



November 7, 2023 | 7:00 p.m.
City Campus Union, Regency Suite

CALL TO ORDER

Called to order at 7:05 PM, November 7th, 2023

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes approved unanimously

OPEN FORUM

- Amy Lanham
 - Committee of fee allocation and facility/camps and rec fees. Feels very strongly that campus rec is a overall piece of health, wellbeing at UNL regardless of undergrad/grad. More than the gym, also taking care of expenses regarding space, not just equipment and things like that. The bike shop is part of these fees. Can add dependents and have reduced secondary membership. Also includes play areas and field areas at campus housing. Spoke on various ways fees are utilized within campus recreation. Fees are high comparatively for the rest of the Big 10 b/c of decreased number of students. Campus rec has an advisory council with open meetings to be able to bring attention to things you believe the campus rec needs. 25.74% utilization between users/enrolled via fees. Prof programs at 46.1%, grad students combined with prof programs, 29.18%. Campus rec will be closed in locker room and pool areas upcoming. How can we increase utilization and help to allow more dependents and spouses to join in a better way? Payment for classes is usually used for consumable products and paying the instructors and that's why they're added fees. Some limitations are put on to not cause problems with local private businesses. Potential spaces for graduate students to be able to work out without seeing any of their undergraduates. Opening up certain activities for more than one day, how can we make that work?

- Rachel, Exec secretary of Student BAR Association
 - Malpractice mixer, looking to help with planning along with other departments

- Dee Dee Anderson
 - 20 Dept in student affairs, spends time attempting to provide resources for students, physical and mental. Happy to help and ready for students to reach out! Firefly/myred not working well, this is generally a registrar issue but will look into it and look for proper people who can help. How can we give better guidance to students, especially international students, in how to adjust and how to be

prepared properly. How do you know we did what we hoped to do? In terms of international student engagement, how do you measure that we did the best job we could? Retention/graduation, students giving back to institution, seeing the students success firsthand. ISSO is struggling to survive, how can student affairs help? Better coordination between departments, how to better partner with other departments from a student affairs perspective. Email Dr. Anderson to help with changes you want to see in the university. Student support is large! Curious to see student retention stats, graduate students are required to spend so much time on work, school, etc. Often 80 hrs/week for students overall in one case and that student decided to quit. What's the point of student affairs if we don't have a life outside of academia? First time seeing a Vice Chancellor at GSA, thank you, excited to see you and excited to have you. Good luck and be successful!

- Husker Pantry
 - o

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

President Mowat

- Welcome
- Office of Student Advocacy and Support
 - o Madam Pres and Ex-Pres spoke with the office. If you know a student struggling and not understanding the policy, reach out to them. They can also help with an appeals case.
- Faculty Senate Executive Committee
 - o Venn and Katie, advisor/advisee relationships, various goals, interesting meeting. Finally seeing faculty hold others accountable. More questions and conversations to be had, faculty senate are following up on the tipline, we should receive that info soon.
- Meeting with the Chancellor
 - o Venn, Andrew, Katie meet on the 25th of Nov, 2023 with the Chancellor. Send Katie things that may be highly important toward this conversation.

Executive Vice President Jemkur

- Internal Committees
 - o If you haven't been assigned to a committee, EMAIL VENN IMMEDIATELY AND MEET DURING BREAK. Please meet with committees during 10 min break time.

Vice President of Student Affairs Gee

- External Committees
 - o Talk to me if you're not assigned to an external committee.

Vice President of Representation Rief

- Representatives
 - o Remember the attendance policy.

Vice President of Finance Rafaei

- Budget Status

- GSA Budget is in the general GSA Teams channel and will have that updated in a PDF after each meeting. Three expenditures from social, for our next three meetings, one GTAP approval.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ASUN (if present)

None present

Academic Affairs Committee

-Update

Just met with committee for the first time, want to remove barriers for students seeking help, want to work on everyone knowing the issues of grad students, can use the email ID to send any issues related to committee

Diversity and Inclusion Committee

-Update

Just had their first meeting, spoke on the onboarding process and how to help both domestic and international students in their ability to understand and feel like they know what's going on upon arrival. Meeting with Dean Hope next Friday. Reaching out to international students re: unique challenges.

Graduate Travel Award Program (GTAP) Committee

-Update

Slow phase, waiting for applicants to submit applications for this round of funding. Several applications are being worked on right now. Newly drafted email template to send to department and looking for people to help with review process. Is there a trend in department consistency of awardees? No, not currently the case. Generally, GTAP tries to remove bias from reviewing and try to find many faculty members and people in the GTAP committee to make things fairer and more equitable and will also pay for workshop travel. Actively accounts for intrinsic bias, keeps records to make sure departments don't have privilege for each other. The current timeline is planned to be updated as it can make the potential for funding more conferences and a more diverse groups of applicants. Is there a difference between domestic and international funding? Does GTAP provide reimbursement to apply for visas for international travel? Great question! This is a tricky question. No, this is not a conference/travel expense. Worth looking in to. We have a blind review process to remove as much potential bias as possible. Consortiums are paid as long as you are presenting or representing the university in a way that gives exposure to the university.

Professional Development Committee

-Update

Not much currently happening. First SPGP application is in, blind review process has been explained to the applicant. Preparing for spring workshops is in top gear, looking for information on topics that have not been met by the current workshops, please contact the Pro Dev committee.

Quality of Life Committee

-Update

First committee meeting ~2-3 weeks ago, shared plans and where they were to where they want to go as well as how/when they want to meet?

Social Events Committee

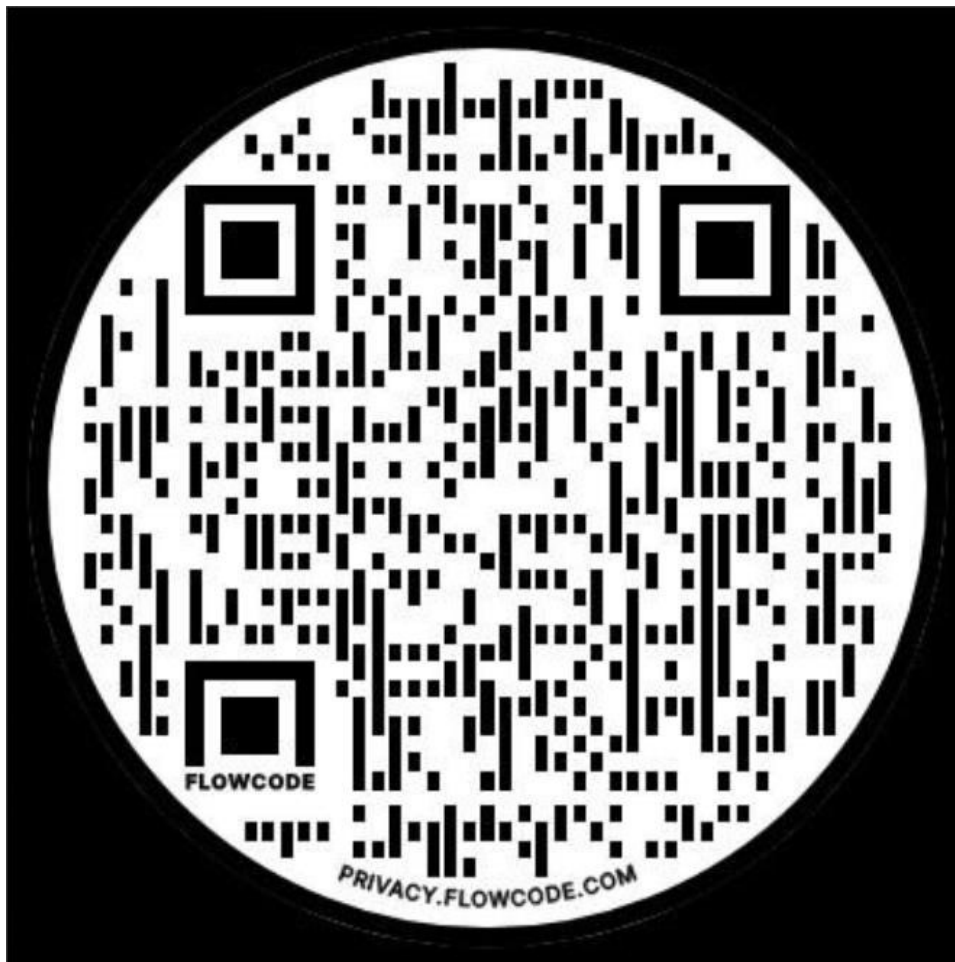
-Update

Current issue trying to contact committee, halloween event went well and had a great time with the kids! Planning more for next semester. Grad studies is very excited and wants to expand the event next year.

Communications Committee

-Update

First meeting, able to come up with an outline of what the committee members will be doing and how to contribute. There is a survey that needs to be filled out! This will help the greater GSA by being able to understand what students are looking for.



Communications survey

External Committees

No updates.

BREAK (10 minutes)

-Meet with your committees and exchange information

NEW BUSINESS

<https://go.unl.edu/gsavote>



(if needed)

At-Large Member Nomination (Alejandra Vasquez Gutierrez)

Voted in unanimously

GSA Bill #6

A bill authorizing GSA to modify the current Graduate Travel Awards Program (GTAP) special rules.

Calendar in sec 5 of the bylaws is incorrect, this bill fixes the problem between the bylaws and the times we've been using.

Motion to add to the changes.

Amendment seems confusing, why not just 30 days entirely? This has to do with proper reimbursement due to the end of the fiscal year. Amended to recommend reimbursement within 10 days, submission has to be done within 30 days of return.

Why do we need the receipts when cash may be used? This is consistent with the university's reimbursement policy.

What is the strength of the law? I.E., what happens when the return of travel occurs across the fiscal year? No reimbursement. The 10-day rule is in there to try and expedite process and aid the applicant in getting things in on time.

Was 10 days recommended to submit it to help students to do it before 30 days where the reimbursement will not be given in that time? Yes. This is to help students and due to experience struggling to submit proper documentation to the university.

Can we clarify this to make it clear that those 10 days are a recommendation?

Motion seconded to change language in the bill.

Adjustment to the bill could help accommodate potential documentation requests and should express why we need that early.

Graduate students will rarely have knowledge on sending in expense reports and this language is useful in expressing that there will be back and forth in expense reports.

End of discussion passed unanimously.

Voting on motion to amend amendments. Sec 2. amended.

Motion fails.
Motion to table the bill and send it back to committee.
Motion to table passed by majority vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Friday, come and join the 8th International fair, Wilma will perform!

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 PM 11/7/2023