

**Meeting:** Assembly

**Date:** Friday, November 6, 2009 3:30 PM

**Location:** Fine Arts Auditorium

**Attendees:** 45 department representatives

**Agenda:**

**1. Misc Item**

Assembly voted to move Ex Comm elections from the January Assembly meeting to the February Assembly meeting to allow for candidates to prepare for the election. Vote: 45 yeas, 0 nos, and 0 abstentions.

**2. Updates on GPSO Resolutions**

Nick reviewed past GPSO resolutions and gave several updates. A list of recently passed resolutions can be found at: [www.indiana.edu/~gpso/assembly-resolutions.php](http://www.indiana.edu/~gpso/assembly-resolutions.php)

- Last fall the Assembly passed a resolution waiving late add/drop fees for graduate students who make course registration changes after the first week of school by giving them until the end of the second week to make schedule changes. The administration is considering adopting this modification.
- Last fall the Assembly passed a resolution stating that the Bursar should align payment due dates after SAAs receive their salary disbursements.
- Last fall the Assembly passed a resolution requesting that the Provost periodically review and make recommendations on the SAAs stipends at IUB.
- This spring the Assembly passed a resolution requesting that IU adhere to the University Presidents' Climate Commitment.
- This fall the Assembly passed a resolution requesting that IU research the financial ramifications of requiring mandatory student health insurance. The administration has been researching this topic and the initial outcome is that there would be no significant cost savings to students. Further, the recent graduate study indicated that very few students would support mandatory health insurance under any circumstances.
- This fall the Assembly passed a resolution to request STC to allow graduate students to rollover their printing allotment from academic year to academic year. STC states that less than 10% of students go over their allotment. To recover the loss by allowing print allotment rollover, it would raise technology fees for all students. So at this time, they are unwilling to implement the requested change. It is being proposed that students writing dissertations get larger allotments and as this would be granted on a limited basis, it would most likely not affect fees.
- Scott Nissen, the GPSO Sustainability Officer, provided updates on the University Presidents' Climate Commitment. At the last Sustainability Advisory Board meeting there was no movement to commit to this.
- Scott also discussed the Bloomington Campus Traffic Safety Task Force traffic safety resolution. The task force drafted a resolution that plans to education pedestrians, drivers, and cyclists in traffic safety. There are also provisions for new cross walk. What is not in the resolution is enforcement of laws as IUPD is understaffed to cite violators.
- Scott also discussed the optional green fee initiative explaining that 10,000 signatures are required to have the initiative considered. There will be signup sheets at GPSO events.

**3. Smoking Policy Resolution**

The All University Student Association (AUSA) is discussing a proposal to create designated smoking areas. The GPSO has drafted its own resolution which has two functions: it identifies the current issue and recommends additional smoking locations. Our resolution would affirm AUSA's existing initiative. There were concerns among the Assembly representatives that it is not the GPSO's place to take a stand on this issue. There was a request to change the GPSO resolution to remove the language about creating these designated areas and rather to ask to, "explore establishing such areas". There was a motion to table the resolution until the next Assembly meeting in order to find out what the university is already doing to address the issues. Vote 45 total: 30 yeas, 12 nos, and 3 abstentions.

**4. Campus Affairs Update**

Luke Fields discussed the separation of graduate and undergraduate students on student identification cards. He learned that if a sticker is placed on the card, the university considers this to be defacing the card. Therefore, stickers are not a viable option. A better solution would be to change the text on the face of the card from "Student" to "Graduate Student".

**5. Grad Pad update**

Peter Thoresen, GPSO Operations Coordinator, discussed the progress on acquiring graduate space in the Wells Library. He stated that a focus group will be made up from graduate and professional students to discuss the space.

**6. AAUP Due Process Guidelines on Graduate Student Offer Letters**

Nick discussed the need for conditions and length of academic appointees to be provided in writing. There was consensus among the Assembly to advance this request to the BFC.

**7. Survival Week Discussion**

This year's Survival Week events had very few attendees. There was consensus in the Assembly to not get rid of Survival Week as well as consensus to not keep it the same. There was further consensus to spread out events rather than bunch them together all in the same week and to change the nature of the events to make them more relaxed and social in nature. Nick asked for any ideas to be provided to Peter or Nick.

**8. Brief Update of GPSO Surveys**

There were over 900 respondents. The results will be posted on the GPSO website in the next week.

**9. Discussion of Proposal in IN State Assembly to Regulate Curriculum in Schools of Education**

Nick briefly discussed this issue and stated that essentially, the proposal is to allow instructors to pursue courses in their research area rather than in pedagogy.