

University of Tennessee Knoxville
Graduate Student Senate
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 2, 2008

Call to Order: Meeting called to order 7:00 PM

Attendees (voting members): M. Armento, M. Carlini, L. Comet, T. Cooper, A. Dautartua, A. Devito, T. Flick, C. Glennon, T. Haskins, T. Hendershot, J. Lambert, L. Li, S. May, A. Mello, A. Milojevich, L. Neely, J. Scroggins, E. Smith (proxy), C. Spellings, K. Sprecher, S. Sutton, A. Svonavec

Next Meeting: October 23, 2008

Minutes approved at 7:03pm

Guest Speaker:

S. Kay Reed, Assistant Dean of the Graduate School

Asking for volunteers (20) to assist in graduation- ushers, helpers, etc.

Honorarium of \$100 per graduate student.

Dec 12, 2008 at 4:30pm in Thompson Boling Arena. Walk through on Dec. 9, 2008

Fax, Email or Return to the Graduate School. Deadline Oct. 27, 2008

President's report: (Julie Lynch)

• **Travel Awards**

- 41 students will be awarded travel funds
- The amount ranges from \$550 to \$50
- Students will be notified by mail
- An email will be sent to notify students that the letter have been mailed
- I would like to form a committee to look at the travel fund award process, if you are interested, please see me after the meeting

• **Fun Run**

- The date has been set for the 17th Annual "Love Your Libraries" Fun Run, it will be on Saturday February 21, 2009
- The race begins at 8:30
- There is a 5k run as well as a 1 mile fun walk
- In the past registration has been \$15 to pre-register and \$20 on race day
- We are hoping to increase the number of runners
- We will need a committee to work on logistics, organizing volunteers, obtaining donations/prizes
- We will need everyone's help promoting the event, including promotion to faculty and staff

• **Student Fees**

- Graduate Students do not pay the study abroad fee
- The a portion (about \$1 million) of the programs and services fee goes towards athletics
- The Programs and services fees are printed in the Beacon each semester

Vice President's report: (Drew Justice)

Passed along concerns about wireless problems to OIT

Spoken to the Dean of the Graduate School to help with the wireless problems

Old business:

Health Insurance Concerns-(A. Milojevich)

Chemistry department is taking concerns to the Faculty Senate. They believe that (1) Students should be able to opt out of School Health Insurance (2) School should provide an option so that you may upgrade your health insurance. Contact Allyn if you are interested in pursuing this further.

Issue raised that not having an option to opt out of the Student Health Insurance is unethical.

Travel Fund

Some student opportunities are not meeting requirements for travel fund application.

New Business:

Social Event (L. Ledgerwood)

GSS does not have its own budget. Is it possible to separate our budget from SGA's budget?

Saturday, November 8, 2008, sponsored by Alumni Affairs-Party in the Park (Circle Park)

Laura will check into prices and family rate. Breakfast from 9am-noon. Band, UT Olympians', family friendly, Football Weekend (against Wyoming)

IT Committee Opening (D. Justice)

Drew Justice is unable to attend meetings on Mondays at 3:30pm. He is not sure how often these meeting take place.

Motion to adjourn at 7:34pm Motion passed unanimously