



GPSC General Assembly Meeting Minutes January 29, 2013: 6:30pm, 0014 Westbrook

Presiding Officer: Shannon O'Connor
Refreshments: Nick Brandley, Chelsea Gaw

6:41pm: Welcome and Call to Order Shannon O'Connor

6:47pm: Invited Speakers: Young Trustees Malik Burnett, MD, MBA; Ali Saaem, PhD

- Malik Burnett:
 - Topics that are discussed at the Board of Trustees meetings include structural changes/projects on campus, admissions, athletics, and budgetary issues/gaps.
 - Question (by Fumiko Chino, Medicine): Do you have a vote?
 - Answer: No, the first year Young Trustee (YT) is an observer and does not have a vote. Ali Saaem, the second year YT, is the voting member.
 - Question (by Kate Duch, Public Policy Studies PhD): What progress have you made toward your personal goal (making sure that graduate student affairs are addressed at these meetings)?
 - Answer: It will take more than two years to accomplish his goal. From a structural standpoint, it will take a long time to put a new committee on the board (one that specifically would address graduate student issues). There is only a 36 hour timespan for these Board of Trustees meetings which is not a lot of time and usually more undergraduate issues are discussed than graduate issues. Malik will need help from graduate students to push this idea. If you have ideas or want to talk more about this with him, email Malik at gmalik.burnett@gmail.com.
 - Question (by Scott Kleiman, Fuqua MBA): What characteristics/traits should the GA look for in a YT?
 - Answer: A YT should be willing to meet people (because it can be very intimidating meeting people on the board), not afraid to voice their opinions, pick up on things quickly, and have a wide range of understanding of the university.
 - Question (by Fumiko C.): Describe the structure of these meetings.
 - Answer: On Friday at 7am, the president talks. Afterwards, there is a general board meeting and the committee meetings. Malik sits on the facilities and environment committee. Then there is lunch followed by the afternoon general board meeting. On Saturday from 8am-12pm, there is a general board meeting.
 - Comment (by Bill Hunt, GPSC President): He encourages GPSC reps to serve on the different standing committees of the Board of Trustees.
- Ali Saaem did not speak.

6:42pm: Introductions from the GPSC Reps

- See powerpoint slides (4-7). GPSC reps that presented:
 - Nahiyah Ahmad: 1st year in Fuqua School of Business
 - Samantha Brody: 1st year in Fuqua School of Business
 - Kate Duch: in Public Policy PhD program
 - Jimin Tan: 2nd year in the Liberal Studies program

7:07pm: Executive Board: What We Do (Part I)

Attorney General (Chris Marsicano), University Affairs Coordinator (Chelsea Gaw), Academic Officer (Pan Wu), Career Services and Professional Development Chair (Nick Brandley), Communications Coordinator (Chris Rowland)

- See powerpoint slides (9-17).
- Academic Officer: acts as a hub between the students and various academic offices, gathers and maintains academic affairs information, and consults with students regarding academic-related questions and concerns.
 - Question (by Fumiko C.): Do you have meetings?
 - Answer: He constantly goes to different offices (or emails) to speak with the directors.
- Communication Coordinator: maintains listserves, the GPSC website, upload events to the events@duke calendar, and writes the GPSC news.
 - Question (by Scott K): Do you have a preference about how people should contact you about events?
 - Answer: Email.
- Attorney General: acts as the chief judicial officer of GPSC and parliamentarian for the GA, reviews the by-laws each year for revision, serves as the chair of the Judicial committee, and handles cases of gross misconduct with the GA and executive board.
 - Question (by Fumiko C.): How often are the exec meetings?
 - Answer: The executive board meets every other Tuesday (the Tuesdays that the GA does not meet).
- Career Services and Professional Development Chair: This is a fairly new position (second year) and still evolving. It is a graduate school position rather than GPSC position because most of the schools have their own career services. He acts as a liaison and sat on a committee to hire a dean. There is supposed to be a committee but he does not have one this year (the future chair can create focus groups). His budget can fund career oriented events and student driven conferences (eg. speaker fees).

7:20pm: Proposal: Bylaws Changes

Chris Marsicano, Judicial Committee

- See powerpoint slides (18-56).
- The Judicial committee met to revise the by-laws. Their goals were to simplify and make them easier to read, increase efficiency, codify current practice, and make sure there is fair representation.
- There were a lot of things to fix! Some of the low hanging fruit were typos, unclear or contradicting references, and formatting. Some of the substantial changes include definitions, the voting procedure (run-off voting), creating an order of succession, the representative removal clause, and the apportionment policy.
- Question: Why was 100 chosen as the cutoff number for the proposed apportionment policy?
 - Answer: It seemed like a good number that would keep the GA representation fair. It does not have to be this number.
- Question (by Paul Triulz, Liberal Studies): Is there a time frame with the order of succession? I think there should be one.
 - Answer: No, there is not.
 - Bill H. agreed with this and proposed a time frame (2 GA/exec meetings = 1 month).
- Question (by Brad Hover, GPSC Student Group Liaison): What happens while that position is unfilled? Who assumes those duties?
 - Answer: Usually, the GPSC president would step in.
- The floor was opened for amendments to the proposed amendments to the by-laws:
 - F. Vacancies, part iii.: Elected offices found vacant shall be filled within two meetings of the executive committee.
- At 8:09pm, there was a motion to extend the by-law changes discussion by 10 minutes and the total meeting time by 20 minutes by voice vote. Majority could not be determined by voice vote so there was a motion to vote again by raising and counting the placards. Motion did not pass.
- There was a motion to table the discussion until the next GA meeting. Motion was seconded. All were in favor.

8:13pm: DUU Updates, LDOC Call for Ideas

Betty Jiang

- See powerpoint slides (57-64).
- Betty Jiang, who is a Medical school GPSC rep, is also a DUU rep. DUU, Duke University Union, is the major programming committee on campus made up of 15 undergraduate sub-committees. One of the events that they organize is LDOC (Last Day of Classes) and they would like to get more graduate students to attend and be involved with LDOC. DUU believes that some of the barriers to graduate student LDOC attendance are that graduate students do not know about it, think that it is only for undergraduates, or have no interest in the artists and events. DUU would like to know what is the best way to communicate LDOC to graduate students and if there is spousal interest.
- Some of the programs that DUU hosts include Duke Royale, Coffeehouse, Freewater presentation (movies), Jazz@Mary Lou, Joe College Day, big attractions (major artists), and WXDU (radio station),
- LDOC attendance solutions from the GA: graduate student specific wristband distributions, socials using GPSC funds, opening this event up to spouses, a survival guide sent out in GPSC news.
- If you have more suggestions for Betty, email her at betty.jiang@duke.edu.

8:10pm: Officer Updates

- Bill H.: Since the proposed by-law changes were not voted on at tonight's meeting, the GA will need to vote on the new YT by the old-bylaws at the next meeting. **Please stay for the entire meeting!** There are three candidates:
 - Andrew Barnhill
 - Katherine Duch
 - Christopher Marsicano
- Shannon O' Connor (GPSC Vice President): Dean McClain will be speaking at the next meeting. The retreat (only for GPSC reps) will be on campus.
- Pan Wu (GPSC Academic Officer): The luncheon with President Brodhead will be on February 5th. Contact Pan if you would like to attend.

8:20pm: New Issues/Announcements

- Coach K's birthday is the same day as the home UNC basketball game. Would GPSC be willing to help buy birthday hats (20 cents/hat) for people to wear at the game?
- Janett Aguilar, Physician Assistant: On Tuesday March 5th, there will be a blood drive and bone marrow registry.
- Dan Griffin: On February 8-9, there will be Duke career conference, a great networking opportunity to meet with alumni.

8:30pm: Reminders and Wrap-up

- Approval of previous meeting minutes
- Dean McClain is our speaker for Feb 12
- Young Trustee elections are Feb 12

- Fumiko Chino: Motioned to approve the previous meeting minutes and adjourn. Motion seconded.

8:32pm: Adjournment

GA meetings, 6:30pm, 0016 Westbrook

- January 15
- January 29 (0014 Westbrook)
- February 12
- February 26 (6-9pm)
- March 19
- April 2
- April 16
- April 23 (tentative)