

- I. Call to Order @ 8:08 A.M.
- II. Roll Call: Absent: Applied Engineering, Sustainability, & Technology, Art, Business Administration, Digital Sciences, Geology, History, Mathematics
- III. Approval of minutes from November 8, 2019
 - A. Motion: FLA; Second by MCLS
 1. No opposed or absentions
- IV. Rod Flauhaus (rflauha1@kent.edu) - May 4th Commemoration
 - A. Back in 1984 or 1985, the graduate student government was the first organization to support the creation of a memorial for May 4th. The Graduate Student Senate was the first organization to pass a resolution that led to the memorial. There is a long history of May 4th with GSS. The observance of the 50th anniversary of May 4th has been divided into two things: a year-long observance. President Diacon, as provost,
 - B. We've divided it into two things - yearlong observance
 - C. When diacon was provost, he asked all of the depts to focus on something related to May 4. A lot of interesting things coming up next semester up through the end of April.
 - D. A lot of panel discussions about activism. The memorial process. History of the task force. A lot of cool initiatives we're going to announce at the beginning of the next semester.
 - E. Finals are cancelled on Monday May 4.
 - F. We've had a lot of support from the family members and the public. It's going to be a meaningful experience. Expect to see a ton of media.
 - G. The big thing for us: We want you to be involved. In January, we're going to be announcing volunteer opportunities. We will be putting out an announcement. We're also looking for you to give us information on how you want to be involved in some capacity. We really are open for some ideas at this point. This is in the history of every student here. A lot of people don't know some of the outcomes of May 4th. In 1970, you had to be 21 to vote. A student strike a few days later, students walked out of colleges. Lowering the voting age to 18. There's a lot of history here dealing with May 4th and Kent State. We're also going to be observing the 50th anniversary of Black History Month. First ones in the nation to observe it. There was a good alliance between.
 - H. We have a website for the 50th commemoration.
- V. Executive Board Reports
 - A. **Executive Chair** – Anna Solberg – asolberg@kent.edu
 1. Senator Contracts
 - The senator will need to have this form signed and returned to us. Even though we set in effect the stipulation that if you miss more than one meeting, you will not receive funding. Because we did not send out a notification. This is going to be going into effect in January. If you miss more than one meeting, you will be missing out on funding for your academic unit. So, if you could get that signed and into us, that would be fantastic. Let's have that in by the first senate meeting at the latest.
 - Psychological Sciences: Can we send an electronic

copy?

- Anna: Yes, Grace remind me about this.

2. College of Podiatric Medicine

- This college is based in Independence, Ohio. They currently do not have representation in GSS. They have not been involved in GSS at all. A few of the graduate students did not know what GSS was, so we're trying to fix that. We're getting them representation and going through the information on how to get involved. If you do know of someone on campus without representation, please have them contact us.

3. Research On Tap

- Anna has been thinking about ways in which we can expand what we do across the university. We talked a little bit about Grad Fest and the symposium. One of her ideas is a "Research On Tap" idea where we bridge the gap between the city and the university. To show the research that we are doing. Show that to the community as a whole. With this, I've started to work on making some contacts, where we have a time when grad students can present their research in a user-friendly way. To make it more fun and lively for people who don't know about what you're doing. I would like to ask if anyone would be interested in presenting their work at a community event like that: please let Anna know.
 - Biological Sciences: Formal or informal?
 - Anna: Where I'm from, they do this
 - There it's one person talking for 45 minutes. I was thinking we could divide that up into 3 presentations, maybe?

B. Executive Vice Chair – Victoria Reynolds – vreynol1@kent.edu

1. International Travel Award - Spring/Summer

- The upcoming round of the ITA will cover travel between May 14, 2020 and January 19, 2021. The due date for this is March 6, 2020. Please keep your constituents aware of the due date and travel dates.

2. Committee Representations

- Kent State of Wellness
 - Melissa Celko (mcelko1@kent.edu) reached out to Victoria to invite a Senator from GSS to participate as a member of the cross-functional team for the university level initiative- Kent State of Wellness. This initiative is focused on the health and well-being of members of our community.
 - The time commitment would be 2 hours every other month
- Mental Health subcommittee within GSS
 - It was brought to my attention that there was a mental health subcommittee within GSS previously and over time it sounds like it fizzled out. But A graduate

student within Psych, Jordan Weith, would like to bring it back to life. In the past, the committee compiled a list of mental health resources around campus that were added to the GSO resources provided to new graduate students. Jordan's goal moving forward to this committee is to start small and simple and to increase awareness and bring people together to improve overall health and wellness, especially mental health, an area that is so often neglected. If you are still looking to get some committee representation, then look no further, this is an important committee that needs some attention. You can email Jordan at jweith@kent.edu.

3. Committee Reports

- University Teaching Council
 - They discussed the success of the University Teaching Conference in October. They had over 275 attendees and received favorable reviews from the presenters and attendees. The next campus conference on teaching is the E Change conference in February 2020.
- Transportation Advisory Committee
 - The University is happy with the introduction of Veoride's ride-share bikes. If anyone finds one not properly parked, they should contact Veoride directly.
 - The parking deck is still working through approval, but will be located between Williamson House, Nixon Hall, and the Center for Performing Arts. There will be more information about this in the spring.
 - Parking services is also moving to a pay-by-phone parking system for meter spots. This is going to begin steadily phasing in the Spring.
 - If anyone has any concerns about parking, or transportation around campus, please refer them to Tierra James at tjames16@kent.edu.

C. Finance Chair – Xin Hong – xhong1@kent.edu

1. Spring Domestic Travel Award

- The application will be available on Monday December 30, 2019, and closed on Monday January 20, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. For travel between January 13 and May 14, 2020. Travel destinations are within continental United States and Canadian Provinces adjacent to the continental US.
- Budget: flat rate \$450 per award, up to 195 recipients.
- The required application documents: Presentation proof and class schedule. Conference registration cannot be presentation proof.
 - You must submit an electronic proof that you have been accepted or have applied to PRESENT at a

professional conference related to your academic program. This can include a professional letter from your conference stating you were accepted to present your research or a signed letter from a faculty member stating that you have submitted your abstract to the conference.

- The class schedule must be an official document. The class schedule must be in PDF format downloaded from your Flashline student account. If you are not able to register class credits by the application deadline, a signed letter from your academic advisor in support of your registration upon receiving the award can be the substitute.
- International students, who are not green card holders, are required by the Tax Office to fill out the tax form by the DTA application deadline (January 29, 2020) to determine the tax filing status. International students will receive a link for filing the tax form once they submit the Domestic Travel Award application. Failure to complete the form by the DTA application deadline will result in tax withholding of 30%.
 - International students, who are green card holders, do not need to file the tax form. You need to upload a copy of their green card to the application window.
- For more information about DTA application, please refer to application guidelines on GSS website. Please email Xin for questions/concerns.
- Administrative Chair: I have a comment. When you're uploading your course schedule, whether it's a letter from your professor or your actual schedule. A form that says, "a student is able to register" doesn't show that you are actually enrolled. We actually need the course schedule or a letter from your professor.
- Theater & Dance: I know I talked a bit about how DTA can affect financial aid. I don't know if that's a fluke thing that happened or if that's always the case.
 - Administrative Chair: That is the first time it has happened in the past couple of years that I've been doing this. I don't know why it happened. I've taken out the full financial aid, so I don't know why it didn't affect me and why it affected other students. I don't know if it's a law that changed. I tried to go over to One Stop but they were busy. I do plan on going over to One Stop to see if they can give us more information. I always tell people to contact One Stop directly.

D. Advocacy Chair – A.J. Giorgi – agjorgi2@kent.edu

1. Final-Year Fellowship

- Earlier in the semester, I spoke of a final-year fellowship that I

would like to draft up and institute. Over this break, I am planning to begin the writing process for that. I would like to form a special committee to help me in that process. I have acquired some literature from different departments. I would like to form a committee to start working on the language, so that we can work on getting that out to you all and voted upon. Please contact me, and we can schedule something over break to sit down and discuss.

2. Habitat for Humanity
 - This is slowly coming together. He will have more information in the new year in regard to a special build.
3. If you are interested in other philanthropy, especially something that is local, please let A.J. know.
4. TLC: Are we going to D.C. on behalf of NAGPS?
 - No not through NAGPS.
5. MCLS: What is the final year fellowship?
 - A.J.: It's going to be an award where when you're within your final year and you've run out of assistantship or fellowship money, it would provide you with funds. It would allow you to finish your degree without having to take on work outside of finishing your thesis, project, or dissertation.

E. Research Symposium Chair – Srijana Bhandari – sbhand3@kent.edu

1. Symposium Registration
 - A couple of updates: The contract has been signed.
 - Dr. Anderson will be delivering his speech on the second day of the symposium after lunch.
 - Symposium will open Jan. 2 and close Jan. 31.
 - We have a specialized oral session.
 - Four *possible* interdisciplinary panels are listed below. If you have thoughts or ideas, please let Srijana know.
 - Bioinformatics
 - Biological Sciences, Biomedical Sciences, Digital Science, Computer Science, Visual Communication Design
 - Medical humanities
 - English, Psychological Science, Geography, Biological Sciences, Biomedical Sciences, Public Health
 - Digital humanities
 - Communication and Information, Modern and Classical Language Studies, Public Health, Computer Science, English, etc.
 - Material studies
 - Arts, Philosophy, Physics, Liquid Crystal Institute, Chemistry &

Biochemistry

2. Symposium Committee

- Please contact Srijana if you're interested in volunteering. She really needs volunteers.

F. Info Services Chair – Grace Murray – gss.info@gmail.com

1. Make sure you are on the listserv and website if you are a senator. If you cannot be a senator in the spring, please make sure you find a replacement, so your academic unit doesn't lose representation.
 - Make sure you are sending **any and all** of the information to your constituents.
 - Representation at the meetings is critical.
2. If you have published/presented recently, let us know. We'd like to spotlight you on social media.
3. Like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on Twitter ([@KSUGSS](#))

V. Old Business

A. Bylaws & Charter

1. Anna: We had some discussion last meeting. We are going to call that good on discussion, and we are going to be voting on the Charter today. We have to get it into Dr. Lamar Hylton today. We need the updates done today so we can get it sent to the Board of Trustees. If we don't get it into their meeting next week, it will have to wait until May. So, instead of going through a bunch of extra discussion, we are going to quickly go through and vote on what we discussed.
 - Anna: Calling the process of becoming a senator be elected or selected. Discussion of this included that "elected" would be more official for your CV. "Selected" gives more leniency.
Unofficial vote:
 - Elected: 3
 - Selected: Majority.
 - Anna: We will be calling it "selected." Your own academic unit can call it elected.
 - Anna: Discussion of alternate senator or changing it to second senator:
 - Psychological Sciences: What if we simply removed "and alternate" so the charter/bylaws just said senators?
 - Unofficial vote:
 - Alternate: Majority
 - Two senators: 3
 - Anna: We will keep the "alternate" wording.
 - Anna: The Administrative Chair brought up the idea of adding the word equity to C.1.E.
 - Unofficial vote:
 - In Favor: 9
 - Opposed: Majority
 - Anna: We will not add equity.
 - Anna: Changing the name of Symposium Chair to

Programming Chair to create the option for some other programs rolling for GSS. It's not just the symposium. Symposium would still be under the description. It would just also include more programs, so we can add more things into that role so we can expand what we do at the university.

- Unofficial vote:
 - In Favor changing to programming: Majority
 - Opposed: None.
- Anna: We are proposing changing the administrative assistant back to an hourly position, so we're not flipping back and forth. This would not affect Jenn this year. (8E)
 - Unofficial vote:
 - In Favor: 13
 - Opposed: 7
 - Biomedical sciences: How do you determine the hourly wage?
 - Administrative Assistant: Before it was \$13.00. The previous GSS president approached me and offered to make it a GA. I had nothing to do with it. He said, if it wasn't a GA, it would be \$15 per hour, so if it goes back to an hourly position, that is the wage I would request for this role.
 - Anna: We can look at official records to determine this.
- Anna: I will send this to Dr. Hylton today to get it approved.

B. Bylaws:

1. Anna: The bylaws are a lot thicker to get through than the charter. The subcommittee looking at the bylaws, they have constructed a handout for you that has been emailed to you. We will send it out again. This is looking at just the award section of the bylaws and how we will potentially be changing those in order to make it a more straightforward process. What we need you guys to do over break is to look at the handout over break. Really look at it so we can thoroughly approve the awards from the bylaws. We need to come back and have a real discussion about it in January. That way we can look at what's already there. That is your job for over break. It is a fun job that needs to be done. We're not going to look at the bylaws today because I did not anticipate that we would be running this early.

VI. New Business

- A. Anna: The board and I would like to call a special meeting for Friday, January 31st from 8 to 10 a.m. to look at the bylaws. We are only going to be looking at the bylaws for more discussion. This will allow us to have more time for actual discussion rather than jump from one thing to another. If you cannot make it, make sure your alternate is there.
- B. Biological Sciences: If you'd like me to walk everyone through because we have some time, I can. I'll give you an overview of what the committee has done before we vote on sending the charter out. What we did was streamline most of

the awards. Most of it was clarifying the language.

1. The first thing we did was we pulled out any general award guidelines that were true to all awards and made them their own section. Section 8A is the general awards section now. This is essentially make it easier to get into the specifics of the award and streamline the way it is read. It's more about understandability rather than actually changing anything.
2. Section 8B, which is now the DTA, we suggest establishing predictable award deadlines. This way there's no guesswork and your graduate coordinators will actually know what's going on. We clarified the eligibility rules and lottery system associated with the award. We also changed the wording to a presentation to the standard of your field because I assume you don't all do what I do at a conference. We organized the section for clarity and consistency.
3. Section 8C- ITA - We standardized the date and time. For the ITA, it seems as though the application deadlines are confusing. This was also causing issues with the SCA. What we proposed doing is changing the reimbursement time. The idea would be that it is still offered 2 times a year, so as long as you gave us a date you were traveling, it would be easier to be reimbursed.
4. Section 8D - RA - We proposed standardizing the date and time. We also made it clear that you only need IRB and/or ICOOK approval if your field requires it. We also made the definition of research more vague to apply to more of the arts-like programs here on campus.
5. Section 8E - SCA - SCA is the one we spent the most time trying to make it better. I think it's a really important award. I think everyone has hit a point where something terrible happens and you need help getting yourself out of that situation. You should be able to get funding if you need it. We established a new guideline that says we want the budget to be reviewed so you know how much we have at the beginning of the award. You'll know how much is available at least. Award funds would be dispersed on a rolling basis until they're depleted. The idea is that It's as needed. We proposed a similar reimbursement timeline. We added an IRB and ICOOK requirement. We included a provision to deny the applicant. If it's not up to the committees standards to get the award, they should tell you that they didn't get the award.
6. Section 8F - the academic departments and organization funding - There was some stuff in there that we don't ever enforce, so we changed those things to reflect what actually happens. We reorganized the section for clarity.
7. That is what we've done. It took us like 6-8 months to do that much work. I'll open the floor for questions regarding the way the awards have been proposed:
8. Question: For the ITA, you apply in spring and then you have a year to use that funding?
 - Biological Sciences: Not exactly. You still have to give us dates that you're traveling. It's just that because it's hard to determine when an international travel is going to be, we're often given really short notice. You would have a year to be reimbursed,

- but you would have to tell us when you're going.
9. Question: Are you eligible for one ITA for each academic year?
 - Victoria: Yes, one academic year. We would still have deadlines in the fall or spring, and you can either get the fall acceptance letter or the spring acceptance letter but not both.
 10. Anthropology: For the research award, there's a contingency that you have to present at the research symposium, but what if you graduate before then?
 - Biological Sciences: We can't make you stay and present. Are they required to present in that year or at the closest symposium?
 - Jenn: If you're no longer a graduate student, you would not be required to present because only graduate students are allowed.
 - Biological Sciences: I'm asking, if you receive the award in fall, do you present in spring or the following year?
 - Anna: Yes, in spring.
 11. Anna: Also in regard to this, we're going to transition to the Engage platform and getting the money up front. One of the stipulations would be to have a survey to complete at the end of it so we get more information about what you did and where you went. It also gives us proof that you did go afterward.
 12. Geography: What if we're at a conference during the symposium?
 - Srjana: That is something we know. You can we submit a poster and have that hung up.
 - Anna: I'll be back so just send them to me. We're not going to take away your money if you don't present at the symposium. That's not part of what we do.
 13. Biomedical Sciences: I was thinking for people like ecologists, they don't typically work until the summer. If they applied, they wouldn't have actually started the work before the symposium, so they should send their plans to use that money or wait a year to present?
 - Biological Sciences: People have emailed and said that they can't come and present. That's still an option.
 - Jenn: Even people who presented last year, they didn't have actual data. They presented preliminary plans and proposals.
 14. Question: We graduate and defend in the spring but we still usually plan to attend a national conference after we graduate. Would we still qualify for the DTA?
 - Anna: No.
 15. Biological Sciences: We'll start having meetings to discuss the bylaws again. If anyone has strong feelings about the bylaws, please contact me. You never call, and I care so much. I still want you to help me do this because it is a big project and I am a small person. If anyone is interested, please let me know (eaulino@kent.edu).
 16. Biological sciences: Is there going to be any movement to digital platforms for awards?
 - Anna: Yes, the Engage platform is a university-wide platform

that we are hoping to move to next year. Everything would be online and supply money up front. If anyone has any suggestions on how they would like it formatted, let me know. There is one issue with it: You can't submit a PDF document or a document into Engage unless it's within the budget section of Engage. So there might need to be a bit more reworking with what we need to do. But, you won't need to walk it down to the student center.

17. TLC: I'm looking through my email, can you send out the bylaws again?

- Grace: Yes.

18. Anna: Let's approve sending the revised charter to Dr. Hylton to then send it onto the Board of Trustees. I will also send you an update of the charter. Try to get that out to Dr. Hylton right away with what we're looking to do right away.

- Motion: Physics; Second: Biomedical Sciences
 - Approved: Majority
 - Opposed None
 - Abstentions: None

VII. Announcements

- A. Grad Fest on Ice tonight at the Kent State Ice Arena at 7 p.m. Open skate starts at 8 p.m. There is a \$5.00 fee for skate rental.

VIII. President Diacon

A. Opening statements:

1. It's good to see everyone. I will say a few words and open it up for questions. A little bit about me: I've been here 7 and a half years. I was Provost before I became president. My degree is in Latin American history. I am a historian of Brazil. I thought I would talk a little bit about what I think about when I think about Kent State. This made its way into my inauguration address. About 9 to 10 months ago, it occurred to me that we graduate Case Western Reserve Academy. What I mean by that is it dawned on me that, in a single semester, we graduate more students than are enrolled at Case. We graduate about 5200 students (associate's degree through Ph.D.). That got me to thinking about what an impact big universities make in America. We're like an engine. We're like a motor. Kent State is really a motor of democracy.
2. That got me to thinking about the history of Kent State. Anyone want to take a guess what the enrollment was at Kent State in 1960? Take a guess. We're about 28,000 on the Kent State campus now.
 - Guesses from senators: 10,000.
3. That's pretty good. It was like 9,800. If 10,000 was the enrollment, roughly, in 1960, what do you think the enrollment in 1969 was? 20,000 students. That got me to think more about how we're an engine for democracy. We're not just a university for the fortunate few but for the meritorious many. That's what I talked about at the inauguration. If you look at the history of Kent State, the jump in 1969 was all the daughters and sons of migrants to Cleveland and Northeast Ohio who had come to Northeast Ohio to work in factories. We are an engine of democracy. We need to embrace that we're for the meritorious many. We all have to play

a role in that. It's the right thing to do because of our history because of who we are as an institution. We always have to maintain that access. We need to maintain the focus on access and graduating more students.

4. This is where graduate students come in. Part of that growth in enrollment was because, in that early period '60, '61, '62, almost all of the doctoral programs came into existence. A lot of that growth was fueled by graduate students. Today, it is so frequent that I meet individuals who got their graduate degrees at Kent State. Graduate students were part of that expansion. You have a really crucial dual role of student and teacher. You occupy this interesting and singular position at the university. You are fundamentally involved in the teaching of undergraduate students. Yet you yourselves are students as well. That's a really interesting position because everyone else only has to do one or the other. That's why I want to make it clear that we very much appreciate the role you play at this institution. We know we're not going to graduate undergraduate students without your help. We also want to be mindful that you are students as well and we want to help you complete your programs too.
5. Questions:
 - Biological Sciences: I understand we're in the middle of the budget crisis, which is unfortunate. In my house, when I have a crisis, I cut down to the essentials. I was thinking about what that means for a university -- especially for what is done for a university like Kent. Thinking about putting the money where it really matters, how do you help to ensure grad students success?
 - President Diacon: I wouldn't say we're in a crisis. We're not in anyway in a crisis. But, we do want to act in a way that's fiscally responsible not just for this month or the next month but for the next decade and beyond. When we look at our partner institution down the road, the University of Akron, they didn't make those decisions early on. Now, they are suffering. When we declared a hiring freeze, it wasn't because we are in a crisis. It's to avoid a crisis. What we'll do a lot of going forward, is to rethink where we subsidize and spend. I'll give you an undergraduate example. Even when your revenues are going down, you can rethink your current expenditures. For example, we know as an institution, we want to graduate more undergrads. We want to be that beacon of accessibility and graduation. That's not only the right thing to do, that's the necessary thing to do. We're looking at a 20 to 25 percent decline in high school graduation numbers in Northeast Ohio over the next decade. If we don't start enrolling more students from families that tend not to send children to college, we're in trouble. When we were allowed by the state

to raise undergraduate tuition, we held back \$2mil of the \$6mil additional revenue that it generated to make that tuition increase cost neutral for our undergraduate students with the highest financial need. That's what we had to do going forward. We had to rethink how we're doing things. We had a built in subsidy, which would allow students who are the children of Kent State employees to get a 100% tuition and fee discount. But then on top of that, we were giving them whatever merit awards they qualified for, so we'd give them the 100% tuition and fee discount and the merit award. But, that's a subsidy for people who need it. We will now end that practice, which will generate more need-based revenue for students who really do need it. We have to do this. We have to look into the spending patterns and say, "Are we ok with thi? Or, are we not?" I can't get into the mechanics of graduate study funding because really that's more for the provost and the interim dean of the college of graduate programs. So, we're not in a crisis, and we're simply starting to rethink our spending.

- TLC: As a result, we have more graduate students doing more teaching on campus. So, what is the university doing to support that? I find a lot of formally research assistants are now doing the teaching and they don't feel comfortable doing that. What are we doing to help support?
 - President Diacon: I'm going to assume you met regularly with the graduate program dean, and that's where you're going to engage in those dialogues. I'm not trying to avoid an answer. I'm going to give you a very specific answer. My job as the president is to coordinate all of the orchestra, recognizing that the graduate students are a great part of the orchestra. But, you have your leaders, which are Cindy Stillings and Melody Tankersly. I know you'll continue to engage with them about this. I do remember Provost Tankersly about the Center for Teaching and Learning interacting more with graduate teaching assistants.
- Administrative Chair: I've talked about this with Melody and Lana, but nothing seems to have come out of those conversations. My issue/concern is about the toxic environments that graduate students are in as a result of faculty. I know there's a grievance policy that is going to be put into place, but it just doesn't seem like it's enough.

- President Diacon: We want everyone to thrive and be in a healthy environment. No one is going to stand up here and say they don't want that. I can't get into the granular details because I don't know them. That's just basic human rights. We want you to work with folks to address those issues. This gets back to the singular nature of graduate study, which involves both being a teacher and being taught. When I was a graduate student, I was really fortunate. I had exceptionally supportive committee. But then, I saw the polar opposite of that as well. I would not have stayed around if that was the situation I was in. We need your help to identify those issues. The Vice President and I can only set the tone. We're in a sea change as well. When I was a graduate student, a lot of people just put up with that crap. It really set a lot of people back, and that's unfortunate. I don't have a great answer. Only to say that we certainly are committed to that. You mentioned the ombudsman. What I will say, I've never been at an institution that has an ombudsman.
- Administrative Chair: I've gone to the ombudsman and she's great, but some situations, there's just no workaround.
- President Diacon: How do we prevent bad behavior? I don't have a great straightline answer for that. I think it's about expectation and culture setting at the top. It's about calling that behavior into question. If it's not called into question, it's never going to change. By the way, because you mentioned counseling, we just set a new record for the counseling center in terms of the hours of counseling each semester. In the fall of 2011, 1,428 hours/sessions of student counseling were engaged in by the center. What do you think about this semester? It was 2,375 hours/sessions. We nearly doubled.
- Administrative Chair: And the concerns, now, are for more serious mental health issues. In 2011, it was more roommate issues. Now, it's depression, anxiety, very persistent mental illness.

counteroffers, but it's a very competitive market, which is why we also encourage our deans to grow their own diversity. It's really just about living up to your ideals and goals as an institution. When I arrived as provost. I put in a policy that you can't hire your own doctoral students in tenure track positions unless they've gone on and earned tenure at another institution. I did that because some institutions are very insular. You want different perspectives. I have an exception for that. It's for diverse candidates. Why? Because we have another goal at Kent State, which is to diversify our faculty.

- Biological Sciences Alt: Previously, we received funding from President Warren. Because we are no longer receiving that funding, a lot of awards have been cut in half. That money is really important. I was wondering if there was anything you can do about that.
 - President Diacon: I think it's on my next agenda with Provost Tankersly. I suspect we'll be able to address that. If you're talking about \$100,000 for enhanced funding for travel.
 - Biological Sciences: Travel is certainly important, but the money is also used for other research and projects.
 - President Diacon: Well, whatever the money is for. I'm almost certain we can address that. I can't say yes because I haven't talked to the provost yet.
 - Anna: The overall goal of the money was to set up an endowment fund for GSS.
 - President Diacon: That's a lot easier to do than to commit to base funding. We finished the fiscal year with a \$3mil positive balance. I don't know if we can yet identify a base funding for that. I'm pretty confident we can do another year of the \$100,000.

IX. Adjournment

- A. Motion - MCLS
- B. Second - English