Minutes

November 15, 2012

OFFICERS: Doug Rice, Chemistry and Biochemistry (GSU President); Kevin Mueller, Civil and Environmental Engineering (Co-Vice President); Kate Rueff, Physics (GSU Co-Vice President).

CHAIRS: Zack Terranova, Chemistry and Biochemistry (Academic Affairs); Lindsey Turnbull, Biological Science (Health Care); Hilary Davidson, Sociology (External Affairs); Erin Drew, English (Professional Development); Kyle Watson, Chemistry and Biochemistry (Publicities and Procedures); Tony Cunningham, Psychology (Quality of Life); Kara Harmatsys, Chemistry and Biochemistry (Social); Sydney Blevins, Chemistry and Biochemistry (Social).

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES: Zack Terranova (Academic Council and Library Committee); Kevin Mueller (Faculty Senate); Doug Rice (Graduate Council); Kate Rueff (Graduate Council); Kara Harmatsys (LAFO Tenant Committee); Sydney Blevins (LAFO Tenant Committee); Erin Drew (Professional Development); Tony Cunningham (Traffic Appeals); Lindsey Turnbull (University Healthcare Committee); Hilary Davidson (Energy and Environmental Issues); Jade Avelis (Women Faculty and Students); Catherine Rastovski (Women Faculty and Students).

DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Temistocle Grenga (Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering); Kelsie Hoke (Architecture); Katherine Torvinen (Architecture); Justin Barfield (Art, Art History & Design); Amanda Joseph (Art, Art History & Design); Quintin Sheridan (Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering); Steven Marczak (Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering); Doug Hines (Chemistry and Biochemistry); Kristi Pellegrini (Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences); Clare Brogan (Classics); Eva Van Leemput (Economics); Mingming Cai (Electrical Engineering); Garrett Seelinger (English); Mackenzie Dome (Global Health Program); Bry Martin (History); Nicholas Bonneau (History); Hannah Zdansky (Literature Program PhD); Kathleen Ansaldi (Mathematics); Doug Smith (Mathematics); Brandon Cook (Medieval Institute); Megan Welton (Medieval Institute); Patrick Gamez (Philosophy); Edward Lamere (Physics); Kyle Beam (Political Science); Jeremy Castle (Political Science); Lori Petersen (Psychology); Mario Antonio CossioOlavide (Romance Language and Literature); Jade Avelis (Sociology); Sarah Schreiber (Theology PhD); Lorraine Cuddeback (Theology PhD).

FISCHER O’HARE GRACE RESIDENCE – UNIVERSITY AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES – UNIVERSITY VILLAGE RESIDENCE: Peter Campbell (University Village).

1. Doug Rice, President, called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM.
2. Moment of silence for Michael Thigpen who passed away this month.
3. Doug Rice, President, called for any additions or changes to the meeting minutes from September 27, 2012.
   a. Kyle Watson, Publicity and Procedures, said that the September 27, 2012 minutes needed to be changed. The minutes state that Doug Rice, President, seconded the meeting adjournment. Doug Hines, Chemistry and Biochemistry, actually seconded.
4. Jade Avelis, Sociology, moved to approve the minutes from September 27, 2012.
5. Zach Terranova, Academic Affairs, seconds.
6. Doug Rice proceeded with the voting and the motion passed unanimously.
7. Doug Rice proceeded to executive committee reports:
   a. Doug Rice, President, stated his report stands.
   b. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, report stands.
   c. Kevin Mueller, Co-Vice President, showed what the t-shirt we are selling looks like. If we sell a lot, the cost per shirt goes down and the proceeds will go to charity.
      i. Zack Terranova, Academic Affairs, asked where the GSU stands in representing or determining the base stipend of the graduate students now that they are going to be decided by the deans and distributed by the individual colleges.
      ii. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, stated that the graduate school is decentralizing the stipends to the colleges. The individual colleges will now be paying the stipends. The deans themselves will fundraise to bring in more money for stipends. There is still a base salary. There is more flexibility now though. It is recommended to start in 2014. The GSU can still advocate for the grad school.
      iii. Lindsey Turnbull, Health Care, asked what the difference between a provost and a dean.
      iv. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, the associate provost will be housed in the provost office. The associate provost will have a tagline of “Dean of the Graduate School” if he needs it. In terms of Notre Dame, a provost title will be more useful. It is all coming out in a report after they are approved through appropriate channels.
8. Doug Rice, President, called for a 10-minute breakout for committees.
9. Doug Rice, President, passed around a sign-up sheet for the concession stand this coming weekend.
10. Doug Rice proceeded to Committee reports:
    a. Zack Terranova, Academic Affairs, stated that his report stands.
    b. Hilary Davidson, External Affairs, stated that her report stands. She also added that they are putting together a tumbler and newsletter about how to best enjoy life in South Bend and how to get acclimated. They want to send out a survey. If anyone has expertise in developing surveys, please let her know: hdavidso@nd.edu
       i. Nicholas Bonneau, History, suggested using Doodle Polls.
       ii. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, said that they are looking for more of a full survey.
       iii. Doug Rice, President, suggested using Survey Monkey.
    iv. Tony Cunningham, Quality of Life, also offered help.
    c. Lindsey Turnbull, Healthcare, stated that her report stands. She said that 106
people came out for the blood drive.
  i. Kate Rueff, **Co-Vice President**, said that she liked that Chipotle offered free burritos to anyone who gave blood.

d. Mayra Duarte, **Marketing and Merchandising**, was absent.
e. Diana LaTorre, **Orientation and Electronic Resources**, was absent.
f. Erin Drew, **Professional Development**, stated that her report stands.
g. Kyle Watson, **Publicity and Procedures**, stated that his report stands.
h. Tony Cunningham, **Quality of Life**, stated that his report stands. He mentioned that the faith fair was a moderate success. He mentioned that campus ministries would like to cosponsor the event next year. They will aide in publicizing the events too so the event should have more clout. He is having a conversation with Kyle Watson, **Publicity and Procedures**, about adding housing opportunities around the area for graduate students to the GSU webpage. Also, this Friday (November 16) at 12pm, the DuLac committee will be meeting at 502 Main Building. Come and talk about what changes needed to be made. The housing meeting will be after Thanksgiving. We also need more ambassadors. If anyone is interested please email him: acunnin1@nd.edu.

i. Sydney Blevins and Kara Harmatys, **Social**, stated that their report stands. Kara would like to let people know about the upcoming Christmas party on 12/7 at 8 PM at Legends. We will be making Christmas cards for local nursing homes. We will also be raising money for the victims of Hurricane Sandy. The children’s party is 12/8 at 9:30am at the community center of the University Village.
  i. Kristi Pelligrini, **Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences**, stated that last year we had a graduate student dress like Santa Clause.
  ii. Kara Harmatys, **Social**, said that the committee is looking around. If anyone has a suggestion, please email the committee: kharmaty@nd.edu.
  iii. Kyle Watson, **Publicity and Procedures**, asked if the committee had any nursing homes in mind for the card donations.
  iv. Kara Harmatys responded in the negative.
  v. Kyle Watson stated that he knew of a company that would appreciate the donations.

11. Doug Rice, **President**, proceeded to University Committees:
  a. Zack Terranova, **Academic Council**, stated that his report stands.
  b. Diana LaTorre, **Academic Technologies**, was absent.
  c. Tony Cunningham, **Ad-Hoc Funding Committee**, stated that his report stands.
  d. Hilary Davidson, **Energy and Environmental Issues**, stated that her report stands.
  e. Kate Rueff, **Faculty Senate**, stated that her report stands.
  f. Kate Rueff, **Graduate Council**, stated that her report stands.
  g. Zack Terranova, **Library Committee**, stated that his report stands.
  h. Kara Harmatys and Sydney Blevins, **LaFortune Tenants**, stated that their report stands.
  i. Erin Drew, **TREC**, stated that her report stands
  j. Tony Cunningham, **Traffic Appeals**, stated that the committee has not met yet. However, he hasn’t heard from the parking/traffic office.
  ii. Kate Rueff, **Co-Vice President**, asked if they plan on meeting.
  ii. Mimi Beck, **Director of Graduate Student Life**, said they haven’t met.
  iii. Kate Rueff asked how appeals could be submitted and processed if they
aren't meeting.

iv. Mimi said that must be backed up and haven't addressed appeals.

k. Lindsey Turnbull, Healthcare, stated that the committee hasn't met yet.

l. Jade Avelis and Catherine Rastovski, Women Faculty and Students, stated that their report stands.

i. Patrick Gamez, Philosophy, asked if there are open spots for new members or if people can come to the meetings to voice their concerns.

ii. Catherine Rastovski, Women Faculty and Students, said that the committee does not have open meetings.

iii. Jade Avelis, Women Faculty and Students, said that they are very open to hearing suggestions though.

iv. Mimi Beck, Director of Graduate Student Life, mentioned that the adoption policy for maternity leave came out of the committee.

12. Doug Rice, President, called for new business:

a. Doug Rice, President, presented a resolution from the GSU concerning the construction plans near the University Village: “The GSU would like to express its concern about the pace at which the University is moving forward with plans to expand and re-route Douglas Road. In particular, we are concerned about the safety of graduate student families attempting to cross the proposed four-lane road. This matter is especially urgent given that a student was recently killed attempting to cross State Road 933 and another was struck while crossing Twyckenham Drive. Before moving forward with the proposed road project, the University should have adequate measures in place so that graduate student families, especially children, can safely cross.”

b. Peter Campbell, University Village, read a letter to the editor of the Observer:

i. “To the Editor: We live at University Village, home of Notre Dame’s graduate student families, and we are stakeholders in this University that we love. Notre Dame is proposing to expand and reroute Douglas Road directly in front of where we live. It is very likely that this proposal will be approved by the county. After hearing a presentation from representatives of the University on Oct. 9, we had numerous concerns about how the new four-lane highway would affect us. The safety of our families is of primary importance. In particular, we are concerned about crossing a busy four-lane highway without proper safety measures in place. On Oct. 17, we met with John Affleck-Graves, Executive Vice President, and Erin Hoffman Harding, Vice President of Student Affairs. After assuring us that family housing is a priority for Notre Dame, they requested specific proposals to diminish the impact of the new road on our community. The proposal we submitted this week calls for measures to keep vehicle speeds below 35 mph, an important safety threshold, as well as a crosswalk with sufficient safety features. Further, the proposed road follows a straight line passing about 150 feet from our homes and where our children play. If the road were more curved, traffic could be naturally slowed and more green space at the Village could be preserved. We are currently working with the administration on these and other proposals and we encourage other members of the Notre Dame community to be aware of, and involved in, this important project that will shape the university’s future for years to come.” – Simone and Wes Hamrick,
University Village, and Angela and Peter Campbell, University Village.
c. Peter Campbell stated that the purpose of this proposal is to ensure that before the
plan gets accepted, that the safety provisions are in the plan rather than having
the safety measures being added on ad hoc bases. The difference between less than
35 mph versus over 35 mph has a dramatic effect on the possibility of death. We
are meeting with Jon Graves again tomorrow (November 16th) afternoon.
d. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, mentioned that all of the text in the proposal would
be approved if the resolution were passed.
e. Lindsey Turnbull, Healthcare, asked if there is anything that we as individuals
can do to ensure that these safety measures are included.
f. Peter Campbell said that one of the responses to the letter was that everything
was in the counties hands. There has been “double speak.” Each one says that it is
in the other’s hands. The plan is being read on November 27 and the county
representative can and will speak on behalf of the Village. The plan will be voted
on December 4th. The goal is to try to slow the process and to try and include the
safety provisions.
g. Nicholas Bonneau, History, asked what the speed limit is projected to be.
h. Peter Campbell said that it would likely be around 40 mph. We just want it to be
reduced around the village.
i. Patrick Gamez, Philosophy, said that there should be actual dates on the
resolution.
j. Kate Rueff concurred.
k. Lindsey Turnbull asked about the crossing at Twyckenham. She asked if we could
also propose that we include more light sources at all crosswalks because there is
poor visibility at night.
l. Peter Campbell said that these are also important because there was a student
struck on Twyckenham while trying to cross.
m. Doug Rice, President, said that the lights at the crossings would need to be a
separate movement.
n. Peter Campbell said that the Twyckenham crossing would be an example of the
crossing at the Village would likely be.
o. Robert, Theology, asked if it would be a four lane round with a lower speed limit.
p. Peter Campbell said that the proposal would include a road bend so that people
would naturally slow down.
q. Jeremy Castle, Political Science, motions to approve with changes including
adding the specific dates in the resolution.
r. Kristi Pellegrini, Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences,
seconds.
s. Motion clearly passes with changes.
13. Doug Rice, President, called for old business:
a. Doug Rice said that we have a concession stand this Saturday and that all
graduate students can get free food with their IDs.
b. Jeremy Castle, Political Science, asked if there would be a Facebook event.
c. Kyle Watson, Publicity and Procedures, said he would do this.
d. Kate Rueff, Co-Vice President, said that if you volunteer, you get a hat and free
food. If you volunteer to help in the morning, she will bring doughnuts.
e. Doug Rice said that last year the GSU made around $1,000 and that this year’
proceeds will go to the pregnant and parenting student fund.
f. Katie Hike, *Architecture*, asked for clarification on what charity the funds would go to.
g. Doug Rice said the pregnant and parenting student fund is a way for parents to get a little more help to defer the cost of having children with the graduate student stipend.
h. Mimi Beck, *Director of Graduate Student Life*, said that it started about 18 months ago. The main benefactors have been GSU and a private donor. We are trying to use a deferral program to try and lessen the strain on the funds until the program is more fully funded.

14. Doug Rice, *President*, introduced Mimi Beck, *Director of Graduate Student Life*.

15. Mimi Beck, *Director of Graduate Student Life*, said that the graduate life grant deadline was today. However, students were having issues with the PDF format of the application sent out. The deadline will be extended. Ann Moran and Mimi are co-presenting a workshop at an internal professional development event in January called “A Day in the Life of a Graduate Student.” The goal is to show university staff that graduate students are not the same as undergraduates and need different services. If you are interested in carrying around a video camera to document your daily life (especially during the holidays) please contact Mimi: mimi.a.beck.15@nd.edu.
   a. Kyle Watson, *Publicity and Procedures*, asked what the new deadline is for the grants will be.
   b. Mimi Beck said that the applications would be due by 8am the Monday after Thanksgiving.
   c. Tony Cunningham, *Quality of Life*, asked if the new application deadline would push back the approval timeline.
   d. Mimi Beck responded in the negative.

18. Doug Rice, *President*, proceeds to vote. Motion passes unopposed.
19. Meeting adjourned at 7:26PM.

Minutes Submitted by Kyle Watson