**1. Reports ®**

1.1 Executive Council

* Historian: need to get everyone registered. The Public Policy Program and the PPGSO are registered.

1.3 Special Committees

(a) Grants Committee [Rebecca Dowling] – Presentation of Grants Program (see below)

1.4 Standing Committees

(a) Graduate Research Convention (GRC) [Scott Riley] - recruiting for GRC committee

* GRC is an all-day event, that provided good opportunities for grad students to present, practice for outside conventions, and mingle with other grad students. The next GRC will be held on **3/28/18.** Further details TBD. Contact GSA if you want to service on the committee.

1.5 University Committees (R/I)

(a) University Steering Committee [Roy Prouty]

* GSA is one of 5 senates according to the Plan of Organization (PoO) which outlines how shared governance works on campus. There are 2 student senates: SGA and GSA, along with three “staff” senates: NESS, PSS, Faculty. All report to steering committee to discuss what all the senates are doing, negotiate with upper administration, and establish a platform for cross-senate issues
* PoO outlines university committees. Two student senate reps were elected to run the steering committee this year. We urge you to bring issues to our senate so we can bring to USC

(b) Climate Action Steering Committee [Roy Prouty]

* Administrators hoping to reduce UMBC’s carbon footprint. Right now only one grad student attended (Roy).
* Open to all students and all campus, so if you are interested, please contact the GSA at ([gsa@umbc.edu](mailto:gsa@umbc.edu)) for meeting details.
* Heard comments and suggestions as far as climate action is concerned
* Climate action steering - strategic planning process discussion

(c) Library Policy [Deanna Cerquetti]

* The Library is creating their Master Plan. In the past meeting, they elected a Chair.
* Projects discussed: Expanding the LRC, creating more spaces for Grad Students.
* Committee is out to more suggestion.

(d) Classroom, Information Technology [Deanna Cerquetti]

* Committee is discussing active learning .They want the option of Grads who are also TAs.
  1. USM Student Council [Roy Prouty]
* Council is compose of all the Reps from all the student senates from the USM. Discussed Putting forth legislation to the USM board of regents on the follow:
* DACA legislation position statement
* Collective bargaining - option of GAs being unionized
  + Per Collective Bargaining, the council wants to know what the consequences for research institutions are. How will it affect how all GAs are compensated? College park is spearheading this initiative (much bigger, many more GAs).
  + Preliminary reports says universities would have to absorb this cost somehow- how would universities pay for this? Union fees? How much?
  + On this campus, we have to meet and confer with the GAAC, who represents GAs to Grad school administration.
* Title IX standardization position statement across the USM - shot it down because all universities handle these issues differently

1.8 Faculty Senate Meeting [Roy]

* Unease about the grants system
* Adam and Roy met with Exec council of Faculty senate to seek advice and explain the situation

1.9 SGA Meeting [Roy]

* Met with SGA president and cabinet. They discussed getting undergrad reps on more committees that deal with space. SGA wants GSA to join him in advocating for positions on Space committee which allocates space on campus
  + - Initially there was apathy from the GSA reps. Some would like more details before supporting the move. We’d have to make a position statement and get VPs’ support and admin support for having grad student reps
    - Is this something we are interest in this? The rationale for no student input was claims that students were not interested at inception of committee.
    - SGA- primarily concerned with performance spaces

1.10 GPD & GPC Meetings [Roy/Deanna]

* informational about what happened to get us into this budget situation

**2. New Business**

2.1 Budget (R/A)

(a) Memorandum of Understanding

* Agreement between GSA and grad school certifying that the Grad school will be alright with us paying the deficit split over two years
* This would allow us to add some numbers back to our services
* Motion to approve the MOU - seconded
  + **Discussion:** *What are the services would be added back with the addition cash?* It was determined that the GSA would decide where the extra cash would be spent.
  + **VOTE: 37 yes,  0 opposed, 0 abstained→ motion passes**

(b) Budget

* Deficit is now: $10,321.55
* Can we discuss payroll? ⅕ of budget
  + OGSL GAs- we pay them but then we get reimbursed by grad school
  + EAA salary - $63,000 (we are contracted this year)
  + EC stipends - $24,000
  + **Discussion:** *majority of grad program fee goes to grants, why are we paying for an EAA out of student fees? Why does the grad school reimburse OGSL GAs?* –EAA is a managerial role in being the professional liaison to allowing the GSA function
  + *Is raising the grad program fee a way to offset income sources? Another $2 per credit hour?* –we will discuss this at the next meeting
  + Suggestion to stay on track with budget
* GSO project
* Grants project
  + $111,000 (all other services cut to put more into grants)
* Committee Budget ($24,600)
  + GRC budget - $16,000 (GRC chair budget and GRC budget combined)
    - Originally VP position (was then rolled into GRC chair position) - $6000
    - $10,000 set budget every year - looking to expand workshops
    - Purpose of GRC - to prepare grad students for other conferences, opportunity for professional development and feedback, showcase grad student research, building collaborations
    - Basic costs comes from the food - $3000
    - If we want to move toward the real purpose of the GRC, we need to find more ways to cut costs.
    - GRC budget will be made public. Once budget is public send suggestions to [grc@umbc.edu](mailto:grc@umbc.edu)
  + GAAC - $5,000
    - They main purpose is to meet and confer with UMBC Administration on behalf of Grad Assistances. GAAC was instrumental in keep our health insurance costs low. Health insurance issue not going away anytime soon.
    - Have not presented a formal budget - actually Adam found a proposed budget of $960 (before they took compensation into account)
    - $5000 meant to cover cost of town hall meetings, travel, compensation for time
    - As of right now, no chair - seeking a chair
    - We don’t know what activities they are planning because we don’t have a detailed budget
  + Special Committees (ad hoc committees) - 3 (up to 6 members)
  + Motion: Motion to remove $1000 from GRC budget and put into grants, and $2500 from GAAC and move that $3500 into Grants project - Seconded
    - Yes: 21 OP: AB: - does not carry (quorum = 23)
* Motion: Reduce GAAC budget by $2500 and move remaining into Grants project
  + Y: 30 OP: 0 AB: 1 - SO MOVED
* Motion to approve budget as it stands with $2500 reduction from GAAC: Y: 31 OP: 0 A: 0 - SO MOVED

2.2 Grants Selection Process (R/A) [Rebecca Dowling]

* Rebecca presented a PPT on potential mechanisms to award grants (Once the PPT is up, I will email it to Sally. Basically, it was either using a lottery system or Review Panel (i.e. Needs Bases system) to determine grantees. Some reps suggested the idea of reinstating caps. I addition, the committee suggested widen the applicant and approval period. Senate reps suggested making the window, even bigger.
* As a means of discouraging gratuitous applications, it was suggested (1) Increasing the volunteering aspect. (2) Requiring a small fee for applying? (not so much agreement)- need to decrease frivolous expenses. (3) Limiting grants to Fee paying students only
* Senate was more open to the Needs Based Review Panel and asked the Grants Committee to draft a Criteria System
  + Motion**:** For grants committee to come up with set of criteria for review panel and system to review that criteria: seconded (28 remaining members)
  + **Y: majority yes OP: A:**
* Discussion: criteria needs to be needs based and objective, think about how people will answer

2.3 GSOs

(a) PGSA, Funding (T/I/A) [Ian Nodurft]

* Trying to have 3 different event
* Seminar series and symposium series ($200 each for entire series)- $400
* Not asking for Holiday Party
* Discussion: any GSO opposed to any GSO asking for their additional $750?
  + Is there enough money for all GSOs to get their $1000?
  + Can adopt the mentality that if you’re just asking for $750, that’s ok
  + Motion of Adding GSO budget to minutes: PASSES (will be in treasurer’s report)
  + SYMPOSIUM SERIES: APPROVED
  + SEMINAR SERIES: APPROVED
  + HOLIDAY PARTY: $200- APPROVED

(b) LNCS, Creation (T/I/A) [Scott Riley]

* 9 Grad students (chem and bio), more grad students = more funding
* They organize STEM events for local elementary and middle school kids. Upcoming events include a STEM depts. tours for girl scouts
* They want to branch into working with the Public Policy department on STEM funding policy and organizing a seminar on stem funding and stem policy
* Motion to create a committee: APPROVED

(c) CGSA, Funding (I/A) [Alex Winton]

* Professional development networking series: APPROVED ($750)

2.4 Special Committees (I)

(a) NVivo [Roy]

* Interest in bringing site license to campus. Need to garner interest. Any public policy graduates who do qualitative research, it is in your interest to support DoIT obtaining a license. It will allow you to use it for free. Please let Felipe or me know if you want us to push for this.
* Motion to create a committee: APPROVED

(b) Transit [Roy]

* Transit wants to add a Columbia route
* Create a committee to garner interest and survey students and support: tabled until next time- APPROVED

(c) Legislative Concerns

* Motion to Create the committee - APPROVED

2.5 Additional Items

(a) Grants Selection

* No lottery this month- all grants applied for

t → ∞ 3. Adjourn (A)

**Announcements:**

Graduate Student Open Forum

Skylight

Nov 6, 4:30pm

3rd Meeting of Graduate Senate

Skylight

Nov 6, 5-7pm