The University of Maine

GRADUATE STUDENT GOVERNMENT (GSG)

Minutes of the GSG Board Meeting, January 28, 2010

In Attendance:

Department Representatives:

| D. Belanger | A. Burke | D. Cassidy | P. Damkot | E. Desroberts |
| C. Folsom  | N. Gogan | W. Hall    | P. Heacock* | N. Heller    |
| L. Holleb  | K. Klappenbach | A. Kristo | D. Laliberté | B. Looze    |
| Je. Moulton** | Jo. Moulton | J. Peimer | K. Pingree | A. Potter    |
| A. Prang   | R. Rioux  | M. Royer   | C. Salm    | W. Slade     |

Proxies:

*G. Ziemer      **A. Melton    K. Brothers

Executive Committee:

P. Spinney  J. Bolton  J. Beaupre  T. Smith  C. Mahaffey  J. Scott-Pollock

Meeting called to order at 12:31 pm.

President’s Report – Pat

Social Committee – Next Event
Before Spring Break, on a Friday evening
Hoping for somewhere off-campus (“Sport’s Café” is now “The Roost”)
Ideas from Senators:
Karaoke
Ice skating night, snow tubing (Essex St. hill)
Meet & greet with no real planned activity
Bowling (Old Town)

Minutes
Royer/Folsom – Move to approve minutes from 12/03/09.
Passes (25 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

Health Insurance Committee
Will be meeting with insurance representative on February 8.
Information will be available as soon as possible to bring options to the Senate
Concerns from Senators:
  Testing (STD and other) and prescription drug coverage lacking  
  [Response: The drug coverage is fairly standard. STD and other testing should be  
  covered after the deductible. Some issues could be the result of Norumbega (at  
  Cutler) failing to work properly with any insurance company.]
  Could we combine with the undergrads to get a larger applicant pool?  
  [Response: This is a possibility, but our coverage is much better than theirs already.  
  Also, the graduate assistant pool is different because all GAs are required to have  
  health insurance, undergrads are not.]
  What about combining with students from other schools?  
  [Response: In the past this has not been an option that would have benefited us;  
  however, we will look into all options that could get us better insurance for less cost.]
  Treatment seems to be better at the EMMC walk-in clinic on Union St. in Bangor than at  
  Cutler

Vice President’s Report – Jason
  Graduate Expo  
  What is it? The GSG Graduate Expo is a 2-day event for graduate students to present  
  research, projects, or anything else.
  When is it? April 15, 16 (Thurs., Fri.)
  Where is it? Wells Commons
  Keynote Speaker: Karl Winters (How to give a proper presentation)
  Events: Poster presentations, gala, research talks, lectures, performances, etc.
  Abstract Submission: 2/1/10 – 2/28/10 available through website
  Students who want to present both a poster and a talk, e-mail Jason
  Undergraduates will have a related event on the April 14

Board of Trustees (BOT) – Julie-Ann
  BOT Update
  The budget crisis has put most project son hold.
  The web portal project has been delayed for at least 2 years.
  New distribution guidelines for the Strategic Investment Fund: fine print warns that funds  
  from one university may be allocated to a different university indefinitely
  Students from other campuses want to form a system-wide coalition of students to  
  represent the state. They also may be sending advocates to Augusta
  FYI: The USM undergraduate student government paid for a USM auditor to do a  
  review of the System finances. The report claims that there is no budget crisis, and  
  that the administration is just hiding funds. This result seems to be false. The report  
  failed to consider donated money that is earmarked for a particular use (e.g. an  
  endowed fellowship).

Grant Officers Report – Christie
  Grants  
  Deadline: 2/17/09 (Wednesday)
  Application directions are posted on the website. No significant changes from the Fall  
  application
Confirmation e-mail will be sent automatically
Looking for grant readers (only have 2 of 10 now)
We are moving away from FirstClass folder toward website
Any concerns or questions should be e-mailed to Christie Mahaffey on FirstClass

Clubs & Orgs funding is open again for half-year funding (max. of $300)
New clubs must apply for recognition from the Senate before they can be funded.
New application is on the website.

**Treasurer – James**

**Budget**
Received first deposit from Bursar ($27000)
Meeting with accountants to go over current financial review.
Suggestion: Make a motion that requires the financial review to be completed by the end of the summer. This would be the responsibility of the newly elected Treasurer.
The outgoing Treasurer and the Incoming Treasurer should both meet with the accountant at the end of the year.

**Secretary’s Report – Trevor**
The Constitution, By Laws, and Standing Rules available on the website have been updated
If you notice errors in attendance records and/or grant funding eligibility,
e-mail Trevor I. Smith on FirstClass

**New Business**
Website schedule has the wrong year

Could a grant application be put through that stays within the budget but goes to more than one conference? Maybe. Christie will check on that

**Meeting adjourned at 1:30**