Call to Order: 10:10am (by George Morales)

Roll Call: (by LaTasha Lee)

Members Present: George Morales, LaTasha Lee, Julianne Agonis, Juan Barrenche, Noemi Coltea, Nikki Diggs, Mya Eaton, Ramon Garcia-Areas, Faith Gordon (by phone), Rachel McCray, Carlo Parker (by phone), Amber Sobel, Louisa Upadhya,

Advisors and Guests Present: Heather Bishara, Rosana Melendez (College of Engineering Student), Dan Partouche (Career Development Center)

Members Absent: Michael (Mike) Cocuzza

Approvals

Minutes from November 5th, 2010 GSAAB Meeting motioned to be approved by Juan Barrenche and seconded by Carlo Parker. The approval of the November 5th GSAAB Minutes passed by board with verbal affirmative vote.

February 2nd, 2011 GSAAB Agenda was amended to add to Supplemental Funding from A&S Fees of $17,000 be added to the section of New Business. It will be facilitated by George and Heather. A motion to include the addition by Mya Eaton and seconded by Ramon Garcia-Areas, passed by board with verbal affirmative vote. Juan Barranche motioned to approve the February 2nd Agenda with the addition and it was seconded by Nikki Diggs; the agenda was accepted by the board by a verbal affirmative vote.

Open Forum

George introduced Rosana Melendez, a PhD student of Electrical Engineering, who will hopefully join GSAAB upon George’s departure. There was a brief introduction by Rosana.

Old Business

Committee Reports
Retreat/Strategic Planning
Chair: Faith
Members: Faith, Mike, Mya, Tasha, Noemi

Report: (Faith) The Spring 2011 GSAAB Retreat was held on Tuesday, January 4, 2011 in the Royal Palm Room, Student Union, Boca Campus. It was a great event. After the evaluations were tallied the Retreat received a 3.84 on a 4.0 scale. Thanks went to Noemi for compiling the information. The speaker Dr. Uwechue was really well received. During the retreat we outlined our vision. The common theme of the ability to be heard and listen mentioned by the board was in line with the speakers talk on effective communication. SWOT analysis was performed by LaTasha and this will help us in moving forward in the future.

College Representative Feedback Meeting (Juan)
Juan and Amber held a meeting with the GSAAB College Representatives. During the meeting the discussion centered around ideas helpful in programming and workshops, holding an event and how GSA can help bring them. In attendance were Nikki, Ramon, and Tasha. Nikki in the College of Design & Social Inquiry will be highlighting careers in the College. She also had ideas about how as a college we can develop a community in DSI; employer workshops with Dr. Allen Barsky and Deputy Jay Liner. Ramon is looking for funding for events for the graduate students in his college, especially retreat. He suggested that GSA could possibly provide funds for colleges to host events tailored to their needs. Also Ramon came up with the idea of an activity where each college can participate for example an event called “ART OF SCIENCE” which we could tie into a calendar. Rachel liked the idea about individual events for the colleges. LaTasha pigbacked on the idea of funding and stated that a proposal will be discussed in New Business regarding a request for funded for a College of Medicine & Science Event to be held this Spring. Juan said to let your ideas be made aware of to GSA.

New Business

Supplemental Fees (George & Heather)
Through new A&S fees GSA received an additional $17k, this is nowhere near the hit we took at the beginning of the semester especially at the sister campuses. Noemi stated there is a need for programming on the Treasure Coast campus …. there is an event $500-1000 for Saturday students (n= ~90); asked about the promos. Juan and Amber stated that the promotional materials are available for pickup. Mya stated that only $3000 left in the programming budget on the Broward Campus. Noemi stated that her campus has no money. Juan suggested proposals be submitted to allocate funds instead of splitting it up. Faith asked when are the funds available? George provided clarification stating that the $17k is available now; 3 proposals are out Noemi, Mya, Juan. Mya stated we should have separate accounts without going to the board, allocating the funds to the accounts for easier access. Amber stated that she would like to offer an idea to use the funds to launch our research grant program, which Tasha will discuss. Heather emphasized that the money will go away June 30th; if we can get the research grant program established then it wouldn’t be a problem but we can’t yet allocate money for the grant. LaTasha & Amber stated there is urgency and several students have sought help in this area so who do we need to go to for approval. Heather stated that we need to go to Dr. Brown. George offered the idea of a test case, for ease of use and allow dispersement of funds for the campus’. There were a lot of good ideas and possibly offer the 70/20/10 split. Nikki inquired whether this proposal of allocation of funds includes funding for College Retreats. Juan stated that he would offer
to fund College specific events from the Boca account. There was a motion by Juan and a 2nd by Mya for a 70/20/10 split which would amount to $11,900 (Boca), $3,400 (Broward), and $1,700 (Northern). There was discussion and Faith stated that Northern consists of 2 campuses (Jupiter and Treasure Coast) that need to serve the graduate population and thereby suggested an increase. George emphasized that we need to make sure that all money is utilized this fiscal year. Tasha made a motion for an amendment to split rather 60/20/20 for the additional funds, Juan seconded this motion but wanted to provide that this is split is on the additional money only and is not meant to set a precedent for future budget allocation. This would mean with the 60/20/20 split $10,200 Boca; $3,400 Northern & Broward each. It was called to a vote and Juan, Julianne, George, Nikki, Ramon, Rachel, Carlo, Tasha, Mya, and Faith all provided an affirmative vote. The motion to split the Supplemental funds passed unanimously.

Student Health Insurance Committee (George)
The committee met last week. There are many changes with new legislation regarding the Health Care Bill. One such change is that students under 26 can stay under parents insurance. The university has a contract with United Healthcare, which raised premiums by 10%. In the 2nd year they raised it by 12%. There has been talk of bigger purchasing power with consortium w/ other State University System. However, FAU has a lower loss ratio compared to others in the consortium. Thus, if we join consortium the premiums would increase 25% because other members of the have a higher loss ratio. There are two tiers of our plan to cover students who are international and domestic. The recommendation of the board is to stick with the plan w/ an increase of 12%. There are stipulations of no pre-existing for 6 months and there is a cap around $25,000. Additionally, next year as a request by Dr. King there is a push to have a more professional type of health care to have additional options because our needs are different from undergrads.

Integrative Biology Retreat Funding Proposal (Ramon & Tasha)
Ramon provided an Introduction of what the proposal is and what the retreat will involve. It is a joint retreat for Graduate Students of the Colleges of Medicine and Science. LaTasha passed around copies of the proposal to the board and outlined the need for funding for the events requiring food because the Foundation money from the Colleges is not permitted to purchase food at this time. Thus, we are requesting either one event or both events be sponsored by GSA. Faith stated that Whole Foods is a great partner and 60 to 90 days out she made friends with the gal at the store through personal contact to seek donations. Juan stated that it is a great proposal and GSA Boca would like to fund both, will need to get together to plan and allocate what the amount of funds will be. George stated that there was no need to vote since Boca stated they will fund.

Academic Dismissal Policy (George)
A policy has been drafted and George and Mike have been meeting. They met with legal counsel as a proposal to UGC. We will be provided with the policy in case an issue comes up with any of our constituents.

Committees
Travel
Amber just recently changed the process with gmail account to access. George would like to have the documents shared. Amber stated that she will add the share option. George inquired how much money is still left? Amber stated that there appears to be some discrepancies with the amount that has already been
allocated. George spoke with Terry and Heather about raising the cap for international travel to say $800. Noemi stated we should adjust for inflation. George stated that a change is needed for the University Travel Policy … Amber agreed and stated we should look at amending.

Bylaws
Mya stated at the last meeting we decided on a name change GSA Boca, GSA Broward, etc. She has written up changes to the bylaws, but was informed that we need to have all changes made before going to SG for approvals.

Research Day (Amber/Juan)
call for abstracts went out  and flyers
Feb 21st deadline by 5pm
weekly meeting
new judging rubric
some work to do with awards
Rachel has been working on getting donations for raffle

Budget (Michael George)
Mike will be meeting for the budget hearing on Friday at 8pm still waiting on confirmation. The directors have sent letters to Mike. We are requesting an increase in money, money for travel and research, in addition to paid positions. A GA position was proposed in the budget proposal there was discussion. Mya also requested an increase in salaries of the directors, which has not been included in the proposal; we should be paid professionally not $10.75. Juan stated that the GA positions are proposed to address this need; need for 10hr GA to handle the clerical work of GSA office. Mya suggested that instituting a council of volunteers to help would also be beneficial. George stated that the directors and the committee should work on this item after this meeting. Faith added that she is willing to work on this with the committee.

UGPC & UGC Report (Michael & George)
The meeting is upcoming, so nothing to report at present.

Chair Report (George)
George made it clear that he will be stepping down and will be moving to Phoenix 2 days after graduation. Thus, his focus will be on finishing dissertation and will be mentoring Mike and Rosanna. At the next meeting he will be stepping down and handing gavel over to Mike.

BGC Report
− Last month held orientation and it went well
  o 60% of those who RSVPed attended
  o Louisa is a great partner and did a great job
  o Nikki and Julianna came to the orientation for the colleges they represented
  o the forum was well received
  o students inquired about the Student Rep for the college of nursing
− upcoming events Louisa …
“Spread a Little Love” … held around a volunteer drive … list of off-site and on-site locations where students can volunteer

- entered to when a sightseeing tour and Panera
- on V-day will send out a survey to get feedback in GSA Broward in terms of events … raffle for Panera

- Yard Sale

**BRGC Report**
- Research Day
- Travel

**NGC Report**
- Faith: Saturday 8am “Beach Cleanup” Noemi & Nikki will be attending
  - Friends of Jupiter Beach.org
  - $20 Wal-Mart gift card raffle for volunteers
  - Mixer at Yard House on the 25th
  - outreach program for students of educational leadership will be coming up
  - budget request has been submitted
- Noemi:
  - Host Directors Meeting Feb 25th at a coffee shop @3pm
  - Sent out SAVE THE DATE for mixer at the YARD HOUSE in the Gardens

**College Reports**

**Rachel McCray, College of Arts and Letters**
The FAU Peace Studies program received a $60k donation from Boca Families for scholarships.

**Michael Cocuzza, College of Business**
(not present)
presented by Juan: Business plan competition $100k winner gets $50k for their proposal, Kimberly Gramm is the contact

**Nikki Diggs, College of Design and Public Inquiry**
The College will be hosting a mini-spring orientation for the new PhDs. They will have a masters level organization to partner with PhD organization. There will be an Alumni reunion for the last week of March. Furthermore, they would like to implement a Research Day for Public Administration students.

**Julianne Agonis , College of Education**
Xi Sigma Iota is going to be started; this honor society will be a great asset to COE.

**George Morales, College of Engineering and Computer Science**
At a recent PhD meeting it was stated that they need more funding for Grad Students. There will be many conferences coming up this semester. We are in our new building and its beautiful. Additionally, the
Engineering honor society event to dedicate new bent. The Faculty Club is now open for lunch and its fabulous … $5 breakfast and $12 lunch.

Ramon Garcia-Areas, Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine
The College of Medicine will be hosting on February 10th a Research Day

Carlo Parker, Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing
(had to drop the call)

LaTasha Lee, Charles E. Schmidt College of Science
In addition to our Integrative Biology Retreat we will be hosting a College of Science Research Day March 25th. The new PhD Integrative Biology And Neuroscience Program has opened to applicants, this is a new program between the Department of Biological Sciences at FAU and Max Planck Neuroscience in Jupiter. There are several conferences coming up this semester which many of our students will be attending and/or hosting.

Open Forum:
- Dan new bookmark with new Spring CDC events
- resume critique workshops
- Career Day 101 workshop on dressing for success; NextEra will be coming in as well
- Career Fair
- a push for more inclusion of all majors and disciplines to be invited to Career Fair
- an increase in numbers of companies participating
- Etiquette event March 1st luncheon at Alumni center $30 refundable
- Dare to Be Prepared Conference …. multi breakout session with companies and advisors May 9th all day event
- “On Location Events” mentioned by Amber that the reps be involved in securing location & GSA will provide refreshments suggestions by Dan (yellow highlighted)

Important Dates
Next GSAAB meeting March 2nd.

- February 5, 2011 Loggerhead Park Beach Clean-Up Event (Juno Beach)
- February 14, 2011 "Spread A Little Love" sponsored by GSA Broward
- February 15, 2011 10am Research Day Committee Meeting
- February 22, 2011 10am Research Day Committee Meeting (review all abstract submissions)
- February 25, 2011 @ 3pm Directors Meeting
- February 25, 2011 @ 5pm GSA North Campus Mixer at Yardhouse (Palm Beach Gardens)
- March 2, 2011 10am GSAAB Meeting
- March 3-4, 2011 Graduate Student Appreciation (GSA North Campus)
- March 7-13 Spring Break
- March 15, 2011 10am Research Day Committee Meeting
- March 2011 Yard Sale GSA Broward
- March 22, 2011 10am Research Day Committee Meeting
• March 23, 2011 Grad Bash at the Alumni Center, Boca Raton Campus
• March 28, 2011 CDC/GSA Workshop "On Location"
• March 29, 2011 10am Research Day Committee Meeting
• March 29, 2011 CDC/GSA Workshop "On Location" CV Writing (possibly A&L)
• March 30, 2011 CDC/GSA Workshop "On Location" Academic (Ed)
• March 31, 2011 CDC/GSA Workshop "On Location" Non-Academic (Eng)
• April 1, 2011 Mixer in Boca
• April 5, 2011 10am Research Day Committee Meeting
• April 6, 2011 10am GSAAB Meeting
• April 8, 2011 Research Day
• April 15, 2011 Etiquette Event at Mariposa restaurant at Nieman Marcus and the speaker Patricia Stephens 4 course meal free for grad students
• May 5, 2011 Graduation (partnership with Grad College)
• May 6, 2011 Graduation (partnership with Grad College)
• May 13, 2011 or Maybe 14 or 15 GSA Mixer Summer students intro

Motion to Adjourn by Juan, seconded by Tasha.

Meeting adjourned at 11:43am