 1st meeting it may be given to Holly Parsons in Student Life. She also requested representatives to check the number of buttons in their packet.

Al Ludwig, Treasurer, talked about sending out a promotional email for the buttons and asked that representatives forward this to their departmental listserv. He also reminded the assembly that there are food and clothing bins, from the Central Missouri Food Bank, around campus. Representatives were asked to consider hosting a bin in their department, as it is an easy way of getting involved. He continued by saying that the

KVSC has set a high goal of selling 10,000 buttons and that these need to be pushed across campus if we are to achieve this goal.

Floor opened up for questions:

Dirk Charlson asked how many buttons were left at this point.

Answer: There are a lot and 2500 buttons were ordered in the first batch. Our goal is to make this an ongoing project by creating limited edition buttons.

Mark Beard asked if the committee had heard anything about a rumor that the state was going to aliquot money from higher education funding towards the relief effort.

Lisa Rathje stated that she had not heard anything and would report back on that in November.

A question was asked if checks could be written for the buttons.

Answer: Yes, and should be made out to the University of Missouri.

Another question was asked concerning what charity the money going to.

Answer: The Red Cross and air marked for Katrina Victims.

Lisa Rathje stated that we also raised \$234 from the GPC Barbeque.

VI. New Business

1. Constitutional Committee- Presented by Mark Beard, GPC President

Some components of the bylaws and Constitution need updating. It's been over two years since our last review of the Constitution and we are considering forming a constitutional committee.

Propose an ad hoc committee formed by GPC reps, present at a GA meeting any of the constitutional or bylaws that need amendment

Floor opened for questions:

April Orsborn asked if there would be a review of the articles of cooperation with MSA.

Answer: These will also be reviewed.

Lucas Kunce had a question about the Articles of Cooperation and if it were that half of the graduate fees to the MSA. He also wanted to know how the Articles are amended.

Yes, 50% of GPC's student activity fee is given to MSA for co-sponsored activities. The articles of Cooperation are reviewed by MSA and GPC annually.

April Orsborn asked how much time would be required for this
Answer: He plans on the committee to meet quarterly, and then about every 2 weeks in the next semester. There would be a total of about 6-8 meetings.

April Orsborn also stated that MSA has not kept their end of the Articles of Cooperation.

Mark Beard said that this is currently being addressed.

Mark Beard made a motion to create the Constitutional Committee.

The creation of the Constitutional Committee was approved by acclamation.

2. Resolution 0506-03: ASUM Resolution- Presented by Lucas Kunce, State Issues Coordinator

Lucas Kunce is also the GPC liaison to ASUM, which is a lobbying group for the University of Missouri system. ASUM has now been in operation for 30 years. The resolution is in recognition of the group and the work that they do for University of Missouri students.

Floor was opened for questions:

Al Ludwig asked if this was a joint resolution with MSA

Answer: He doubted it.

April Orsborn had a question regarding the impact of passing the resolution.

Mark Beard answered that ASUM will be recognized to the Board of Curators and it is a way for them to get recognition for their work.

A motion to accept the resolution was written accepted as written was passed by acclamation.

VII. Officer Reports

Lisa Rathje, National Issues Coordinator: Lisa recently got back from DC where she spent the week lobbying on behalf of students. She prepared a handout report regarding the outcomes of this trip and the next steps that need to be taken by representatives and their departments. She encouraged the assembly to call their representatives in DC and encourage them to support the Higher Education Affordability and Equity Act (HEAEA). The only way that this bill will move from committee to the House Floor is if they are able to get enough cosponsors to support the bill. She also said that a Republicans study committee had recently

suggested that in order to offset costs needed for relief efforts in Louisiana they would want to cut money from other budgets. This would include money used to subsidize graduate student loans. Lisa said that she would be sending out information to representatives and they could go to the GPC website to find out more.

Lucas: ASUM will be having their board meeting on Saturday and are planning to send out groups to DC to lobby. He will have more to present at the next meeting regarding ASUM activities.

Dan Robinson, Programming and Publicity: Dan thanked all of those who came out to the Corn Maze event, which was attended by 160 students. The Next event is a Poetry Jam at the Artisan on October 13th. He passed out flyers for the event to the representatives. Dan also announced the dates of the GPC Tailgate (October 22, 2005), the upcoming Déjà Vu party, and the charity poker tournament in November. He still needs more volunteers to help him with these events. The final GPC event for the semester will be a Holliday cookies and coffee night at the Artisan.

Al Ludwig, Treasurer: Al announced that travel scholarships are due October 24th at 12 pm. The Finance committee still needs more members, and they will voting on Travel Scholarships at next meeting. No date has been finalized for when the committee will meet.

Steven Schuster, Vice President: Steve announced that sign-up sheets for internal committees were outside of the meeting room and that two positions remained for standing committees. He encouraged representatives to talk to him if they were interested in getting involved. Steve also provided a handout of Roberts Rules on the tables outside of the room.

Mark Beard, President: Mark gave an update on Tuition Task Force Committee. Chancellor Deaton held an open forum last week with students and is taking into consideration both what he heard there and results from our previous General Assembly meeting. Deaton will be presenting MU's stance concerning tuition models to the Board of Curators at the end of the week. His emphasis will be that we are strained for money, and without state support tuition will need to raise 6%. Deaton will present our stand on different models. He is not in support of the tuition freeze model, the plateau model, and the total cost model. He will show his support for the per credit hour model and suggest that some changes may be needed but that this model will provide the most support for our needs. Chancellor Deaton is also strongly supporting decoupling of tuition.

Mark also announced that the GPLC meeting has been postponed to November 5th. He plans for this committee to meet quarterly. He is also meeting with the student leaders around campus individually to find out how we can the different groups represented. His goal is to unify the student leaders across campus.

Mark also encouraged representatives to get involved in some sort of committee, either internal or external. He stated that he would be contacting individuals about joining the Constitutional Committee.

Mark will also be attending the Board of Curators meeting in St. Louis on October 8, 2005.

VIII. Liaisons

Joshua Holmes, SBA liaison: He said they are currently not doing anything new, but are still working on Katrina Relief efforts.

Antonio Lobeida, Vet Med liaison: He announce that this weekend they are hosting a dog jog event. The proceeds will go to the LA vet school effected by the hurricane and the other half will go to the 1st year class.

Pius Nyutu, ABGPS liaison: ABGPS is currently restructuring and forming committees. They are also planning events for the Holliday season, making a banner for their organization. as well as t-shirts. They are also considering ways they can help with the Katrina Relief efforts.

Dirk Charlson, PDA liaison: He announced that PDA had their first social last week (60 post-docs attended). Dirk will present Katrina buttons to the group. He is also interested in talking to Mark about getting involved with the GPLC.

IX. Announcements.

There were none at this time.

X. A motion was approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 PM.