Minutes

Graduate Student Senate Meeting

Date: Thursday, January 23, 2020
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Location: Senate Chambers
Attendees: Senators and general public

A. Call to Order— 8:02 PM
   a. Meeting begins at 8:02 PM

B. Call of the Roll

C. Special Guest – Katie Fowler and Alessia Keane, Project Life Movement
   - Big thanks to Clemson CRU for providing snacks!!
   - CRU Grad- Christian group that works with grad students to help meet spiritual needs on campus.
   - Need help with graduate life interviews- 15-20 minute interviews offering feedback about being a graduate student at Clemson; we can meet you on campus!
   - Want to know how we can meet the needs of grad students on campus.
   - Project Life Movement is a national program to increase the potential pool of stem cell and bone marrow donors by recruiting young, healthy, diverse people to join the registry.
   - Download the SWABAPP or visit: www.gol.org/swab
   - Select ‘I’m at a Donor Drive’ and choose ‘Clemson GSG / PLM’
   - Click ‘Continue’ and proceed with the registration questionnaire
   - Time to swab! Directions on kit!

D. Executive Reports- President, Vice President. Chief of Staff, Pro-Tempore John Porter
   a. President, Kaitlyn Samons
- Board of Trustees Report cut down to 3 pages, will be available through the Discord
  b. Vice President, John Porter III
- Sign up for a committee! You must serve on at least one
  c. Pro-Tempore, TBD

Spring Senate Meeting Dates:
- 1/9/2020
- 1/23/2020
- 2/6/2020
- 2/20/2020
- 3/5/2020
- 3/26/2020
- 4/9/2020
- 4/23/2020

d. Chief-of-Staff, TBD

E. Internal Committee Reports

a. Communications, Hillary Smith
   - Sign-Up to take over the GSG Instagram account!
   - https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/11O_TVppAMle6XqWA5v-85CoV6T8tq0mEoB669mloBr8/edit?usp=sharing

b. Graduate Travel Grants, Bridget Blood and Kathy Elhert

F. We met with Dean Fleming for a productive conversation about the reimbursement process and how to improve it.

a. We've added a box on the reimbursement form to include your employee ID. If you have an employee ID and can submit it, your reimbursement will be direct deposited and should come faster.

G. We met with our committee on the 20th and are exploring the impact our current scoring process has on students who travel to workshops or for fieldwork.

H. You might not think that March is right around the corner, but the semester can go quickly. This is a reminder that GTG Summer Applications open on March 23rd and close April 1st.

a. We're extending the funding period to September 15th so if you have late August or early September events, you will need to apply in March.
   i. This is to give you more time before the event to know if you did or did not get an award.

b. Activities, Laura Huff and Murwan Siddig
   - Thanks to everyone who was able to make it to the Coffee Break last week! We had over 120 people drop by.
   - Board game night! Thursday, January 30th. Location TBA, check email/social media/discord for updates.
- Trivia Night is back! Charleston Sports Pub, 7pm, Tuesday February 4th
- Valentines goodie bags! Fill out this survey if you want your department to get a treat: https://clemson.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9vLRfZk9jAIsBvL

d. Rules and Procedures, Sarah
   - we have a combined Bylaws document uploaded on the GSG website for reference, we are going to begin working through policy changes we identified in the process starting Monday

e. Research Initiatives, Apurva Patel and Erik Antonio
   - Email Apurva for questions for the upcoming visit from the US Patent and Trademark Office!!
   - February 4th, 1:00 PM in Sikes Hall President to Discuss Sustainability on Clemson’s Campus
   - CPR training coming to Clemson! Stay tuned
Third Finance Committee Hearing will be held on **Tuesday, 1/28/2020, at 8 PM** at the Graduate Student Government Office.
- 78% of the organizational funding yearly budget still left!

I. External Committee Reports

a. University Services, Travis Roberts
   - Contract for the Barnes and Noble Bookstore in Douthit is up for renewal at the end of the semester
   - Let us know if you have any service/offerings you would like to see from the bookstore

b. Diversity and Inclusion, Emmanuel Adjei
   - 29th of March - International Festival (inclimate weather alternative date is April 5th)
   - Black History Month is in February so watch for emails for updates
   - Please join this committee!
   - Pride meeting was attended last week.

c. Graduate Academic Affairs, Robert O’Hara
   - Partial GADS suspended for 2 years
   - Council discussed how GPAs are reset after starting a new degree if previously earned one from Clemson
   - Also discussed transfer credits and credits by examinations
     - Current policies on how many credits can transfer in and how to get exemptions for that
     - Shelf life of courses for a masters degree approximately 6 years - discussion on allowing students to instead take a final examination to reassume the credit
     - Future discussion about changing the status of what it means to be a full time student during post-comps; full time credit would be one instead of nine

d. Health and Human Services, Rose Sommers
   - Approved for immunizations clinic in Greenville
   - Met with Dr. Clay to get information on why we need a new building for Redfern
   - Dr. Clay would be willing to come speak to the Senate

e. Graduate Campus Life, Emily Knight
   - Goals for the Semester:
     - Begin the campaign against academic bullying in partnership with the Graduate School
     - Pass a resolution for PAID parental leave
     - Stipend research/ potential resolution for a minimum stipend
     - Continuing to put pressure on fees/getting the “Grad Assistant Fee” labeled as tuition
     - PAW Pantry goods drive
- Work with other committees in assessing accessibility on campus and support a campaign for awareness of visible and invisible disabilities

f. Parking and Facilities, Qianyi Gao
- Parking Survey Link
  - https://qfreeaccountssjc1.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_e98q1IZOPY58iKp

J. Old Business

K. New Business

L. Other Announcements and Open Remarks
   a. ALL SENATORS MUST SERVE ON AT LEAST ONE COMMITTEE

M. Good of the Senate
   - Women’s Leadership Conference on March 7th
   - Registration is open and it is $15
   - Male kitten in need of a new home, 8-9 months old, please contact Amir if you are interested in adopting

11. Adjournment – 9:23 PM

12. Senate Secretary Katherine Allen: If you have events that you would like to share with the Graduate Student community, I WILL ADD THEM TO THE MEETING AGENDAS! Please email me at kallen5@g.clemson.edu with what you would like to include, and it will be placed in this section. During the meeting, you can give more details and answer any questions. Items received by Tuesday at 8 pm will be included in the agenda that will be distributed on Wednesday. Other items will be included in the meeting minutes.