~Please look over this. If your name is missing from the attendance you will forever be known as absent and this will affect your departmental funding.

In Attendance:

Department Representatives:

K. Hoyt   K. Soule   G. Gilbert   C. Clark   D. Cassidy   J. Beaupre
N. Spaulding  W. Plourde  K. Davis   M. Royer   S. Ladd   E. Wadoski
M. Burgess   M. Snell   M. Davidson   S. Breems   J. Bolton   A. Kristo
J. Passanisi   J. Stahley   M. Jones   C. Mahaffey   J. Epps   F. Faterni
W. Slade   K. Minott   M. Tylka   A. Shearin   R. Logan
V. Gaete-Martinez

Executive Committee:

J. Logan   P. Spinney   J-A. Scott   K. Soule   K. Hoyt   J. Gao

Graduate School:
D. Sandweiss   S. Delcourt

1. President’s Report- Jeremy

- Welcome
- Senator Responsibilities
  ~Bring issues from department & then deliver GSG information back to your department
  ~Please look the minutes over.
- First Class
  ~General GSG folder; general interest to Grad. Students
     In Academics folder then Graduate School
  ~Rep Forum; private forum for senators
     In the general GSG folder
  ~Trouble accessing either folder please contact someone in the executive committee

- Health Insurance Committee
  ~ Jeremy is chairing this; a great committee to modify our insurance plan so that it fits us more appropriately
     If you are interested in evaluating our insurance plan and want to offer your assistance please join this committee.
Vice President’s Report - Patrick

- Committee Sign-Ups
  - Primary role of Patrick = organizing GSG committees & Expo
  - Please sign up for at least one committee
- Graduate Research Expo
  - April; posters/discussion/presentations of graduate students work, great way to learn about what is going on in our graduate programs.
    - If interested in setting this up please join this committee
- Philanthropy committee
  - Great way to give a helping hand to our local committee

Grant’s Officer - Julie-Ann

- Grants Application
  - Needs to be approved each year
    - We can either put this off for two weeks or do it now; better to do it now
  - Rules to apply for a grant, format mostly.
    - 1\textsuperscript{st} change – $0.42 per mile instead of $0.40
    - 2\textsuperscript{nd} change - $40 for food per day instead of $30

What is the impact of this change?
- Will this cause less people to be funded?
  - This should not be a problem because the amount for individuals is set ($800) so the increase in food is up to the applicant. They will take $10 off of another section if they desire to do this, if not then they have that extra $10 for another field.

We are also getting more funding for Grants therefore more people this year should be able to receive more grants this year then in the past.

- Should we up the total amount of grant money from $800 to $825 or $850
  - It might be fine if we still increase the number of people awarded
  - What about the clubs, if we up the grant budget will this take away from clubs?
  - Shouldn’t be a problem because they are separate pieces of the budget.

As of now there are not weighted applications due to the amount you are asking for; though we could think about the amount being asked for as a way to group applicants in the future.

- 3\textsuperscript{rd} change – reducing the amount that is required in two areas
  a. Past funding to make sure people don’t get funded for the same thing twice
    - Take this out for grant readers & only Grants Officer gets to look at this to prevent bias from the readers
  b. One copy of receipts that Grant Officer will organize for the readers, if necessary, and make sure they remain anonymous
    - More of an issue for reimbursement then applying
~Wayne Slade & Christine Clark motion to vote on this today and take the application as it is, maybe up the total amount awarded next semester.
   All in Favor – 21
   All opposed – 0
   Abstention – 0

Unanimously passed to send out the Grant application as is.

- Club & Organizations Application
  Changed is “What a club is”, which is already in the standing rules & to up amount of funding for Clubs & Orgs from $500 to $600.

We will approve budget next meeting, but the increase is on a less competitive budget than the Grants funding.

~Jason & Wayne Slade motion to vote on this revised application.
   All in Favor – 20
   All opposed – 0
   Abstention – 1

- Mentor/Grants/Clubs & Orgs Committees
  Mentor committee is to award mentors who have gone above and beyond; gives them a free registration to the University book club

Board of Trustees (BOT) – Ken
- Board of Trustees Meeting: Sept 14 & 15th
  @ Wells commons; there is a 10 min period at the end of the meeting for people to state their opinions

Ken is the go between to decide tuition increases & policy
   ~UMaine systems are represented at these meetings

- Graduate Student Advocacy Committee
  Direct voice to the people to decide how the university is run. Used to bring up problems with your departments & the University

Secretary’s Report- Kara
- Sign-In for the Senators

- Publicity Committee
  Looking to change the focus from once a semester/year update to a more frequent update on graduate students stories.
• Office hours:
  Jianing:    Friday 9-11am
  JulieAnn:   Thursday 12:30-2:30pm
  Ken:         Tuesday 1-3pm
  Jeremy: Monday 1-3pm
  Kara:  Thursday 5-7pm
  Pat:  Mon & Wed 9-10am

• Laptops
  Going to budget to buy 3 more laptops, but this will be decided on when we look at the budget.

Treasurer’s Report- Jianing
Audit & finances
• Budget
  Not quite ready yet, but should be ready next week.

New Business

  Dan & Scott are our advocates, so please go to them for assistance in your graduate career; you are also able to come to the executive committee at anytime.

~Adjourn~