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**COGS Full Council**

**Meeting Olds Hall, Room 111**

**February 12, 2014**

**7:30 – 8:00 pm**

**I. Approval of Agenda**

-Approved

**II. \*\*Approval of Minutes from January 2014 Full Council Meeting**

**(Attachment 1)**

-Approved

**III. \*\*Approval of Revised Minutes from December 2013 Full Council Meeting**

**(Attachment 2)**

**-**Approved

**IV. Remarks from the Graduate School (Matt Helm)**

-Versatile PhD Week beginning February 15, 2014

-Numerous talks and keynote by Versatile PhD creator

-Virtual career fair, career webinar for LGBT

-120 rec and fitness classes

-Tax seminar February 25, 2014

-Check graduate school website for more information

**V. Remarks from COGS Faculty Advisor (Dr. MaryLee Davis)**

-Be ambassadors to your own departments

**VI. Presentation: Differential Tuition, Dave Byelich, Assistant Vice President**

**and Director of the Office of Planning and Budgets**

-Differential tuition

-Some departments such as Engineering have a fee, for which it is difficult to obtain reimbursement due to the wording

-Examining other universities, U of M has differential tuition based on tiers, looking for a different way to do things

-Will involve a change in credit hour costs for different courses

-Current discussion over whether this is worth pursuing

-Questions: relationship between undergraduate and graduate tuition?

-Would it vary by person or course credit hour?

-Financial overview

-2014/2015 budget planning overview

**VII. Presentation: Counseling Center Services for Graduate and Professional**

**Students, Dr. Scott Becker, Acting Director of the MSU Counseling Center**

-Discussion of mental health and counseling at MSU

-Stigma of mental health due to medical model

-Counseling is between the mental and medical

-Mental health important to grad education, most programs don’t attend holistically to student needs

-15% students who go to Counseling Center are graduate at MSU

-Low number because professional schools have their own centers

-1/3 of these are international students

-Over last decade there is increase in number and acuity of mental health issues

-Attributed to rise in treatment, increased financial stress, cultural anxiety, technology

-Goal is to get more faculty involvement to improve student experience holistically, liaison training

-Available on social media, trying to get message out

**VIII. Executive Board Remarks**

**a. President (Stefan Fletcher)**

**i. New Representative Introductions**

**ii. Academic Freedom Report (AFR) Revisions**

**iii. Alignment Update**

**b. Vice President for Internal Affairs (Emily Bank)**

**i. COGS Rebranding (Attachment 3)**

**ii. Graduate and Professional Student Health Recommendations Update**

**iii. New Policy initiative being introduced into UCUE**

**iv. Academic Governance Committee Annual Reports**

**c. Vice President for External Affairs (Dionisia Quiroga)**

**i. Open Access Policy**

**d. Treasurer (Chris Harvey)**

**i. \*\*February 2014 Event Funding Requests**

-9 events requesting $8500, were able to fund most of the requests

-Approved

**ii. \*\*Professional Development Grant Changes (Attachment 4)**

-Goal was to reduce ‘double dipping’, language to clear up issues

- Approved

**iii. \*\*Conference Grant Changes (Attachment 5)**

- Approved

**e. Recording Secretary (Katy Meyers)**

**i. 2014 Graduate Academic Conference Update**

-All acceptance emails for abstracts submitted have been sent out

-Conference schedule coming soon

-Total attendees: 154

-Breakdown: Doctoral 104, Masters 37, Medical 10, Law 1

-Presentation Types: 10 Minute 84, Poster 54, 3 Minute 22

**f. Parliamentarian (Shannon Demlow)**

**g. Law College Liaison (Michala Welch)**

**h. Medical Colleges Liaison (Kiro Malek)**

**i. Director of Event Planning (El-Ra Radney)**

**i. 2014 Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week**

**IX. Unfinished Business**

**X. New Business**

**a. \*\* Vote to approve Graduate Student Rights & Responsibilities**

**(GSRR) (Attachment 6)**

-Approved

**b. 2014-2015 Executive Board Nomination Process**

-Nominations open now and only close when the voting process begins, can nominate anyone who has attended 2/3 meetings or currently a representative

-Nominate here, online or at the March meeting

-Open positions and nominations:

President: Emily Bank

VPIA

VPEA

Treasurer

Recording Secretary

**c. \*\*Approval of SPOM Carnival, Breslin Takeover III Co-Sponsorship ($500)**

-Approved

**d. \*\*Approval of Taste of East Lansing Co-Sponsorship ($501)**

-Approved

**e. \*\*Committee Elections**

**XI. Member’s Privilege**

**a. GEU TA Reimbursement**

-Able to get the extra pay reimbursed to all TAs who lost money due to overlapping terms

**b. ISA Valentine’s Day Ball: Arabian Nights**

-All students invited, Friday 6:30-10:30pm, giving away tickets from 2-4 tomorrow at the International Center, belly-dancing performance

**c. University Student Commission**

-Discussion about bus routes and safety around East Lansing

-Off Campus shooting, goal of campus is to not alarm people most times, if there was something dangerous there would be more immediate action

**XII. Adjourn**

-Approved

Minutes taken by Katy Meyers

The Council of Graduate Students (COGS) is the constitutionally authorized government representing all graduate and professional students at Michigan State University. COGS actively promotes the improvement of both the individual and collective graduate experience by working with university administrators on a multitude of graduate student issues that range from degree requirements to housing to health care.