

GSSA Meeting

[2018-02-15] – [LBC 212]

I. Call to Order **6:31pm**

II. Approval of Minutes **Approved**

III. Guest Speakers:

I. Jesse Chanin – Solidarity Tulane

To improve healthcare for graduate students at Tulane. Might be possible to get improved healthcare next year. There is a petition going around with following demands:

- 1. Fully subsidized health insurance for all graduate workers**
- 2. 50% subsidized health insurance for all dependents**
- 3. Fully subsidized vision insurance**
- 4. Fully subsidized dental insurance**
- 5. Waive the health center fees**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdB_rn4q3rP3nIuvLopOOQ18eZhKubjdyWWke_HflqmfPI_kw/viwwform

IV. Officer Reports

I. President – Lydia Crawford (lcrawfo2@tulane.edu)

A. www.partofthepride.com

Jodi Lasky -Website: www.partofthepride.com -Looking for beta testers. -Will send you a phone call using a bluetooth device to help you end/leave a conversation/interaction in a suspicious situation. -You choose 5 close contacts who can also receive a notification of your situation and your coordinates so that they can call you as well. -If no response in 2 minutes, will call 911. -3rd tier not out yet - people within 1000 m will get a notification of a chosen fake name for you, question to ask, etc. -\$25 for device, about \$2-4 a month for the service (comes with 6 months of service up to 4 lists, after that 1 list of 5 people).

B. Immigration Lawyer hired for TULAP

Mondays at University Square, 2:45-6pm, free consultation – schedule appointment at TULAP website. Any immigration questions can go to them (DACA status, international students, sponsoring someone).

C. GAPSA Eboard nominations needed

Nick is looking for someone to take over as GAPSA president. If you have other nominations, you can email Lydia.

D. American Federation of Teachers (Day of Action and Support for DACA)

Take a picture with the flier below and send it to Lydia to show support for DACA. Date is April 19th.

<https://www.aft.org/our-community/immigration/national-institutions-coming-out-day-action-april-19-2017>

https://www.aft.org/sites/default/files/unafraidally_branded.pdf

https://www.aft.org/sites/default/files/unafraideducator_branded.pdf

E. Career Workshops posted at: ogps.tulane.edu

Register for them online – free! Building your resume or CV for academia or CV, IDP workshops, etc.

II. Vice President - Davette Gadison (dgadison@tulane.edu)

- A. Trivia Night February 22nd at Bruno's Tavern
- B. Faculty Award Nominations

Send nomination to Lydia now! lcrawfo2@tulane.edu. You can send in multiple letters for the same person.

II. Treasurer – Robyn Brooks (rbrooks3@tulane.edu)

- A. Currently, we have \$2591.73 in the bank
- B. Please make sure to assemble Travel Packets correctly

Reps have to check travel packets and make sure everything is correct and then sign it. There has been a lot of issues with the packets.

Paper clip, don't staple. Tape receipts. Make sure there is proof of reimbursement, boarding passes if flights are being reimbursed, calculations are correct. Look at the travel reimbursement page for answers to most questions. If there are still questions, email Robyn (rbrooks3@tulane.edu).

There's been questions about moving money around after being approved for funding. You need to email Robyn EARLY if you want to do this, and it is not guaranteed that you can do this.

Make sure you are meeting deadlines if you are applying for funding.

- C. Speaker Request

I. Requestor's Department	Speaker Full Legal Name	Event Start Date	Honorarium	Travel	Lodging
Physics	Jerome Luine	4/19/18	\$200	\$500	\$170

Motion to approve speaker funding. 0 oppose, 0 abstain, 39 approve

- D. Event Requests

Department	Event Title	Date	Amount Requested	Expense	Expected Attendance	Per person
Cell & Molecular Biology	CMB - ATCG Business Meeting	2/20/18	\$135.00	Rouse's Catering, sodas	20	\$6.75

Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering / CMB / EEB	WISE Coffee and Conversation	2/23/18	\$35.00	Coffee and snacks	15	\$2.33
Earth & Environmental Sciences	ESGA Monthly Meeting	2/21/18	\$175.00	food (pizza)	30	\$5.83
Linguistics	LingLunch meeting	2/20/18	\$50.00	Pizza from papa Johns	18	\$2.78
Linguistics	LingLunch meeting	2/27/18	\$50.00	Pizza from Papa Johns	17	\$2.94
Linguistics	LingLunch meeting	3/6/18	\$50.00	Pizza from Papa Johns	17	\$2.94
Linguistics	Tulane Conference on Linguistics (TCoL)	4/7/18	\$150.00	Coffee and Pastries from PJ's and Maple Street Patisserie	40	\$3.75

Total \$645

Motion to vote on events as a slate. 0 oppose, 0 abstain, 39 approve

Motion to approve event funding. 0 oppose, 0 abstain, 39 approve

III. Secretary – Sarah Khalil (skhalil@tulane.edu)

V. New Business

I. Stipend Discussion

John (EEB) came to discuss possibility of increasing base pay of stipends in SSE. Current stipend for EEB is \$20,800 for 9 months. Average pay in peer institution is \$27,500. New Orleans is very expensive to live in, rent has been increasing. \$23,400 is stated as minimum amount to live by for a single person (MIT). There is also disparity between TA stipends and fellowship. NSF GRFP is not available for PhD students coming in with a master's. Board of Regents is not providing individual fellowships anymore. Other departments do get higher TA stipends via endowments.

Plan is to form a committee to (1) increase transparency about where money is coming from and going to, and (2) increase base pay to minimum living cost in New Orleans.

There was a discussion (maybe 8 years ago) to vote for subsidized insurance vs. increased pay, and there was a vote to subsidize the insurance.

Motion to form 2 special committee to investigate funding transparency and discuss stipend issues for SSE and SLA. To be absolved when more information is discovered. 0 oppose, 0 abstain, 39 approve

VI. Old Business

I.

VII. Announcements

I. **GIST, BATS, Robotic competitions – interested in volunteering? Talk to Kate Elfer! kelfer@tulan.edu**

VIII. Adjournment **7:13pm**