ASSEMBLY Minutes

UCSB GSA ASSEMBLY
Tuesday, April 6, 2009
6-7:30 p.m. GSA Lounge

Open Meeting *(Action) Called to order by Diana. 6:06*
Approval of Agenda: moved and seconded
Approval of Minutes (March 3, 2009) Moved and seconded

Announcements from Graduate Division
Gale Morrison, PhD, Dean of Graduate Division
Assistant Dean, **Christian Villasenor**: GSAW is coming up. Info has been sent to each department so they can also develop activities per department.

In the SRB: We have the new Grad Student Resource Center.

In the spring, there will be a year end event for first year grad students. It is planned to allow students to provide feedback on how the first year went.

Graddiv is still looking for feedback to

Announcements from GSA Advisor
Carolyn Buford, PhD, Associate Dean of Students, Office of Student Life, Activities & Leadership

Very excited about the Graduate Student Resource Center. It is available for students to come in and spend time in there.

1st Gen college student panel tomorrow from 6-8. Strategies for succeeding as a first gen student. 2nd one on Wed 4/15/2009 in GSA Lounge.

Do to technical difficulties; one of the candidates did not submit the application information in time to get it on the ballot. Candidates may run as a write in candidate. However, If we can get it on the ballot before the final ballot is printed, we will, otherwise any candidates must be written in.

Stephen moved to amend the agenda to do GSHIP next and it was properly seconded.

Vox Populi
Statements, announcements, inquires from Assembly floor

Executive Officer Reports

VPBF
There was a motion to allow PhD candidates (ABD) to apply for travel grants. The

grants would be allowed contingent on whether or not there were any funds leftover at the end of the year only for this year. Pre-candidacy applicants get first priority.
The motion passed.

VPAA

Every year the Graduate Students Association recognizes outstanding Teaching Assistants in each of the three major academic divisions (Humanities & Fine Arts, Social Sciences & Education, and Mathematics, Natural Sciences & Engineering), as well as one outstanding Teaching Associate campus-wide. Stipends of $1,000 are given to each of the four award recipients.

VPGSA,

GSHIP voting

VPEA

Regents wants to increase fees and there is a meeting in May

GSA Co-Sponsorships *(Action)*

NONE

Elections: candidates present introduced themselves.

VPInternal: Diana T. Dyste Anzures
VPExternal: Filiberto Nolasco
VPGSA: Amy Woznick
VPAA: Indy Hurt
VPAA: Andrew Carter
All Candidate information may be found at
http://www.gsa.ucsb.edu/elections09.html

GSA Committee Representatives

Graduate Student Health Insurance Plan (GSHIP)
Ellie Shermer (Graduate Student Representative), Stephen Gosnell (VPSA)
Elizabeth Downing, M.D., Student Health Services Director

UCOP statewide plan: there is discussion about moving towards a statewide plan. There is indication that there may be significant cost savings by doing this.

Voting on the new GSHIP Plan

Many students do not have to pay the premium because of fellowships etc

Medical inflation has been anywhere from 15-30 %. Graddiv cannot absorb the extra costs.

Present at meeting: Ken Nelson: broker, Dr Downing:

Access fee typically embedded in SHIP. But due to cuts, it is an extra $30 fee per visit.

OPTIONS for items recommended and voting results for GSHIP menu items.

Option 1) Passes

Increased accutane medication benefit from 75% coverage to the same as other payable medications, +$0.25. (Currently, students must pay 25% of the 5-month treatment for accutane. A month's supply runs more than $200. With this change, students will be able to use the bulk billing plan).

2) A: PASSES

Removed pre-existing condition limitations on mental health, +$1.00. Now, students who begin GSHIP without insurance but with a pre-existed mental illness will not have to wait 6 months before receiving treatment).

B: Passes

Removed deductible for mental health conditions, +$2.00. Now, students will not have to pay the deductible when seeing metal health providers off campus. They will, however, still need to meet the $300 deductible before insurance will begin covering them for treatment for non-mental health conditions.

3) No motion. (On lowering the deductible from $300 to $250)

4) Passes (Removed deductible for immunizations provided by the Student Health Services, +$1.00)

5) no motion (Add a benefit for Sexually Transmitted Infections with a plan year maximum of $100, deductible applied).

6) no motion (Include Vulvadynia as eligible for physical therapy benefits).

7) Passes. Add 5 physical therapy benefits for non post-surgical visits outside Student Health Services, $3.50. Currently, students had no benefits for physical therapy benefits for non-surgical recovery outside Student Health. Now, students have 5 visits.

8) B: Passes. Provide access to plan for graduating students for two quarters per lifetime. This change allows graduating students or students who lapse students the ability to buy their health insurance for an additional two quarters. It is voluntary. Students, who elect to buy, will themselves pay an additional $75 on top of the premium.

9) Passes. Added coverage for flu shots, pneumoccal immunization, and hepatitis B immunization to those vaccinations covered/offered at student health. +$0.50

10) Recommended No. Increased prescription plan year maximum from $8,000 to $10,000.

11) included, no cost. Include cost of the scooter or rental or purchase, whichever is lesser.

12) C2 Passes. Increased ambulance per condition maximum from $2,000 to $2,000 for ground and $20,000 for ambulance.

13) Passes → **reversed to no pass**. Decrease the prescription co-pay from $25 (30 day), $40 (60 day), $50 (90 days) to $20, $35, and $45 respectively.

14) no motion, Incorporate an allergy testing benefit with a plan year maximum of $250, $500, $1,000.

15) no motion. Student Health Services Panel Testing with a plan year maximum of $100, or $100 (deductible applies), $250, $250 (deductible applies).

16) a: passes. Pap Smear benefit for one per plan year at SHS, deductible does not apply (so a student does not have to meet their deductible before this test is fully covered), +$1.50

17) Passes: no impact on student rate. Will be charged to the individual. Provide entering graduate students, who begin in the summer in order to train for intercollegiate sports, the option to buy coverage for the summer at a pro-rated amount. These students will have the option, with no impact on the cost of the plan for the rest of the grad student population, to buy the coverage at $391.00.

18) Passes, No cost. Change network to a national network.

19) Passes. Provide 2010-2011 rate cap of 7%. This option means: We have agreed to have Nationwide underwrite the next plan year but they promise not to increase the cost of the plan as-is (with no changes) by more than 7%.

Motion to reconsider 13 passes. Dr Downing discussed benefits. New vote reversed the benefit therefore Option 13 did not pass.

Happy Hour: Friday, May 1 TBD
Next Assembly meeting: Tuesday, May 5th
Graduate Student Appreciation Week: Monday April 20th – Friday April 24th
Events will include a Kick-off Reception, Luncheons, Happy Hours, An Evening of Fun, a Graduate Student Picnic at the Beach…and much more.
Alumni Association Gaucho Days: Monday April 20th – Friday April 24th
Ice Cream Socials, Game Nights, Movie Nights, Career Planning, and much more

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