

- I. Judicial Advocates – Dominic Wells ([dwelss15@kent.edu](mailto:dwelss15@kent.edu))
  - Seeking 2 or 3 graduate students to become judicial advocates
- II. Call to Order: 12:52 pm
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Approval of July 13, 2016 Minutes - Approved
- V. Executive Board Reports

**A. Executive Chair** – Fritz Yarrison – [fyarriso@kent.edu](mailto:fyarriso@kent.edu)

1. Elections for Symposium Chair
  - Brooke Long and Elizabeth Melick made appeals to the Senate
  - Brooke Long chosen by Senate to be new Symposium Chair
2. Bylaw Change for Symposium Chair Job Description
  - New Bylaw: The Symposium Chair shall be required to organize, publicize, and attend the Annual Graduate Research Symposium to be held each academic year. This responsibility includes the oversight, creation, and facilitation of the entire symposium: including the theme; the program; all communication with presenters, guest speakers, judges, the Kent Student Center, and community organizations; the awards process; all publication/advertisement related to the event; as well as coordination of all day-of event operations. The Symposium Chair must also remain in close contact and be willing/able to delegate tasks to the rest of the Executive Board throughout the planning of the Symposium.
  - Bylaw change - Approved

**B. Executive Vice Chair** – Mark Rhodes – [mrhode21@kent.edu](mailto:mrhode21@kent.edu)

1. International Travel Award
  - 13 total applications for Fall 2016, 8 were complete and appropriately blinded and went out for review
    - 10 members on review committee to meet Tuesday September 6th
  - Move to redefine ITA as active participation in international conferences, workshops, internships, etc., rather than research being conducted internationally
  - Will make appropriate ITA changes for Spring 2017
2. Graduate Student Representation
  - If interested in serving on a committee contact Mark Rhodes
  - Committee representation need and availability can be found here: <http://www.kent.edu/graduatestudies/gss-committee>

**C. Finance Chair** – Suparna Navale – [snavale1@kent.edu](mailto:snavale1@kent.edu)

1. Budget for 2016 – 2017

| INDEX                              | BUDGET<br>AY 15 – 16 | EXPENSES<br>AY 15 – 16 | PROPOSED BUDGET AY 16 –<br>17 | INCREASE FROM AY 15 –<br>16 |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Research Award</b>              | \$ 28,000            | \$ 28,002.42           | \$ 40,000.00                  | \$ 12,000.00                |
| Research Awards                    |                      | \$ 7,118.07            |                               |                             |
| Outstanding Awards <sup>1</sup>    |                      | \$ 20,884.35           |                               |                             |
| <b>General Fund</b>                | \$ 147,157.86        | \$ 114,189.86          | \$ 182,791.53                 | \$ 35,633.67                |
| Domestic Travel Award              | \$ 106,000.00        | \$ 74,100.00           | \$ 130,000.00                 |                             |
| Operating Expenses <sup>2</sup>    | \$ 25,000.00         | \$ 25,489.86           | \$ 30,000.00                  |                             |
| Outstanding Awards <sup>1</sup>    |                      | \$ 12,600.00           |                               |                             |
| Flex Fund <sup>3</sup>             | \$ 16,157.86         | \$ 2,000.00            | \$ 22,791.53                  |                             |
| <b>Activity Fund</b>               | \$ 5,000.00          | \$ 5,000.00            | \$ 5,000.00                   | \$ 0.00                     |
| <b>Leadership Fund<sup>4</sup></b> | \$ 25,000.00         | \$ 22,974.59           | \$ 25,000.00                  | \$ 0.00                     |
| <b>Research Symposium</b>          | \$ 20,000.00         | \$ 19,236.43           | \$ 25,000.00                  | \$ 5,000.00                 |
| <b>International Travel Award</b>  | \$ 26,000.00         | \$ 23,273.16           | \$ 30,000.00                  | \$ 4,000.00                 |
| ITA Awards                         |                      | \$ 13,323.16           |                               |                             |
| Outstanding Awards                 |                      | \$ 9,950.00            |                               |                             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                       | <b>\$251,157.86</b>  | <b>\$ 212,676.46</b>   | <b>\$ 307,791.53</b>          | <b>\$ 56,633.67</b>         |

<sup>1</sup> Outstanding awards are those that are still pending reimbursement.

<sup>2</sup> Operating expenses include cost of food at GSS general meetings and GradFests, GSO resource fair, GSS social events, organization funding, annual report, phone and internet, external labor (design/setup), fees and subscriptions, advertisement (magnets and flyers), salary and wages for Administrative Assistant, office supplies, and misc. supplies.

<sup>3</sup> Flex Fund will be used as an emergency fund or for ad hoc expenses associated with GSS.

<sup>4</sup> Leadership Fund is used to pay the stipends of the GSS Executive Board.

## 2. Research Award and International Travel Award budget

- Motion to move \$5,000 from proposed ITA budget into the Research Award budget - Approved
  - Motioned by Sociology seconded by Biochemistry
- Budget Approved

## 3. Fall DTA deadline September 12th at 11:59 pm

- 143 awards available
- DTA food per day allowance is \$51 per day
- Letter from chair on intent to attend conference is acceptable form of proof for the award
- For summer DTA, must be registered for Summer or Fall classes
  - If not registered for Summer classes, will not receive award money until the Fall semester or the next Semester in which the student is registered
- DTA award will be applied to Bursar account
- For international student, DTA counts as income and will be taxed 14% and should be reported when filing taxes

## D. Advocacy Chair – Kathryn Klonowski – [kklonows@kent.edu](mailto:kklonows@kent.edu)

### 1. Fall 2016 Research Award Deadline is October 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 pm

- We are looking for any graduate students who are NOT applying for the research award to volunteer to serve on the research award selection committee. Please email Kate by October 17th if you are interested in serving

### 2. Graduate Assistant Task Force

- Graduate student assistant health care is being researched and there are a number of factors that are of concern
  - Big concern in regard to the effect the loss of the health care subsidy will have on GAs—particularly international GAs.
- Creation of Task Force of 8 appointees (to be determined at the next meeting—any interested GAs are encouraged to contact Kate directly if they are interested in serving on the task force)

- Kathryn will be sending out survey in the next few days regarding concerns and/or benefits of graduate assistant positions around campus
  - Results of survey will be presented and discussed at the next meeting
  - Task Force will meet with Melody Tankersley and perhaps the Provost/President regarding concerns
  - Ohio revised code does not permit graduate students to unionize
  - Optimistic that the open communication between GAs and administration will be productive
3. Philanthropy Project for October
- Guest Speaker Anuj Gurung - [agurung@kent.edu](mailto:agurung@kent.edu)
  - The International Institute of Akron works with refugees in the Akron area
  - Asking for donations:
    - Money
    - Blankets
    - Pillows
    - Bicycles (adult bicycles)
    - Etc.
  - Website: [www.iiakron.org](http://www.iiakron.org)
4. Please email Kate to arrange a pickup or make deliveries to the Graduate Studies office in Cartwright Hall by October 18th (next meeting) or feel free to take donations directly to the International Institute of Akron at [207 E. Tallmadge Ave. Akron, OH 44310](https://www.iiakron.org) from 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM M-F.

#### E. Research Symposium Chair

#### F. Info Services Chair – Tyler Smith – [gss.info@gmail.com](mailto:gss.info@gmail.com)/[esmit149@kent.edu](mailto:esmit149@kent.edu)

1. Like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/) and follow us on Twitter ([@ksugss](https://twitter.com/ksugss)) for news!
2. Check Your Spam Folder for [gss.info@gmail.com](mailto:gss.info@gmail.com)
3. Fix Spam issue:
  - Step 1: Click on the settings icon in the top right corner
  - Step 2: Click "Filters and Blocked Addresses" in the top middle
  - Step 3: Click "Create New Filter"
  - Step 4: In the top line where it says "From" insert the [gss.info@kent.edu](mailto:gss.info@kent.edu)
  - Step 5: Click "create filter with this search" in the bottom right corner
  - Step 6: Check the box "Never send to spam" and then "Create filter"

#### V. New Business

##### A. Organizational funding

- Physics Senator requesting \$50 to reimburse out of pocket expenses and reservation at Monroe Falls Metro Park for departmental picnic
  - Motion accepted
  - Event Date: Saturday September 10<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10am
- Biological Sciences asking for funding
  - Motion to temporarily forgo 2 week notice of request
  - Event Date: September 10<sup>th</sup> at 5pm at Twin Lakes for Professor Retirement
  - Requesting \$50 for food costs
  - Motion accepted
- Total \$100 approved

VI. Announcements

A. Three Minute Thesis

B. Fall 2016 General Senate Meetings:

| <b>Date</b>    | <b>Start</b> | <b>End</b> | <b>Location</b> |
|----------------|--------------|------------|-----------------|
| 9/6/2016 Tue   | 12:30 PM     | 2:30 PM    | KSC BR Balcony  |
| 10/18/2016 Tue | 12:30 PM     | 2:30 PM    | KSC 306A        |
| 11/1/2016 Tue  | 12:30 PM     | 2:30 PM    | KSC 306A        |
| 12/6/2016 Tue  | 12:30 PM     | 2:30 PM    | KSC 310AB       |

C. Melody Tankersly

1. New University application process (ready April 1<sup>st</sup>)
2. Graduate Ambassadors program: Goal is to elevate the presence of Kent State Graduate studies
3. University will participate in National Graduate Student Recognition Week in the Spring

VII. Adjournment: Motioned by Sociology and seconded by Political Science