Graduate Student Council (GSC)
Meeting with Executive Advisors (Minutes of Meeting)
Putnam Hall 202, Monday, October 10, 2016

Attendees:
Dr. Claudia Tomany (CT), Dean, Graduate School, Claudia.Tomany@ndsu.edu
Dr. Brandy A. Randall (BR), Associate Dean, Graduate School, brandy.randall@ndsu.edu
Nonnie Tangen (NT), Business and Operations Manager, Graduate School, nonnie.tangen@ndsu.edu
Dr. Paul B. Kelter (PK), Director Office of Teaching and Learning, paul.kelter@ndsu.edu
Ramnarain Ramakrishna (RR), Eduardo Faundez (EF), Asif Arshid (AA),

Meeting called to order at 10:05 am by Dr. Claudia Tomany, Dean Graduate School.

Addressing the vacancy of the position of GSC President:
Following the resignation of Rosalinda Connelly, the position of GSC President is currently open and, needs to be filled as soon as possible. RR declined the position due to existing commitments associated with a research assistantship with Dept. of Plant Sciences. RR will however serve as acting President and help prepare for the elections for the vacancy. RR explained the election procedure and informed the advisors that elections will be held on Nov 7th in our next monthly general body meeting to ensure transparency and maximize the attendance for voting.

Reallocation of GSC President’s Graduate Assistantship as scholarships for GSC executive team:
Graduate School and faculty advisors informed GSC execs that Graduate School is planning to change the policy of offering full 20 hours graduate assistantship to GSC President. Instead, it was proposed that these funds be uniformly distributed among the GSC executives. The rationale of this change is twofold:
1. it requires additional efforts to keep GSC President accountable
2. to recognize the team effort of all GSC execs. Details of reallocation will be finalized shortly and will be shared with GSC officers once a decision has been made by CT.

GSC Annual Research Symposium:
CT pointed out that there are two separate events, with the theme of Research and Poster competitions, are arranged by Grad School and GSC separately on Nov 18th and Nov 19th, which highlights a lapse in communication between GSC and Graduate school. Therefore, it was agreed to enhance the communication and coordination in order to complement each other’s efforts. BR suggested that the annual symposium be held in conjunction with the 3-minutes thesis competition (3MT) in Spring-2017 (Feb1). AA, suggested to go with both events as planned as the things are almost already planned and delay in the symposium will demoralize the GSC Committee Co-chairs. RR requested time to consult with the relevant co-chairs and finalize plans. Also, relevant committee co-chairs are encouraged to meet with Dr. Randall to work on this Symposium and other professional developmental projects.

Miscellaneous Topic:
- CT communicated the issue of high student health insurance premiums to Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs (NDUS), and proposed setting up a task force to address it. CT to keep GSC informed of any development in this regard.
- EF is required to submit finalized committee budget proposals for review, to Graduate School by 17 October 2016. A meeting will be held on 18 October 2016 among the same attendees as today, to review and finalize budget.

Questions or concerns regarding the Minutes please contact Asif Arshid.