

October 7, 2014
6:00 PM
Koldus Bldg. 144

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes

III. Speaker's Podium

- a. Kenny Kimball, Fiscal Affairs & Compliance-Transportation Services

IV. Voice Reports

- a. University Committees
- b. Department, Program, or Organization Announcements

V. Pending Business

VI. New Business

VII. Standing Committee Reports

- a. Awards
 - i. Winter 2014 Travel Awards – application period Sept. 15th-Oct. 17th, 2014
 - ii. Summer 2014 Quarterly Report
 - iii. Profit Share – TBA
 - iv. Feedback on award policies
- b. Legislative Affairs
 - i. Presidential Roundtable – Wednesday, November 19th
 - Special meeting (attendance mandatory)
- c. Marketing and Communications
- d. Multicultural and Diversity Affairs
 - i. Global Tailgate- Saturday, October 11th
 - ii. Interdisciplinary dinner with Dr. Mukhtar- Thursday, October 23rd
 - iii. Interdisciplinary dinner with Dr. Welsh- Friday, November 21st
- e. Outreach
- f. Programming
- g. Quality of Life
- h. Selfless Service
 - i. 12th Can – update
 - ii. BUILD – update

VIII. Special Committee Reports

- a. Student Research Week
- b. Grad Camp

IX. Officer Reports

- a. President
 - i. Legislative and Advocacy Priorities
 - ii. President's University Meetings and Committees
 - iii. Students Affairs Fee Advisory Board – budgeting and presentation period
- b. Executive Vice President

- c. Vice President of University Affairs
 - i. University Committees (External) – online reporting form
 - ii. Council Committees (Internal) – assignments
- d. Vice President of Information
- e. Vice President of Finance
 - i. Budget review for August-September

X. Advisor Comments

XI. Announcements

XII. Adjournment

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III. Speaker's Podium

- a. Joelle Muenich, OGAPS
 - Works with graduate and professional student event programming, flyer available up front for professional development opportunities, OGAPS hosts many programs throughout the semester, specifically October the Graduate and Professional Student Development Month, you get a passport and stamp for every workshop you attend and at the end of the month turn your passport in to win prizes
 - 3 Minute Thesis: a few changes to eligibility, all masters and doctoral students are able to compete, requirements are 2nd year masters and +3rd year doctoral students, with monetary prizes
- b. Kenny Kimball, Fiscal Affairs & Compliance-Transportation Services
 - Financial Update Transit Operations (transit is separate from parking) sustained by university advancement fee and some from bus adverts, no longer sustained by student population, transportation costs: labor, fuel, and maintenance. Faced with 30% budget cut. Currently increases in enrollment have caused crowding at peak times, requested new funding in August; currently representing 75 of 80 buses, at peak 65 buses are running, 46/80 buses are +13 years when average lifespan is 12 years, 10 new buses purchased but costs \$447k, students hired to drive the buses wage has increased to \$1.50/hr, potentially looking at purchasing remanufactured buses or refurbishing out RTS model buses, utilize reserves to add remanufactured buses to the fleet and refurbishing RTS, request operating funds from the advancement fee to increase service in conjunction with lower maintenance costs, recharge debt in long term to maintain a replacement and refurbishment program, 122,5000 needs 20,000 short of what we need, since 1 bus has 2500 hours of service, funding request for 1051028\$, future requests will reflect what is needed to keep up with increases in student population, previous student approval is \$70 per semester,
 - comment: possibly utilizing smaller buses during non-peak hours
 - response: there are smaller buses but these are international buses that have higher maintenance requirements, also administration has pressed for
 - question: how long do refurbished buses last
 - response: same as a new bus, 8 years
 - question: population of students at A&M continues to increase, is there talks within administration to increase the transportation budget proportional to the student increase
 - response: unable to answer that, currently we are caught up with the student population just a year late, this has to be addressed each year
 - question: where do the student population projections come from
 - answer: higher ups and registrars office
 - question: how can the GPSC help
 - answer: lend support to their requests
 - Mr. Kimball is always able to answer any questions please feel free to give him a call
 - Any questions can also be emailed to Amanda/Chris who can forward the questions and comments on

IV. Voice Reports

- a. University Committees
- b. Department, Program, or Organization Announcements
 - Black Graduate Student Association (BGSA) Lashawn Nevins delegate, Saturday Oct. 18th BGSA is hosting a profit share at Jason's Deli 5- 10 pm, receipt in donation box gives 15% of purchase to BGSA, if interested sign-up sheet at the front
 - Statistics Department Bryce Durgin delegate, a previous free statistical consulting service to grad students however this program's funding has cut, to replace this there is a list on the stats graduate student association website of people willing to do consulting for a fee, check out their website here: <http://sgsa.tamu.edu/tutor>

V. Pending Business

- none

VI. New Business

- none

VII. Standing Committee Reports

a. Awards

- i. Winter 2014 Travel Awards – application period Sept. 15th-Oct. 17th, 2014
- ii. Summer 2014 Quarterly Report
- iii. Profit Share – TBA
- iv. Feedback on award policies
 - Winter 2014 travel awards still open but closing Nov 17th 11:59, faculty references close one week after that
 - Fall 2014 Quarterly Report 25 applicants, 3 winners, 5 applicants immediately disqualified, 20 applicants sent to evaluators, 4 were disqualified by evaluators, must be able to follow instructions and formatting requirements, stressing the important of anonymity to prevent bias and favor, 100% represented in GSC meetings, 100% graduate students 0% from professional students <-- we can gear marketing to fix this, Award type (three awards: type 1 100, 2 300, 3 500 - most asked for type 1,
 - 100% of requests was for conference, there are audition, career fair, case (law) competition, creative display, exhibit, recital, showcase, training (all options), role: majority of participation of applicants were main author or presenter, can be designer, instructor, judge, material owner, panel chair, performer, fair attendee, artist also available, ethnicity: majority of applicants were caucasian/white, gender: females majority, sexual orientation: majority heterosexual; conclusions: attracting only graduate students, improve towards professional students, polarization towards award type (type 1) and conference as presenters, work on increasing knowledge base e.g., variety of eligible events, levels and funding amounts; note: summer awards for fall awards travel will be atypical since it was summer
 - question - are applicants allowed to include conference name
 - response - no names: applicants, PI, or laboratory
 - Point of information - demographics, in general GPSC is allowed to ask these questions, we used standardized questions based on policies already in place via office of student life,
 - Response – these questions are all optional, Jonathan is the only one who sees the answers and he does not judge any applicants,
 - Question - was 3/25 representative
 - Response - the number 3 was based on last year's application and allows us to have more money for the other two travel award periods
 - Point of information - the percentage stays the same (number of awards) in the other two travel award periods due to increased application numbers

b. Legislative Affairs

- i. Presidential Roundtable – Wednesday, November 19th
 - Special meeting (attendance mandatory)
 - Presidential Roundtable, confirmed, location tentatively Bethancourt ballroom 6 pm will be held as a special meeting so attendance will count towards eligibility, if you are unable to attend make sure a rep or liaison does

c. Marketing and Communications

- Student Advisory Board - maintaining quality of life, mostly journalism professors and student media editors - looking to increase undergraduate voice, graduate voice is quite strong they'd like that to continue

d. Multicultural and Diversity Affairs

- i. Global Tailgate- Saturday, October 11th Spence Park 6 – 8 pm
- ii. Interdisciplinary dinner with Dr. Mukhtar- Thursday, October 23rd
- iii. Interdisciplinary dinner with Dr. Welsh- Friday, November 21st

e. Outreach

- Health Science Center: Shelby Steinmeyer, member of the Outreach Internal Committee is attending the HSC meeting tonight with the purpose of recruiting representative and liaisons within the HSC members.
- School of Law: The entire board of the 2014 Bar Student Association has been contacted and invited to attend our GAs virtually. (they have not answered yet)

- Underrepresented Departments and Colleges: received full list from VPI and working on updating it with the pertaining contact info. Please be patient as it is a lengthy list.
- f. Programming
 - Meet with Jennifer after GA meeting, joint meeting with Paul and Marketing and Communications
- g. Quality of Life
 - No report
- h. Selfless Service
 - i. 12th Can – update
 - First initiative for fall, collection boxes are free to take back to departments, please bring the canned food to the GA meeting next GA meeting and Nov. 4th the second following GA meeting
 - Point of information - pretty serious contest, if you ever need help transporting the cans let selfless service know, flyers at the front to take back to your departments, please let your student organizations know details so they can pass the information along, our Facebook page will be updated shortly
 - Selfless Service committee will keep track of department and organization donations to find a winner - there is a glorious plaque for the most cans donated
 - ii. BUILD – update
 - Parking lot besides Cain Hall, starting a BUILD with GPSC initiative week of Nov. 7th for GPSC members to sign up as volunteers or site supervisors

VIII. Special Committee Reports

- a. Student Research Week
 - No report
- b. Grad Camp
 - No report

IX. Officer Reports

- a. President
 - Pulling up disciplinary review for delegates not performing their duties
 - i. Legislative and Advocacy Priorities
 - ii. President’s University Meetings and Committees
 - iii. Students Affairs Fee Advisory Board – budgeting and presentation period
 - SAGE - sharing best practices, relationship to other universities, title 9 - offices of dean of student life sent out several emails regarding title 9 that has worked to improve the groups addressed - transparency in fees in particular, with consolidation of fees as part of university advancement fee we've lost some transparency which will be brought up to leadership student roundtable (e.g., IGSA, BGSA, undergrad student group, the buildings on campus)
 - Currently sitting on VPSA search advisory committee, this position controls a lot of the money that goes to the services that affect us as students
 - Student affairs fee advisory board - budgeting and presentation of fiscal cycle for next year, part of that Chris will give a formal presentation and bring in other groups that have also requested fees so that GPSC can be aware, as part of this we requested 2 things (based on precedence) 1) half time GA ship for director, 2)change in advisor position from SGS2 to SGS3 position to better serve, GPSC standard budget has been passed
- b. Executive Vice President
 - Any agenda items to add must be on the sent to Amanda next Sunday – any resolutions or announcements
- c. Vice President of University Affairs
 - i. University Committees (External) – online reporting form
 - ii. Council Committees (Internal) – assignments
 - If you're unable to attend external committee email matt and internal committee chair, again if you haven't heard from external committee fill out online reporting form for attended external committee if there's anything pertinent let Amanda know she can add in a voice report
 - Internal committees meet after GA meeting

- If you're new and need an internal committee let Matt know he can assign you

d. Vice President of Information

- Duplicate emails: any email issues let Jennifer know she's working on the listserv, new placards, and voting cards

e. Vice President of Finance

i. Budget review for August-September

- Monthly budget report
- August - \$143.88 for adobe forms, \$65 Welcome Back flyers
- September - \$50.77 on paper for new name placards and voting cards, \$69.66 on food for global tailgate and for interdisciplinary dinner
- Next month's budget will include the new flyers for 12th Can and Winter Travel Award

X. Advisor Comments

- Currently searching for a new advisor, search is underway

XI. Announcements

- Sign up for profit share, flyers up at the front, boxes available for 12th Can food drive, after adjournment please meet with internal committees or with matt to be assigned an internal committee

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XII. Adjournment