

Senate Meeting
October 5, 2015
5:30 PM

Meeting Agenda

1. Invited Speaker: Dr. Geary Robinson, Director, Parking & Transportation Services (5:30 PM – 5:40 PM)
2. Call to Order/Roll Call (5:40 PM)
3. Reading and Approval of Minutes (5:40– 5:45 PM)
4. Reports of Officers, Standing and Special Committees (5:45-6:05 PM)
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President of Administration and Finance
 - c. Vice President of Communications and Marketing
 - d. Vice President of Programming and Outreach
 - e. Parliamentarian
 - f. Campus Carry Taskforce, Senator Jim Dale
 - g. Student Innovation Fund for Teaching, Senator Michele Medina
5. Old Business
 - a. Resolution Fall 2015-1 (pending further research)
6. New Business (6:05-6:55 PM)
 - a. Resolution Fall 2015-2 (6:05-6:20 PM)
 - b. Resolution Fall 2015-3 (6:30-6:55 PM)
7. Announcements (6:55-7:00 PM)
8. Adjournment (7:00 PM)

Senate Meeting
September 14, 2015
5:30 PM

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order (5:40 PM)
2. Reports of Officers, Standing & Special Committees (5:42 to 6:14 PM)
 - a. President
GSC/SGA working together, progress was made but meeting last week was some movement backwards with questioning referendum that makes GSC official government, advisors currently encouraging both groups to move forward but communication with SGA is at standstill; UNT 3MT event being brought to campus this year; tour of the colleges; external appointments, 8 made currently through email communications; state of the university address, , 2 current openings (Union board, Dr. With's advisory council); state of the Union, GSC represented as student government body; grad student survey results partially available (graphics shown), diagram to be sent to all senators; Union offices for GSC opening Nov 7th across hall from SGA and available space for senate meetings; recent wins: salary increase for this year to account for health care changes, printing credit increase doubled for grad students, reinstatement if bus service for DP on weekends
 - b. Vice President of Administration & Finance
Budget report with percentages per VP, trip for 8 to NAGPS in California, GSC event fund available \$2,000 for grad student orgs to apply for, working with Dr. Opong for more clarity around travel grants and currently working in workshop and scoring information hopefully this semester
 - c. Vice President of Communications & Marketing
GSC T-shirts design, brochure design, represented GSC at mean green fling and international student orientation, sending out monthly emails to all students, communicating with NT Daily, Sarah working with social media, website updates in progress but must follow UNT platform and format
 - d. Vice President of Programming & Outreach
Thanks for senator support for NGSO and attended new senator orientation; NAGPS LAD in DC fall semester pushed to spring for budget reasons and to support state wide networking initiatives; NAGPS national conference at USC on Halloween weekend; writing group happens every week at Whitehouse with discount for grad students; upcoming events: 9/19 alumni leaders invited to football game with pre-game event, meeting with leaders of grad student orgs a week from Wednesday 12-1 pm with lunch

- e. Campus Carry Taskforce, Senator Jim Dale
SB-11 task force on implementation policy for state bill 11, 22 people attended including faculty, staff, police, housing, etc; twice monthly meetings between now and end of December, series of town hall meetings across campus, 2 each for students, faculty, and staff, overall a lot of learning and best practice research involved, low percentage of university students that have concealed license, little to report yet as first meeting focused on charge, would like to hear from senate and grad students on their perspective to better represent the grad student body
3. Special Orders (6:14 PM to 6:30)
- a. Confirmation of Parliamentarian Nominee
Introduction of Christian Doyle, speaking for 1-2 minutes before discussion and vote
Brian escorts Christian out of room, discussion among senate and vote
Yeas have it unanimously
 - b. Standing Committee Appointments
4. Old business: (6:30 to 6:40 PM)
- a. Bill Summer 2015 – 4
Committees met, chairs, secretaries and meeting times selected
Call back to order at 6:41
Legislation amended by committee to add letter c. option regarding coordination with internal and external directors
No discussion, moved to vote
25 yeas, unanimously approved
5. New business: (6:40 to 6:50 PM)
- a. Bill Fall 2015 – 1
Read by Jesus (sponsoring senator absent)
Referred to external relations committee
Chair of committee moves to hold legislation pending further research, committee approves absentee online voting
6. Announcements (6:50 to 7:01 PM)
- Senator Crotty moves to create committee or refer to committee to investigate online tutoring options for accounting lab and other grad student support services remotely
- Vote for creation of committee:
Yeas 27, nays none, unanimously
Referred to planning and programming development

Senator Henning opportunities for work, Senator Greenridge advertising parent organization for grad students

7. Adjournment (7:01 PM)



Resolution Fall 2015-2

WHEREAS Salaries for Teaching Assistants (TA), Teaching Fellows (TF), Graduate Assistants (GA), and Research Assistants (RA) are relatively low; the average minimum Level 1, 9 month salary is approximately \$12,000 (102% of the federal poverty limit, 2015).

WHEREAS Salaries for graduate student positions are based off the assumption of .5FTE (full time equivalency, 20 hours per week).

WHEREAS Regulations limiting the external employment of graduate students are unfair in their scope; and infringe on the agency of graduate students by limiting their ability to make informed decisions concerning their own personal welfare, and that of their families.

LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT Graduate students employed by the University of North Texas should be free to seek employment external to their academic appointments.

Respectfully Submitted,

Senator Michael Sakinejad

Senator Justin Binek

Senator Sheri Williams

Senator Seth Ketron

Senator Rita Tovar

Senator Christopher Caruvana

In Witness thereof, I hereby certify the Student Senate of the University of North Texas Graduate Student Council has approved this document and is referred to the office of the GSC President.

Parliamentarian

Date

Presidential Action:

Vetoed

Approved

GSC President

Date

Associate Dean of Toulouse Graduate School

Date



Resolution Fall 2015 – 3

WHEREAS the current IRB process at UNT requires that graduate students send the IRB minimal review (i.e., exempt) application materials and revisions to their supervising investigator who then forwards the application to IRB,

WHEREAS the acknowledgement of the receipt of application materials and revision materials by UNT's IRB takes several days,

WHEREAS the IRB process at UNT adds to the length of time to approve IRB minimal review applications, with the average time of approval in the long semesters is approximately 1 month which hinders the ability of graduate students to produce quality research in a timely manner,

WHEREAS graduate students at the University of Texas at Austin may submit IRB minimal review (i.e., exempt) applications and any revisions if they are the primary investigator with their advisor as the Sponsor as well as having an IRB member within each college who processes minimal review applications,

WHEREAS graduate students at Texas A & M University may submit IRB minimal review (i.e., exempt) applications and any revisions with the approval of the supervising investigator, and have assigned staff from the Human Research Protection Program to address IRB issues,

WHEREAS graduate students at the University of Texas at Dallas may submit IRB minimal review (i.e., exempt) applications and any revisions with the approval of their advisor and have minimal review applications approved within 48 hours,

WHEREAS graduate students at the University of Texas at El Paso may submit IRB minimal review (i.e., exempt) applications and any revisions with the electronic signature of advisor,

WHEREAS graduate students at the University of Texas at San Antonio may submit IRB minimal review (i.e., exempt) applications and any revisions with the approval of their faculty sponsor and have minimal review applications from submission to approval in 11 days (which includes 4 days for any revisions),

WHEREAS graduate students at the University of Texas at Tyler may submit IRB minimal review (i.e., exempt) applications and any revisions,

WHEREAS graduate students at Texas State University may submit IRB minimal review (i.e., exempt) applications and any revisions with the electronic signature of faculty sponsor,

WHEREAS UNT's IRB process does not permit graduate students to submit their own IRB minimal review (i.e., exempt) applications and revisions is contrary to what other peer institutions and Tier 1 research institutions are doing in the State of Texas,

LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT graduate students at the UNT be allowed to submit IRB minimal review (i.e., exempt) applications by copying their advisor/supervising faculty member on the email submission instead of forwarding the email to the advisor/supervising faculty member who then sends the application to IRB.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Graduate Student Council work with the Office of Research and Economic Development to establish an IRB representative per college to process minimal review (i.e. exempt) applications to expedite the process and assist UNT with becoming a Tier 1 research institution.

Respectfully Submitted,

Senator Michele Medina

In Witness thereof, I hereby certify the Student Senate of the University of North Texas Graduate Student Council has approved this document and is referred to the office of the GSC President.

Parliamentarian

Date

Presidential Action:

- Vetoed
- Approved

GSC President

Date

Associate Dean of Toulouse Graduate School

Date