



MINUTES

March 7, 2017

Submitted by Executive Vice President Da Silva

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Graduate Student Assembly was called to order at 7:00 PM on March 7, 2017 in the Nebraska Union. President Correas chaired the meeting and Executive Vice President Da Silva recorded the minutes.

Excused were: Accounting (School of), Anthropology, Architectural Engineering and Construction (Durham School of), Business Administration (Master of/Master of Arts in), Community and Regional Planning (Master of), Nutrition and Health Sciences, Philosophy, and Colin McGinnis (Educational Psychology).

Absent were: Child, Youth and Family Studies and Economics.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the February 7, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

ELECTIONS/APPOINTMENTS

There were no elections or appointments.

OPEN FORUM

Candidates for GSA President and Executive Vice President: Ignacio Correas and Karen F. Da Silva (SURGE).

Candidate for ASUN Internal Vice President: Camille Sippel (Encompass).

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

President Correas reported on the amendments to the Grade Appeals Policy and to the grading graduate research, thesis and dissertation hours being discussed by the Graduate Council.

Executive Vice President Da Silva reported on the Soft Skills Workshop on March 2 and 3 with 90 registrants and 50% attendance rate.

Vice President of Student Affairs Rodene reported on the Parking Advisory Committee meeting and the Student Affairs Advisory Committee meeting: Empowerment Forum, ASUN Student Government elections, new dining facility on campus, new position being filled at the Services for Students with Disabilities.

Vice President of Representation Poudel informed that the attendance report could be found within the meeting materials and that graduate University-wide committee applications are due on March 28.

Vice President of Finance Twedt had no report.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

Natalie Holt, graduate representative to the Libraries Committee reported on building renovations: renovation of the CYT Library on East Campus starting in the Fall of 2017. She further informed that writing retreats for faculty and students will start at the beginning of May, sign up will be available through the UNL Libraries website. Finally, she reported that the libraries are working on sharing database resources between the four Nebraska campuses, with a possibility of cutting of journals and costs. Questions and debate followed.

The Committee for Social Events reported on previous and future events: Back to School Social, Bowling Social, GSA Game Night, and Graduate-Professional Student Appreciation Week. Questions and debate followed.

BUSINESS

GSA Bill #28 “A bill allocating funds for Graduate Student Appreciation Week” was introduced by Social Events Chair Montanari. Questions and debate followed. There was a motion to adopt the bill, which was seconded, and unanimously carried by voice vote.

GSA Bill #29 “A bill endorsing the March for Science Lincoln” was introduced by President Correas. Questions and debate followed. There was a motion to adopt the bill, which was seconded, and unanimously carried by voice vote.

A motion by Daniel Clausen (English) to add GSA Bill #30 and GSA Bill #31 to the agenda was seconded and unanimously carried by voice vote.

GSA Bill #30 “A bill supporting the protection of academic freedom, diversity, and political speech for graduate students” was introduced by Academic Affairs Co-Chair Clausen. Questions and debate followed. There was a motion to adopt the bill, which was seconded, and unanimously carried by voice vote.

GSA Bill #31 “A bill endorsing #HackUNL” was introduced by President Correas. Questions and debate followed. There was a motion to adopt the bill, which was seconded, and unanimously carried by voice vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Correas announced the reinstatement of Outstanding GSA Member Award. He further announced that the elections for Vice Presidents and Standing Committee Chairs for the upcoming year will be held during the next assembly meeting. Nominations will be accepted by email or from the floor during the meeting. The ASUN Student Government election will be held on March 8. Summer applications for GTAP and SGTP are open until March 3`.

Lauren Segal announced that Our Nebraska organized by Student Affairs, and the Women’s Week at UNL, will occur from March 6 through March 10.

Brandy Judkins announced that Redirect the Conversation will take place at Green Space, and that it is an opportunity for an open conversation about student mental health.

ADJOURNMENT



The Graduate Student Assembly meeting was adjourned at 7:59 PM by President Correas. The next regular meeting will be at 7:00 PM on April 4, 2017 in the Nebraska Union.