GSA Assembly Meeting Minutes—February 5, 2003.

Meeting begins at 6:08pm.

I. Approval of agenda

Kathy Meyer motions to approve agenda, Jess Barrie seconds. Motion approved through unanimous consent.

Daniel Mandell objection to consent, due to agenda not up for more than 3 days.

Edward Collins: since agenda didn't go up until Monday evening, agenda now only reflects agenda items that have been up for 2 months. All other things are moved to information items, and there are no discussion items on the agenda.

Daniel: regarding funding requests, can't be representative of constituents.

Move to vote for the passing of the agenda: 21 for, 1 opposed, 2 abstain. Agenda approved.

II. Approval of minutes: **Mark Yeary moves to approve later, after action items. Kathy Meyer seconds. Motion approved through unanimous consent.**

III. Announcements from Graduate Division: John Mohr

We're having a budget problem – there's a fee increase. For the most part, our budget is protected. Nobody knows what's happening exactly, but we're pretty sure we're doing OK.

Check out the web site, especially for commencement activities.

Looking for nominations for commencement speaker.

Time for report on diversity in grad div – we're not doing well. There has been a lack of commitment in many various ways to promote the diversity that we should have here. John is raising this issue with the powers that be; has a slide show that shows possible causes, and how we compare to other campuses. Raise awareness to increase response.

Jonathan: What does diversity mean in this context?

John: A couple of things: first, race diversity, and if we're doing badly there, then gender as well.

Kendra Casey: what is meant by participation?

John: number of grad students doing research here.

John Gamber: do you have numbers that compare?

John: They're in the slide. I can make this available. Suffice to say we're looking pretty bad.

Questions? Go to grad div web site

IV. Presentation, Library: Sarah Pritchard

Our big issue is the budget. We've been specifically targeted as a line item in budget cuts. But we don't know what the exact number will be, either mid-year or later. So we're taking a hard look at ways to cut spending – reduce hours, reduce periodical

subscriptions, freeze vacancies. We're trying to figure out how to do this incrementally, and avoid massive cuts in any area.

We should be able to absorb mid-year cuts without significant outward effect.

Hoping not to have to remove the added open hours that grads asked for a few years ago… likewise don't want to reduce student assistanceships.

With the increase in electronic journals, we're currently carrying double subscription. Until recently, e-journals have been spotty. But now that they're more reliable, and we've seen that e-journals are preferred as long as they're reliable, we can start canceling print versions to save money. It's not much, only about 25%, since subscription models force us into keeping both subscriptions, but it's a start. Full electronic access will still be preserved. If things get worse, we may have to fully cancel a subscription.

Ultimately, we're looking for ways to do this without damaging research capabilities – if you have concerns, please work with your subject librarians (see web page for who's who).

The good news: the building addition that we've been asking for 13 years is very, very close in UC bureaucratic terms – meaning 2 years until we get the money, and construction should begin in 2007. We're starting with plans, including more & better graduate carols in the new building. But even with a new building, it's still going to fill up right away with growth in materials, so we'll still need to annex stuff. We're looking at architects that specialize in university libraries, to take these issues into concern.

George Fujii motions to extend time 5 minutes, Mark seconds. Motion approved through unanimous consent.

George Fujii: how do you see the cuts affecting acquisitions?

Sarah: most books are one-time charges, so we can slow down & get them later. Not so with periodicals, and prices go up much faster than book prices, esp. in science fields. If cuts get bad in 2004-05, we may have to look at periodicals.

V. Information Items (Vox Populi!)

Matt Andrews: Check out the announcement boards! They're nice and organized.

Melanie Williams: Student-initiated outreach programs can give money to help bring under-represented groups to campus to become students – it's about $30k, for any organization. We don't really use it as grad students, so it may go away. It's UC-wide. As an example, undergrads set up conferences so that under-representedd students can get a feel for the campus. For information, contact Richard Jenkins (chair), or me at me_willi@lifesci.ucsb.edu

A. Future invited speakers: if you have suggestions, voice them.

- Safety committee
- Parking
- Development office
- CCS

B. Officer elections – as written

C. Disabled student survey – we're working on the questionnaire, we need your input

D. APCC request for input: check the web site

E. Lot 21 coin time limit is now 2 hours, so use it if you need it

F. Initiative funding oversight: Shoreline preservation was voted $150 per year -- they're basically within bounds, as 98% of their activites are within 3 miles of campus. Our main concern is to make sure all receiving orgs are spending money the way we voted them to.

G. A&L petition: we need input. When they're no longer in dire straits, do we want more performances or student positions?

Mark moves to put this in discussion items, Jonathan seconds.

Daniel M: I don't understand why the internships are in here? We're addressing a budget crunch. Certainly grads get a lot out of A&L. Agreed that we make it a shorter period, 2 years renewable – but no need to discuss what happens when budget crisis is over.

Judy Fetcho: Agreed, if they still need cash after 2 years, they can come back and say it's still needed.

Jonathan: if the ballot shows 2 years renewable, then it's important that the language must be clear that in 2 years, when 50% of us have moved on, why we voted for this in the first place so new folks will understand the original reasoning.

Straw poll: a, 2-year renewable (22); b, 4 years staffing proposal after budget crisis is over (1); c, 4 years, increased funding=savings on tickets (5).

This information lets us work on the working with A&L. Thanks!

H. Funding (Jonathan Pearl)

Jonathan: I've spend a lot of time as a fundraiser. Relying on single source is problematic, so looking to outside donors is essential. What has never happened is fundraising for grad students.

Proposing a 2-fold action: one, take proactive stance to support efforts to raise funds for grad education – collaborate with grad div as much as possible, and in return we'd expect some say as to how the funds are spent. Right now, when someone gives to UCSB, funds can't be earmarked for grad fellowships (of for anything, for that matter). Two, establish a UCSB grad & alumni newsletter, probably online (=inexpensive), and let grad students & recent alumni share interests & possibilities for interaction.

John Hajda: we've contacted every department on campus and asked for information on grad students – this is going to take months to get a base of contacts. Right now, we're trying to get grad alumni to reconnect with UCSB as a whole, not just their departments. So we're looking at events to welcome alumni

back to UCSB campus, get them involved, part of the UCSB family again. Down the road, we'll start asking for money, but that's after this has been established.

Jonathan: I'd like to have discussion, perhaps move to a vote next meeting, maybe form a committee. Volunteers? Send me email!

VI. Discussion Items (none)

VII. Action Items

John G. motions to move up funding requests before other action items, Kathy seconds. Motion approved through unanimous consent.

A. Funding requests

1. Students of Color Conference: Yumi and Gloria.

   For last 4 years, SCORE has hosted 1-day conference, "Facing Race", specifically to address how people of color are affected by recent terrorist events. This year, we're going to host SCORE here at UCSB, this being the 13th conference. Theme: "The War on Education and the Militarization of our Community." See poster in "Special Notices" section of bulletin board for complete information. Specifically, we're dealing with immigration rights, hate crimes, recruitment of people of color to attend universities. Number of campus organizations will be doing workshops, and we're bringing in outside organizations to present and participate as well.

   John G. motions to fund $300, Jess seconds. Motion approved through unanimous consent.

2. Raagmala: request for funding for Indian classical vocal music. We've promoted Indian music in UCSB & community for 15 years. Event will be March 2 at MCC – please come! And one of the performers is a grad student at UCSB!

   Jonathan moves to fund $350 according to request.

   Alan: $300 max funding is in the bylaws.

   Jonathan moves to fund $300, Daniel M. seconds. Motion approved through unanimous consent.

B. Constitution Changes

Edward: It's been on the agenda for a while. (recap of language from December agenda). It basically cleans up a language problem we found in our constitution.

Alan Levy: we need 2/3 of the entire assembly, and we don't have it.

Edward: we'll do this via email vote.

C. Bylaws changes

Stu moves to table (1), regarding fees. Jonathan seconds. Motion approved through unanimous consent.

Alan: remove the "s" on "expenditures", to clarify the $300 is per-expense. Also, clarify that it's 50 cents per GSA quarter.

Alan reads off GSHIP changes.

Stu moves to approve GSHIP changes, Judy seconds. Motion approved through unanimous consent.

VIII. Officer reports:

A. President

B. VP Internal Affairs: Wine-tasting on Feb 20th, 7-10 – Santa Barbara winery – get your money here ($10) by Thursday the 13th. Bring your own glass. If you're going dry, it's only $2 to eat the food.

C. VP Academic Affairs: I'll most likely be moving to Denver in the spring. I'll still be available for certain things, but can't serve for the entire spring quarter. If you know someone who's interested, let the execs know.

Also, we're nearing the end of the search for vice-chancellor of research.

Right now, committees are covered, but there's always a need for members to serve. Remember, all committee positions are paid, as long as you attend.

D. VP Graduate Student Affairs: I need someone to replace a flake on the GSHIP committee.

Jess moves to allow replacement on GSHIP committed, Stu seconds. Motion approved through unanimous consent.

E. VP Budget and Finance: probably have some budget changes next month. If you have questions, let me know.

F. VP Communications and Records

G. VP External Affairs: Daily Nexus slammed the UCSA regarding CRENO. Heads up on this – if you're interested or concerned, talk to me. Also, proposing another fee increase; the UCSA is organizing protests & speakers & such, so talk to me if you're interested.

Budget was out of balance, now it's fixed.

SOCC – check out the poster

If you're interested in issues of no fee increase and such, we're doing lobby days – Edward & I are going April 6 and 7, and we'd like to take grad students with us.

You still have a week, if you're interested in being student regent – see me for application forms.

H. Committee Reports

Daniel Mandell: ad is now written for hiring new dean of education. We've gotten some applications already. If anyone is interested, talk to me.

IX. Adjournment: **Jonathan moves to adjourn. Judy seconds.** Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm.