



February 6, 2023 | 7:00 p.m.
East Campus Law College, Law 115

CALL TO ORDER

Called to order at 7:08

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes approved at 7:09 PM

OPEN FORUM

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

President Mowat

Spoke with Mark Stone from BSE and E.K. Franks about graduate student support. Speaking with Deb Hope about support and onboarding. Also talked about stipends and a Benchmark for continued stipend raises over time (more from QofL). We'll hear more about housing from VP of Student Affairs Gee

Executive Vice President Jemkur

Faculty senate meeting: shared leadership, not happy about \$800,000 cut from OPI. They feel that leadership is going ahead and making decisions at an administrative level but not at the faculty level. Upset with Dr. Bennet not saying "this can't happen" about LB 1330, has since released a statement. LB 1330 is something of huge concern to faculty and may lead to an exodus of both faculty and students.

Vice President of Student Affairs Gee

Met with Lukus. Talked about housing. There will be an announcement coming soon. Housing is exploring relationships with external entities. Especially for graduate students. Commented on the fact that graduate students can eat at the café at the cost of faculty and staff.

Vice President of Representation Rief

Nothing

Vice President of Finance Rafaei

Vice President of Finance Rafaei is taking a lead of absence. President Mowat is giving the report. 4 more GTAP awards since last meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ASUN (if present)

No report

Academic Affairs Committee

No report

Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Salary negotiation workshop co-sponsorship with office of gender and sexuality. Joining various task forces and committees with the goal of promoting conversation with other aspects of leadership in UNL who are committed to furthering DEI.

Graduate Travel Award Program (GTAP) Committee

GTAP awards are live on NURamp, due March 31st. For May 1st to August 31st.

Question: How do we plan to communicate GTAP across departments?

Through Grad Report and representatives.

Professional Development Committee

First meeting last week, first of Feb. Discussed issues related to SBGP form. Found it difficult to approve/make decision on applications. Approval criteria was discussed. Applications will be approved through the same process to GTAP and communicated in a similar way.

Communications needed to increase awareness of these forms, plan in ahead. Communicating with OGS to discuss co-sponsorship of workshops and other dev opportunities.

Quality of Life Committee

Akinbode and Andrew met with Dean Hope and had discussions relating to stipends. Dean Hope asked for the help of the GSA in beginning benchmarks. Minimum stipend has been risen to \$15000 next year, a raise of \$1000 from last year. Bill #5 from 2022-2023 is the main point of conversation along with fees and tuition expenses and what packages we can figure out to help the financial situation of graduate students.

Questions: Does this account for additional international student fees?

It does not, this is now noted and will be discussed.

Questions: Health insurance fees have gone up from the previous semesters, is this part of the calculation for increasing stipend amounts?

Yes, that is an aspect of this.

Questions: Are there public access to the minutes of the meetings?

No, there are not, representatives on these groups are the only ones who we have to represent us so please have us work with you and let us know your opinion.

President Mowat: Come give us your opinions, we need them!

Social Events Committee

Bill in March for upcoming events. Feedback for UNL softball/baseball/soccer/hockey all free for students. What would be the interest in this?

Majority of hands

Will be added to March bill.

Communications Committee

No report

External Committees

No reports

NEW BUSINESS

Nomination and Election of new VP of Finance

This will start with nominations from the floor, then into questions and speeches if needed. Nominated persons will need to leave during discussion.

Advisor Donesky reads the written duties of the VP of Finance.

President Mowat: This sounds scarier than it is, its much easier than described. Talks lots to GTAP and Marlene and Jessie

Nominations: Alehabdra Vasqyez Gutierrez (Ally) nominates herself.

Speech: Ally: Looking to be able to increase funding for conferences.

Ally was voted in unanimously

GSA Bill #7

A bill authorizing co-sponsorship of a salary negotiation workshop.

Asking for co-sponsorship via financial support for a salary negotiation workshop.

Bill presented.

“It’s just snacks”

No questions.

Discussion: Add more attention to this workshop as this is a very useful opportunity and program for graduate students.

They do have social graphics to be sent out and the Gender and Sexuality center is also doing promotion.

Can be sent in for the Grad Report

Any article, photo, or flier into the grad report should be sent in a week prior to the publication date.

Bill is approved unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Workshop through the writing center including linguists.

Law college seems to be enjoyed by many of the representatives.

After hours busses, what is the current knowledge of this in current graduate students but we do need water.

Timothy Alo is on the parking committee, address your questions on parking to him.

Health insurance going up, what does the health insurance cover? Throughout last year, did not visit the health center until having a headache, had to pay co-pay and this brought up the questions.

UnitedHealthcare will be having a advocate to learn more about what is covered in our health insurances via ISSO. Dates are Tuesdays from 9 to 4 PM.

Anthropology has reached a wall in in-state vs out-of-state tuition and are having issues with being switched to in-state tuition unless they already have a job after having been moved to Nebraska.

This is not a new policy but is something worth being discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

7:51pm