

- I. Graduate Student Trustee
- II. Call to Order: 10:10 am
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Approval of April 26, 2016 Minutes
- V. Executive Board Reports

A. **Executive Chair** – Fritz Yarrison – fyarriso@kent.edu

1. Quorum was not met, so voting on Symposium Chair bylaw change was postponed to next meeting.

B. **Vice Executive Chair** – Mark Rhodes – mrhode21@kent.edu

1. Intercollegiate athletics committee
 - Expansion of academic resource center
 - Looking to increase transfer students
 - Grades are getting better, especially for the wrestling team.
2. International Travel Award (ITA) Deadlines
 - Fall: August 22nd 11:59pm
 - Spring: November 28th 11:59pm
 - Summer: April 24th 11:59pm
 - Note: Fall deadline is before the semester starts
3. Need people to sign up for review committee for ITA, if interested contact Mark.
4. Committee representation
 - The goal is to have as many graduate student senate members represented on as many university committees as possible. If you are interested in serving on a committee email Mark or check the GSS website at <https://www.kent.edu/graduatestudies/gss-Committee>.

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

1. Domestic Travel Award
 - Under budget for DTA
 - Budgeted for 66 summer awards, only ended up giving out 41 awards.
 - Deadlines:
 - Fall: September 12 at 11:59 PM
 - Spring: January 30 at 11:59 PM
 - Summer: June 5 at 11:59 PM

D. **Advocacy Chair** – Kathryn Klonowski – kklonows@kent.edu

- 1 Research Award Deadlines
 - Fall: October 17, 2016 at 11:59 PM
 - Spring: March 6, 2017 at 11:59 PM
 - Need people to serve on review committee
- 2 Service Activity
 - Welcomes questions regarding graduate student appointees
 - Let Kate know if there are any groups/organizations that need service.
- 3 Health Care Issue regarding The Affordable Care Act
 - Mike Carano, adjunct professor at Kent State, was invited to

discuss a potential alliance between part-time/non-tenure track faculty (PT/NTT) and graduate students.

- Believes there would be a mutual benefit for the university and students/faculty to form an alliance between NTT/PT employees and Graduate Appointees. We are looking into many possible alliances and have support from the AAUP and are reaching out to the USAS and OSA. There are no current plans to establish or formalize any alliances until we discuss concerns with administration and GSS senators in the fall.
- Looking into how much the University actually pays into current healthcare subsidy, and what GAs are paid across the board. Want to understand what's at stake when bringing concerns to the administration.
- Mentioned there are no established graduate appointee unions in Ohio because the law (Ohio Revised Code) states public Universities in Ohio are not required to bargain with students/student workers. Regardless, being organized will help students communicate needs and concerns with the administration. It's possible GSS already achieves this function adequately.

E. Research Symposium Chair – Brian Smith – bsmit157@kent.edu

- 1 Graduate Student Symposium - Friday, April 21st, 2017
- 2 Looking through exit poll from last year
 - Looking for what people liked most or least
 - Another survey may be sent out to help gather more information not obtained from last year's exit survey.
 - Open to advice for upcoming symposium
 - Seeks to smooth out the symposium process

F. Info Services Chair – Tyler Smith – gss.info@gmail.com/esmit149@kent.edu

1. Senator Updates
 - Please email Tyler (first name Erik) esmit149@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.
2. Social Media
 - Please encourage all of your constituents to like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on Twitter ([@ksugss](#))!

V. New Business

- A. No new business

VI. Announcements

A. Fall 2016 General Senate Meetings:

1. Meeting schedule will be out soon

B. Grad student orientation

1. Open to all graduate students

C. First Grad Fest: Friday August 26th

1. Needs to be publicized as much as possible

D. Melody Tankersley

1. Wants a better experience for the graduate student application process.
2. Discussed recruiting grad students differently.
3. Wants graduate students to have more exposure and to have their research seen.
4. Want ideas from senators on how to improve the graduate student experience.

E. Senators

1. Would like to see Symposium guidelines be more transparent.

F. Joelle

1. We are now a priority to the University
 - Since we are rebranding, graduate student spotlights will be a focus.
2. Want to hear from current students what we can do for them.
3. What can we do in terms of events?
4. Graduate student ambassador program
 - Service position, roughly 5 hours a semester, unpaid.
 - Will basically meet with prospective graduate students to discuss life as a graduate student at Kent.
 - Incentives: there will be a grad student ambassador room, resources such as office supplies, office space, spring awards ceremony recognition, and a luncheon.

VII. Adjournment 10:58 am – Motion: Library Information Science; Seconded: Mathematics