

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION  
GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE  
EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES  
October 29, 2014  
5:30 P.M.  
Graduate Student Life, Conference room

Meeting called to order at 5:30.

The motion to approve last week's minutes is called by Senator 86, and seconded by Senator 75. No one objects, and the motion passes.

The Chair congratulates Ways and Means on a job well done with the recent evaluation of grants.

The Vice Chair and Academic Affairs have nothing to report.

Development and Philanthropy report that they are still working with Positive Tomorrows, and are currently writing a bill related to their work.

Human Diversity reports that they have a Facebook page. They are going to send out emails to student organizations requesting topics for a panel discussion related to diversity (i.e. sex, religion, morality). They also wish to promote a town hall meeting on Monday at 7:00 in Meacham Auditorium. It is a panel discussion about how well OU responds to diversity and racial issues. This is not held by a student organization, but by a student and faculty member.

Internal Affairs, and Problems and Projects have nothing to report.

Public Relations report that they have a Twitter page, and would like help coming up with a relevant hashtag.

Ways and means report that they have written legislation giving travel, research, and creative exhibition grants. Grants were due on October 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:00. On the 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00, the first round of evaluations took place. Out of 103 applications, 63 passed (based on the criteria that the application was complete and correctly formatted). On the 26<sup>th</sup>, the second round of evaluations took place. Out of 63 applicants, 57 were awarded funding. This was based on two individuals grading the application on a 100 point scale and then adding their scores together. Of the 100 points, 35 were based on the applicant's Statement of Importance and Participation, 25 were based on the professor's applicant assessment, and 25 were based on the professor's recommendation. 5 points were added to favor those who had not received a grant in the past. If an application scored above a 75% out of 200 points, they were given funding. This scaled according to their score (an 'A' received all of their requested funding, all the way down to a 'C' received 50% of their requested funding).

It is asked whether there is a cap on the money allotted for grants. Ways and Means responds that there is, and they used money from the contingency funds to cover all the grants awarded.

External Affairs reports that they have made a survey about the CART system. With George Ahmadi, they will put out the survey next week. The survey is read aloud, and some suggestions to change binary questions to graded questions are made (“Do you use the bus system?” could be answered on a scale of how often the respondent uses the bus system).

Problems and Projects reports they wish to make recycling options available to persons on game day, instead of having volunteers pick of recyclables afterwards. They are also writing a resolution asking that OU pledge to use more renewable energy.

GF 14-14 (A Resolution requesting that a rope be placed around the seal on the South Oval) and GF14-15 (Amending Emergency Funding Availability Act) has already been reviewed by this body, and will be seen in the general meeting.

GF14-20 (Student Organization Subsidiary Funding Appropriation Act of 2014) is brought to the floor by Senator 86, seconded by Senator 75. Senator 75, seconded by Senator 69 recommends that the executive council send this legislation to the body with a recommendation to pass. No one objects, and the motion passes.

GF14-21 (An Act of Procedure Approving Travel/Conference/Research and Creative Exhibition Grant Awards for the 1014 Fall Semester) is brought to the floor by Senator 86, seconded by Senator 72. The Vice Chair asks if those denied grants will be notified as to the reasons why. The Ways and Means Committee reports that they have that information available if it is requested. Senator 75, seconded by Senator 33 recommends that the executive council send this legislation to the body with a recommendation to pass. No one objects, and the motion passes.

GF14-22 (Subsidiary Funding Act of 2014) is the same as GF14-20. It was a typo that it was included twice on the agenda.

The Secretary reports that all the minutes to previous meeting will soon be posted on the web, as SGA now has a webmaster. Also, a “Meet your Senator” tab has been added to the GSS part of the SAG website.

The next meeting will be on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November. The motion to adjourn is brought by Senator 75, seconded by Senator 86. The motion passes, and the meeting is adjourned at 6:00.