

- I. President Beverly Warren beverlywarren@kent.edu undeniable.kent.edu
- II. Call to Order: 1:38pm
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Approval of December 1, 2015 Minutes - Approved
- V. Executive Board Reports
 - A. **Executive Chair** – Fritz Yarrison – fyarriso@kent.edu
 1. President Warren's Visit
 - a. If you are interested in sending ideas on to President Warren please feel free to talk to Fritz about sending the information on.
 2. SSI Review Committee
 - a. During a retreat the committee has decided to recommend all current questions be removed and a core of about five questions replace them with space for class relevant questions
 - b. The committee is now working on deciding on those core questions
 - c. You are invited to engage in this discussion of those core questions online ssireview.kent.edu
 - d. The goal is to have the questions to propose to the Faculty Senate by May.
 3. Organizational Request
 - a. Department of Philosophy
 - a. 23rd Annual Conference for philosophy will be March 23rd. Graduate Students from across the country will be participating and Susan Hawk will provide the keynote. The \$50 will help offset the cost for food.
 - i. Vote: Passes unanimously (32)
 - B. **Executive Vice Chair** – Andrea Meluch – ameluch1@kent.edu
 1. Intercollegiate Athletics Committee
 - a. In concert with the President they have a new Athletic strategic vision.
 2. Public Safety Committee
 - a. There are a number of teams established in the university on Mental Health
 - b. The committee is strongly recommending that all faculty and graduate students be ALICE trained
 - c. PARTA is currently looking for a GPS system.
 3. Student Media Board
 - a. There were two focus groups proposed. One within University Communication and Marketing. Second would create a poll and survey via the Department of Sociology to understand how students utilize media and how much media is used.
 4. Transportation Committee Meeting
 - a. Construction on Summit St.

- i. Utility work will continue as weather permits through March. Will occasionally involve closure, or one way traffic for one block segments.
 - ii. In spring, a ramp up of construction will begin, including one way traffic for an extended period of time. Expect delays and seek alternative route.
 - iii. If possible stay off of Summit St. or take bus or alternative forms of transportation (bike, walk, etc.)
 - iv. PARTA bus route will start detour of Summit St. in March. Check PARTA website for details.
 - v. Info about Summit St. project:
<https://www.kent.edu/summitstreet>
 - b. Transportation methods available through University
 - i. Flashfleet: rentable bikes, will be available again when weather permits <http://www.kent.edu/recservices/flashfleet>
 - ii. Zipcar: rentable cars, by hour or day
<http://www.zipcar.com/universities/kent-state-university>
 - iii. PARTA bus: free for students
5. International Travel Award
- a. The Spring 2016 International Travel Award Committee met in December and awarded \$6000 overall with five students receiving awards.
 - b. This, combined with the \$3000 awarded in the Fall, leaves \$11,000 in the budget for Summer.
 - c. If you or your constituents are interested in applying for the Spring International Travel Award, please email Andrea with any questions, and she can share with you some of her best practices for putting together your proposal.
 - d. Summer 2016 International Travel Award Deadline in April 25th, 2016 at 11:59pm. The application will open in late March.
 - e. If you are interested in sitting on the Summer 2016 International Travel Award Review Committee, please contact Andrea.

C. Finance Chair – Suparna Navale– snavale1@kent.edu

1. Spring 2016 Domestic Travel Award
 - a. The Spring 2016 Domestic Travel Award ended Monday, February 1st. There were approximately 160 applications and, with our budget allowing for 200 applicants, we will both be able to fund all applicants and move the remainder of the money to the Summer.
 - b. Please also remember that you must turn in hard copies of your reimbursement packets. We do not accept electronic submissions.
 - Q. Since we went to a flat rate, do you still need receipts.
 - A. We need confirmation that you actually attended the conference, whether that is a hotel receipt or a travel ticket. We are no longer checking to see if you actually spent \$300, since

that is rather hard not to do when physically attending a conference.

Q. If you have maxed out with your financials because of a grant or similar situation, you can still visit the financial aid office and fill out paperwork in order to receive funding from GSS.

D. **Advocacy Chair** – Megan Hornyak – mhornya6@kent.edu

1 Spring 2016 Research Award

- a. Application opened on January 1st and there are new guidelines on our website. www.kent.edu/graduatestudies/gss-research-award
- b. Deadline: Feb. 29th, 2016, 11:59pm
- c. Last semester we had 35 complete applications and funded 6
 - i. Many were not accepted for review because of lack of blinding, IRB approval, and recommendation letters
 - ii. Keep in mind that your applications are not complete without the letter of recommendation
 - iii. Some of the updates to the guidelines include the requirement of documents being in PDF format and additional specifications for IRB and IACUC

2 Habitat for Humanity Service Activity

- a. We chose two different dates for volunteering working on houses with Habitat for Humanity: Feb 13th in Atwater and March 12th in Ravenna.
- b. If you or any of your constituents are interested in either date, please let Megan know ASAP so that she can report the number of volunteers and for details.
- c. Another event to consider attending in the future is at the beginning of May called Women Build Week. Talk to Megan about this event, as well.

E. **Research Symposium Chair** – Morgan Chaney – mchaney1@kent.edu

1 The 31st Annual Graduate Student Symposium: A World of Research will be on Earth Day, Friday, April 22nd, 2016.

2 We've printed out fliers for the symposium, so please take as many as you need.

3 We now have less than one month before the call for presentations closes on March 1st.

4 The Graduate Student Symposium is currently on a linear projection to increase this year, but that is only possible with the help of every Senator.

5 We encourage each Senator to set a goal for themselves to **'recruit' at least 10 members of their academic unit** to present at the symposium. With a goal of 330 presentations, that would put us above that at 350 presents.

6 FAQ: "Does [blank] qualify as research?" Answer: Yes! It does not matter what you do. You can present in one of the oral sessions. If we have enough music or theatre and dance people, we could actually have performance-based sessions.

7 So, it doesn't matter what you do. Just register.

8 Also, one in six presenters receive an award. That's well above normal odds for an award.

Q. Are there accepted types of digital presentations?

A. We have been talking to folks about doing that, and we are sorry, but it simply won't be able to work for this year.

F. Info Services Chair – Mark Rhodes – gss.info@gmail.com/mrhode21@kent.edu

1 UDAC

a. Look for coming emails detailing the University Climate Study which will begin next month and provide vital information about the university as a whole.

2 CSI Presidents' Lunch

a. If anyone still has ACME receipts for the BGSA dated before January 6th, contact a member of their executive board by February 5th.

b. The Kent State International Mentors (KSIM) is seeking domestic students who are interested in pairing up with international students to help them cultural adjust. They are particularly short this semester and need around 50 domestic students. If you are interested, please visit their website www.ksimonline.org or email Bahareh Gharehgozlou bgharehg@kent.edu for more information.

3 Website

a. Be aware that there are some false websites floating online. Be sure to never be using one of our webpages starting with cmsdev.

4 Senator Updates

a. Please email Mark mrhode21@kent.edu or gss.info@gmail.com with any senator or alternate senator updates or if you are not receiving emails. Your information at <https://www.kent.edu/graduatestudies/gss-senators> should be up-to-date.

5 Social Media

a. Please encourage all of your constituents to like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on Twitter ([@ksugss](#))!

VI. New Business

VII. Announcements

A. University Libraries Pizza for your Thoughts

1 The Library is hosting two events for grads this semester. The first is on March 3rd from 12:00-1:00pm in Rm 334 of the library. Interested students can RSVP to Anita Clary, assistant to the dean, at: aclary@kent.edu

B. Graduate Student Senate Executive Board

1 Please keep in mind that at the next meeting we will open nominations for the Executive Board, so that we can elect the board at the third meeting, and they can transition into the Senate during the last meeting. All graduate

students are eligible to run for any of the positions, which can be found on our website at <https://www.kent.edu/graduatestudies/gss-bylaws>. And please ask Fritz any questions you might have.

- C. Spring General Senate Meetings
 - 1 Tuesday, Mar. 8th from 1:00pm-3:00pm, KSC Ballroom Balcony
 - 2 Tuesday, Apr. 5th from 1:00pm-3:00pm, KSC Ballroom Balcony
 - 3 Tuesday, Apr. 26th from 1:00pm-3:00pm, KSC Ballroom Balcony

 - D. GradFest: Friday, Feb. 5th from 6:00pm-8:00pm, Location: Dominick's

 - E. Spring Graduate Student Socials
 - 1 Wednesday, February 17th from 5:00pm-8:00pm, Cartwright Atrium
 - 2 Thursday, March 31st from 5:00pm-8:00pm, Cartwright Atrium

 - F. Graduate Professional & Academic Development workshops (GPAD)
 - 1 February. 22-26th from 10:00am-3:00pm, Kent Student Center, Rm 303
- VIII. Adjournment 2:32pm – Motion: Anthropology; Seconded: Sociology