GSAC Minutes
March 1, 2010

Presiding: Kurt Sollanek, GSAC Chairperson

Present:
Kurt Sollanek, Exercise Science; Brian Mason, Business Administration; Mark Fisher, Computer Science; Emily Bowers, Mathematics; Kaitlyn Fenner, Social Work; Simbi Ebenuwah, Public Health; Ebony McClease, Women’s Studies; Dr. Sandra Holley, Dean of Graduate Studies; Mrs. Arlene Lucibello, GSAC Coordinator; Dr. Wendy Chang, Information Technology; Dr. Lara Smetana, New Haven Science Fair

Meeting called to order by Kurt Sollanek at 3:12 pm.

Roll Call confirmed those present

Old Business:

Approval of February minutes:

No questions were raised regarding the minutes from the last meeting, nor were there any corrections made. A motion was made by Mark Fisher and seconded by Emily Bowers to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports:

Web Committee:

Mark Fisher reported that there were no changes since last month. The color scheme does not match the rest of the Graduate School website. Dean Holley reported that Public Affairs staff is considering on changing the University website’s format in the near future and that it may be better to proceed with the current color scheme in order to get the GSAC website online.

Dining Service Committee:

Mark Fisher reported that there was a meeting last month where it was reported that the undergraduate students thought that the food has became better. There is a website as well as televisions located in student center and Connecticut Hall which provide the nutritional facts that are in
the food served. A question was raised concerning the availability of there being enough food by the 5:00 rush hour in Davis and Engleman hall. The next meeting will be Friday March 12, 2009.

**University Information Technology Committee:**

Kurt reported that an environmental scan which consists of three different surveys on how students use technology will be sent out by email.

**Research and Scholarship Committee:**

No new information to report. Kurt indicated that scheduling a meeting of the full committee had not been successful. He asked members to remain after the meeting to establish a date for the committee to meet.

**University Strategic Plan Review Committee (USPaRC):**

Kurt Sollanek reported that they met last Friday and the main concern is the financial crisis, and budget issues.

**Haiti Relief Effort on Campus:**

Ebony reported that the committee meets every Thursday at 7:00pm. The committee consists of students and faculty. Future events have been planned in order to raise the necessary money and items that will be donated to Haiti.

**Budget Report:**

Mrs. Lucibello reported that the paper weights for the Graduate commencement came to a total of $5065.48. Graduates will receive the paper weight commencement memorabilia when they collect their commencement tickets.

**Graduate Dean’s Report:**

Dean Holley reported that the Chancellor of the Connecticut State University System regularly visits prisons in Connecticut to give motivational speeches to the inmates and to distribute books. She asked GSAC if they would like to ask our peers to collect books for this cause.

**New Business:**

**Information Technology:**

Dr. Wendy Chang, Chief Information Officer, reported that the University will start charging 5 cents for printing black/white pages starting June 1st. On average each student prints 250 pages per semester. The students’ email system will be switching over to the new “Owl Mail” powered by Microsoft Live. The new email system features include 10 gigabytes of storage for emails compared to the current 100
megabytes that is being used now. Twenty-five gigabytes of online storage for anything the student wishes to store, a calendar, and the opportunity to store homework online using Office Live which includes Microsoft Word, Excel and Power Point.

New Haven Science Fair (NHSF):

Dr. Lara Smetana reported on Outreach opportunities in the New Haven school system. The New Haven science fair held on May 11th is a year-long event consisting of students from kindergarten to the 12th grade. Judges are needed for this event. Training for judges is on March 15th from 5-7pm at SCSU, room to be announced. There also is a Family Day of Service catered to young girls 4-6th Grade. College students are asked to help with facilitating some of the activities.

Spring 2010 Goals:

1. Career Services/GSAC workshop will be held on April 8th, 6-7:30pm
2. “How to get into graduate school” workshop will be held on March 3rd, 1-2pm Engleman A115
3. Successfully advertise for Graduate Research Fellowship symposium will be held on May 6th, 2-4:30pm Engleman A120

Other

GSAC Luncheon will be held on May 10th, 12:30 at the Play Wright restaurant in Hamden. GSAC members were encouraged to attend the final GSAC event of the academic year.

Meeting Adjourned by Kurt Sollanek at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Mason, GSAC Vice Chairperson