



## GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION (GSA)

Tuesday, 1 December 2015 Legislative Assembly Agenda

<http://www.unl.edu/gsa>; gsa@unl.edu

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1. Call to Order / Roll Call
  - a. Roll call taken by sign-in sheet.
  - b. Quorum was met and exceeded
2. Approval of the Minutes- **Approved**
3. Open Forum
  - a. Elizabeth Edwards
    - i. Write-in hosted by library
      1. Dec 6<sup>th</sup> from 6-10.
      2. Writing center consultants
      3. Go.unl.edu/gradconnections
    - ii.
4. Business of the Day
  - a. Resolution FA15-16-02
    - i. Parking resolution requesting that graduate students could have the option of paying for parking permits either in one lump sum or in monthly installments in the consolidated bill
    - ii. Discussion
      1. Is it feasible to have it come out of salary?
        - a. Since salaries are paid differently, there are some issues with using this method
      2. Could be issues with types of passes offered
      3. Would the prices for parking passes increase due to this bill?
        - a. No. Prices were set for next year
      - 4.
    - iii. Resolution passed by voice vote. 0 abstentions, 0 nays.
  - b. Resolution FA15-16-03
    - i. Resolution is procedural measure to dissolve GSA as an RSO and re-establish it as an ASUN Executive Committee
    - ii. Ensures that all of our assets are transferred over to our new ASUN account
    - iii. Dissuasion
      1. Revision to line 14 to correct a typo
    - iv. Resolution passed by voice vote. 0 abstentions, 0 nays.
5. Executive and Committee Reports – **See Blackboard & Box**
  - a. **Discussion: GSA Funding Proposal**
    - i. With transition to new status as ASUN Executive Committee, we are now a direct-fee user

**Adjournment**

- ii. Need to request money from ASUN. Money will come from student fee allocations.
- iii. Discussion on what the uses for the requested funds
  - 1. Where are fees coming from, specifically?
    - a. As it stands, all students (undergrad and graduates) pay student fees and it is combined together into one pot.
    - b. We hope to avoid student fee increases.
  - 2. Is it an allocation given every year?
    - a. Every year, we would have to go through same request process
  - 3. Could we fund travel grants with this allocation?
    - a. Currently, Grad Studies provides travel funds. We are looking into potentially providing supplemental funds.
    - b. Some things we need to look into include
      - i. application process,
      - ii. Should we give it to individuals or to departments?
    - c. Since there is already a process, could GSA funds lead to a decrease in funds from Grad Studies
      - i. This is not meant to compete w Grad Studies and be supplemental
      - ii. Will be working with Grad Studies and will ensure that this is supplemental to Grad Studies funding, not a replacement.
    - d. Departments could request funds for events (e.g. professional development events)
    - e. Amount given will depend on amount we receive
    - f. Can GSA figure out how many grad students go to conferences?
      - i. Yes, we will be including it in a survey
        - 1. Suggestion to ask how much each department gives per student per conference
        - 2. Suggestion to ask what dept criteria
  - 4. What is maximum amount you would be willing to see student fees increase by if we are to get funding
    - a. Typically, ASUN fees increases between 50 cents to \$1 per year
    - b. Suggestions:
      - i. \$0.00. It benefits the university for graduate students to present at conferences. It should be an investment by the university
      - ii. \$0.00. Stipend from some departments can barely cover both student fees and living expenses. 50 cents would not be too bad, but what is to prevent the overall fees from increasing by a significant amount
    - c. Concern with current amount of fees ASUN receives.

- i. Where does the money go?
      - 1. Executive committees (which is what GSA is becoming)
      - 2. Student Legal Services
      - 3. Student Tax Services
      - 4. 3 staff members (1 full-time, 2 part-time)
    - ii. Can we request ASUN budget since we are now a part of ASUN?
      - 1. Yes, it should be public knowledge
      - 2. Follow-up: we can base allocation proposal based on that.
  - d. Counter-argument to issue about what's to prevent everything from increasing:
    - i. Let's request a fee increase that only goes to grad students/GSA
    - ii. Suggestion from Dr. Anderson (GSA advisor): frame it as an increase per student and keep in mind the increase will be distributed across both the undergraduate students and graduate students
5. We need to have proposal to ASUN president on Jan 5, 2016.
- a. Look for an e-mail requesting feedback.
  - b. Executive team looking into seeing if we can push deadline back to Jan 13, 2016 in order to submit proposal afterwards first LA meeting

6. Announcements

7. **Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm in Nebraska Union Colonial Room A**