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Graduate Student Government Meeting Minutes

Graduate Student Government

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GSG Meeting 01/23/2019

Meeting called to order at: 12:04 PM

Approval of minutes from 12/12/2018: Majority apparent, APPROVED

President:

The President reminded the senators that if there are any topics they wish to discuss during GSG meetings, or an important issue on campus the GSG should address, to speak to any member on the ExComm or the President directly. Finding topics for the GSG to be involved in should really reflect the interests of the senators.

There will be a new committee sign-up process this semester. The president would like to try an online survey to give senators a ranked choice vote for their top committee. Once the committee members are established, the committees should begin to meet regularly to complete the tasks they are assigned. Chairs of the committee will contact their members directly.

President is looking to set up a meeting between himself and STEM and on-STEM senators to talk about any issues they face on campus regarding a variety of topics.

The Outreach and Professional Development Officer position is now vacant. The previous officer has resigned due to scheduling issues. The officer position is now open to be filled. Anyone who is interested should contact the president and the vote will take place next meeting.

Vice President:

The Graduate School has started "UMaine Mug Club" where a free mug will be provided to the first 100 participants. This will be the first installment in developing the GRAD program here at UMaine. The Mug Club will meet monthly for professional development workshops and a sticker for your mug will be provided at each workshop. The first meeting is February 7th from 4-6PM in 57 Stodder Hall, "Cookies, Coffee and Cards".

The Student Symposium committee is looking for volunteers and judges for UMSS19. If you are interested in becoming either a volunteer or a judge please use the following link to sign-up: tinyurl.com/umss19vol/

Grants Officer:

The following are a list of important dates regarding grants at the GSG:

- 1/25: Expense Reports for Club grants- semester only DUE
- 2/1: Expense Reports for Individuals grants DUE
Spring 2019 Club grants DUE
- 2/8: Spring 2019 Individual grants DUE
- 2/25: Estimated notification of award for Club grants
- 3/25: Estimated notification of award for Individual grants

Treasurer:

N/A

Board of Trustees Representative:

The school is currently in the process of looking for a new chancellor. If you are interested in giving your input on what you, as a student, would like from a chancellor, please go to one of the following meetings: Friday January 25 at 2 pm and 4 pm in Estabrooke 253

Secretary:

The secretary will be sending out an email with a plethora of information for senators in the next day. The graduate school has asked that the senators send out a survey link out to their constituents, which will be provided in the email.

The Graduate Faculty Mentor Awards are due by Friday February 22nd at 5PM. Other awards will be announced at upcoming GSG meetings.

New Business:

A senator asked the GSG if they would be willing to look into an issue with reimbursement of travel. The current rules for reimbursement says that up to \$46 dollars a day in food may be reimbursed, no more. The senator asked why the food total a day is not dependent on the location of the travel? For example, Washington D.C. has a larger cost of travel than Orono, ME and therefore the reimbursement to go to D.C. should be larger to accommodate that increase. (gsa.gov)

There has been some whispering among graduate students to unionize. The prospect was once again brought up during the meeting, members of the government plan to address this further privately.

Adjournment: 12:52PM, apparent majority