September 1, 2011
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune Student Center

Officers: Sam Rund, Biological Sciences (GSU President); Kevin Mueller, Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences (Co-Vice President); Ellen Childs, Sociology (Co-Vice President).

Chairs: Jon Schwarz, Sociology (Academic Affairs); Melissa Pirkey, Sociology (External Affairs) ABS; Victoria Lam, Biological Sciences (HealthCare); Ian Sander, Chemistry & Biochemistry (Orientation and Electronic Resources); Amanda Albrecht, Civil Engineering & Biological Sciences (Professional Development) ABS; Belen VicensSaiz, History (Publicity & Procedures); Katherine Rueff, Physics (Quality of Life); Lauran Schrader, Biological Sciences, (Social) and Sukesh Shekar Chemistry & Biochemistry (Social). ABS: Melissa Pirkey, Amanda Albrecht, Lauran Schrader.

University Committees: Jon Schwarz (Academic Council); Ian Sander (Academic Technologies); Kyle Beam, Political Science (Energy & Environmental Issues), Ellen Childs (Faculty Senate); Sam Rund & Ellen Childs (Graduate Council); Jon Schwarz (Library Committee); Amanda Albrecht (Professional Development); Katherine Rueff (Traffic Appeals); Victoria Lam (University Healthcare Committee); Jade Avelis, Sociology & Catherine Rastovski, Physics (Women Faculty & Students). ABS: Kyle Beam

Department Representatives: Lionel Pittman, Matthew Mosby (Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering); Amy Buchmann (Applied & Computational Mathematics & Statistics); Jackson Zorn, Justin Barfield (Art, Art History & Design); Ali Raja, Jessica Conrad-Stoller (Biological Sciences); Yunshan Wang (Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering); Douglas Rice (Chemistry & Biochemistry); Ann Dallman (Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences); Joshua McManaway (Classics); Nolan Noble, Sebastian Roelands (Economics); Peng Li (Electrical Engineering); Richard Ellman, Michael Cowan (English); Khoa Huynh (ESTEEM Program); Sarah Hurd, Charlotte Marous, Allison Herschel (Global Health Program MA/Science); Allison Edgren, Lindsey Passenger (History); (Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies); Hannah Zdansky, Yvonne Mikuljan (Literature Program, PhD); Kathleen Ansaldi (Mathematics); Ben Reinhard, Ryan Long, Anna Larsen (Medieval Institute); Joshua Tepley (Philosophy); Collin Lines, Stephanie Lyons (Physics); May Kim, Paul Stey (Psychology); Jade Avelis, Stefanie Wellons, (Sociology); Ricky Klee, Michael Cover (Theology). ABS: Yunshan Wang, Richard Ellman, Michael Cowan, Khoa Huynh, Sarah Hurd, Charlotte Marous, Brian Long, Ben Reinhard, Joshua Tepley, Michael Cover.

Fischer O’Hare Grace - University Village and International Student Services & Activities Representatives: Pramita Mitra (ISSA); Peter Campbell (University Village)
1. Brief introduction by the new Associate Dean of Students, Dr. John Lubker. He encourages attendants to refer any questions to his office.

2. Samuel Rund, President, called the meeting to order at 6:38pm.

3. Samuel called for the approval of minutes from the April 14, 2011 meeting. There was a motion to approve the minutes and the motion carried. The minutes were approved as they stand.

4. Ellen Childs, Co-Vice President, explained the different cards to be used during the meeting: orange cards for Committee Chairs and Executive Committee, green cards for Department Representatives (which mean they can vote on anything), yellow cards (only voice, no vote), and orange cards for GSU chairs and officers which have limited voting rights.

5. Samuel introduced and welcomed a new representative, Pramita Mitra, who will represent ISSA (International Student Services and Activities).

6. Samuel stated that the Executive Committee’s report stands.

7. Kevin Mueller, Co-Vice President, highlighted that there is a new application procedure for the Conference Presentation Grant (CPG) that uses the TravelND system and a Google docs form for pre-approval. Students will have to submit this online form first, which will be validated and approved by Donna. Her confirmation email will include a zip file of instructions for the student to follow after they return from the conference. The GSU will continue to cover up to $250 for conference presentation purposes, while the rest will have to be funded by other sources. For questions, please contact Kevin Mueller [kmuelle4@nd.edu].

8. Kevin highlighted that the GSU is working with the Athletic Department to allow graduate students to acquire tickets for ND games over university holiday breaks. The Athletic Department recommends interested students to acquire their tickets as early as possible. This does not yet apply to Hockey games; the Athletic Department is still working out the details for this.

9. Samuel announced that a new email system for GSU newsletters will be implemented soon and encouraged everyone to open the next email from the GSU.

10. Samuel stated that prior to reviewing Committee Reports, the Chairs would introduce themselves and explain what their Committee does and how students can become more involved with specific Committees of their interest. A breakout session is to follow, so that attendees and Committee Chairs can meet and discuss collaboration.

   a. Jon Schwarz, Academic Affairs Chair, stated that his report stands and added that his Committee deals with Academic Policy and is involved in two university Committees: The Academic Council and the Library Committee. In addition, his Committee is responsible for the organization of the Research Symposium that will take place in early Spring.

   b. Ellen Childs, Co-Vice President, stated that Melissa Pirkey’s, External Affairs Chair, report stands. Ellen added that the External Affairs committee is devoted to philanthropy both within the university and the community, as well as helping to build a relationship between community businesses and the graduate student community. Kevin added that every time the GSU Council meets, there will be food from different South Bend restaurants.

   c. Victoria Lam, Health Care Chair, stated that her report stands and added that her Committee organizes blood drives and other health-related activities. In addition, she represents the graduate student body during negotiations with health insurance providers.
d. Ian Sander, **Orientation and Electronic Resources Chair**, stated that his report stands. He thanks those who helped him organize the Orientation Week. He added that his Committee from now on will be devoted to improving electronic resources for graduate students. Samuel congratulated Ian for a successful Orientation Week.

e. Katherine Rueff, **Quality of Life Chair**, stated that her report stands. She reminded the Council of the recent letter of denial concerning the parking lot petition (i.e., to transform the D2 lots into commuter lots). She reminded the Council that more than 470 emails were received for this petition. She read the denial letter from the Parking Service Manager and added that, instead, a new building will be erected in that site; thus, displacing many graduate student commuters. She will request a shuttle service for graduate students from and to the library and the D2 lot during the winter months. In addition to working to resolve the parking situation, she stated that her Committee is devoted to family issues, faith concerns, and now is working to help international graduate students become familiarized with American culture. She added that an LGBT group has been formed and concluded that the GSU does not currently have a Faith Representative. In relation to this, Samuel responded that the graduate student organizations in the Business and Law Colleges have a number of chaplains of several denominations in their Councils, and so, the GSU could follow their model.

f. Kevin Mueller stated that Amanda Albrecht’s, **Professional Development Chair**, report stands. Kevin stated that this Committee was a new one, created in the past year in order to coordinate from a single Committee the various on campus events and opportunities (from the Graduate School, the Kaneb Center, the Center for Social Concerns, etc.) relating to graduate student professional development. The Committee meets once a month. Stefanie Wellons, Sociology Department Representative, added that she has been corresponding with Amanda Albrecht about this Committee and welcomed all to attend the next meeting. She highlighted that this Committee aims at covering different skills than those already available on campus. This Committee will focus on the individual, that is to say, on the personal goals of individual graduate students, for example: on communication tools, confidence skills, etc.; rather than on creating resumes, cover letters, and the like.

g. Belen Vicens-Saiz, **Publicity and Procedures Chair**, stated that her report stands and added that she would like help in designing flyers and photographing GSU events.

h. Sukesh Shekar, **Social Chair**, stated that his report stands. He encouraged graduate students to participate in GSU events, for the recipe for a happy living includes a dose of socializing. His Committee, which he shares with Lauran Schrader, welcomes ideas and suggestions for possible GSU events. Samuel added that many complaints have been received concerning the ticketing process at LaFortune and stated that the GSU is working on transferring the process online, which will be ready soon.

i. Jon Schwarz, **Academic Council**, stated that the council has not met yet.

j. Ian Sander, **Academic Technologies**, stated that the council has not met yet.

k. Ellen Childs, **Faculty Senate**, stated that the council has not met yet.

l. Samuel Rund and Ellen Childs, **Graduate Council**, stated that the council has not met yet.

m. Sukesh Shekar, **LaFortune Tenant**, announced that the GSU will have a new accessible office in LaFortune soon.

n. Jon Schwarz, **Library Committee**, announced that the next meeting will be Sept 29, at 8:00am.

o. Kevin Mueller, **Professional Development**, stated that this Committee meets every week.
p. Katherine Rueff, *Traffic Appeals*, stated that the council has not met yet.
q. Jade Avelis and Catherine Rastovski, *Women Faculty and Students*, stated that the council has not met yet.
11. Samuel called for the Council to gather under Committees and discuss for ten minutes.

12. Samuel introduced and welcomed the *Student Activities* (SAO) adviser, Peggy Hnatusko.
13. Ellen stated that the Council could not move on with the next item on the agenda (the constitutional amendment and new budget) because there was no quorum, meaning that a total of ¾ of the departments had failed to send a representative. She suggested that these issues be discussed in the next GSU Council meeting.
14. Collin Lines, *Physics Department Representative*, stated that this situation had happened in the first meeting of last year and asked whether the Department Representatives who do not show up could continue to be Department Representatives.
15. Ellen responded that the Department Representatives are elected by the Departments—the departments are what need to be represented, but the people who sit in the seats does not matter as much. What is important is that there is representation by the departments.
16. Michael Cover, *Theology Department Representative*, stated that he understood the situation but did not see it as a problem.
17. Ellen clarified that the votes within the GSU Council are distributed by the number of students that each Department has, in an effort to give all Departments a representative voice.
18. Katherine Rueff asked whether it could be conceivable that we never attained a quorum.
19. Ellen stated positively. She admitted that perhaps this first meeting should have been scheduled later in the month, to allow new Department Representatives to get settled in their new tasks.
20. Jon Schwarz motioned to move the discussion on constitutional amendments and new budget to the next meeting. The motion was approved and carried.
21. Samuel announced that the GSU will continue to support efforts to improve the lives of graduate student parents and families and he proposed that this year’s GSU fundraising efforts be directed to support a new fund for pregnant graduate students and students with families.
22. Belen Vicens-Saiz asked exactly what this fund entailed.
23. Ellen responded that the fund had not been yet established and that the details are to be worked out. She suggested that the GSU invite Representatives from this fund initiative to the next council meeting.
24. Ellen motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26pm.

Minutes submitted by Belen Vicens-Saiz.
Minutes

October 6, 2011
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune Student Center

Officers: Sam Rund, Biological Sciences (GSU President); Kevin Mueller, Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences (Co-Vice President); Ellen Childs, Sociology (Co-Vice President).

Chairs: Jon Schwarz, Sociology (Academic Affairs); Melissa Pirkey, Sociology (External Affairs) ABS; Victoria Lam, Biological Sciences (HealthCare); Ian Sander, Chemistry & Biochemistry (Orientation and Electronic Resources); Amanda Albrecht, Civil Engineering & Biological Sciences (Professional Development) ABS; Belen VicensSaiz, History (Publicity & Procedures); Katherine Rueff, Physics (Quality of Life); Lauran Schrader, Biological Sciences, (Social) and Sukesh Shekar Chemistry & Biochemistry (Social).

ABS: Lauran Schrader.

University Committees: Jon Schwarz (Academic Council); Ian Sander (Academic Technologies); Kyle Beam, Political Science (Energy & Environmental Issues), Ellen Childs (Faculty Senate); Sam Rund & Ellen Childs (Graduate Council); Jon Schwarz (Library Committee); Amanda Albrecht (Professional Development); Katherine Rueff (Traffic Appeals); Victoria Lam (University Healthcare Committee); Jade Avelis, Sociology & Catherine Rastovski, Physics (Women Faculty & Students).

ABS: Catherine Rastovski

Department Representatives: Lionel Pittman, Matthew Mosby (Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering); Amy Buchmann (Applied & Computational Mathematics & Statistics); Jackson Zorn, Justin Barfield (Art, Art History & Design); Ali Raja, Jessica Conrad-Stoller (Biological Sciences); Yunshan Wang (Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering); Douglas Rice (Chemistry & Biochemistry); Ann Dallman (Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences); Joshua McManaway (Classics); Nolan Noble, Sebastian Roelands (Economics); Peng Li (Electrical Engineering); Richard Ellman, Michael Cowan (English); Khoa Huynh (ESTEEM Program); Sarah Hurd, Charlotte Marous, Allison Herschel (Global Health Program MA/Science); Allison Edgren, Lindsey Passenger (History); (Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies); Hannah Zdansky, Yvonne Mikuljan (Literature Program, PhD); Kathleen Ansaldi (Mathematics); Ben Reinhard, Brian Long, Anna Larsen (Medieval Institute); Joshua Tepley (Philosophy); Collin Lines, Stephanie Lyons (Physics); Claudia Anewalt, Jeremy Castle (Political Science); May Kim, Paul Stey (Psychology); Jade Avelis, Stefanie Wellons, (Sociology); Ricky Klee, Michael Cover (Theology).

ABS: Joshua McManaway (Classics); Richard Ellman, Michael Cowan (English), Sarah Hurd, Charlotte Marous, Allison Herschel (Global Health Program); Brian Long (Medieval Institute), Michael Cover (Theology).

Fischer O’Hare Grace - University Village and International Student Services & Activities Representatives: Pramita Mitra (ISSA); Peter Campbell (University Village)
1. Samuel Rund, President, called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

2. Samuel introduced Carrie Rodak, Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences, who presented the work of the Kaneb Center and how this institution can help graduate students with their teaching needs. She mentioned the Kaneb workshops that take place throughout the year, the summer reading programs, certification programs, resources, consultation, drop-in hours, listserv, and free coffee!

3. Samuel then introduced Stephanie Storer who talked about the Parent and Parenting Student Fund.
   a. Stephanie, who works at the University Life Initiatives Office, explained that this Fund will be available for both graduate and undergraduate students on an exclusively need basis. International students can apply as well. Approximately $1,000-$5,000 will be made available per student applicant to cover financial needs such as childbirth costs, etc. It will be possible to reapply. Once the fund is established (possibly next Fall), interested students will meet with the Family Advocate to present an application; then the fund’s committee will meet to review the applications and will decide on fund allocation.
   b. Stephanie also mentioned that the Family Advocate is the person whom graduate students with families should contact in case problems with departments and other issues may arise.
   c. Stephanie was asked whether marital status would impose a limitation, to which she replied that it did not matter.
   d. Another council member asked her where the funds came from and Stephanie explained that they were raised through the University’s Development Office. Although some funds were also received through grants and fundraising. She estimated a total of a 3 million dollar endowment. She also noted that no other organizations within campus contribute to this fund.

4. Samuel then explained that the tentative presentation by an HR representative on the new Wellness Center would not take place because the University did not want to divulge this information yet. Victoria Lam, Health Care Chair, added that the University is still figuring out the building plan and other details.

5. Samuel introduced and welcomed Mimi Beck, Rector, Fischer Grad Residences.

6. Samuel asked the Committee Chairs to identify themselves and called for the Council to breakout and gather for 10 minutes with Committee Chairs.

7. Kevin Mueller, Co-Vice President, announced that the Salvadoran restaurant El Girasol was the food provider for this GSU Council Meeting.

8. Melissa Pirkey, External Affairs Chair, motioned to pass September 1, 2011 GSU Council Minutes. The motion was approved and carried.

9. Samuel stated that the Executive Committee’s report stands with the following additions.
   • Kevin then explained the new Conference Presentation Grant procedures. As it stands, the CPG had several problems arising from the fact that different departments were handling the CPG in different ways. Kevin distributed an explanatory graph to all Council members to show the three different ways in which the CPG was handled [attached]. Kevin stressed the importance of letting students know about the precise dates for applying to the CPG and that from now on students will have to apply before attending the conference if they want to receive the CPG. However, he noted that during these current months of October and November the
GSU will be flexible as the new CPG procedures had not been announced yet to the student body. The reimbursement amounts stay the same.

a. Kevin was asked who will notify the departments about these new procedures, to which he responded that the GSU will contact them.

b. Kevin also noted that the new procedures are published online at: [http://gsu.nd.edu/about/cpg/](http://gsu.nd.edu/about/cpg/).

c. Kevin highlighted that department representatives should tell their departments that students must apply before the conference.

d. Peggy Hnatusko clarified that flight and other expenses can be reimbursed ahead of time if they are considered a legitimate business expense.

e. Samuel added that Anthony Travel, located in LaFortune, can bill directly to the departments and that Delta flights can be purchased for a cheaper rate through the University.

- Ellen Childs, Co-Vice President, announced that the Multicultural Student Program & Services in LaFortune has an upcoming event to help guide undergraduate students interested in pursuing graduate school and asked whether any Council members would be interested in participating. The event will take place on Thursday, October 27th.

- Samuel encouraged Council members to take a copy of this year’s GSU Handbook for Graduate Students. He also announced that the Architecture School is a member of the GSU.

- Peggy Hnatusko stated that over this past summer the Executive Committee had worked nonstop to have the voice of graduate students heard within the University. She congratulated them.

10. Jon Schwarz, Academic Affairs Chair, stated that his report stands. He announced that there will be a casual meeting on how to improve the Hesburgh Library and make it more responsive to graduate student needs on October 27, at noon in the Notre Dame room (2nd floor LaFortune). Lunch will be provided.

11. Melissa Pirkey, External Affairs Chair, stated that her report stands.

12. Victoria Lam, Health Care Chair, stated that her report stands. She added that the most recent Blood Drive broke a record with 534 lives saved through the donation of blood from graduate students.

13. Ian Sander, Orientation and Electronic Resources Chair, stated that his report stands. He asked Council members to find out if any of their colleagues do not receive the GSU newsletter and to let him know if that is the case.

14. Kevin reminded the Council that it is ok that students change their email accounts when they update their subscription preferences through the GSU newsletter, but that they should remember to delete the old email, so that we can keep a cheap rate on MailChimp.

15. Mandy Albrecht, Professional Development Chair, stated that her report stands. She added that her committee will be hosting an event soon (November 8, 2-4pm, in the LaFortune Ballroom, 2nd floor) and she asked for ideas on how to enhance professional development. She also stated that her committee is looking for more departmental representatives.

16. Belen Vicens-Saiz, Publicity and Procedures Chair, stated that her report stands.

17. Katherine Rueff, Quality of Life Chair, stated that her report stands. She also announced the following updates: The bad news is that her shuttle request had been denied while the good news is that with the help of the Associate Dean of Students,
the GSU will petition to have our own graduate student shuttle. The estimate for this graduate student shuttle is $100,000. The shuttle would only be in operation during the winter months. Katherine asked departmental representatives to gather information on exactly how graduate students might be using this shuttle if implemented (how many times a day, at what times, etc.). She asked the Council to raise hands if they thought this was an interesting initiative to pursue. The majority did raise their hands. Departmental representatives can email her for more information and to provide feedback.

a. Katherine also mentioned that there will be a concession stand on Saturday during the Football game and that there were many open slots yet. She reminded the Council that the funds raised through this stand will go to the Parents and Parenting Fund.

b. Ellen added that graduate students with ID get free hotdogs, burgers, soda, and GSU t-shirt if they stopped by the stand.

18. Samuel congratulated Katherine for her sustained efforts at improving the parking situation.

19. Sukesh Shekar, **Social Chair**, announced that the PhD Comics movie will be shown on Thursday, October 13 from 8:00-9:00pm in DeBartolo Room 101. This room will accommodate 350 people.

20. Samuel opened the University Committee reports.

21. Jon Schwarz, **Academic Council**, asked the Council for feedback on issues to be discussed during Academic Council meetings. In the past, meetings have dealt with joint degree programs on campus and off campus and how to better integrate graduate students in foreign research centers.

22. Ian Sander, **Academic Technologies**, read his report and stated that his Committee is responsive to graduate student concerns. He also asked the Council for feedback.

23. Kyle Beam, **Energy and Environmental Issues**, stated that the committee has not yet met.

24. Ellen Childs, **Faculty Senate** has nothing to report at this time.

25. Sam Rund and Ellen Childs reported the **Graduate Council** has not met this year.

26. Catherine Rastovski, **Women Faculty and Students**, stated that the committee has not yet met.

27. Jon Schwarz, **Library Committee** reported there is a meeting this week and will include the info in the next report.

28. Sukesh, **LaFortune Tenants**, stated that new Fall break hours have been announced.

29. Mandy, **Professional Development Committee** stated that the committee will soon incorporate the 4 spires of their logo according to different professional focuses.

30. Katherine, **Traffic Appeals**, stated that the committee has not yet met.

31. Samuel introduced the new business on the agenda.

32. Belen presents the case for hiring a professional graphic designer to design GSU flyers with a more appealing look. She stated that the GSU has already found a candidate, who is a first year graduate student in Architecture. His rate is $20/hour.

a. Ellen explained that in order to hire this professional designer the GSU Council must approve it. She added that Belen has sufficient funds allocated in her Publicity and Procedures budget to cover this.

b. Melissa asked whether changes and edits were included in this rate, to which Belen replied she did not know for sure.
c. Belen was asked who had been in charge of flyers before. Samuel replied that Donna had in the past been in charge of all the flyer designs.

d. Another Council member asked whether it was really necessary to create and publish flyers given the proliferation of flyers all over the walls of University Halls such as O'Shaughnessy Hall. Samuel responded that GSU flyers were not posted on walls but were sent directly to the departments to post them in their offices.

e. Kevin noted that only 20% of graduate students actually opened the GSU newsletter.

f. Matt Mosby, *Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering* representative motioned to delay this issue until a more firm payment table is decided. The motion was approved and carried.

g. Sukesh reminded the Council that a great way of spreading the word was to use the GSU pages on Facebook and Twitter and encouraged all to sign up and follow the GSU.

h. Samuel added that the GSU will have two prize drawings soon to encourage graduate students to follow.

i. Ian suggested that the new flyers be made available digitally as well.

33. Samuel moved on to the new item on the agenda. He announced that this year's Concession Stand funds be donated to the Parents and Parenting Fund. He stressed how important this decision is and how it is a crucial part of the Executive Committee’s platform to support graduate student families at ND. He mentioned that traditionally these funds go back into the social budget, and does not believe the budget needs the money at this time.

a. Ellen added that the issue of supporting graduate student families has always been a concern of the GSU and that this is the opportunity to show the University that the GSU is taking a proactive stance on this issue.

b. Allison Edgren, *History Department Representative*, stated that many people in her department had raised concerns against this fund and reminded the Council that to have a family is a choice.

c. Jon asked whether this allocation of funds to the Parenting Fund would continue in the next years or only this year.

d. Kevin clarified that this allocation would be made only for all the proceeds of the Concession Stand of this year only.

e. Belen motioned to vote. The Council voted in favor and the measure was approved.

34. Kevin moved to the next item on the agenda. He explained what the proposed constitutional amendments entailed. He argued that the proposed stipend increases for GSU members were justified given the fact that work for GSU extended the original 9-month period and that GSU members more often than not worked a lot during the summer and vacation periods; hence, the necessity of making the GSU members’ appointment a 12-month appointment with a stipend increase.

a. Ellen noted that in order to pass this constitutional amendment the GSU Council would need to vote in favor of it twice. She reminded the Council that only green placards can vote to pass this amendment.

b. Ellen was asked when these stipends were last changed. She replied that they had remained the same for at least two years.

c. Another Council member asked why the GSU did not want to increase the stipends even more. Kevin replied that the proposed increase was fair.
d. Another Council member asked when the Committee Chairs usually started to work. Ellen responded that it varied; some Committee Chairs (Social, Orientation, etc.) had heavy loads during the summer while others worked more evenly throughout the year (Jon for example has many committee meetings to attend throughout the year).

e. Another Council member asked whether this increase would be retroactive. Ellen responded that that would require another vote.

f. A motion to approve was entertained. The Council voted in favor.

g. Samuel noted that we will have to vote again on this issue next month.

35. Ellen moved on to the next item. She explained that GSU Councils do not meet over the summer when certain over $500 budget proposals have to be approved, as per the GSU constitution. Ellen proposed two alternatives: Either call GSU Councils over the summer or have the concerned Committee Chairs (such as Orientation and Social Chairs) anticipate their expenses a year ahead in April for the Council to approve.

a. Katherine asked whether this second alternative would be effective without a quorum at the April Council meeting.

b. Matt Mosby asked whether there were other options to approve an expense ceiling over the summer. Ellen suggested both things; to have a ceiling and this amendment approved.

c. Mandy asked why there was a $500 limit and when this was implemented. Ellen replied that this had been the case for at least ten years.

d. Ian asked whether we could include in the Constitution a statement saying that the Orientation Chair can spend up to X amount of money; thus avoiding the April vote. Ellen responded positively.

e. Katherine motioned to either table the discussion or move it to a Committee.

f. Samuel motioned to move the issue to a Committee. The Council voted in favor.

36. Ellen stated that the GSU Council has to approve the GSU budget at the first meeting of each year. She explained the different items on the budget [attached], and noted that this budget included planned expenses. Usually the GSU spends less than planned. She added that this budget reflects the same kind of allocations of money that the GSU has had for the past three years.

a. Matt Mosby asked whether leftover money carried over. Ellen replied positively.

b. Allison motioned to approve and the motion carried.

37. Ellen motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23pm.

Meetings submitted by Belen Vicens-Saiz.
University of Notre Dame
Graduate Student Union (GSU) – Conference Presentation Grant (CPG)

October 2011 – June 2012

Congratulations, your application to the GSU CPG program has been accepted. The award will be distributed after your conference and upon submission of your travelCT expense report. The process will proceed in one of three ways; depending on what category you fall under. Please review each category below.

Category A
If you are completing your own expense report AND are seeking reimbursements from other funding sources, proceed as follows:

1) After returning from your trip, submit ALL of your expenses in one travelCT expense report.
2) Allocate up to $250 to the GSU CPG account by following the instructions in the ZIP file.
3) Allocate the rest of the trip to your department account and/or other funding departments on campus.
4) Upload a copy of your conference brochure cover and specific page showing your presentation to your travelCT report.
5) Make sure to add the appropriate approver for each account number you have listed before submitting. The primary approver for the GSU CPG is Donna Frahn.

Category B
If you are in the College of Arts and Letters, proceed as follows:

Instruct your department representative that you have been accepted into the GSU CPG program and that they are allowed to request up to $250 by means of a journal entry. Please make sure that your department representative sends a copy of the conference brochure cover page, the specific page showing the presentation, and the “UND Detailed Report” from your travelCT expense report.

Category C
If you are not in College of Arts and Letters and are ONLY seeking reimbursement from GSU, proceed as follows:

1) After returning from your trip, submit ALL of your expenses in one travelCT expense report.
2) Allocate up to $250 to the GSU CPG account by following the instructions under the allocation section (page 3).
3) If the total trip is more than $250, make sure to specify enough expenses as non-reimbursable to get your total to $250. The GSU will send back any submissions that ask for more than $250.
4) Upload a copy of your conference brochure cover and specific page showing your presentation to your travelCT report.
5) Submit the “ND GSU-CPG Only” form found in the ZIP file to your department office validating that you are not receiving any other funding for this trip.

GSU CPG Account Number
371797-16015-51-10225

Please do not hesitate to contact the GSU with any questions or concerns you may have.

gsu+cpg@nd.edu
## GSU Budget 2011-2012AY

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<td>From The Graduate School (Conference Presentation Grant Program)</td>
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<table>
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<td>Funding Department Organizations, Wakonese Scholarship for two students, Outstanding Teaching Awards</td>
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<td><strong>External Affairs</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,000.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Association of Graduate Professional Students (NAGPS), Membership Fee, Travel to National and/or Regional Meetings</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Health Care</strong></td>
<td><strong>$8,000.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Fair, Food, Prizes, Maintenance Services, Advertising costs for clinics, blood drives, etc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Orientation Program &amp; Electronic Resources Administrator</strong></td>
<td><strong>$16,069.63</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Session, Social, and Picnic during Orientation Week, GSU T-shirts ($8500), Software Upgrades</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partitions/Computer Equipment, Cluster money ($7569.63)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Professional Development</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,000.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising, Duplicating/Copying, Miscellaneous</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Publicity &amp; Procedures</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,000.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prizes, Awards, Duplicating/Copying</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Quality of Life</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,500.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chesterton Rhetoric Competition, Married Student Reflection Dinner, Bike Clinic</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Social</strong></td>
<td><strong>$13,000.00</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Yearly events including Ice Cream Social, Ice Skating, Subsidized tickets to Plays, Thanksgiving and Easter Brunches</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Charity Gala</strong></td>
<td><strong>$9,000.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location (Rental), Food, Grand Prize plus Raffle Prizes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GSU Research Symposium</strong></td>
<td><strong>$5,000.00</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional funds supplied by College of Arts &amp; Letters, College of Engineering and College of Science</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$180,159.88</strong></td>
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Minutes

November 3, 2011
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune Student Center

Officers:  Sam Rund, Biological Sciences (GSU President); Kevin Mueller, Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences (Co-Vice President); Ellen Childs, Sociology (Co-Vice President).

Chairs:  Jon Schwarz, Sociology (Academic Affairs); Melissa Pirkey, Sociology (External Affairs) Victoria Lam, Biological Sciences (HealthCare); Ian Sander, Chemistry & Biochemistry (Orientation and Electronic Resources); Amanda Albrecht, Civil Engineering & Biological Sciences (Professional Development) ABS; Belen VicensSaiz, History (Publicity & Procedures); Katherine Rueff, Physics (Quality of Life); Lauran Schrader, Biological Sciences, (Social) and Sukesh Shekar Chemistry & Biochemistry (Social).

ABS: Victoria Lam, Amanda Albrecht, Lauran Schrader.

University Committees:  Jon Schwarz (Academic Council); Ian Sander (Academic Technologies); Kyle Beam, Political Science (Energy & Environmental Issues), Ellen Childs (Faculty Senate); Sam Rund & Ellen Childs (Graduate Council); Jon Schwarz (Library Committee); Amanda Albrecht (Professional Development); Katherine Rueff (Traffic Appeals); Victoria Lam (University Healthcare Committee); Jade Avelis, Sociology & Catherine Rastovski, Physics (Women Faculty & Students).

Department Representatives:  Lionel Pittman, Matthew Mosby (Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering); Amy Buchmann (Applied & Computational Mathematics & Statistics); Justin Barfield (Art, Art History & Design); Ali Raja, Biological Sciences); Douglas Rice (Chemistry & Biochemistry); Ann Dallman (Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences); Nolan Noble (Economics); Allison Herschel (Global Health Program MA/Science); Lindsey Passenger (History); (Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies); Hannah Zdansky (Literature Program, PhD); Kathleen Ansaldi (Mathematics); Brian Long (Medieval Institute); Collin Lines, Stephanie Lyons (Physics); Claudia Anewalt, Jeremy Castle (Political Science); May Kim, Paul Stey (Psychology); Jade Avelis, Stefanie Wellons, (Sociology); Michael Cover (Theology).

ABS: Joshua McManaway (Classics); Richard Ellman, Michael Cowan (English), Sarah Hurd, Charlotte Marous, Allison Herschel (Global Health Program); Brian Long (Medieval Institute), Michael Cover (Theology).

Fischer O'Hare Grace - University Village and International Student Services & Activities Representatives: Pramita Mitra (ISSA)

1.  Samuel Rund, President, called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.
2.  Mimi Beck, Rector, Fischer Grad Residences, announced a meeting organized by the Residence Life Office next Wednesday, November 9, at 7:30pm, in order to discuss the changes to the disciplinary code that are about to be implemented.
3. There was a motion to pass the October 6, 2011 GSU Council Meetings. The motion was approved and carried.

4. Samuel welcomed Dr. John Lubker, Assistant Dean of Students. Dr. Lubker explained the results of a recent survey conducted with graduate students. There were 952 participants. The questions included: Have you ever had a conflict with your faculty, program or with the Graduate School? The majority answered no, although 15% said yes. To the question of what the nature of the conflict was, most answered the direction of research. 80% did not know about the grievance process. Dr. Lubker clarified that he is the contact person for this process. He highlighted the need to increase student awareness on resources to help students resolve issues before resorting to the grievance process which is the last step. He urged department representatives to convey this to their constituents. Dr. Lubker added that his job as an ombudsman is to help graduate students find ways to resolve the problems they may face; not to solve the problems for them. He suggested that students who are currently facing some issues to try and handle it with their advisors first, then with the department, and then with the College. If all of these steps fail, students can turn to Dr. Lubker to attempt to resolve the issue before setting in motion the confidential grievance process.
   - Pramita Mitra, ISSA representative, asked how the grievance process may affect the chances of finding another advisor.
   - Dr. Lubker answered that once the grievance process is finished, there should not be any further obstacles.
   - Anne Dallman, CEGEOS Representative, asked whether the information about this process was online.
   - Dr. Lubker answered yes.

5. Samuel stated that the Executive Committee’s report stands with the following announcements:
   - Kevin Mueller, Co-Vice President, informed the Council about the NAGPS meeting that he attended last week. He explained that the NAGPS organization works on advocacy at the federal level and that one of the issues that is currently on the table is the fact that graduate student stipends were not taxed before; something which they are trying to revert. The GSU is not taking immediate action on this at the moment.
   - Ellen Childs, Co-Vice President, reminded the Council to sign up on the attendance list to make sure that we have quorum.

6. Samuel announced a 10-minute break for committees to meet.

7. Jon Schwarz, Academic Affairs Chair, stated that his report stands.

8. Melissa Pirkey, External Affairs Chair, stated that her report stands. She suggested that the GSU could sponsor a Giving tree initiative. The Giving tree initiative by the Salvation Army helps a family meet their needs by issuing a list of things needed which then volunteers can purchase to give to the family. It is also called “Christmas Angel.”

9. Samuel stated that Victoria Lam’s, Health Care Chair, report stands. Recently there was a Health insurance meeting in which it was announced that the University will continue to use Aetna for the remained of the year. He added that no other university is switching now. Samuel asked the Council two questions to be discussed: 1) Currently Aetna has a $100,000 maximum in the graduate student insurance, although the new health care reform (to be enforced in 2014) imposes a 2 million dollar maximum per
accident or illness. The amount that students would have to pay will increase from $1,616 to $1,735.

- Sukesh Shekar, Social Chair, asked how many graduate students have needed so much coverage in the past.
- Samuel responded that he did not have the actual numbers but that these situations do happen. He also stated that there exists a +$75,000 illness insurance available for students that is handled separately.
- Matt Mosby, Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Representative, asked whether students could opt in.
- Samuel responded that students can opt in but not through Aetna because this was handled by a third party insurance provider.
- Lionel Pittman, Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Representative, asked whether there will be an improvement in the Dental Plan and the Family Plan.
- Samuel responded that there is no legal obligation on the part of Aetna to make changes to the dental or vision plan, so they will likely stay the same.
- Katherine Rueff, Quality of Life Chair, asked whether we can improve student awareness about this third party plan.
- Samuel reminded the Council that this plan is more expensive.
- Sukesh Shekar, Social Chair, added that there are many factors to consider in this issue.
- Samuel responded that it is worth it if you get sick.
- Katherine Rueff, Quality of Life Chair, asked whether it covers preexisting conditions.
- Samuel answered yes and encouraged all to talk to your departments about it. He also stated that this question was not really a survey but merely a sounding out of ideas. He added that ND is compliant to the health reform.
- Katherine Rueff, Quality of Life Chair, stated that the regulation could be repelled.
- Samuel answered yes. He proceeded to the next question: 2) for $1 increase in the premium, the Family coverage goes down $20. That is, for $10/month more, we can lower the Family premium cost to the same level of graduate students.
- Belen Vicens-Saiz, Publicity and Procedures Chair, asked whether the University has the actual numbers of children and spouses who might benefit from this initiative.
- Samuel answered that numbers exist but they are confidential.
- Catherine Rastovsk, Committee for Women Faculty & Students, stated that the Graduate School recommends Hoosier Healthwise to families. She added that international students cannot apply and that spousal coverage under Aetna means that a lump sum has to be paid in full in August. She suggested that the lump sum be spaced out over ten months.
- Pramita Mitra, ISSA Representative, stated that this indeed would be a great help for international students’ spouses and children. She added that all children born in the USA get WIC and Medicaid. However, many people chose not to have spouse insurance. She also voiced concerns among international students that having children is a personal choice and that when an international student chooses to bring his/her family to this country, it is a personal decision; which others chose not to do.
- Doug Rice, Chemistry and Biochemistry Representative, asked what the GSU had to report back on this issue.
• Samuel answered that he will inform Tori about the discussion.
• Annie Dallman, CEGEOS Representative, asked whether the GSU could raise money for this increase.
• Samuel answered that too much money is needed.
• Claudia Anewalt, Political Science Representative, suggested that the GSU vote on this.
• Samuel proceeded with the vote. To question 1 the majority voted yes. To question 2 almost all voted yes.
11. Ian Sander, Orientation and Electronic Resources Chair, stated that his report stands.
12. Kevin Mueller stated that Amanda Albrecht’s, Professional Development Chair, report stands and reminded the Council about the TREC Meeting on Tuesday.
13. Belen Vicens-Saiz, Publicity and Procedures Chair, stated that her report stands.
14. Katherine Rueff, Quality of Life Chair, stated that her report stands. She informed the Council that the current Shuttle Alternative survey is 50% split between yes and no. She added that the undergraduate body does not know about this yet. She also informed the Council that students must remove expired parking tags as soon as possible or else they may receive a $50 fine. The Council urged that this be put in the upcoming GSU newsletter.
• Belen Vicens-Saiz, Publicity and Procedures Chair, asked Katherine Rueff, Quality of Life Chair, whether the remaining parking lots near the Library could be transformed into Commuter lots.
• Katherine Rueff, Quality of Life Chair, responded no and added that construction of the new building is moved to winter break. She added that the Parking Office will not move parking around.
• Ali Raja, Biological Sciences Representative, asked whether graduate students could park in Lot B.
• Katherine Rueff, Quality of Life Chair, answered that there was no chance of this happening as many older faculty already complained about this.
15. Sukesh Shekar, Social Chair, announced that tickets for the Thanksgiving Brunch will go out in Monday, and that there is a two-ticket limit per ID.

University Committees:
• Jon Schwarz, Academic Council, stated that the council has not met yet.
• Ian Sander, Academic Technologies, stated his report stands
• Kyle Beam, Energy & Environmental, stated that the council has not met.
• Ellen Childs, Faculty Senate, stated that the Faculty Senate has not met since the last GSU meeting.
• Samuel Rund and Ellen Childs, Graduate Council, stated that the council met but did not have quorum.
• Sukesh Shekar, LaFortune Tenant, stated that the council is renovating the lights in the building.
• Jon Schwarz, Library Committee, announced that the council met in the afternoon and that they are considering opening the Library 24 hours. Given that utilities are too costly, they are thinking about extending their hours until 3am. New hours will be announced after the break.
• Stefanie Wellons, Sociology Representative, stated that Professional Development is hosting an event soon, the TREC Meeting which will be an opportunity to meet and discuss professional development issues.
• Katherine Rueff, Traffic Appeals, reminded the Council to remove expired tags.
• Jade Avelis and Catherine Rastovski, Women Faculty and Students, stated that their report stands.

16. Samuel moved on to the old business in the agenda. Samuel explained that the proposed stipends rise for Chairs and Officers is motivated by the need to reflect the three extra summer months of work. He read the new wording.
• There was a motion to vote.
• Claudia Anewalt, Political Science Representative, requested a roll call to make sure there was still quorum. She added that the issue had not been discussed enough.
• Ellen Childs, Co-Vice President, undertook the roll call to ensure that there was quorum and proceeded with the vote. The motion passed 17 to 2.

17. Ellen Childs, Co-Vice President, moved to the next item on the agenda. She explained that the GSU was still discussing ways of going about approval for expenses over $500 and solicited ideas from the Council. She added that the discussion will be tabled until next meeting.

18. Samuel moved to the next item. He stated that the GSU wanted to hire a graduate student to design its posters (both paper and digital posters). He added that the Council had asked for clarification at the past meeting and so, he stated that the GSU proposes a $250 budget for $20/hour work with the expectation of 1 hour per poster work, edits included.
• Ellen Childs, Co-Vice President, added that the budget would come from Belen’s budget and that she had resources for it. However, since the GSU is hiring someone, the Council must discuss and approve this proposal.
• Katherine Rueff, Quality of Life Chair, made the motion to vote. The motion passed without opposition.

19. Ellen Childs, Co-Vice President, made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

Minutes submitted by Belen Vicens-Saiz.
November 3, 2011; Updated and Approved February 2, 2012
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune Student Center

1. Samuel Rund, President, called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.
2. Mimi Beck, Rector, Fischer Grad Residences, announced a meeting organized by the Residence Life Office next Wednesday, November 9, at 7:30pm, in order to discuss the changes to the disciplinary code that are about to be implemented.
3. There was a motion to pass the October 6, 2011 GSU Council Meetings. The motion was approved and carried.
4. Samuel welcomed Dr. John Lubker, Assistant Dean of Students. Dr. Lubker explained the results of a recent survey conducted with graduate students. There were 952 participants. The questions included: Have you ever had a conflict with your faculty, program or with the Graduate School? The majority answered no, although 15% said yes. To the question of what the nature of the conflict was, most answered the direction of research. 80% did not know about the grievance process. Dr. Lubker clarified that he is the contact person for this process. He highlighted the need to increase student awareness on resources to help students resolve issue before resorting to the grievance process which is the last step. He urged department representatives to convey this to their constituents. Dr. Lubker added that his job as an ombudsman is to help graduate students find ways to resolve the problems they may face; not to solve the problems for them. He suggested that students who are currently facing some issue try to handle it with their advisors first, then with the department, and then with the College. If all of these steps fail, students can turn to Dr. Lubker to attempt to resolve the issue before setting in motion the confidential grievance process.
   - Pramita Mitra, ISSA representative, asked how the grievance process may affect the chances of finding another advisor.
   - Dr. Lubker answered that once the grievance process is finished, there should not be any further obstacles.
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   - Kevin Mueller, Co-Vice President, informed the Council about the NAGPS meeting that he attended last week. He explained that the NAGPS organization works on advocacy at the federal level and that one of the issues that is currently on the table is the fact that graduate student stipends did not use to be taxed before; something which they are trying to revert. The GSU is not taking immediate action on this at the moment.
bullet Samuel highlighted that the concession stand raised $3,734.

6. Ellen Childs, *Co-Vice President*, reminded the Council to sign up on the attendance list to make sure that we have quorum.

7. Samuel announced a 10-minute break for committees to meet.

8. Jon Schwarz, *Academic Affairs Chair*, stated that his report stands.

9. Melissa Pirkey, *External Affairs Chair*, stated that her report stands. She suggested that the GSU could sponsor a Giving tree initiative. The Giving tree initiative by the Salvation Army helps a family meet their needs by issuing a list of things needed which then volunteers can purchase give to the family. It is also called Christmas angel.

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more, we can lower the Family premium cost to the same level of graduate students.

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- **Samuel answered that numbers exist but they are confidential.**
- **Catherine Rastovsk, Committee for Women Faculty & Students,** stated that the Graduate School recommends Hoosier Healthwise to families. She added that international students cannot apply and that spousal coverage under Aetna means that a lump sum has to be paid in full in August. She suggested that the lump sum be spaced out over ten months.
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11. **Ian Sander, Orientation and Electronic Resources Chair,** stated that his report stands.
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• Ellen Childs, *Faculty Senate*, stated that the Faculty Senate has not met since the last GSU meeting.
• Samuel Rund and Ellen Childs, *Graduate Council*, stated that the council met but did not have quorum.
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• Katherine Rueff, *Traffic Appeals*, reminded the Council to remove expired tags.
• Jade Avelis and Catherine Rastovski, *Women Faculty and Students*, stated that their report stands.

16. Samuel moved on to the old business in the agenda. Samuel explained that the proposed stipends rise for Chairs and Officers is motivated by the need to reflect the three extra summer months of work. He read the new wording.

• There was a motion to vote.
• Nolan Noble, *Economics Representative*, inquired if the amendment would apply retroactively such that the current Chairs and Officers would be eligible for the stipend increase.
• Ellen Childs, *Co-Vice President*, responded in the affirmative.
• Claudia Anewalt, *Political Science Representative*, requested a roll call to make sure there was still quorum. She added that the issue had not been discussed enough.
• Ellen Childs, *Co-Vice President*, undertook the roll call to ensure that there was quorum and proceeded with the vote. The motion passed 17 to 2.

17. Ellen Childs, *Co-Vice President*, moved to the next item on the agenda. She explained that the GSU was still discussing ways of going about approval for expenses over $500 and solicited ideas from the Council. She added that the discussion will be tabled until next meeting.

18. Samuel moved to the next item. He stated that the GSU wanted to hire a graduate student to design its posters (both paper and digital posters). He added that the Council had asked for clarification at the past meeting and so, he stated that the GSU proposes a $250 budget for $20/hour work with the expectation of 1 hour per poster work, edits included.
Ellen Childs, Co-Vice President, added that the budget would come from Belen’s budget and that she had resources for it. However, since the GSU is hiring someone, the Council must discuss and approve this proposal.

Katherine Rueff, Quality of Life Chair, made the motion to vote. The motion passed without opposition.

19. Ellen Childs, Co-Vice President, made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

Minutes submitted by Belen Vicens-Saiz.
Minutes

February 2, 2012
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune Student Center

OFFICERS: Sam Rund, Biological Sciences (GSU President); Ellen Childs, Sociology (Co-Vice President).

CHAIRS: Jon Schwarz, Sociology (Academic Affairs); Melissa Pirkey, Sociology (External Affairs) Victoria Lam, Biological Sciences (HealthCare); Ian Sander, Chemistry & Biochemistry (Orientation and Electronic Resources); Amanda Albrecht, Civil Engineering & Biological Sciences (Professional Development) Belen VicensSaiz, History (Publicity & Procedures); Katherine Rueff, Physics (Quality of Life); Sukesh Shekar, Chemistry & Biochemistry (Social).

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES: Jon Schwarz (Academic Council); Ian Sander (Academic Technologies); Ellen Childs (Faculty Senate); Sam Rund & Ellen Childs (Graduate Council); Sukesh Shekar (LaFo Tenant Committee); Jon Schwarz (Library Committee); Amanda Albrecht (Professional Development); Katherine Rueff (Traffic Appeals); Victoria Lam (University Healthcare Committee).

DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES: Matthew Mosby (Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering); Amy Buchmann (Applied & Computational Mathematics & Statistics); Jackson Zorn, Justin Barfield (Art, Art History & Design); Ali Raja (Biological Sciences); Chaojun Shi (Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering); Ann Dallman, Kristi Pellegrini (Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences); Nolan Noble (Economics); Peng Li (Electrical Engineering); Michael Cowan (English); Khoa Huynh (ESTEEM Program); Yvonne Mikuljan (Literature Program, PhD); Kathleen Ansaldi, Victor Ocasio (Mathematics); Anna Larsen, Brian Long (Medieval Institute); Collin Lines, Stephanie Lyons (Physics); Claudia Anewalt, Jeremy Castle (Political Science); Paul Stey, May Kim (Psychology); Stephanie Wellons, (Sociology); Michael Cover (Theology).

FISCHER O’HARE GRACE - UNIVERSITY VILLAGE AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES & ACTIVITIES REPRESENTATIVES: Pramita Mitra (ISSA); Peter Campbell (University Village).

1. Samuel Rund, President, called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.
2. Samuel stated that the minutes of the November 3, 2011 meeting needed to be approved.
3. Nolan Noble, Economics Representative, moved for the minutes to be amended to read: “The amendment would apply retroactively such that the current Chairs and Officers would be eligible for the stipend increase.” Ellen Childs, Co-Vice President, responded in the affirmative.
4. Samuel proceeded with voting the amendment. With all in favor, the amendment passed. He asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2011 meeting.
5. Nolan, Economics Representative, moved to approve the minutes.
6. Matthew Mosby, Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Representative, seconded the motion.
7. Samuel proceeded with the voting. With all in favor, the motion passed and the minutes were approved.
8. Samuel asked if there was a motion to pass the minutes of the December 1, 2011 meeting.
9. Douglas Rice, Chemistry and Biochemistry Representative, moved to approve the minutes.
10. Nolan, Economics Representative, seconded the motion.
11. Samuel proceeded with the voting. With all in favor, the motion passed and the minutes were approved.
12. Samuel stated that the executive committee report stands.
13. Ellen announced that there will be a second meeting for undergraduates interested in pursuing graduate studies and that graduate students are invited to participate. She remarked that the first meeting was poorly attended and that for this second meeting all undergraduate students have been invited. It will take place on Monday, from 6:00 – 8:00pm in the LaFortune ballroom.
14. Samuel stated that Mimi Beck, Rector, Fischer Grad Residences, could not come to the meeting. He announced that the ND ID card office will be open the week before undergraduate students arrive to make it easier for new graduate students to get their ID cards. He also announced that the GSU elections will be take place in March 2012 and invited attendants to talk to the Committee Chairs if they are interested in any position.
15. Samuel announced a 10 minute break for committees to meet.
16. Samuel resumed the meeting and opened the round for committee reports.
17. Melissa Pirkey, External Affairs Chair, stated that her report stands.
18. Victoria Lam, Health Care Chair, stated that her report stands. She also stated that she has created a list of alternative health care options for graduate students and their families. This list has not been endorsed by the GSU or the University. The list will be made available on the GSU website.
19. Ian Sander, Orientation & Electronic Resources Chair, stated that his report stands. He announced that the next meeting will be on March 8th. He also stated that he has met with Dr. John Lubker, Assistant Dean of Students, to discuss the option of creating an e-portfolios website for ND students where you can add your activities and accomplishments, electronic resume, etc. He stated that this would not resemble a Facebook page. This initiative is in a pilot stage for the next few months and if approved, it would be available starting next academic year. He encouraged attendants to contact him if interested in learning more.
20. Victoria asked whether these e-portfolios would be public or not, and to what degree.
21. Ian responded that users can set options to restrict or allow viewers.
22. Victoria asked how different this was from the GoIrish website.
23. Ian responded that with these e-portfolios students can design the format of the site.
24. Mike Westrate in attendance for Lindsey Wieck, History Representative asked how long these e-portfolios would be available.
25. Dr. Lubker responded that they would be available as long as ND continues to work with the company that provides them. He also added that the e-portfolios would be a great complement to CVs and resumes and boost the presence of graduate students online.

26. Victoria remarked that some schools offer to store letters of recommendation for students. She asked if ND could provide the same service.

27. Dr. Lubker responded that it is possible.

28. Jon Schwarz, Academic Affairs Chair, stated that his committee had a request to make. He urged all attendants to help publicize the Graduate Student Research Symposium that will take place on Friday, February 24. He added that all departments will receive flyers to post in their areas. It is important to encourage people to attend. He also requested help setting up the Symposium and distributed a sign-up sheet for volunteers.

29. Nolan asked how different this year’s Symposium was from the previous.

30. Jon responded that more or less the same number of accepted abstracts was made this year. However, the number of applicants has decreased particularly in two divisions, whereas the rest have maintained a similar level of applications. He added that his report stands.

31. Mandy Albrecht, Professional Development Chair, stated that her report stands. She announced the next TREC meeting will be Thursday, February 9 at 6:00pm.

32. Belen Vicens-Saiz, Publicity & Procedures Chair, stated that her report stands.

33. Kate Rueff, Quality of Life Chair, announced the celebration of “Standing Against Hate Week,” with GSU participation. As for the parking issue, she stated that the University is working on a 5-year plan which will involve construction in the D2 lot, another building in the area of faculty parking, the demolition of Legends, etc. The University is also considering constructing two more parking garages, and perhaps parking fees.

34. Belen asked how the Traffic Office was handling the issue of fewer parking spots.

35. Kate responded that they are confident there is always available parking somewhere on campus and that, from their viewpoint, the payment that students make for parking is just legal allowance to park on campus not a guarantee to find parking.

36. Ellen Childs, Co-Vice President, for Sukesh Shekar, Social Chair, stated that this year the focus of the Gala will take on a Prom theme. She requested ideas for cheesy things to be done during the Gala. She added that this year’s Gala will be more low key, fun, with a balloon arch and the like with an aim towards making it a fun night out.

37. Collin Lines, Physics Representative, suggested a theme: “Enchantment under the sea.”

38. Ellen stated that the Gala will probably take place somewhere in downtown, after Spring break, so around March 20 - April 20. She announced that the GSU is sponsoring a men’s basketball game next Wednesday. The GSU will rent out a gym for kids to play before and during the game. The subsidized tickets will cost $5. There will be a whole section reserved for graduate students during the game. Families are encouraged to attend and graduate students will be able to buy up to 4 tickets per ID.

39. Kristi Pellegrini, Civil Engineering & Geo. Sciences Representative, asked if the gym would be at Purcell Pavilion too.

40. Ellen responded in the affirmative and added that the event will be announced in the upcoming GSU newsletter.

41. Samuel proceeded to the University Committee reports round.

42. Jon Schwarz, Academic Council, stated that Monday’s Academic Council meeting discussed the new Patent Law Masters’ degree which was approved. It also discussed
revisions about faculty disciplinary actions. In addition, the Advanced Studies committee discussed expanding dual degree programs like the already successful ND and Pontifical University in Chile for engineering.

43. Ian Sander, Academic Technologies, stated that the latest meeting was canceled.

44. Kyle Beam, Energy & Environmental Issues, stated that the ND Office of Sustainability is looking for a graduate student for an on-campus position. The hours are flexible; pay is $12/hour. More information on this is in his report.

45. Ellen Childs, Faculty Senate, stated that her report stands.

46. Samuel Rund, Graduate Council, stated that Graduate Council voted to recommend that diplomas will begin to be issued in English instead of Latin once the old supply runs out. He added that a new Academic Code was passed in the Graduate Council and that it was submitted to the Academic Council for approval.

47. Committee for Women Faculty and Student representatives were not in attendance.

48. Jon Schwarz, Library Committee, stated that an award will be presented to a faculty librarian and encouraged attendants to send in suggestions. He also stated that the Committee has been discussing options for electronic archival of documents arising from small workshops, conferences, as well as a database of abstracts and papers.

49. Victoria asked if this included an electronic database for submitted theses.

50. Jon responded in the affirmative. He also stated that the Hathi Trust on digitized works will be available for ND students to download soon, which will include access to 2.8 million works. For more information visit, [www.hathitrust.org](http://www.hathitrust.org). He reported that there have been some complaints about the new Library hours and that the Provost Office has announced that 24/7 access to the Library could be realized, if there is evidence of need.

51. Ellen for Sukesh Shekar, LaFortune Tenants, stated that the committee has not met.

52. Mandy Albrecht, Professional Development Committee, stated that the committee has not met.

53. Kate Rueff, Traffic Appeals, reminded attendants that she is the person of reference for traffic tickets.

54. Samuel proceeded to new business. He asked whether any of the attendants used lockable carts in the Library and requested that those interested in this issue to see him after the meeting. Samuel stated that in order to make things run smoother in the GSU Council meetings, the executive committee wanted to propose an amendment to the constitution. He added that we have not had quorum for some time now because the standard for quorum is too high.

55. Ellen added that the standard that had been required for quorum was a conservative read.

56. Sam opened the floor for discussion.

57. Matthew Mosby stated that the standard could still be a fraction, perhaps maybe 50% or 2/3 because decisions made with quorum have an impact on the larger body of graduate students.

58. Yvonne Mikuljan, Literature PhD Program Representative, stated that 1/3 seemed too low.

59. Ellen responded that 2/3 make it more reasonable. She also proposed half of the departments and reminded attendants that quorum is particularly hard to be reached during the summer meeting.

60. Charles Pence in attendance for Joshua Teply, Philosophy Representative, stated that Ellen’s suggestion seemed reasonable.
61. Ellen added that we would still be allowing B options in the constitution. She suggested we strike the 5 representatives provision and add a fraction, while keeping section B the same.
62. Collin Lines, Physics Representative, asked for the total number of departments.
63. Ellen responded that the number keeps changing because some departments do not select representatives and some departments do no send anyone at all.
64. Samuel added that as it stands now, there are 29 departments listed.
65. Nolan Noble, Economics Representative, stated that in his view the fact that a representative does not show up is his/her fault because if we want to make our voice heard, we make sure to attend. He added that having a delegate show up instead is an alternative but if we increase the ratio, this could potentially cause problems. He added that not showing up is a way of voting.
66. Ian seconded that and added that if 6 representatives want to stop any GSU initiative they can decide not to show up to forestall business. So, in his view, the quorum level is fine.
67. Mike Westrate in attendance for Lindsey Wieck, History Representative stated that 50% seemed reasonable.
68. Collin stated that he was against having the 5 representative requirements. He noted that the 2/3 requirement would mean 20 representatives; the 50% requirement would mean 15. He supports 50%.
69. Matthew Mosby moved to form a committee to come up with a proposal on this matter.
70. Michael Cover, Theology Representative seconded the motion.
71. Motion passed – all in favor.
72. Ellen proceeded with the issue of delegates which has been in practice for some time now. She noted that the constitution does not allow for delegates to replace Representatives. She added that this being the situation, it is more important to have the Department’s voice heard. She suggested that delegates bring a written document, like an email, that says they are serving as proxy.
73. Proposed addition to the constitution:
   - “In the event that the official program representative to the GSU council cannot attend a particular council meeting, another representative from the program may serve as the program’s delegate with the same voting privileges as the official delegate.
   - The alternate delegate should have something in writing from the department’s official representative indicating that they are serving in a capacity as their department’s representative.”
74. Kristi Pellegrini, Civil Engineering and Geo. Sciences Representative, asked if there is a limit to have delegates coming on your behalf.
75. Ellen responded in the negative but stated that a provision can be added in this regard. She noted that in her department there is no election and that it really depends on the department. She stressed that what is important is to have people come to the meetings.
76. Claudia Anewalt, Political Science Representative, stated that sometimes the meetings may coincide with classes that you could not have foreseen in the Fall semester. So, sometimes it is not simply a matter of the representative failing to show up for no good reason. She added that a re-election process would be burdensome.
77. Samuel agrees.
78. Nolan stated that delegates should receive credit for attending GSU Council meetings in their resumes and that the minutes should reflect their participation as proof.
79. Ellen asked Nolan if he would like to propose a change in the wording.
80. Nolan responded in the affirmative.
81. Kate agreed that the delegate has to appear in the minutes.
82. Samuel agreed.
83. Matthew asked if we had quorum today.
84. Ellen proceeded with a roll call to confirm. The roll call showed that there was quorum and that we needed 2/3 of voting members to pass this change.
85. Mandy Albrecht asked if anyone with a green card could vote.
86. Ellen responded in the affirmative.
87. Matthew asked if this change would have to be voted on twice.
88. Ellen responded in the affirmative.
89. Nolan moved to amend the amendment to read “…should have filled out a GSU approved form signed by both the department secretary and a representative from the GSU executive board …”
90. Samuel responded that having something signed would be raising the bar too high. Instead leaving it as “in writing” is open and suggests that an email or something else would suffice.
91. Nolan responded that the GSU should approve it.
92. Ellen asked who wanted to second Nolan’s amendment.
93. Claudia proposed that it is indicated that they are serving on a temporary basis.
94. Nolan amended his original amendment into two separate amendments: (1) The alternate delegate’s name shall occur in the place of the regular representative listed as ‘ad hoc <department> representative’ on the minutes of that meeting. (2) The alternate delegate should have something in writing from the department’s official representative indicating that they are serving in a capacity as their department’s representative
95. Ellen brought the first amendment (The alternate delegate’s name shall occur in the place of the regular representative listed as ‘ad hoc <department> representative’ on the minutes of that meeting) forward as the first point of business.
96. Charles Pence in attendance for Joshua Tepley, Philosophy Representative, seconded the amendment (1).
97. Samuel proceeded to the voting. The motion passed with all in favor in the first reading.
98. Nolan stated that in regards to the second issue (The alternate delegate should have something in writing from the department’s official representative indicating that they are serving in a capacity as their department’s representative) the proxy should bring a GSU approved form to avoid a random person showing up at the meetings.
99. Ellen asked if anyone seconded Nolan’s suggestion. No one responded.
100. Samuel proposed to read “The alternate delegate should have something in writing from the department’s official representative indicating that they are serving in a capacity as their department’s representative in a manner prescribed by the Executive Committee.”
101. Matthew seconded it.
102. Mike Westrate in attendance for Lindsey Wieck, History Representative stated that he liked the way it was phrased originally.
103. Ali Raja, Biological Sciences Representative, stated that email is fine perhaps sent by a departmental secretary or personnel.
104. Kristi Pellegrini, Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences Representative, responded that Ali’s suggestion would not work well if the proxy issue was a last minute thing.
105. Peter Campbell, FOG Representative, stated that this involved too much paperwork.
106. Samuel reminded the Council that this proxy situation was already happening and that the idea was to record it and make it official in the constitution.
107. Mike Westrate in attendance for Lindsey Wieck, History Representative responded that this situation has been going on for years.
108. Victoria proposed that the representative send an email to Samuel to let him know who the proxy was.
109. Yvonne agreed that email would prevent disputes.
110. Anna Larsen, Medieval Institute Representative motioned to vote on Samuel’s amendment.
111. Matthew seconded it.
112. Samuel proceeded with the voting. The motioned passed with all in favor. The amendment passes in Samuel’s reading.
113. Matthew then moved to vote on the entire amendment that read, “In the event that the official program representative to the GSU council cannot attend a particular council meeting, another representative from the program may serve as the program’s delegate with the same voting privileges as the official delegate. The alternate delegate should receive the official delegates’ approval in a manner prescribed by the GSU executive council. The alternate delegate’s name shall occur in the place of the regular representative listed as ‘ad hoc <department> representative’ in the minutes of that meeting.”
114. Seconded. Samuel called for the vote. The motion passed with all in favor.
115. Samuel ended the meeting at 7:54pm.

Minutes submitted by Belen Vicens-Saiz
Minutes

March 1, 2012
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune Student Center

OFFICERS: Sam Rund, Biological Sciences (GSU President); Ellen Childs, Sociology (Co-Vice President); Kevin Mueller, Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences (Co-Vice President).

CHAIRS: Jon Schwarz, Sociology (Academic Affairs); Melissa Pirkey, Sociology (External Affairs) Victoria Lam, Biological Sciences (HealthCare); Ian Sander, Chemistry & Biochemistry (Orientation and Electronic Resources); Amanda Albrecht, Civil Engineering & Biological Sciences (Professional Development); Katherine Rueff, Physics (Quality of Life); Sukesh Shekar, Chemistry & Biochemistry (Social).

CHAIRS ABSENT: Belen Vicens Saiz (Publicity & Procedures).

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES: Jon Schwarz (Academic Council); Ian Sander (Academic Technologies); Ellen Childs (Faculty Senate); Sam Rund & Ellen Childs (Graduate Council); Sukesh Shekar (LaFo Tenant Committee); Jon Schwarz (Library Committee); Amanda Albrecht (Professional Development); Katherine Rueff (Traffic Appeals); Victoria Lam (University Healthcare Committee)

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Kyle Beam (Energy & Environmental Issues); Jade Avelis, Catherine Rastovski (Women Faculty & Students).

DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Lionel Pittman, Matthew Mosby (Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering); Ali Raja (Biological Sciences); Chaojun Shi (Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering); Douglas Rice (Chemistry & BioChemistry); Katie O’Sullivan, ad-hoc representative, Kristi Pellegrini (Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences); Nolan Noble (Economics); Peng Li (Electrical Engineering); Michael Cowan (English); Tony Martin, ad-hoc representative (History); Hannah Zdansky (Ph.D. in Literature Program); Kathleen Ansaldi (Mathematics); Anna Larsen, (Medieval Institute); Joshua Tepley (Philosophy); Stephanie Lyons (Physics); Paul Stey, May Kim (Psychology); Jade Avelis (Sociology); Richard Klee (Theology).

DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT: Amy Buchmann (Applied & Computational Mathematics & Statistics); Jackson Zorn, Justin Barfield (Art, Art History & Design); Jessica Conrad-Stoller (Biological Sciences); Yunshan Wang (Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering); Joshua Ryan McManaway (Classics); Sebastian Roelands (Economics); Richard Ellman (English); Khoa Huynh (ESTEEM Program); Allison Herschel (Global Health Program); Lindsey Wieck (History); Yvonne Mikuljan (Ph.D. in Literature Program); Victor Ocasio (Mathematics); Collin Lines (Physics); Claudia Anewalt, Jeremy Castle (Political Science); Stefanie Wellons, (Sociology); Michael Cover (Theology).

FISCHER O’HARE GRACE - UNIVERSITY VILLAGE AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES & ACTIVITIES REPRESENTATIVES: Jack Goetz (Fischer O’Hara Grace); Pramita Mitra (ISSA); Peter Campbell (University Village).
1. Sam Rund, President, called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.
2. Sam Rund announced the food provided this evening is from Bangkok Thai in the Town and Country Shopping Center.
3. Regina from the Robinson Community Learning Center (an Americorp member at the bright building on Eddy Street connected to the Notre Dame surplus store) came to announce the Homeward Bound run – a walk/run to eradicate homelessness across Indiana. It’s a 5k Run/Walk on Saturday, April 14. It starts and ends at the Robinson Center (8:00 am registration, 9:30 run). There will be food, a balloon clown, a DJ, and it is chip-timed. There is a website to run/walk as a team to raise money, or you can just make a donation. Early Bird registration is $15.00 a week before the race, after that time the price will increase. Visit the website at [www.homewardboundindiana.org](http://www.homewardboundindiana.org) and check on twitter and Facebook - friend or follow us.
4. Sam Rund passed around the sign in sheet. This is a new sign in sheet that will be used for each meeting. Note - if you are an alternative representative today mark the sign-in sheet accordingly.
5. Doug Rice, Chemistry and Biochemistry, moved to approve the minutes.
7. Sam Rund proceeded with the voting, and the motion passed unanimously.
8. Sam Rund announced some notes from the executive committee, although the report stands. He announced that he, Kevin Mueller (Co-Vice President) and a few other graduate students met with a committee of graduate students brought together by Notre Dame Food Services to see what food option would be brought to campus. The university is already replacing Sbarro, but also what can be put in the library (perhaps Au Bon Pain?). Email any comments to Sam [srund@nd.edu](mailto:srund@nd.edu); particularly if you have thoughts about how often graduate students would use these locations and what hours would work the best for students.
9. Sam Rund also announced that graduate students get special deals for when undergrads aren’t around to increase volume.
10. Matt Mosby, Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering, reported that we already have access to these special deals.
11. Kevin Mueller responded yes we do, but now we will advertise it.
12. Kevin Mueller added that the Conference Presentation Grant funds are running low. If you apply from hereon in, we have hit the limit for funding guaranteed, and so we are now placing individuals on a waitlist; as students don’t use their money, we will start using the students from the wait list.
13. Sukesh Shekar, Social, asked whether that will mess up individual’s funding if they aren’t sure whether they get the money or not.
14. Sam Rund replied that students have 60 days to get reimbursed, and if they fail to ask for reimbursement in that time, it is no longer reimbursed and is considered income.
15. Nolan Noble, Economics, asked whether it is 60 days from the conference dates.
16. Kevin Mueller responded yes, 60 days from the time that you come home from the conference. He added that department representatives should tell people to apply early.
17. Kristi Pelligrini, Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences, asked what about for conferences over the summer?
18. Kevin Mueller responded that the current rules only are in effect through the end of June, and then things will be re-evaluated. He asked that if anyone has thoughts about the CPG program, that he is interested in talking to grad students about their needs, have focus groups, etc. It will probably change from the current mode, but they’re looking for new ideas.
19. Sam Rund moved on to Committee Reports.
20. Victoria Lam, *Health Care*, directed people to her committee report to look for things you should consider when looking for insurance plans, questions to ask insurance carriers; definitions for terminology; when those things can be increased. For providing contraceptives to grad students, we are technically considered students so that particular political issue does not affect us like it does for staff. Health care premiums are listed for next year, as well as resources for international students who come over the summer. She asks that department representatives direct new international students to options to make sure they have sufficient coverage, in particular the travel insurance which can cover international students and their dependents for a year. Other than that, her report stands.

21. Jon Schwarz, *Academic Affairs*, asked what about the policies we had discussed a few meetings ago?

22. Victoria Lam responded that there was some discussion about the catastrophic insurance coverage, but they decided not to go for that this year since not many people go above that level. Moreover, “The Shirt” fund is available for people who may need additional help for catastrophic events.

23. Anna Larsen, *Medieval Institute*, asked whether the child care and leave policy works for both men and women.

24. Victoria Lam replied that she wasn’t sure, but she could check on it.

25. John Lubker, *Associate Dean of Students*, replied any grad student can take it.

26. Sam Rund amended that if both parents are students, only one can take it.

27. Peng Li, *Electrical Engineering*, asked Victoria whether the GSU can highlight the features of the grad student plan. What about if we go overseas?

28. Victoria Lam responded that she will look into what happens overseas specifically, but mentions that there is a travel card to take with you. She says she will work to provide more resources about the graduate student health plan for the fall.


30. Victoria Lam responded that they tried, but the overall costs increased for everything. She replied that the university is still trying to decrease the costs.

31. Sam Rund added that no one wants to do anything about the health care issue until the dust settles with health care reform.

32. Victoria Lam added that the University stuck with Aetna because of waiting to see what happens with the health care reform.

33. Peter Campbell, *University Village*, clarified that all costs – both for graduate students and dependents – went up, correct?

34. Victoria Lam responded yes, but that the Administration knows all our sentiments about insurance and insurance for dependents.

35. Jack Goetz, *Fischer-O’Hara Grace*, pointed out that he thinks married folks are getting screwed.

36. Kevin Mueller added especially international students since the spouses can’t work and children (born outside the country) cannot receive state assistance.

37. Melissa Pirkey, *External Affairs*, outlined that we had already heard from Regina, and encouraged people to spread the word. Melissa added that there is a community service-oriented listserv. It looks a lot like the GSU’s, but can send it to people who are interested in community service opportunities. She asked the department representatives that if they know of people who are interested in this, they could sign up for it. Melissa added that she’s working on participating in AnTostal, a carnival/festival event before finals, and is currently thinking about a Donut Giveaway during the week. Other than that, her report stands.

38. Victoria Lam asked if the listserv is through the Center for Social Concerns.

39. Melissa Pirkey responded that it is not, but the most recent one highlighted the CSC’s opportunities to make students aware of those opportunities.
40. Sam Rund added that we’re trying to focus more on what graduate students would need.
41. Jon Schwarz reported that Friday was the GSU Research Symposium, and thanked all who volunteered. His report stands.
42. Ian Sander, Orientation and Electronic Resources, said his report stands.
43. Amanda Albrecht, Professional Development, reported that she passed out paper to department chairs asking if there is anyone who leads any professional development opportunities in your department specifically. She is looking for those individuals so there can be consistent programs across the university, as well as to encourage other departments to do the same to let her know. She added that a short, 4-question survey should be going out soon, asking about the picture day event. They want feedback on how many people are interested in the event so they can gauge how much money to spend. Otherwise, her report stands.
44. Melissa Pirkey asked about the News Service guy.
45. Amanda Albrecht said that the price for him went from $90 to $240 an hour, so that might be out of the budget.
46. John Lubker clarified his earlier point that only the primary care giver can take the child care leave program.
47. Victoria Lam clarified that if both spouses are grad students, only one can take it?
48. John Lubker replied yes, that’s how I’d interpret it.
49. Victoria Lam, returning the conversation to the photographer, added that there is one graduate student in photography who has done other events for ISSA, and he should be relatively cheap.
50. Amanda Albrecht asked Victoria to talk to her after the meeting.
51. Belen Vicens-Saiz, Publicity and Procedures, is absent, but Ellen Childs, Co-Vice President, said that her report stands.
52. Katherine Rueff, Quality of Life, wants to highlight next Monday and Tuesday – free mediation services, GSU will provide food, at the Hesburgh Center for International Studies. They’d like to have some traffic. Also, the GSU is collaborating with the Core Council for Stand Against Hate Week (April 16-20). She will send out something around the next meeting about it, but there are lots of activities throughout the week to stand in solidarity for victims of hate crimes and bullying.
53. Sukesh Shekar, Social Events, left his report with Ellen Childs, Co-Vice President, before heading to class. The Charity Prom will have a “Back to the Future” theme.
54. Ricky Klee, Theology, asked what the charity is.
55. Ellen Childs responded she would email Sukesh about charity suggestions.
56. Sam Rund then moved on to University Committee Reports.
59. Kyle Beam, Energy & Environmental Issues, was absent but Sam said they are working on developing bike routes for the City of South Bend and Notre Dame. Talk to Sam if people have suggestions for bike routes.
60. Ellen Childs, Faculty Senate, report stands.
61. Sam Rund and Ellen Childs, Graduate Council, report stands.
62. Jade Avelis, Committee for Women Faculty and Students, talked about next academic year is the 40th anniversary of coeducation at ND. Jade said that the University recognizes that there still is a long way to go before gender equality, but they want to commorate the anniversary with a spring lecture series of female faculty or an art instillation, or something else. She encouraged people to let Jade [javelis@nd.edu] know if you have any ideas. Also, they’re working on the Family and Medical Leave Act policies across campus, making sure they are consistent. She directed people’s attention to the policy for graduate student’s that was instituted last year.
63. Jon Schwarz, *Library Committee*, reported that there will be a renovation of the Periodicals Room. It is mostly a cosmetic renovation to make it into a comfortable study space with lots of seating, individual group space, group space, and maybe a fireplace. Also, they're working on developing a strategic plan for human resources. If anyone has any input as to what would be helpful additions to staff at the library, email Jon [jschwar1@nd.edu](mailto:jschwar1@nd.edu).


67. Sam Rund moved on to “Old Business.” He raised the constitutional amendment voted on last meeting that reads:

- “In the event that the official program representative to the GSU council cannot attend a particular council meeting, another representative from the program may serve as the program's delegate with the same voting privileges as the official delegate. The alternative delegate should receive the official delegates' approval in a manner prescribed by the GSU executive council. The alternate delegate’s name shall occur in the place of the regular representative listed as ‘ad hoc <department> representative’ on the minutes of that meeting.”

68. Nolan Noble, *Economics*, moved to pass this constitutional amendment.

69. Ali Raja, *Biological Sciences*, second the motion.

70. Sam Rund asks for the vote, motion passed.

71. Sam Rund moved on to “New Business,” and invited Matt Mosby to speak on behalf of the new constitutional amendments.

72. Matt Mosby, *Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering*, explained that there had been much discussion about the wording in the section of the constitution on quorum. He said the committee suggested that we should strengthen the quorum if the president/vice presidents are around, but relax it if the president/vice presidents aren’t around.

73. Matt Mosby added that the committee, represented by Ali Raja and Ellen Childs suggested the following wording:

- “A quorum of the Council, except as hereinafter specifically provided, consists of either (a) The President or Vice Presidents and any five representatives from one-third of those Departments that have selected representatives to the Council, or (b) Representatives from two-thirds of those Departments that have selected representatives to the Council.”

74. Nolan Noble asked how many people that would take.

75. Ellen Childs said that it depends on how many departments send representatives, but at the current rate around 10 people from different departments.

76. Ian Sander asked if there was some sort of formal procedure necessary to call a meeting, so that it can’t just be 5 of Sam’s friends.

77. Sam Rund replied that is correct, there is a procedure outlined in the constitution to call meetings.

78. Matt Mosby made motion to vote to approve the amendment.

79. Melissa Pirkey seconds the motion.

80. Sam Rund calls for the vote. 29 in favor, 1 opposed. Motion passes.

81. Matt Mosby said that the committee then wanted to work to make the quorum requirement the same across the constitution. Therefore, Section 4 of Article VIII (Amendment, Construal and Removal from Office) would read:

- “Elected officers of the GSU may be removed from office by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting at a regular or special meeting of the Council, provided that quorum is met.”

82. Ellen Childs added that the requirements for passing the vote can differ, but we wanted the quorum requirement to be internally consistent so it wouldn’t be as confusing.
83. Nolan Noble asked whether the change is purely cosmetic.
84. Ellen Childs clarified sort of, but it lowers the bar for quorum, but the requirement to pass a motion is higher.
85. Peter Campbell, *University Village*, responded that he’s concerned that lowering the bar for quorum can lead to too much homogeneity. It might lower the bar to kick out the very people you want around.
86. Jack Goetz, *Fischer-O’Hara Grace*, suggested that you could make the standard having quorum option B (from the quorum section of the constitution – requiring members of 2/3 of the departments that send representatives to be present).
87. Nolan Noble made a motion to approve as written.
88. Anna Larsen, *Medieval Institute*, seconds the motion.
89. Sam Rund calls for a vote – 14 in favor, 3 opposed. Motion Passes.
90. Matt Mosby reads the second part of the Constitutional Amendment for Section 5 of Article VIII:
    • “Representatives to the Council may be expelled from the Council by a three-fourths majority of those present and voting at a regular or special meeting of the Council, provided that quorum is met.”
91. Anna Larsen clarified that this would be the issue of removing an individual, not the whole department.
92. Matt Mosby responded in the affirmative.
93. Kristi Pelligrini questioned why there is a higher bar for Expulsion of Representatives than Removal of Elected Officers.
94. Matt Mosby responded that the group’s thought was that you were elected/selected by department. For the body to kick you out there must be strong support.
95. Doug Rice moved to approve the amendment as written.
96. Nolan Noble seconds the motion.
97. Sam Rund called for the vote, 15 in favor, 2 opposed. Motion Passes.
98. Sam Rund asked if there is any other new business.
99. Lionel Pittman, *Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering*, announced that on Monday at 7:30 there will be a Town Hall Meeting in the Auditorium of the Library to discuss race related issues on campus. He said that he’s talked to a number of undergrads and race relations are bad here. He asked that it would be great for people to come to the meeting and join the discussion. He also encouraged people to spread the word.
100. Mimi Beck, *Rector Fischer-O’Hara Grace*, asked about a reminder for Relay for Life?
101. Melissa Pirkey said that it was in her report, but she’ll mention it. She realizes that some other departments may form teams, but if you’d like to participate, we do need team members. She knows that not everyone can dedicate all 24 hours at the end of the semester, so even if you can just give an hour, please sign up and we’ll do the best we can to keep a GSU team member at all times. She added that the team is doing great for fundraising (because of Mimi) – biggest fundraising team of all!
102. Kristi Pelligrini asked as you join.
103. Melissa Pirkey suggested to Google ND Relay for Life. She added that it is $10 to join; however, you get a free t-shirt.
104. Mimi Beck added that all proceeds go to the American Cancer Society, and some funds come back to Notre Dame for research dollars. Mimi added that if you’re a survivor, know of one or they want to register, we won’t ask for money.
105. Melissa Pirkey asked Mimi Beck about the luminaries.
106. Mimi replied that there is an opportunity to decorate luminaries for either those who have lost to cancer or to someone you want to celebrate who has beaten cancer. You can go to the website and order them; someone else will decorate it or you can decorate one on site. The luminaries are $5.
107. Sam Rund asked if there is any other business.
108. Jon Schwarz makes a motion to adjourn.
109. Nolan Noble seconds the motion.
110. Meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.

Minutes submitted by Ellen Childs, GSU Co-Vice President.
Minutes

April 14, 2011
Notre Dame Room, LaFortune Student Center

Officers: Victoria Froude, Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering (GSU President); Carolyn Rodak, Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences (Co-Vice President); Kasey Swanke, Political Science (Co-Vice President).

Chairs: Kelly Martin, Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences (Academic Affairs); Melissa Pirkey, Sociology (External Affairs); Sam Rund, Biological Sciences (HealthCare); Sarrah Dunham-Cheatham, Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences (Publicity & Procedures); Katherine Rueff, Physics (Quality of Life); Ellen Childs, Sociology (Social) and Karen Saavedra, Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences (Social).

University Committees: Lauren Whittah, Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences (Library Renovation); Amber Handy, History; Allison Regier, Computer Science & Engineering (Women Faculty & Students).

Department Representatives: Jackson Zorn (Art, Art History & Design); Ian Sander (Chemistry & Biochemistry); Amanda Albrecht, Shannon Flynn (Civil Engineering & Geological Sciences); Josh McManaway (Classics); Sebastian Roelands (Economics); Ralf Bendlin (Electrical Engineering); Meredith Meagher (History); Shashi Regmi (Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies); Yvonne Mikuljan (Literature Program, PhD); Ben Reinhard, Lauren Whittah (Medieval Institute); Charles Pence (Philosophy); Katherine Rueff, Collin Lines (Physics); Jeff Brooks (Psychology); Ana Velitchkova, (Sociology); Ricky Klee (Theology).

FOG & University Village Representatives:

1. Victoria Froude, President, called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.
2. Victoria called for the approval of the minutes from the March 10, 2011 meeting. Victoria asked that “GSU provided a slush fund” be changed to “Graduate School provided a slush fund” in item 22.b.iii., and that “GSU” be changed to “Graduate School” throughout the item. There was a motion to approve the minutes as amended and the motion carried. The minutes were approved as amended.
3. Victoria stated that the Executive Committee’s report stands. She added that GSU Committee Chair applications are due May 30th and are available on the GSU website (http://gsu.nd.edu/about/forms/). Victoria reminded the Council that the GSU elections will take place on April 29th and that details regarding the voting process will be sent along closer to the election. Carolyn Rodak, Vice-President, added that the Faculty Senate had not met prior to the GSU meeting, but a meeting for the Senate has been scheduled for the week after the GSU council meeting.
4. Kelly Martin, Academic Affairs Chair, stated that her report stands. She thanked everyone for attending the “Pizza, Pop, and Discussion” events on April 6th and 7th. Kelly
stated she would provide the summary of the discussion on the GSU website. Issues that were raised include housing costs, quality of housing, the health and counseling centers, and providing small meal plans for graduate students.

5. Melissa Pirkey, *External Affairs Chair*, stated that her report stands.

6. Samuel Rund, *Health Care Chair*, stated that his report stands. Sam highlighted the upcoming changes to the student health insurance plan. Among these changes is an increase in the policy costs for students, spouses, and dependents, an increase in deductibles, and removal of the continuance plan. The continuance plan for the 2010-2011 coverage year will be available to students that sign up for the continuance plan by August 15, 2011, and coverage will extend up to February 2012. However, this plan will not be available in the future. Sam stated that the Graduate School and the University are currently looking for other health care providers to provide cheaper health care for students.

7. Karen Kajder, *Social Chair*, stated that Kevin Mueller’s, *Orientation & Electronic Resources Chair*, report stands. She added that if any graduate students are interested in having specific software installed on computers in the graduate computer clusters, to please contact Kevin (kmuelle4@nd.edu) as soon as possible.

8. Katherine Rueff, *Quality of Life Chair*, stated that her report stands. She highlighted the upcoming GSU Bike Fest, to be held on April 29th. If any graduate students are interested in helping at the Bike Fest, please contact Katherine (krueff@nd.edu). Katherine announced that she is working to create regular Coffee Talks for graduate students, where students come and discuss controversial topics within the graduate student community and brainstorm how to address and correct them. If any students are interested in helping Katherine organize an upcoming Coffee Talk, please contact Katherine (krueff@nd.edu).


10. Ellen Childs, *Social Chair*, stated that the Social report stands.


13. Carolyn Rodak, *Faculty Senate*, stated that the Senate is scheduled to meet during the week following the April GSU council meeting.

14. Victoria Froude, *Graduate Council*, stated that the Graduate Council had not met since the last GSU meeting.

15. Amber Handy, *Committee for Women Faculty and Students*, stated that her report stands. She added that she is excited to announce the University has hired a “family advocate”, Life Issues Coordinator Mary Daly. Mary works for the Institute for Church Life, which reports directly to Father Jenkins. Amber stated that she believes Mary will be a great avenue for the GSU to reach the University President and the Board of Trustees regarding the recent family friendly issues. Amber additionally announced that the University has a “Pregnant and Parenting Student Assistance Fund”, available at [www.lifeinitatives.nd.edu/ppsa](http://www.lifeinitatives.nd.edu/ppsa) which graduate students are able to use.

16. Kelly Martin, *Library Committee*, stated that the Committee has not met since the March GSU council meeting.


18. Ellen Childs, *LaFortune Tenants*, stated that she and Karen were not able to attend the Tenants meeting and have not yet received the meeting minutes, despite many efforts to obtain them.
19. Ralf Bendlin, **Professional Development ad-hoc Committee**, stated that his report stands
20. Victoria announced two items of old business:
   a. Executive Committee’s Constitutional changes
      i. Victoria opened the floor for discussion regarding the proposed amendments. No discussion was made.
      ii. Victoria called for a vote to pass the Constitutional amendment as stands. The vote, the second vote on this order of business, was unanimously in favor of the amendment. The Constitution was amended as stands.
   b. Proposed Resolution for more support for women with children
      i. Victoria passed the floor to Richard Klee, **Theology (Ph.D.) Department Representative**, and author of the resolution. Richard summarized that the resolution aimed to call upon the Board of Trustees to raise money to support women with children. Richard opened the floor for discussion.
      ii. Katherine stated that she reviewed the references listed within the resolution and the numbers reported in the resolution do not reflect the numbers in the studies, and asked for more clarification. Richard replied that the studies showed that the support programs implemented at the other universities made a large difference in the number of junior faculty that left or changed their career to have children.
      iii. Collin Lines, **Physics Department Representative**, suggested that the language of the resolution follow the language of the references and Title 9, using “caregiver” in place of “female” or “mother”. Katherine Rueff, Amber Handy, Ralf Bendlin, John Dantonio, **Aerospace & Mechanical Engineering Department Representative**, and Lauren Whitnah, **Medieval Institute Department Representative**, all supported this comment. Richard replied that “caregiver” could imply both males and females, and the focus of the resolution is to support females with children, as females students with children statistically need more support and the money raised for this program will likely be limited.
      iv. Sarah Baechle, **English (Ph.D./MA) Department Representative**, stated that the word “gap”, used in the last WHEREAS of the resolution, is misleading and confusing and requested that it be clarified within the resolution.
      v. Gretchen Busl, **Literature Program (Ph.D.) Department Representative**, recommended determining if the University itself has a problem with support for graduate students with children before too many efforts are made to push this resolution further, and to stop comparing the University to other institutions. Richard stated that the University and the Graduate School do not currently have statistics on how many students have children, and it would be difficult to determine if there is a need at the University with the available data.
      vi. Ian Sander, **Chemistry & Biochemistry Department Representative**, asked if there were more male students with children or more female students with children. Richard replied that according to the family
friendly website, a national study determined that more male students had children.

vii. Amber Handy asked that the WHEREAS clause starting with “The Graduate School’s recent study of family friendly policies includes many positive contributions...” be moved closer to the top of the resolution to demonstrate that the author and supporters of the resolution recognize and respect the work that has already been done to improve this issue.

viii. Ralf Bendlin asked if the proposed resolution was aimed to address the cause or the symptoms of the problems. Kasey Swanke, Vice President, stated that there are multiple interests and issues involved within the resolution, but that she believes the resolution is a positive step toward achieving the goals, since the Graduate School is already working toward achieving the same goals.

ix. Sebastian Roelands, Economics Department Representative, asked why there is only one author of the resolution, and why the resolution has not been taken to one of the GSU committees for proofreading before being brought before the Council. Victoria recommended that the resolution be worked on by the Health Care Committee or the Quality of Life Committee.

x. Victoria stated that if the resolution is not passed, the Executive Committee would bring these issues to the Board of Trustees at the April meeting.

xi. Ben Reinhard, Medieval Institute Department Representative motioned to vote to approve the resolution. Victoria called for a vote to pass the resolution as stands. The vote was unanimously against the resolution. The resolution did not pass.

21. Peggy Hnatusko, Student Activities & GSU Liaison, asked for a round of applause for the Executive Committee’s hard work this year and wished each of the members the best on their endeavors.

22. Victoria entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion to adjourn was approved and carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm.

Minutes submitted by Sarrah Dunham-Cheatham