

## GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION

### MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 2007 ASSEMBLY MEETING

Wednesday, August 22, 2007, 5:30 pm, Queen Liliuokalani Complex 412

**Officers** – Marc Le Pape (President), Ryan Ellis (Vice President), Norman Wang (Treasurer), Andrew Wong (Secretary)

**Executive Council** – Ravi Vatrappu (Academic), Toni Chalaire (Housing), Josh Wingstrom (Lobbying), Orou Gaoue (Grants and Awards)

**Assembly Representatives** – Jason Schnack (Anatomy Physiology & Biochemistry), Yuka Hasegawa (Anthropology), Jonathan Baker (Anthropology), Jeff Rich (Astronomy), Angela Kaaihue (Bio-Engineering), Joanne Birch (Botany), Michael Merz (Business), Chrystie Naeole (Cell Molecular Biology), Krystian Paczkowski (Civil Engineering), William Albritton (Communication & Information Sciences), Jesse Eiben (Entomology), Keith Bettinger (Geography), Nicole Milne (Geography), Jerome Klena (History), Scott Bailey (History), Margaret Pulver (Human, Nutrition, Food & Animal Sciences), Nicole Sullivan (Human, Nutrition, Food, & Animal Sciences), Mary Louise Haraguchi (Library & Information Sciences), Frans Albarillo (Linguistics), Carl Polley (Linguistics), Abel Siu Ho (Mechanical Engineering), Aaron Levine (Meteorology), Madonna Castro-Perez (Pacific Island Studies), Kurtis Nishimura (Physics), Susan Lin (Psychology), James Kelley (Tropical Medicine), Sody Mvusaka (Tropical Medicine), Tom Josephson (Urban & Regional Planning), Derek Skillings (Zoology)

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm.

1. Approval of previous minutes

President Marc Le Pape moved to approve the minutes of the June meeting. William Albritton (CIS) seconded. No dissension.

2. Approval of 2007-2008 budget

Treasurer Norman Wang mentioned that an email vote was conducted for the budget, and there were 15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain votes. However, President Le Pape mentioned there is no clause in Roberts Rules of Order regarding email votes, so:

Treasurer Wang moved for the Assembly to approve the 2007-2007 GSO budget. Representative Margaret Pulver (Human, Nutrition, Food and Animal Sciences) seconded. No dissension.

Representative Joanne Birch (Botany) moved that the budget be presented to the graduate assembly at the meeting in April, one month prior to the May assembly meeting at which the budget is to be ratified to allow for adequate discussion of

the budget by the assembly. Representative Jason Schnack (Anatomy, Physiology, and Biochemistry) seconded.  
No discussion. No dissension.

### 3. Performance Review (GSO leaving CAPS)

President Le Pape mentioned that Dr. Peter Garrod, Graduate Dean would be willing to be advisor of GSO, and that it was confirmed via email. He also stated Dr. Garrod is good at solving difficult issues. He also stated that fiscal would be moved to the Vice Chancellor of Research. He believes this is in the best interest of graduate students.

The motion at the EC meeting was mentioned: President Le Pape moved to inform the GSO assembly that the executive council is considering moving both the GSO advisor and the GSO fiscal administration from CAPS to graduate division and the Vice-Chancellor for Research and Graduate Education, respectively.

President Le Pape moved to formally ask Peter Garrod to be the new GSO advisor. Representative Pulver (Human, Nutrition, Food and Animal Sciences) seconded.

President Le Pape mentioned that this process would need to be done in steps – first, the advisor would be changed; then, issues regarding the office, fiscal officer, and other issues would need to be looked into. He also stated that another underlying problem is CAPS answers to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, who is inefficient at addressing student needs.

Representative Birch (Botany) expressed concerns about the financial implications of this move; G&A Chair Gaoue mentioned there may be a possible one-time grant delay after the move happens.

Representative Frans Albarillo questioned what the current advisor's feelings are about this issue.

The motion received no dissension.

### 4. EC Committee Reports

#### a. Lobbying

Lobbying chair Josh Wingstrom presented the motion made at the EC meeting regarding splitting the assembly meeting into two parts: first half set aside for regular business, second half for committee groups.

Josh moved that we (the GSO) change our meeting format to be 50% GSO

business and 50% graduate student issues. This will be accomplished by having executive council members form committees based on goals for the committee. These goals will be determined by the committee chair. Then, the second half of the assembly meeting will be spent in committees deciding what will be done over the next month to accomplish the committee goals. This will likely include scheduling a meeting exclusively for the committee. Representative Yuka Hasegawa (Anthropology) seconded.

Representative James Kelley (Tropical Medicine) suggested a separate meeting for committee reports rather than holding committee meetings in the assembly meeting; G&A chair Orou Gaoue mentioned this probably wouldn't be the committee meeting, but rather an explanation of what the committee did, what they have to do, and what they have to discuss.

Representative Hasegawa (Anthropology) suggested that it may expedite the meeting – if the assembly knows what is going on, the meeting could go quicker.

Vice President Ryan Ellis stated that it's a good idea to have each assembly member know one issue well rather than many issues poorly.

The motion received no dissension.

## 5. Executive Council Appointments

President Le Pape moved to re-appoint Orou Gaoue as Grants and Awards chair, Ravi Vatrappu as Academic Chair, Joshua Wingstrom as Lobbying Chair, Toni Chalaire as Housing Committee Chair, and Josh Wingstrom and Marc Le Pape to caucus. Representative Jesse Eiben (Entomology) seconded. No discussion. No dissension.

## 6. New Business

### a. Athletic Advisory Board

President Le Pape moved to reappoint Vice President Ryan Ellis to the Athletic Advisory Board. Representative Juanita Matthews (MBBE) seconded. No discussion. No dissension.

### b. Problems between Faculty and GAs

President Le Pape urgently urges people whom experience abuse (verbal or physical) as a graduate assistant to contact him.

c. GA Pay Raise

Representative Hasegawa (Anthropology) asked about the status of the pay raise; President Le Pape mentioned that the raise was for 2 steps on the pay scale, and it would hopefully be implemented by the end of next semester. (check) He also hopes to eliminate the bottom 2 steps of the GA pay scale.

d. Assembly Discussion List

Treasurer Wang moved to create a discussion list. Representative Matthews (MBBE) seconded. No dissension.

7. Open Forum

Representative Keith Bettinger (Geography) read a statement about the immaturity of the GSO executive council for the previous school year, and how he would like the EC to be more unified and act in a more presentable way to the assembly.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Wong  
GSO Secretary, 2007-2008