Graduate Student Government of Michigan Technological University

Meeting Minutes: September 21, 2015

I. Call to Order
   A. 5:36 pm Chelsea calls meeting to order

II. Approval of Agenda
   A. Motion by Menon
      1. Second by Shelly
         a) Motion passes unanimously.

III. Approval of Minutes from: August 10, 2015
   A. Motion by Wesley
      1. Second by Mayra
         a) Motion passes unanimously.

IV. Welcome to New GSG Members
   A. Godwin Odum School of Technology
   B. Maryam Fakhir School of Cog and Learning science
   C. Betsy Kruppe Biomedical Engineering

V. New Business
   A. Introduction of Advisors
      1. Jacque Smith and Associate Dean Pushpalatha Murthy gave introductions.
   B. Surplus Funding Request: Film Board (Wesley McGowan)
      1. Presentation by Wesley
         a) Film board shows movies for 3 dollars every week with licensing fees averaging 1200-1600 dollars per movie. Sometimes they break even sometimes they don’t.
         b) They work with a lot of student organizations to show films for their events.
         c) Surround sound system upgrade needed because the system is sixteen years of age and the right side of the room is not functional.
         d) Asking for $16,000 (45% of total project cost) from GSG with USG, Parent’s Fund, and the Alumni Association being approached for remainder.
         e) New setup will be more compatible with the current projector.
      2. Q&A
         a) Jacque “Where was the funding from for the $50,000 projector?”
            (1) Wesley “Film Board used to have money, we also loaned money from the University, with the lion’s share coming from Film Board.”
         b) Rafel “Have you gone with the JBL crown?”
Wesley “Yes. If we can find an Alum working at that company, the cost may go down, however the installation may be more than $10,000.”

e) Isa “What does GSG stand to gain from this?”

Wesley “Film board will display all funding groups for one year as well as providing a cheap form of entertainment for all students at Michigan Tech.”

d) Menon “Are you considering raising the ticket price?”

Wesley “No, because raising the cost from $2 to $3 decreased ticket sales, however I am attempting to make Film Board a special budgeting group which would help fund licensing costs.”

e) Meng “What is the timeline for this project?”

Wesley “We plan on doing it over the Thanksgiving or Holiday break and should not take more than 2 or 3 days.”

f) Chelsea “How will you ensure these will not be stolen?”

Wesley “All speakers are now locked and cannot be opened by anyone besides film board or public safety.”

g) Bhasha “What happens to the old speakers?”

Wesley “We hope to sell them to another student org for around $6,000.”

3. Discussion

a) Meng “We have approximately $42,000 dollars in our surplus fund”

b) Tyler “How much has been spent in past from surplus?”

(1) Meng “Last year we spent less than $8,000.”

c) Ida “Does Film Board have an advisor or is it run by a department?”

(1) Chelsea “It is a student org, and in order to be a student organization you must have an advisor.”

d) Raíl “I do not think they are requesting too much, JBL Crown are good quality speakers and will last longer than 5 years.”

e) Beth: Motion to amend to $6,000

f) Betsy: “Raising the ticket prices would start competing with the normal theatre's 5 dollar Tuesday prices.”

g) Menon “What do they get if they become a special budgeting group.”

(1) Chelsea “They would have the opportunity to get more money through the Student Activity Fee.”

h) Raíl and Gorkem “If they would get new speakers they could get certified and that would allow them to pre-screen movies.”

4. Menon “Motion to change to $10,000.”

5. Options available: $16,000, $10,000, $6,000 and none.

a) Motion to vote: Meng

(1) Second by Menon

6. Request fails

a) Meng: motion to call another vote for either $10,000 or $6,000

(1) Seconded by Joe R.

7. Final voting

a) $10K: 17 votes

b) $6K: 15 votes

8. Request fails again and is tabled for next meeting.
VI. Officer Reports

A. President (Chelsea Nikula)
   1. Reviewed all responsibilities of GSG representatives.
   2. Activities for the following week include
      a) ENDNOTE workshop
      b) Michigan Tech Multiliteracy Center Writing Groups
      c) Nobel Laureate will be here 9.24.2015 and the lecture is free.

B. Vice-President (Will Lytle)
   1. Student commission had its first meeting, with next week proposing transportation amendments.
      a) A possible solution to gain further shuttle transportation would be adding swipe readers to the shuttle, Will is going to bring this idea up next week.
      b) Talks with implementing an UBER like service in Houghton.
         (1) Sumanth “Show the current routes in an attempt to improve them.”
             (a) Will “I will look into that and bring this to their attention.”
         (2) Ulises “Will you talk about going to Hancock as well increasing number of shuttles?”
             (a) Will “That will be a part of it, but right now expanding to shuttles running on the weekends will be one of the first things dealt with.”
         (3) Menon “Is there a way for off campus people to carpool?”
             (a) Currently there is no website but we are looking into reviving the BarkBoard ride section.
         (4) Tyler “When are you going to be proposing your transportation revisions?”
             (a) Will “Oct 24th.”
   2. Student Health Insurance Forum
      a) October 23rd from 12-1pm in the MUB Ballroom
      b) No food will be provided but health insurance reps will be available to talk about the current plan as well as answer questions.

C. Treasurer (Meng Tang)
   1. Treasurer report
      a) account balance: $93406.06
      b) budget: $3653.53/$85413
      c) discretionary: 0/$8000
      d) surplus: $1857/$42000
   2. Service fee of $3.00 for Wells Fargo viewing checks that will be a one time charge taken from E-board discretionary fund.
   3. Travel grants are open for fall and will be open until October 9th.
      a) 62 presenting ($250)
      b) 9 attending ($150)
      c) Eligibility
         (1) Must be full time graduate student at Michigan Tech
(2) Applicant's home department must be in good standing with GSG
(3) Presenting applications must provide conference acceptance.
(4) Conference must be between May 1st, 2015 - April 30th, 2016.
(5) Only acts as a reimbursement, will only reimburse if receipts are provided.

D. Secretary (Joe Fedie)
   1. Meet and Greets:
      a) Minimum of one each session, 1/semester recommended.
      b) Invite the faculty/chair of your department and the E-board members.

VII. Committee Chair Reports
A. Academic (Shelley Jeltema)
   1. Insurance Lunch ‘n’ Learn upcoming (Sept 23rd) in MUB Alumni Lounge at 11:45am.
   2. Entrepreneur Lunch ‘n’ Learn Oct 6th at 11:45am in the MUB Ballroom.
   3. Professional Development Evening: Academia
      a) Need people for a panel: new post doc, new faculty and long term faculty.
   4. Lunch ‘n Learn on Stress Management: Nov 5th 11:45am in MUB Ballroom A.
   5. GRC planning meeting Oct 13th

B. Social (Bethany Klemetsrud)
   1. Waterfall tour, Sept 26th and will start at 12:30pm, meet at MUB with limited space, sign up begins Sept 21st.
   2. Fall Color Tour, Oct 1st from 4-7pm. (NOTE: date has since changed to Oct. 14)

C. Public Relations (Avinash Subramanian)
   1. Website production is moving along rapidly, template and test domain is complete.
      a) Currently 8 pages are done.
      b) Should be done mid-late October.
   2. Reworking GSG blog is in the works, email any desired information to be put onto the blog.

VIII. Liaison Reports
A. University Senate (Gorkem Asilioglu)
   1. First meeting
      a) Discussed new evaluations of graduate faculty
      b) USG and GSG voting liaisons were discussed but nothing was decided
      c) Changes to the academic calendar were discussed, nothing was decided
      d) Changed wording on student accommodations with final exams so that it is limited to 6 hours of examination per day.

B. Undergraduate Student Government (Abbey Senczyszyn)
C. Research Advisory Council (Muralee Menon)
   1. First meeting is not until Sept. 23rd.

D. IT Governance Group (Shelley Jeltema)
   1. Discussing available software, email any concerns to Shelley
   2. Sept. 29th is next meeting.

E. Friends of the Van Pelt Library (Kevin Waters)
   1. Annual book sale is planned for April 8-9th.

F. Council of Philanthropy (Wesley McGowan)

G. International Group (Position Open)

IX. **Old Business & Discussion Items**

A. Mayra “How does a group secure a source of funding from GSG?”
   1. Meng “For discretionary funding groups must meet the funding timeline and have half the group be graduate students, full details are in our bylaws and constitution or we can talk afterwards.”

B. Mayra “How can we prevent GTAs and RAs from being taken advantage of and working over the allotted times.”
   1. Chelsea “Let me look into the University Policy and we can discuss this further.”

C. Meet & Greet Reports
   1. Sudhir
      a) CEE had a Meet & Greet, a lot of new students were there. There are no issues or concerns to report at this time.

X. **Adjournment**

A. Motion by Menon 7:11pm
   1. Second by everyone
      a) Passes unanimously