Graduate Student Organization

Minutes of the Meeting

September 13, 2010

Welcome and Introductions

Sheena Kauppila welcomed everyone and asked those in attendance to introduce themselves.

Updates

Graduate College by Ramona Mellott

After welcoming all the participants to the first GSO meeting for the academic year 2010-2011, Dr. Mellott is hopeful that this year is going to be a historic year for the Graduate Student Organization (GSO) because we are actively seeking status as an independent student body. One of the important aspects of being an independent student organization, is having our own voice. This is important especially at the next tuition hearing, which is usually scheduled in January/February 2011. The other two state universities have many more representatives from each of their campuses while NAU has only one.

Committee Memberships

Volunteers were sought for the various committees:

University Graduate Committee Student Members:

1. Jeffrey Labanc
2. Eryn Schneider

The UGC is focused on graduate issues and curriculum and works to set policy related to graduate education. The committee meets once a month on a Wednesday from 3-5 p.m. in the Babbitt Administrative Center.

Strategic planning Representative: Jean G. Lonjaret

ASA: Sheena Kauppila

ASA adhoc graduate committee members:

1. Steven Sasser <Srs7@nau.edu>,
2. Mia Ryneal <Mrr92@nau.edu>,
3. Rachel Reese <Rachel.reese@nau.edu>
4. Sheena Kauppila <Sak225@nau.edu>
5. Beverly Smith <Beverly.j.smith@nau.edu>
ASNAU Update

The ASNAU update was provided by Steven Sasser, the Graduate Senator at ASNAU. Each semester, all students (graduate and undergraduate) on the Flagstaff campus pay a $23.00 student organization fee each semester. It is critical to take a look at what services are available to graduate students. Steven also mentioned that MIT is hosting graduate-professional student leaders from across the country at the 24th Annual NAGPS National Conference and that we may wish to consider a request of funds for graduate students to attend this event.

ASNAU meets on Thursday from 4-6 PM in the Union (Havasupai Room). Erin Stamm from Parking will be attending the next meeting. Parking concerns must be brought to Steven Sasser’s attention. Questions welcomed at stevensasser@nau.edu. He also mentioned that it is important as GSO formulates its constitution and bylaws that leaders and representatives are elected not appointed. Steven Sasser will be graduating in December and the senator position will be vacant next Spring. Those interested should consider running for election in the Spring.

University Parking Committee:

1. David R. Boyce <drb96@nau.edu >
2. Stacie Leach <Stacie.leach@nau.edu >

Meetings are scheduled on Mondays at 10:30 once a month. First meeting is scheduled for 9/27/10.

Residency Appeals Committee:

1. Mia Ryneal <Mrr92@nau.edu>

This committee will hear residency appeals. In order to change residency status, one must submit a petition (it is not automatic) and if it is denied, you have the option to appeal.

Library Committee members

1. Nevin Kohler <Nk253@nau.edu >
2. Lizz U. Wandag <Luw2@nau.edu >

This committee meets once a month. Date, time, and venue to be determined

In addition, several subcommittees were formed to address issues and initiatives of the GSO. These include:

Independence committee members

1. Phillip Heasley <Pkh8@nau.edu >
2. Michael Cook <Msc89@nau.edu >
3. David Forest <Drf46@nau.edu >
4. Sheena Kauppila
5. Ramona Mellott

Grievance Process Committee members

1. Justice Morath <Jmm554@nau.edu>
2. Athena Hagerty <Athena.hagerty@gmail.com>
3. Katie Schurr <Kes54@Nau.edu>
4. Jeffrey Kane <Jk377@nau.edu>
5. Ann Hardt (Extended Campuses ibh3@nau.edu)

Extended Campuses: Members needed

Housing Listserv: Steffanie Peterson

Travel Award Committee members

1. Lizz U. Wandag <Luw2@nau.edu>,
2. Jessica Collins <Jc866@nau.edu>,
3. Jeffrey Labanc <Jl832@nau.edu>,
4. Rachel Reese <Rachel.reese@nau.edu>,
5. Eryn Schneider <Es383@nau.edu>,
6. Moussa Tankari <Mt296@nau.edu>,
7. Ashikur Rahman <Ar784@nau.edu>,
8. Mercedes Douglass <Mcd68@nau.edu>,

Travel Award applications are due October 1, 2010 and decisions will be made by October 15.

Webmaster: Ashikur Rahman <Ar784@nau.edu>

Compensation Committee members

1. Michael Cook <Msc89@nau.edu>,
2. David Forest <Drf46@nau.edu>,
3. Mia Ryneal <Mrr92@nau.edu>,
4. Ashikur Rahman <Ar784@nau.edu>,
5. Nels Brogren <Nhb7@nau.edu>

GSO vision

Propose to administration tuition waivers/remissions for graduate assistants to a 100%.

Research/Advising process: Graduate student input for faculty considering promotion/tenure

Lack of recycling facility/Green fee committee?
Establish Grad Student Research Award to reward graduate student research

Consideration of summer tuition waiver for graduate assistants

Co-convened classes rigor (400&500 level together): present to UGC

Graduate Assistant Training

Dr. Mellott indicated that a One-credit seminar class in teaching in will be offered for graduate students/graduate assistants in Spring 2011. If graduate students are registered full-time, there is no additional tuition cost to register for one additional credit.

Survey update: Please review the old survey and send comments to Mariah Giardina at mgiardina@nau.edu.

Who should we invite to our future meetings?

President Haeger, VP of Research Laura Huenneke, Pat Haeuser-VP of Budget and Institutional Planning

Fundraising ideas: To be decided

Special announcement: Free t-shirts at ASNAU beginning this Thursday 9/16/10

In Attendance:

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If your name is bold then we have a department representative form from you. If your name is not bold and you would like to be the official representative for your department, please contact either Ramona or Sheena to get a form.