

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

ASSEMBLY MEETING AGENDA – November 11th, 2013
ATLAS 229
5:00 PM

- I. Meeting begins 5:04
 - a. Approve minutes
 - i. Minutes approved
- II. Open Forum
 - a. Will-CHEM-Science, Ethics and Policy- Professional speak about GMOs, politics
 - b. Katherine-GEOG- Grad student rules state you cannot take time out after you have passed comps, but it is difficult for people to do international fieldwork
 - c. You have to petition the Dean
 - d. Abbey-ENVS- Someone is interested in a speaking engagement, who to talk to in UGGS
 - e. Email uggsinfo or speak with John
 - f. John-PSYC- Organize an event at Catacombs, do you prefer the 15th or the 22nd?
 - g. Kelsey-ENVS-Anyone interact with the police on campus? Good interactions or bad interactions?
 - i. Jason-ANTH- was locked out of room and the police came and thought I was the homeless guy
 - ii. Ben-PSCI- Interaction with the commander, there is a vet on campus who is defrauding people, but the commander is working with the Vet group to ensure things are being handled appropriately
 - iii. Great experience with someone who took notes on my explanation, really helpful
 - iv. Kelsey- Interested in what the policy in the department is to handle cases of assault
 - v. Ben-PHIL- There is a big title nine investigation going on, which has language dealing with sexual assault
 - vi. Sarah-LING- When CUPD filed a report on a sexual assault, CUPD said it could never happen because the perpetrator was married and Catholic
 - vii. Laura-PSYC- The reason why we are getting these sexual assault alerts is due to the campus finally being in compliance with the law
- III. Eldora Student Pass- Kelsey Codey-ENVS
 - a. In contact with the sales and marketing person, only person to talk to that has a line to the ownership group
 - b. Sent a copy of the enrollment form, which works for banks, it has a watermark image to ensure validity

- c. Have not heard back yet
- d. Eldora asked for some official form and if we could provide this they would work with us
- e. Will continue to be in contact with them to resolve this issue
- f. Joey-EBIO- Once we have the solution we want to contact the Daily Camera to ensure Eldora gets some good press

IV. UGGS Fee- Joey-EBIO

- a. We charge \$4.50/semester, \$9 year and are considering increasing the fee to increase the number of travel grants that are made available to grad students
- b. Increase by \$1.00/semester, is it \$10,000 dollars more for travel grants, at \$300/grant that affords us a greater number of grants to be awarded
- c. In order to go into effect in the '15/'16 year, we need to submit paperwork by September 2014
- d. Courtney-EBIO- The biggest complaint that I hear about regarding fees is paying for undergraduate related fees, they don't want to pay for something that they don't use, but there might be a negative reaction to overall fee increases
- e. Laura-PSYC- The fee increase is almost inconsequential, and that \$1 can provide us with a lot of grants
- f. Joey-EBIO- We have been operating at a \$90K budget on a \$70K available funds, so we have been tapping into our surplus, conversations are being had about the athletic fee
- g. Chris-CSCI- The athletic fee was established to help students help pay for the university to become compliant with title nine, and we are now compliant so we have reason to question the fee
- h. Joey-EBIO- The post comp opt out could be proposed in the same way
- i. The athletic fee is \$28/semester
- j. Ben-PSCI- Highway robbery is used in my department and are upset about fees for things they don't even use
- k. Laura-PSYC- Went to a grad director meeting last week, there were only two grad students there, but they seemed to be very interested in the fees issue. Wanted to follow up about it, unsure if the faculty know that students have to pay the \$1,000/semester fee, potentially including a fee and tuition waiver
- l. Courtney-EBIO- It was not mentioned that we had to pay these fees when I was looking at grad schools as most other grad schools do pay for this
- m. Laura-PSYC- Might have fewer TAs in your department if fees were covered
- n. There would be more travel grants, as we only give out 35/semester, we had over 200 applications in the spring
- o. Chris-CSCI- We could think about bumping the cost of the award as the grad student fee hasn't been changed since it was established, and the cost of travel is increasing. Since the fee is going 100% back to grad students
- p. Akshay-ITP- How many times do we increase the fees for students?
 - i. CUSG looks at fee changes every semester

- ii. Every year the fees are going to increase every semester overall
 - q. John-PSYC- What is the incentive to have a fee waiver for grad students?
 - r. Eric-FRIT- For those who teach a class as a GPTI, the fees are more than a month of student salaries
 - s. Ben-PHIL- My department was upfront about the funding over the course of the career, and they recognize it as a recruiting disadvantage. Perhaps we encourage them to be upfront about the fees
 - t. Danny-CLAS- There is a fee to process your matriculation
 - i. Joey-EBIO- You get it back when you graduate
 - u. Joey-EBIO- We had \$50-\$60k surplus for a few years, we increased travel grants, increased salaries, and we are better about using our total proposed budget, as opposed to being under budget
 - i. This is the last year we will be above the red
 - v. Angela-PSYC- Maybe we can increase the fee 25 cents now and work on the larger fees later
 - w. Kelsey-ENVS- Might make two asks, one for a smaller one and one later
 - x. Will-CHEM- what is the process
 - y. Joey-EBIO- We put together a proposal and it goes to the fee advisory board, and then goes to the regents for approval
 - z. Will-PHYS- The only thing anyone in my department recommends is to have lower fees, we will not have any credibility to ask for lower student fees if we just raised grad student fees, I'd much rather see the sandwiches get cut than raise fees
 - aa. Are there grad students on the fee advisory board?
 - i. There are two of us, six students and six administrators
 - bb. Cutting something small like the sandwiches might not make such an impact
 - cc. John-PSYC- We need to do a budget review for consideration
 - dd. Joey-EBIO- There will be a budget review in the Spring semester
 - ee. People want more travel grants, not the small things
 - ff. Laura-PSYC- Do we not want to do the increase, but are more interested in cutting the budget?
 - gg. Kelsey-ENVS- Part of our responsibility as reps is to communicate what we are doing, and if we are conflating the \$400 we pay for CUSG versus the \$4.50 with UGGS' fee we are not doing our job here
 - hh. Abbey-ENVS- Is there a yearly report of outcomes and accomplishments of UGGS?
 - ii. We can add it to the website
 - jj. Laura-PSYC- We should encourage those complaining about the grad student fee to come participate in UGGS
- V. CUSG Elections Chris-CSCI
- a. Elections were finalized last night
 - b. Unite won 4 reps at large seats, for a total of nine seats. Reps at large are important because they decide on budgets
 - c. 4,600 voted, second best turnout for the Fall
 - d. What about Dental?

- i. We will be sitting down with the budget officer, and trying to pool all four campus plans together, Health insurance route is not the best route, but a separate Dental plan
- e. Ben-PSCI- People in my department were concerned why UGGS was endorsing a party?
- f. Laura-PSYC- We want to make it as easy as possible for them to vote so we work out who best represents them
- g. Will-CHEM- Was I supposed to tell my apartment who to vote for?
 - i. We announced it on our website and on FB

VI. UGGS Awareness- Joey-EBIO

- a. We want to make students aware of all the things that we are doing and we want to make sure that we are reaching students, are you getting the emails, are the GPAs sending the emails?
- b. Grad students ignore emails from GPAs than grad students
- c. Evan-LING- any feedback from people in their department about getting the emails?
- d. Akshay-ITP- Not able to forward it myself and I forward to the director
- e. Will-PHYS- The physics grad list is curated by the grad secretary, I would have to convince her send it twice, but she forwards the emails but no one reads the emails.
- f. Will-CHEM- I was told that if I send out too many things it will be suspicious and my privileges will be revoked
- g. Tricia-HIST- In Asian studies we are really working on cutting back our emails and have gone toward a digest style
- h. Laura-PSYC- The digest style doesn't offer important headers, and if it is just a whole bunch I am more likely to delete
- i. Will-PHYS- Sounds like the listserv works for small departments, perhaps we let reps determine what works best for their department

VII. Elections for Officers

- a. Two positions up for election
 - i. Social Chair and one of the CUSG Co-Senator position
 - ii. Talk to John or Kelsey for more information
 - iii. Nominations will be open next week

VIII. Meeting adjourned 6:00

UGGS REP

Sara Cullen
Anthony Rasca
Joshua Moloney
Laura McManus
Richard Bateman
Will Hartwig
Daniel Poochigian
Joshua Morrison
Courtney Naff
Joey Hubbard
Micheal Turner
Abby Kuranz
Erik Nesse
Kathryn Hamm Wright
Emily Rath
Jason Scott
Patricia Helfenbein
Akshay Dhawale
Megan Hurson
Sarah Alcorn
Carlos Vera
Ben Rohrs
Will Ames
Ben Purser
John Lurquin
Laura Michaelson
Brianna Chai
Raphael Nawrotzki
Tara Gilboa

DEPT

ANTH
APPM
APS
ASEN
ATOC
CHEM
CLAS
COMM
EBIO
EBIO
EDUC
ENVS
FRIT
GEOG
GRMN
GPT
HIST/CHIN
ITP
JOUR
LING
MCDB
PHIL
PHYS
PSCI
PSYC
PSYC
SLHS
SOCY
SPAN