

GSU Assembly Meeting Minutes

December 17, 1997

Meeting called to order at 7:05 by presiding officer Scott Harper.
Present: 14

Item 1: Minutes approved from November meeting, 14-0.

Item 2: Scott Harper called on committee members to report on developments and events since the last meeting:

- CPUC members reported on their meeting -- the main issues discussed were: Undergraduate concerns about alcohol on campus; The institution of a 24 hour lockdown of the dorms was put off due to undergraduate concerns; Budget proposal for priorities committee; The appeal for greater assistance for graduate students from Career Services was not recommended for funding.
- Safety Committee members reported on their meeting -- the main issues discussed were: Dealing with the dangers of crossing Washington street. Campus Committee members reported on their meeting -- the main issues discussed were: The planning of the Campus Center -- plans for a computer cluster and a xerox copy center; using the lobby for a pub instead of a Tea Bar is gaining strength; businesses in the community have raised concerns about the loss of customers to the Campus Center.
- Dining Committee members reported on their meeting -- the main issues discussed were: The idea of a "combo" meal plan (fixed number of meals plus points toward additional meals); Possible layouts for furniture in the Campus Center pub were presented.

- Success of wine and cheese party recognized. Social Chair Eric Paul commended for his effort.
- Report that the investment seminar was well attended. The possibility of doing the seminar again in the Spring was raised.
- Credit Union Committee members reported on their meeting -- the main issues discussed were: Dean Montero has talked to Credit Union about graduate participation; Federal Court case pending which will decide whether credit unions can expand their membership (case to be decided in January - more info may be available then).
- Report on the closing of Davidson's grocery store. There was a discussion about various methods by which graduate students without transportation could get to a supermarket, and how the GSU might best be able to assist them.
- Possibilities such as altering the current University shuttle routes, running a grocery van service, or publicizing the current NJTransit bus routes were discussed.
- Report made that the Township is responsive to the idea of more streetlights, but not to the creation of bike lanes, on Harrison Ave.

Item 3: Report of Eric Paul the Social Chair: Nothing to report.

Item 4: Report of Eszter Hargattai the Press Secretary: Not Present.

Item 5: Report of Rep. Secretary Benjamin Gum: He announced the arrival of a new rep. from NES.

Item 6: Report of John Stewart the Treasurer: Announced that there is \$800 left for GSU co-sponsored events, \$1,290 for GSU events and \$1,500 for operational expenses. Two requests had been submitted -- 1) Art and Architecture conference for \$250 and 2)

Butler Cinco de Mayo party \$250. Votes on both requests were put off until January when a quorum may be present. Announcement made that the GSU co-sponsored mixer at reunions was would probably not occur this year. APGA (and potentially some GSU) funds will be concentrated on some of the other, more-well-attended Reunion events.

Item 7: New Business: none.

Item 8: Discussion of GSU Constitution issues. Robert Weiner gave a presentation on changes and issues about the GSU constitution that the previous GSU Executive Committee felt would be worth considering. The suggestions ranged from basic house-cleaning measures to major structural changes. A brief list of topics are included below. A summary of these concerns will be attached to the hardcopy of the minutes, and presented to the current Executive Committee.

- Membership -- who can join? (allow associate and ex-officio members?)
- Representation by year of study (possible creation of more seats)
- Clarification of proxy voter process.
- Clarification of officer's status (Must they be reps? Can they vote?)
- Election process for officers.
- Update of officer titles and duties.
- Quorum levels
- Clean house on GSU committee descriptions
- Fee level
- Add procedures for e-mail voting
- Define the GSU responsibilities for filling University committees.
- Make GSU meetings open to press?
- Would it be easier to make minor operational changes if there were by-laws along with a simplified version of the Constitution?

These points were discussed, along with the requirements for making any change to the Constitution. The possibility of constitutional referendum being conducted by e-mail was raised, and the need for making any changes was considered. A final discussion will be held at the January meeting to determine whether updating the Constitution will be undertaken as a project this year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16

Respectfully submitted,
Roberto Lint-Sagarena
Recording Secretary