

**UNITED GOVERNMENT OF GRADUATE STUDENTS  
AT THE  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER**

ASSEMBLY MEETING MINUTES – October 29, 2014  
ATLAS 229  
5:00 PM

**I. Welcome / Food**

**II. Call to Order**

**III. Announcements**

Successful open access week last week!!!!

*NOTE – my laptop was hosed up while the meeting began. I missed call to order and the first few announcements. I will have one of the officers update me and amend the minutes accordingly.*

**IV. Approve meeting 10/15 minutes - APPROVED** (MK will add Erik Nesse to minutes for last minutes)

**V. Open Forum 5:08p**

- Richard ATOC - Grad stud poster conf - need easels; Melinda (EBIO) suggested he call C2B2
- Scott PSYC - please send info/feedback about non-academic job training (he has had 4 so far); he will present on that next mtg
- Laura PSYC - next week NAGPS conf; John, Kate, and Laura presenting on Data Driven Decision Making (fee timing, and talk about grad students social climate survey); let them know if you have anything to share on those topics...they will update us upon return!
- Mike Coffey ECEN - ongoing RA/TA appt issue in his dept: told he was going to be instructor (RA vs TA); has not heard yet; already on a 50% RA; dept created a “practicum”; they are having a grad comm mtg and he said he would bring it up; but then said, “when I go to this mtg and advocate for you.” John Stevenson helped advocate; this is important - ONE grad student spoke up!! (but probably more concerns)
  - Casey - supposed to be in [grad student rights and responsibilities](#); there is supposed to be a grad student on the grad stu cmte for the dept – is there? need to ask that; pretty sure that is in the Bill of Rights...
  - KEEP US UPDATED!!!!

John L – Is there a CUSG election this week? Sarah A did not even know about it; there has been NO CAMPAIGNING; rules very restrictive now. Alan CHEM - turnout is already so low! There are [candidate bios on the website](#) Sarah A will send update to John L.

#### **VI. Employee pay cards**

- Casey ENVS and Alan CHBE: they met and asked a bunch of questions; (bkgrd - CU changed and auto-enrolled them into pay cards which are **pre-paid debit cards and have fees** if you do not use them within a certain time); University saving \$50k per year; accts do not accumulate interest; called a “money account” - someone is making money on these...(NOTE: they are USEFUL for international students, better than check cashing) could we negotiate a solution that meets everyone’s needs? if you are auto-enrolled, you need to get out of it which takes a lot of bureaucracy; cardholder agreement; \$1.50 to get balance or use card
- CUSG is active on this issue as well...
- Casey ENVS said he would send cardholder agreement; [most info can be found here.](#)
- John L and Judon of CUSG will be going to Denver to meet with these guys – will update us.

#### **VII. Graduate student climate survey**

- John L Now in official DRAFT 1 in Qualtrics; thank you for pre-testing! Moving towards a final draft and will keep us updated; will have a report at next meeting
- may rollout before next mtg - need to send out to grad students!!!
- Laura PSYC – remember in designing it, they wanted the survey tied to ACTIONABLE ITEMS

#### **VIII. Campus Climate Symposium**

- John L - three planned for semester; already been two; third one will be driven by UGGS and CUSG: **11/14 Fri 3p (maybe social event right after - to draw students!)**; topic is **power dynamics, the hierarchy in academia**; very relevant to grad students; mostly Q and A; need gen topics, situations; this week reaching out to Ombuds, Dean of Stu; getting panelists
- one thing trying to do diff is more democratic method for selecting panelists so please give feedback!
- Evan LING – when will themes will be finalized when all panelists are chosen? May want to contact Prof Cowell in PHIL (he took over)
- will finalize by end of next week...

## IX. UGGS Constitution

John L BKGRD - last spring we reviewed constitution and bylaws, we made some changes (all pretty minor); but one issue came up about VOTING and number of VOTES per dept 4/30 mtg proposed amendment to NOT have officers vote; reviewed edits in google doc together – here is the text in question:

### SECTION 1. Voting Members

The UGGS Assembly will consist of all eligible voting members. An eligible voting member is

- any duly selected representative of any campus department, research center, or institute.
- ~~an UGGS officer.~~
- The holder of any elected or appointed UGGS position ~~an office coordinator or other appointed position~~, if they are a duly selected representative of their academic department, research center, or institute; however, the office coordinator may not vote during secret ballots.
- *everything except for this was approved and this was tabled; ad hoc working group created; present info and perspective to vote in fall.*
- first we need to untable it; then DISCUSS; anyone can Call to Question (end convo)
- motion untabled and seconded
- Will Ames PHYS led the working group (Erik N FRIT, Jorge JILA, Megan ATLS, Casey ENVS); it was a lot of work, over the summer and voluntary
- Will asked initially why officers had votes...
  - They did a survey of other gov groups and found – **POWERPOINT WILL BE LINKED HERE**
  - main diffs: we are the only one that lets officers vote; only one w/o proportional rep, and the only ones that gives votes to non-degree granting institutions; and NO QUORUM RULE
  - **GOALS:**
    - larger depts = more votes
    - smaller depts should not be overwhelmed
    - quorum rule
  - WHY? the work we do is great, but we need to reasonably represent grad stu population; right now we do not do that
  - small depts still have adequate power; will not get outvoted
  - we give ourselves extra credibility!

## QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION

- Mike LING: found three schools with voting officers...
- Laura PSYC - looked at current NAGPS members and PAC12 schools; 14 total schools; 4 out of 14 did not allow officers to vote (need to be sure they mean “office vote” the same way we do)
- Mike ECEN 15% quorum number seems really low; Will PHYS - they wanted there to be set lower for “lean times” when we do not have good representation
- it would probably end up being 13 votes/10 depts
- John PSYC: FIRST WE NEED TO MAKE A DECISION TO ADOPT LANGUAGE AS IS
- we need to do that first, then move on; and the amendments can be added in the spring
- CALL TO QUESTION...
  - **move to vote**, officers will abstain (based on what was said at the last mtg)
  - **DID NOT PASS** (did not have  $\frac{2}{3}$ , only 57%) **CLOSEST VOTE EVER** (8 yay, 6 nay)
  - Kate EDUC - now we can consider changes in the package for spring constitutional updates!

### X. Meeting Adjourn 5:57p

#### MEETING ATTENDANCE:

Name	Dept
Jeff Brzezinski	ANTH
Eric Threet	ASEN
Megan Kinney	ATLS
Cassiane Cladis	ATLS
Richard Bateman	ATOC
Alan Izar	CHBE
Melinda Markin	EBIO
Mike Coffey	ECEN
Kate Allison	EDUC
Paty Abril Holt	EDUC
Kelsey Cody	ENVS
Erik Nesse	FRIT
Diba Mani	IPHY
Chelsea Daggett	JMC
Michael Gillis	LING
Sarah Alcorn	LING
Evan Coles	LING

Shane Frazier	MSE
Nicole Ridgwell	MUSM
AJ Johnson	PHYS
Paige Warmker	PHYS
William Ames	PHYS
John Lurquin	PSYC
Laura Michaelson	PSYC
Dan Gustavson	PSYC
Scott Schafer	PSYC
Scott Brown	RLST
Julianne White	SLHS
Benjamin Lamb-Books	SOCY
Jennifer Balliet	SOCY