**General Assembly Minutes**

October 12, 2018; 3pm-5pm

Graduate Student Senate

* Call to Order – President at 3:03pm
* Roll Call
  + Please come see us after the meeting if your name was not called
* Approval of the Minutes and Agenda
  + Motion: World Languages and Culture
    - Second: Psychology
* Guest Speakers
  + Ms. Jaime Furda, M. Ed, LPCC Graduate Liaison for the Counseling Center
    - Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor
    - Started this past May
    - Liaison for graduate students
      * Her role is to be the contact person, business cards were passed out
        + Jaime Furda M. Ed
        + [jfurda@bgsu.edu](mailto:jfurda@bgsu.edu)
        + Counseling Center 104 College Park
        + Phone: 419-372-2081
    - Services
      * Individual work
      * Group work
        + General process groups
        + Skills groups
        + There has been talk of a graduate student group

There was little interest in it the first time around, though if there is interest please let her know and she would be happy to help in getting it started

* + - * Couples
        + With couples counseling, your partner does not have to be a BGSU student
      * All of the above services are built into tuition
      * Consultation
      * Programing by request
        + The website lists their topics
        + You can request by the topics or they can help you develop a custom program
        + Three weeks notice is needed to make sure they have staff and resources available for your event
      * They do have some limited evening hours
        + Can be flexible with scheduled intakes, but those spots are limited
      * 1:30-4:00pm are the walk-in hours
        + If you cannot make walk in hours, please contact the Counseling Center
    - Questions:
      * Representative-at-Large
        + **What has been done in the past to generate more graduate student interest in the group sessions?**

One problem has been knowing people from your own program who are also attending

She would like to help co-facilitate a program if possible

* + - * + **Would it be possible to make this a department specific support group?**

An academic support group would be a great idea. That is something they can work on if that is something the department would want

* + - * International Graduate Students Chair
        + **Are there separate hours for graduate students and undergraduate students?**

No, not specifically. The center cannot accommodate separate hours

There are a few clinicians that stay after business hours during the week

This can be addressed on a case by case basis if needed

* + - * Environmental Affairs Chair
        + **Many graduate students find it hard with the availability and the frequency of visits that are allowed to feel they are getting the help that is needed.**

The office has been talking about how they can provide the most services to the most students with the best quality of services while not compromising the quality of service

They are in the process of hiring a part-time position and a clinical director position as well

* + - * President
        + **There are some departments that are having some trouble working together. With some of the issues that are happening, is there a possibility for departmental group sessions?**

If there is an interest, they are able to help create programs

Workshops are a possibility as well

* + - * Psychology
        + **You said it was part of our tuition. Is it part of our tuition or an extra fee? Is this something that is optional?**

The counseling service fee is included in your general fees (which must be paid), so the counseling service fee is not an optional fee

* + - * + **Is the Counseling Center working to get counselors that are more diverse in terms of personal identities (especially race)?**

In nonvisible terms we are a diverse group

In the two searches they are doing now, they are pulling in a diverse group of candidates

This is something they are aware of and working to address

* + Ms. Jennifer McCary, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs and Title IX Coordinator
    - Joined the community in January
    - Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
      * Multicultural
      * LGBT
      * Center Women for Gender and Equity
      * Violence Prevention Center
    - Works to resolve cases by working with the Dean of Students and other administrative offices
    - Makes sure we comply with federal regulations in regard to Title IX
    - She works to write policies
    - Helps with education and training
    - We are very similar to other universities, but we do not have enough people engaged in talking about prevention
    - We all have roles in preventing violence
      * E.g. The mandatory reporter training
    - The first Title IX report went out in September
      * They have received a lot of feedback
    - 15 deputies divided into three teams
      * Education
      * Intake
      * Investigator
        + Duel investigator model

Previously, we only had one single investigator

By having two people, one can scribe while the other asks the questions to make sure students are heard

* + - Cocoon
      * Domestic Violence Shelter
      * <http://www.odvn.org/shelter-referral-listings/the-cocoon-shelter>
      * 200 Co Rd 246, Bowling Green, OH 4340
    - Advisory Group
      * She wants to have half representation of graduate and undergraduate students on an advisory group
      * If you are interested in the work around Title IX and being on this advisory group, please email the Vice President ([ikeen@bgsu.edu](mailto:ikeen@bgsu.edu))
    - New social justice certificate
      * Coming in the spring
    - Questions:
      * Public and Allied Health
        + **You said there is a difference between Title IX and the criminal process. What are the main differences?**

Differences

Criminal process

This can take a long time, even years

Involves investigation and evidence collection

Attorneys are involved

Title IX

60-90 day window for the issue to be addressed

University does not have the ability to collect evidence

Fact finding procedure based on a preponderance of evidence

Allows for due process

* + - * Popular Culture
        + **Is there an email available?**

There is a guide on the back of the Title IX Resource Card

<https://www.bgsu.edu/bgsucares/title-ix.html>

* + - * Environmental Affairs Chair
        + **Can you explain the mandatory reporting training sessions?**

If people are not able to make the open sessions, then departments can plan individual sessions

On October 17 there is an open session

Will be recorded and streamed online as well

* + - * + **Where should we point others who might not be sure if they need to report something?**

The website

See it, hear it, report it

Bgsu.edu/seeithearitreportit

* + - * Representative-at-Large
        + I want to encourage everyone to share this resource card with the Teaching Assistants in our departments
      * Psychology
        + **Where can we find information on open sessions?**

Website for Title IX

Faculty and staff tool kit

Mandatory reporting

It will have the dates listed

<https://www.bgsu.edu/bgsucares/title-ix/titleix-toolkit/upcoming-trainings.html>

* + Mr. Thomas Kelly, Parking and Shuttle Services Manager
    - 5 full time staff members
      * Six student enforcers
      * 12 potential candidates
    - He started back in March
    - Came from campus services
    - 30+ years in private industry
    - Father of five
    - Some of the projects that affect parking:
      * Harshman
      * Lot 30
      * Lots 28 and 29 have had service spaces and the handicap parking removed
        + This opened more space for commuter parking
    - The south side of campus does not have any red zones for off campus students
      * They are aware that campus parking is an issue
        + They are working on this
    - On the south side of Wooster, a lot of this is now BGSU property
      * The GSS President asked him if it was possible for graduate students to park in faculty or staff parking
        + This is something that would have to be discussed
    - He would like to make parking services more public relations and customer service based
      * They have provided certain access to certain lots during certain times
    - Many of the student lots are jam packed with students circling them, and there are faculty lots that are half full
      * They are looking at these areas to see if changing the spaces would be a good idea
    - Improvements:
      * Over the summer he sealed some of the lots
      * Helped to work on eleven other lots to fix lines in the lots
      * He is working on updating the cameras in the lots to keep us safe
      * We changed shuttle services
        + 6 busses all powered by propane
    - October 30th the purchasing department will have a meeting on shuttle services
    - Thurstin Avenue crosswalk
      * Part of an ODOT project
      * Thurstin is part Tier II
        + We are currently in Tier I
      * He agrees there should be a crosswalk there, but they do not have jurisdiction there because it is under ODOT
    - Questions:
      * School of Intervention Services
        + **Has BGSU thought about parking garages?**

They have: The plus side is vertical space; the down side is:

Cost

It costs $3,000 for a parking lot. A parking garage is 10X the cost

We are one of the cheapest four-year schools in terms of parking permit fees

* + - * English MA
        + **This past year we changed from placard to digital. What are the benefits and cons?**

Pros

They know who is on campus

The reader system is reliable

Cons

When they purchased the technology, there was not a lot of training

The technology has a lot of possibility and getting the training could increase the potential of it

The company has only been to the campus once since getting the system

BGSU Technology wasn’t trained on how to use the system

* + - * Popular Culture
        + **The crosswalk issue has been a problem all over campus**

There is not a crosswalk across from the commuter lot to the Recreational Center

Lot 10 and lot X have issues as well

Mercer, Wooster, and Poe are all within the city jurisdiction. This would cost the city to put the crosswalks in, so this is not something the school can change without the city’s approval

* + - * Physics and Astronomy
        + **The campus shuttle can be invaluable for those who do not have a license or cars. Many of those who do research get out late and it is very dark. This is especially problematic during the winter.**

**Is it possible to have them running later?**

Monday- Thursday, later hours

If you call the office #2776 they can help you

They can verify the shuttle times or offer other resources that are available

They can provide services that are offered through other companies if they are closed

Groom transportation services

BGSU police has the option to help those who do not feel safe

* + - * Criminal Justice
        + **Is it possible to have more fuel-efficient cars?**

We have moved to the propane busses to help with this.

* Officer Reports
  + Chair for Professional Development of Graduate Students
    - Not present
  + Chair for International Graduate Student Affairs
    - Had their meeting to discuss current issues
      * Health insurance
        + There are other insurance options available besides the Aetna Plan
      * Enterprise car rental is an option that can help with transportation
  + Chair for Multicultural and Disability Graduate Student Affairs
    - SACODI (Student Advisory Counsel on Diversity and Inclusion)
      * Would like to have graduate student representation on this advisory counsel
      * The application is on the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) Orgsync page
        + Due by October 21
  + Chair for Environmental Affairs
    - Emailed the people on her committee about meeting times. These senators should respond by Monday at midnight
  + Chair of Online Graduate Student Affairs
    - Nothing to report
  + Representative-at-Large
    - If you have a student organization and you know the contact information of the president or the meeting times, please write down this information on the sign-up sheet being passed around
    - Professional Development Day
      * Created the flyer for Professional Development Day. This will be sent out with the minutes
      * We need to have people come to Professional Development Day
      * Remind your constituents to please attend this wonderful event
  + Secretary
    - Nothing to report
  + Treasurer
    - Sending out Funding for Professional Development award letters today
    - If your FPD letter says “tentatively approved” it means that the organization is not registered with the university as a vendor
      * This applies to both memberships and conferences
      * We will be contacting these vendors and you will be contacted once they are approved
  + Student Affairs Representative
    - Nothing to report
  + Academic Affairs Representative
    - Focus on the Future
      * <https://www.bgsu.edu/focus-on-the-future.html>
      * President Rogers created this draft
      * October 18th it will be finalized
        + If you go to this webpage, you can look at what they currently have

Under each objective there is an option to provide feedback

* + - * This will be the strategic plan for the next five years
  + Vice President
    - Professional Development Day 2018
      * Friday, October 19th from 12:30-6:00pm
      * Please make sure to RSVP via the link below or with the link that was sent out over email
        + <https://www.bgsu.edu/graduate/professionaldevelopmentforgraduatestudents/GraduateStudentProfessionalDevelopmentDay.html>
      * This is an event aimed at graduate students
        + There will be multiple sessions happening throughout the day in BTSU Room 207 and BTSU Room 20
      * There will be topics such as:
        + Building an Effective Resume and CV
        + Graduate Student Self-Care Session
        + Interviewing Workshop
        + And many more!
    - Regalia Award
      * Applicants should have received an email last week. Please email the Vice President ([ikeen@bgsu.edu](mailto:ikeen@bgsu.edu)) if either you or a constituent applied and did not receive an email notification
        + October 24th is the deadline for December PhD graduates to order their regalia
      * GSS Canvas page
        + Everyone should have received an invitation to join the GSS Canvas page

This is not just for senators. This is for all graduate students

**Please encourage all graduate students to join!**

This will become important as everything moves from Orgsync to Canvas (applications, notifications, etc.)

* + - * Questions:
        + Social Work

**Many students in social work don’t have funding and many have to work jobs outside of the school. Are the meeting times able to change?**

Vice President –

Meeting times have been difficult. It is something that can be looked into although moving the times for this academic year is probably not something that can be done

This is something we can do a poll about

Meetings have always been 3-5pm because many students do not have class on Friday afternoons

**Many of the activities and meetings that are happening on campus happen when people are having class and are working.**

Vice President –

We do understand this, and we have found that late afternoons work overall

* + - * + Environmental Affairs Chair

**Many other graduate students don’t know anything about the Canvas GSS page. Can something be sent out with what this group is and why they should join?**

Yes, this is a good idea and the Vice President will send this out in an email

* + President
    - Reminder:
      * The Provost Open Forum is this Thursday from 3-4pm in BTSU 206
        + This candidate served as a Graduate Dean at another university
      * There are forms to fill out on each provost candidate
        + If you have feedback, please submit it using the form found on this webpage

<https://www.bgsu.edu/provost/provost-and-senior-vice-president-for-academic-affairs-search.html>

* + - Rodney Fleming
      * Student Legal Services
        + People want to advocate
        + Committee needs two graduate students to serve

This committee will help figure out what graduate students need and advise legal services accordingly

* + - * + Does not have to be a GSS Senator, so please talk to your constituents. Otherwise, we will enlist

If interested, please email the Vice President ([ikeen@bgsu.edu](mailto:ikeen@bgsu.edu))

* + - Meeting with Chief Information Officer
      * If you use Wi-Fi on this campus, SecureBg is less effective
        + Eduroam is what you should be using
    - There is a survey that normally goes out in the Spring on shuttle usage
      * The sample size has been low (fewer than 100 responses across the whole BGSU population)
      * The survey will be sent out continuously in January and March and should be open thought the semester
      * Please fill out the survey!
        + If we need more shuttle routes or later times, please include it
        + Make sure to include what you need
    - Questions:
      * Communication Science and Disorders PhD
        + **How is our input included in the provost search? How does our input influence the decision?**

The President can only speak for himself, but he believes all will do their diligence on reading all of the feedback.

The committee does not make the final decision. Dr. Rodgers makes the decision

President knows that Dr. Rodgers will hear the committee’s feedback on the decision

* + - Higher Education PhD
      * He believes that the Eduroam network would allow you to connect at other universities and connect to their Wi-Fi using Eduroam
  + Board of Trustees Graduate Representative
    - Not present
  + Advisor
    - Alexander Goberman, Associate Dean of Graduate College

  Handles policies and procedures

  Appeals

  Academic approvals

  You can contact him directly if needed as well ([goberma@bgsu.edu](mailto:goberma@bgsu.edu))

  There are new policies:

  Time limit to degree / Revalidation policy

o   Courses expire after 6 years for master’s courses or 8 years for doctoral courses

o   You can revalidate courses to make them count again

  A new appeals policy will be coming soon

o   You can appeal a grade or a non-grade academic experience

o   You can also submit an assistantship-related appeal

* New Business
  + Funding for Professional Development
    - There were a record number of applicants this fall: 170 total applications!
    - We created clearer applications from the feedback from last year, so fewer people were denied funding because of incomplete or incorrectly filled out applications
    - Funded 158 applicants in Fall 2018
    - Before, we have not had any rules beside meeting application requirements
    - Because of this, we have had to decrease the amount of funding awarded
    - In the next two weeks, please get feedback from your constituents and email the feedback to [gss@bgsu.edu](mailto:gss@bgsu.edu)
      * In three weeks, the SEC will vote on how to handle FPD
    - Options:
      * **Option A –** Keep FPD process the same and have the award amounts shrink to allocate money for the maximum number of recipients.
      * **Option B –** Remove some of the FPD categories; Faculty only receives money for presenting at a conference.
        + Presenting at a Conference
        + Attending a Conference
        + Other Professional Development Activity
        + Professional Memberships
      * **Option C** – Make FPD more competitive and only offer a certain number of awards in each category but keep the amounts higher.
    - Questions:
      * Popular Culture
        + **Can you explain Option B?**

We would be removing some of the categories allowing for more funds to be reallocated into the areas that we are keeping

* + - * Psychology
        + **Do you know what categories you are getting rid of and will it change each semester?**

This won’t change, depending on what ends up happening

It would happen through invoking the emergency clause.

If we go with Option C, the current Vice President and Treasurer will get to set the criteria each year to make sure the rationale for evaluation are clear

As far as the categories:

We need feedback!

Are there categories that are not needed?

* + - * Communication Sciences and Disorders PhD
        + **In the bylaws, there are no laws on applying to more than one category. How will these changes affect that?**

This was a topic that we discussed

For example, if I am going to three conferences this year, can I get funding on all three? This is a topic that we do not have an answer for yet

* + - * English PhD
        + **Is this chart indicating that if you are presenting at a conference, the amount listed would be the maximum you would receive or would you get that set rate?**

That would be the maximum that you would be allowed to receive

* + - * Physics and Astronomy
        + **Are the options excusive or can multiple options be chosen**?

Multiple can be chosen

* + - * American Culture Studies
        + **Can this be shared?**

Yes

* + - * Environmental Affairs Chair
        + **Are we having conversations about increasing funding for FPD?**

With the state of higher education and a state budget that doesn’t prioritize education, it is unlikely that it will increase again when we increased by over 10% last year

With higher numbers of applications and participation at events, it will show that more money or funding is needed

* + - * + **Is there any part of the application that discusses if they are already receiving funding?**

Yes

* + - * Communications Sciences and Disorders MA
        + **For Option C (the make it more competitive option), what criteria would you add to the applications to reduce the number of applicants?**

The Treasurer, Chair for Professional Development of Graduate Students, and Vice President would have to discuss this for each year

Once the overall structure gets finalized, they will be setting the terms and conditions

* Announcements
* Vice President
  + Next General Assembly: October 26th 3-5pm in the McFall Gallery
    - Guest Speakers –
      * Ms. Blaze Campbell, Not In Our Town
      * Mr. Rodney Fleming, Student Legal Services
      * Dr. Thomas Gibson, Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost
* Adjournment – 4:56pm
  + Motion
    - Gerontology
  + Approval
    - American Culture Studies MA

Prepared by Malachi Bailey.