Logo_4C.tifGraduate Student Senate

130 McFall Center

Bowling Green, Ohio 43403-0181

Phone: (419) 372-2791

<http://www.bgsu.edu/gss>

General Assembly

Friday, April 12, 2019 – 3:00-5:00 p.m. – Education 115

# Call to Order: 3:01 pm

# Roll Call

* If you walked in late or didn’t hear your name, please come talk to us at the end of the meeting.

# Approval of Minutes and Agenda

* Motion: American Culture Studies, MA
  + Second: World Languages and Cultures
  + Approved

# Guest Speakers

Ms. Sherideen S. Stoll, Vice President of Finance and Administration

* Addressed today: Where money comes from, How do we break down money, Assistantship funding and how it is handled? (where it comes from), Career center and advising fees (how is it used)
* Enrollment driven organization, revenue from tuition and fees has been increasing and state support has been decreasing.
  + Highest state support back in 2010
* Highest budget items are salary, wages, benefits, cost of utilities, and technology
  + Trends for healthcare benefits increased over years (few individuals with chronic or acute conditions rather than many)
* State support based on successful course completion and degree completion
* Graduate students are smaller part of enrollment and funding looks a lot flatter because less variability. However, larger decrease in face-to-face programs and increase in remote/online programs
  + Question from World Languages and Cultures: What is headcount vs FTE? (referring to handout)
    - SS: Full time equivalent and headcount are different ways to give you numbers of who is at the institution overall versus those who are full time.
    - Question WLC: Why is one number half as large as the other?
    - SS: For example, for undergraduates, the numbers are not that far apart because there are less that are part time (mostly full time). However, it is much more common for graduate students to be part time, so the FTE is the ratio of full time students to overall students.
* Majority of revenue is student tuition and fees. At its peak, revenue came from 71% traditional student fees. Lowest point was 60.4 mil and trending back up but well-below high point. Low level of state support compared to what we get from students.
* Other income is basically everything else besides state and tuition
* Total funds available: 2014 – 280.5 mil and 2019 – 299 mil
  + This is an improvement, difference is where the money is coming from
  + Question WLC: What happened? Where did we invest in other income?
    - SS: It is not investment, it is increase in other types of fees – program, career and advising – targeted fees to programs or services that experience higher cost or higher growth. Don’t usually increase tuition because the state doesn’t like/allow it, so increase fees instead.
* Expense side: Mostly salary (faculty, staff, student wages, graduate assistantships) and benefit line (58.1% now up to 60%)
* Another large expense is student aid and scholarships (institutionally funded aid 12 mil to grad fee waivers). These are distributed to Grad College and they decide how they are distributed.
* Questions?
  + Question from Guest: How does formula that decides state funding disadvantage some school and advantage others?
    - SS: State government believes funding should be based on outcomes and outputs rather than enrollment. They first give money to medical schools. They ask do you have medical school? If yes, 10% of state money goes to medical school. The next 10% goes to doctoral funding. The formula created in the mid 90s and very out of date. These processed are called a set asides. The remaining budget (80%) distributed to all colleges and universities. 50% based on degrees granted. For example, BA in English vs MA in Chemistry funding differs in the amount it costs to fund each degree. 30% goes back to the FTE. Look at every subject and make groups to set aside amounts to cover the cost to deliver that course for someone with a D and above. The average last 3 years for degrees completed and course completion to determine these costs.
  + Question from Theater and Film, PhD: What is the general fee?
    - SS: State of OH and most other states in the 50s and 60s created a general fee and defined as a uniform fee assessed to all students in the same amount to support non-academic services (i.e. sports, student union, non-academic).
    - Career and Advising Fees, the state of OH mandated no tuition increase for undergrad and instead raise fees of institutional targeted fees
    - State is considering requiring increasing fees this can mean they don’t intend raising support or they don’t want to increase tuition
  + Question from Communication Sciences and Disorders, PhD: Fees for grad students are not included in stipends or waivers. What are you doing to decrease the se fees?
    - SS: Good question, we have tried every route that we have thought of, including a firm for lobbying state legislators, to present what the impact has been of their decisions to not fund public education in OH. Ohio is not in good standing compared to other states regarding state funding and costs, so please go and vote. This is a serious impact to this university, it is important to vote because it does matter.

# Officer Reports

Treasurer

Lauren Dial – [ladial@bgsu.edu](mailto:ladial@bgsu.edu)

* **Summer 2019 FPD Application** is now live on the GSS Canvas page under “Modules” Due Wednesday, April 24
* Must be enrolled in 4 credits in either SUMMER or FALL

Vice President

Ivy Keen – [ikeen@bgsu.edu](mailto:ikeen@bgsu.edu)

* **Summer 2019 Regalia Application** is now live on the GSS Canvas page under “Modules” Due Monday, June 10

# Old/Unfinished Business

2019-2020 Elections

Student Affairs Representative: Jessica Puder, Ashley Parker, Patrick Felton, Shahin Hossain

* **Jessica:** 1st year Contextual studies, MA. BA from BGSU. Running for this position because passionate supporter of current SA rep and want to continue to work with implementation team and grad student issues sub-committee. To advocate for changes, need to passionate about these issues and recognize the prevalence of sexual assault as well as other biases. I am not well-versed in certain areas and recognize my privilege, but I understand the need to cultivate a climate of openness, and I will do whatever I need to do to be knowledgeable about issues.
* **Ashley:** Will be pursuing MA in criminal justice. People call law enforcement to solve issues and concerns. I had an internship at BG municipal court which gave me the opportunity to hear multiple parties’ voices to create a solution that was fair and just. I will bring those principles and standards to the position.
* **Shahin:** I’m not here to make false promises. I have a vision. GSS fails international students and I want to engage international students because they are the most marginalized group of grad student. I want to make GSS a vibrant org of diverse students. I have been a representative of my own nation, so I have experience and can represent graduate students. I can be an advocate but my focus will be international students. I want to be an agent of change, and we cannot make false promises.
* **Patrick:** Pressure is put on students, our student body is dealing with a lot of issues. We need someone who is willing to engage about those issues. I have been building contacts since I starting running for this position because I want the student body to be happier than it is right now. I think we can make things a little bit better. If we leverage retention, we can do good things.
* **Questions**
  + Q: What different strategies will you have to engage grad students to be more inclusive?
    - P: Number 1 complaint. We are not given enough time or resources to find each other. Part is pedagogy in how to do interdisciplinary work. Leverage grad council.
    - S: Network with all departments, reach out to connections, spread the word
    - A: Relationships, we are driven to find relationships
    - J: Reflecting on my own experience, I didn’t have connections or chance to connect outside. Look at GSO week or events there that integrate all programs. Low-stakes events with free food.
  + Q: When you work in a group, what role do you play and what is your strength?
    - J: who has what position, making sure we are all playing to our strengths, comfortable in multiple positions
    - A: take charge and also check-in, are you being heard, lift each other but also there to get things done
    - S: power of the group, we are a group, we can accomplish everything, whatever we take on with each other
    - P: thought that I had to have the answer and now learning that we can’t always be in the same role, sometimes you have to be flexible, situational, kind and assertively
  + Q: Can you identify a time when you experienced an issue as a grad student and how you overcome and what you learned to represent grad students regarding that problem?
    - P: I am different and communicating that this is who I am and that learned how to communicate what I need. Speaking up for yourself and taking necessary steps is what I learned.
    - S: I came to BGSU with a different culture. I was cautious about what to say and not to say. Just care about things. We make mistakes, we need to learn from them.
    - A: Sorority members of chapter not being heard, got everyone’s opinion that was not being heard, go to council, make sure members are heard, national council reached.
    - J: Teach general studies writing, teaching that along with composition instructors workshop. Thought the class would be helpful but was not what we needed, talked to instructor of course and expressed concerns. Learned to confront the problem.
  + Q: Have you thought about your plan for the upcoming year, what would you tackle?
    - J: continuing task force, what do I need to know from SA rep, continue build team with SEC members
    - A: reaching out to SA Rep, one on one convo about who you contacted, who you didn’t, successes, improvements
    - S: talk to SA rep, what have you done, what are the prospects, challenges? Build on current SA rep
    - P: look at those who come before us, things are changing, focus on retention is going to change a lot, opportunity to be part of change, what is wrong and what needs to be fixed
  + Q: How do you think will make sure that your voice is heard on Grad Council?
    - P: I have never gone into a room where my voice wasn’t heard. It doesn’t mean that I am listened to. How do I approach things that is listenable? It is a process, seeing what needs to be said.
    - S: be respectful, we have to care, leader listens to everyone
    - A: mutual respect, present yourself with respect and you will get it, make sure you want to be heard
    - J: presenting yourself as a peer in the situation, we have many roles, make sure that you are presenting yourself in that role
  + Comment: I appreciate the time and thoughtfulness of the candidates’ answers.
  + Deliberation
  + Vote
    - **Jessica Puder elected**

Treasurer: Cheyanne Jeffries, Ivan Johnson, Ashley Parker

* **Ashley**: I ran two different orgs (treasurer and finance), I have the skills and talked to current treasurer. I can multitask.
* **Ivan**: Food fit for treasurer because have extensive business background, couple years experience in business. I feel like I can do well as funding professional development chair. I have the experience and knowledge
* **Cheyanne**: I wanted to run for treasurer because of FPD. I can facilitate conversations about FPD. I want to bring us together and find a common ground. Student organizations is important. Funding for student organizations is important and I want to help to allocate funds to them.
* **Questions**
  + Q:FPD – what criteria have you thought about that would be the most competitive?
    - C: what is vital to the person’s professional development.
    - I: coming to those decisions together as a unit, there is not going to be perfectly equal applications
    - A: need to hear everyone’s committee, pros, cons, full picture, not the whole part of it
  + Q: how would you balance the budget if you are short?
    - President: that will not happen
  + Q: what is your experience with balancing a budget and with Excel?
    - A: Yes, I have experience. Thank you to the college of business, managed several budgets before. Lots of experience with Excel.
    - I: Thank you to the college of business. I have managed many accounts, I have lots of experience with Excel.
    - C: Interned for 3 non-profits for and wrote grants and budget programs, treasurer of student organization
  + Q: How will you advocate for funding for graduate student organizations to an undergraduate centered board?
    - C: expressing the need
    - I: making sure that you are expressing the investment, what benefit would it be for the body as a whole and the grad student body in particular
    - A: relationships, being an undergrad I would want to know return on investment, but it is not just numbers, taking away from the experience
  + Q: FPD not all departments have the same external funding available. How will you create equity in these decisions?
    - A: tough question, to create equity I need to hear other people’s input and it is equal but need to hear all sides, why for, why not, make sure there is a need
    - I: more benefits than not, equity vs equality, not an equal system but equitable, funnel money where it would best be used
    - C: personal fight for the reason why you need FPD, to be the voice to defeat the dominant ideas that there are programs that deserve more based on societal expectations
  + Q: What ways can GSS work and emulate the banking model?
    - C: I don’t know how to answer that question and I’m not sure how to answer
    - I: banks are for-profit and a non-profit should not model them. Be organized yes.
    - A: banking is the way it is.
  + Deliberation
  + Vote
    - **Ivan Johnson elected**

# New Business

Title IX Statement

* Grad council passed yesterday
* Motion for discussion: President
  + Second: American Culture Studies, MA
* Discussion
  + American Culture Studies PhD: This is a lot of information, and I think it should be discussed in future.
    - President: Not possible because time sensitive and we have limited time in the final GA due to elections
  + Higher Education, PhD: Didn’t someone come in last year to talk about this?
    - President: Last year Jennifer McCary came into to talk about it possible changes to Title IX and what BGSU would do if the changes passed. Now, these changes are what we would do if these changes happened, these changes happened and are not optional.
  + No further discussion
* Vote
  + **Passed: 32 – 0 – 0**

Shanklin Colloquium and Awards – April 18

* Please invite constituents to colloquium and awards
* Need judges for paper presentations, put your name down if you are available
* Links to the Facebook events will be sent out with the minutes

Presentation of 2019-2020 budget

* Lauren Dial, Treasurer
  + Projecting $57,000 in expenditures but only allocated $50,000
  + Planning on using carry-over funds from previous fiscal years to cover excess expenditures
  + Approximately 50% of the budget goes to FPD split between Spring, Summer, and Fall, see graphic below for other expenses

Top 10 List

* Vice President
  + Passed out handout of old top 10 list
  + Please send this to your constituents and get feedback and ideas for our next meeting
  + We will be creating a new top 10 list

# Announcements

Next General Assembly: **April 26** from 3-5 p.m. in Education 115

Guest Speakers:

* Ms. Marlene Reynolds, Director of Student Insurance

Come to Guajillos after the meeting!

# Adjournment: 5:03 pm

* Motion: World Languages and Cultures
  + Second: Masters-Media and Communication

Prepared by Lauren Dial.