Meeting called to order at 12:32 pm.

Correction to Minutes

Prang/Royer Motion to approve minutes from 3/18/10 as corrected
Passes (20 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention)

President’s Report – Pat
Meeting date change
The meeting scheduled for April 15, 2010 has to be rescheduled or cancelled because it is
during the GSG Expo.
Most people in attendance agreed that moving the meeting to Tuesday April 13 at 12:30
in Stodder is the best option.
Elections will be held at this meeting

Officer Nominations
Lynn Clark accepts nomination for Secretary.
**Health Insurance Update (Dave Cassidy)**

The University wants the ability to go to bid next year so we can’t ask for bids from other insurance companies this year. Undergrad plan went up 25% last year (ours only went up 5%).

We are asking the insurance company for a quote for an optional add-on policy that would increase our maximum coverage. Right now it seems like an additional $345 would increase our maximum coverage to $500,000 (from $100,000)

Currently women’s wellness and STD testing are only covered at Cutler. We are trying to see if they can move it to other locations as well, but we don’t know yet.

Treatment for eating disorders, etc. are only covered at Cutler, but the people who provide those services are no longer at Cutler, so that may be going away or it may go into the general policy.

**Academic Program Prioritization Group (APPWG)**

The interim report from the Deans of the five colleges to APPWG has been released, and an open forum was held to hear concerns from students, faculty, and staff.

The goal of the report was to have each Dean cut 20% of their operating budget. APPWG will review this report and send their recommendations to Provost Susan Hunter. The Provost will then report her recommendations to President Kennedy. His final decisions will need to be approved by the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor.

Dani Laliberté – Modern Languages and Classics has exhausted our resources, and we’re looking to our grad students for more ideas, maybe we can meet with Dean Sandweiss to discuss ideas.

Dean Sandweiss – I will be happy to meet with any students who would like to discuss options about the future of their departments. You should be prepared to prove that your program is viable to be able to make a difference. President Kennedy’s recommendations won’t take effect until July, 2011 and will be spread over three academic years. If the economic situation changes many of them may not need to be enacted.

One of the best ways to make a difference is to write op-ed pieces to local newspapers, write to the Board of Trustees, and write to your state senators and representatives. We need a strong public opinion from among the general population of Maine.

If anyone in your department is sending a letter to APPWG, Provost Hunter, President Kennedy, or anyone else, please ask them to forward the letter to the Rep Forum. Julie-Ann can take these letters to the Board of Trustees to show them how concerned and active graduate students are here at UMaine.

**Board of Trustees (BOT) – Julie-Ann**

**Public Calendar**

The UMaine System is proposing a common calendar for use at all seven campuses. The main points of discussion are about the timing of Spring Break. It would be beneficial for other campuses to have two 1-week breaks (aligning with the public school breaks), but the faculty here at UMaine are adamant about have one 2-week break.
Several compromises have been proposed: One 2-week break in which the first week aligns with the public school February Break. OR One 2-week break during the last two weeks of March (This does not align with either of the public school breaks. The general consensus among the GSG is that a 2-week break in February would be bad because almost nothing could be accomplished before the break. We recommend keeping Spring Break the way it is.

Salm/Klappenbach Motion to take a stand that the current break is the best way to go
Passes (22 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstention)

**Vice President’s Report – Jason**
**Graduate Expo**
We have an agenda and a flyer. Higher quality files of the are available from Mark Royer and Jason Bolton
We will include President Kennedy and the Graduate School on the poster as financial support.
We have poster coupons for printing.

**Treasurer – James**
We need ushers for the hooding ceremony: contact your departments and e-mail James Beaupre with volunteers
We need at least 18, and we currently have 3.
It’s good if you’re going to be there anyway.

**Grant Officers Report – Christie**
No need for discussion of grants report

**Secretary’s Report – Trevor**
I would like each senator to send me one short piece of information for the newsletter.

**New Business**

**Meeting adjourned at 1:32**