GSG Meeting 10/21/15
Meeting Called to Order at: 12:02 p.m.

Assistant Director for Upward Bound- Serving first generation college students who are still in high school. Six week summer program- opportunity to volunteer as a mentor or work. Application process starts in January. On UMaine Website. Contact Kelly

Approval of Minutes from 10-7-15: Approved: 27  Opposed: 0  Abstaining: 0

President: Fogler Library Committee- in process of creating five-year strategic plan. Want to know what resources are working well? Where is there room for improvement? Official call for opinions will be sent out.

Chancellor Page's Visit- Information session was 10-20-15. One University is a series of principles.
Graduate education remains a priority, but no further statement was made. Sessions are being held at each campus, we were the fifth.
Preliminary report has come out- it is the report of things that have been reviewed by the faculty, so changes are likely years to come. The full plan will be submitted by July 2016 at the earliest. Graduate students will continue to be informed as changes are made.
System-wide budget is planned to be in effect by 2018.

Vice President: GradExpo April 27th 2016 in Cross Insurance Center
Expo subcommittee will be soon- committee members will be e-mailed with further information.
Suggestion to vote on whether or not GSG should adopt rank-choice voting. Vote will be held at the next meeting. Direct questions to Sam or Jack (GSG Pres. or Vice Pres.)

Treasurer: Initial round of materials for financial review has been submitted.

OPD: Wednesday, November 11th- Peer-review resume workshop (flier to come)
Friday, October 30- 5-8 bar crawl. Starting at Black Bear Brewery Taproom, ending at Family Dog. Pizza provided at first location, deals at the rest. Trivia for teams of up to 4 people will be at all stops. RSVP Facebook.

Grants: Grant review sessions start next week. Committee has been contacted. All decisions should be done before Thanksgiving break.
Club audit being done this Fall- going through reports from clubs to make sure money is being spent for appropriate reasons and reports are being correctly filed.

Club Presentations:
Student Organization of Society of National Resources: Student chapter of a larger organization. Opening a forum for research participation and communication. Provide social activities for a variety of subjects. Focus on social, service, and professional development. The society offers a yearly conference. Four officers, student interest from undergraduate and graduate. Emphasizes the human dimensions of problem solving. Strong emphasis on interdisciplinary work. Membership criteria is participation in at least two events and a service project. The plan is to have undergraduate participation, but they will not be given voting rights.
Vote: Approve: 24  Object: 2  Abstain:2

President (2): Activity Fee Meeting was attended by one representative. More meetings will be coming up. Packet will be made to distribute to constituents. No proposition will be given without further voting.

Vote on whether or not to pursue the idea of an activity fee increase-  Approve: 28 Object: 2  Abstain:1

Further discussion: Campaigning for further meetings to ensure everyone understands the significance of the activity fee and what it goes toward. There has been a significant decrease in the number of graduate students and not all of them pay activity fees.

Facing a budget shortfall of $13,900. Cannot operate with such a large deficit, which will have to be made up for in some way. It is the goal to make up for this without cutting into grants and club funding. Emphasis is being put onto obtaining external funding for the Expo so student expenses can be eliminated. By increasing the activity fee, the budget shortfall will be cut and the outflow to graduate students can be raised through grants and club funding.

Suggestion was made for a $20 charge to present at the GradExpo. Each representative could potentially participate in ways to gain money for the GSG, such as Mechanical Turk (through Amazon). Doing these types of activities for one hour a day could present a large increase in revenue.

If different levels of increases are presented, it should be pointed out that a larger increase now will put off another increase in future semesters.

A higher increase will also increase how much students gets back.

In opposition, it has been mentioned that when budgets outside of ExComm are exceeded it is not usually covered by outside sources. As a response, $5000 have been cut from the budget and we were only $500 over the budget, which is an improvement from previous years and still being worked on.

Weekly updates have been being sent to department coordinators from the president.

Senator Updates: March against domestic violence
  Tuesdays at 7p.m. in IMRC, lectures
  Women's Gender and Sexuality Tea Party on Thursday 6-7 in Fernald 101- Discussion of potential internship
  Chemistry guest seminar

Meeting adjourned at: 1:01 p.m.