

Graduate Student Advisory Council Executive Board

**October 16, 2008 8:15 PM
Blair Hall Conference Room
Meeting Minutes**

- I. Call to Order – 8:25
- II. Attendance – Tasha excused
- III. Old Business
 - a. Budget – It was decided that based on the student response to the fee proposal, we would ask for a committee to form and rework the wording of the proposal. We will pass out copies at the next general meeting, as well as copies of last year's budget expenses.
 - b. GSAC constitution – The newly formed task force will meet soon so that they have a report for the general meetings. Peter and Ricel suggested that the task force pick another university's constitution on which to model ours. Peter is the GSAC exec board member that will attend the task force meetings.
 - c. Cap on Financial Aid – Uros explained how his conversation with the financial aid rep was ultimately rather frustrating. There is a federal mandate saying that students who exceed 48 hours of grad work need to have their petition for further hours on file. The financial aid rep suggested that their department knows which students are in the programs that need more than 48 hours of work, and the coordinators of those programs simply need to contact them for separate acknowledgement of their work...however, lists have not been provided in the past. Rodney is going to contact the department and see if he can provide the lists at this point.
 - d. Website / Technology – Uros seemed to think that the website would be up and running (at least in some new form) by Friday October 24th. He is pushing a CMS system for Eastern and making the website programming simple enough that the next person in line to be webmaster can simply drag and drop all changes to the website. He asked that all minutes and agendas be sent to him for the website changes, as well as exec board member info. Peter offered to filter all the e-mails that come in to the website, sending them out to the correct committees as needed.
 - e. Semester events – The committee for semester events will meet on Wednesday, October 22nd. Ricel will usually attend these meetings. She also suggested that we hand off a good deal of Grad Expo planning to this committee.
- IV. New Business
 - a. The graduate school will send out an e-mail explaining that although we

require a two student minimum for GSAC representation per department, all graduate students are welcome to attend the meetings.

- b. We will look into making GSAC part of orientation next year, to increase awareness of the organization.
- c. We will make a hand me down book with all the information from this year's meetings in it. Hopefully, this will help next year's council ease into their duties. Erin has already started to construct this book, collecting all minutes, agendas, and handouts, but we will also need written explanations of each member's duties.

V. Adjourn – 9:30

Compiled by Erin Crawley