

GSS GENERAL MEETING  
Minutes for 9-6-17  
Minutes

Sergio Bedford opened the meeting.

Attendance was called by Erin Rowland.

The previous minutes have not been posted online. They will be posted shortly. Sergio motioned and Rachael seconded to accept the minutes as unread as important points of previous business would be gone over in the meeting. The senate approve unanimously

**SPECIAL SPEAKER**

**Jennifer Green, Department of Anthropology**

A complied lecture series/colloquia has been made online. Sergio will share the list. The hope is that it will become a requirement for each department to submit their lecture series to this list.

**OFFICER REPORTS**

**Haslam Program Scholars Openings**

Haslam Scholars Program is looking for two positions - \$15 and \$22 per hour. Check the utk website to find out more.

**Travel Awards**

Travel Awards have been awarded. \$70,000 total was given for the Fall semester. Applications for the Spring will reopen on Oct. 16.

**Changes to ESL Policy**

This is being reworked by the university. These policies concern grad students with native languages other than English that have to take the English placement test and sometimes, the extra courses in English their 1<sup>st</sup> year of graduate school.

**Student Code of Conduct**

Student Code of Conduct has changed. It is available on the website. Applies more to undergraduate students.

**NOMINATION OF EXECUTIVE POSITIONS**

Secretary – Erin Rowland

The Secretary calls the roll and records the minutes of the meetings.

Sergio Bedford motioned and Rachel Atkins seconded. The senate issued unanimous approval.

Senate Chair – Rachael Atkins

The Senate Chair sets the meeting agenda, sends out the agenda, and runs the meeting.

Sergio Bedford motioned and Zach McFarlane seconded. The senate issued unanimous approval.

Travel Awards Chair – Tamra Gilbertson

The Travel Awards Chair oversees the Travel Awards Committee which provides travel awards to graduate students.

Sergio Bedford motioned and Jamie Grieg seconded. The senate issued unanimous approval.

Note: People are still welcome to join the Travel Awards committee.

Programming and Events Chair – Cara Sulyok

The Program and Events Chair runs the GSS's external events.

Sergio Bedford motioned and Tamra Gilbertson seconded. The senate issued unanimous approval.

Treasurer – Guin Shaw

The Treasurer maintains the GSS budget of \$10,000 to \$15,000. This is especially important this year as GSS has been separated from the SGA.

Sergio Bedford motioned and Rachael Atkins seconded. The senate issued unanimous approval.

Technology Officer – Holly Kelly & Anthropology senator (co-chairs)

The Technology Officer keeps the GSS website updated and synthesizes information into a newsletter. It was recommended that two people may want to co-chair the position.

Sergio Bedford motioned and Jaime seconds. The senate issued unanimous approval.

Legislation and Steering Chair – Sarah Lepp

The Legislation and Steering Chair works on legislation, especially equity and diversity.

Erin Rowland motioned and Zack McFarlane seconded. The senate issued unanimous approval.

At Large Senator Board Chair -

The At Large Senator Board Chair gets graduate students involved in the senate as at-large senators through special committees. No one volunteered for the position after much discussion.

Jamie Grieg motioned to table the decision until the next meeting to see if someone emailed interest in the position. Erin seconded. No senate vote was made.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Faculty Leadership**

Dean Thompson will be our advisor in the interim.

### **Constitution Task Force**

Sergio Bedford moved that GSS needed to establish a committee of 2-3 people to draft a new constitution. The ideal scenario would be to have a new constitution to vote on by November. Brad Phillis offered to head the committee. Sergio motioned and Tamra Gilbertson seconded. The senate issued unanimous approval.

Meetings have been shortened to 5:30-7:00PM.

## **Events**

Life Beyond Graduate School Brown Bag Lunch Series will take place on the following dates from 11:30-1PM in Hodges 253. This is sponsored by GSS:

Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> Branding

Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> Job Search

Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> Transitioning to the Next Phase

Attendees should bring their own lunch. Drinks and dessert will be provided.

## **Let's Talk Qual**

Hosted by Lauren Moret Sept 15<sup>th</sup> 4-7PM

## **JC Penney College Suit-Up Event**

West Town Mall Sunday, Sept 10 from 6:30-10PM

Bring Vol ID card

Free buses from campus

People are still needed for internal committees, especially Events & Programming and Legislative & Steering

All senators should also sign up for at least one external committees

The Events Calendar will be made available on [gss.utk.edu](http://gss.utk.edu)

Senators should make sure to update their departments about the events.

**The next meeting will be Oct. 3 from 5:30-7PM in Haslam 305.**