**2017-18 GSA Senate Meeting   
Friday September 15th, 2017 3:00pm**

**Agenda Items:**

Old Business

1. President Call to Order
2. Roll call—Shumaila
   1. Quorum? Yes
3. Approve previous meeting’s minutes
   1. Motion to approve Rea
   2. Second Greg
   3. Motion passed by all

New Business:

1. The Fate of GSA (splitting from USA) - Ryan
   1. Remain Part of SUNY-ESF
      1. Cost us nothing
      2. Would not get purchasing card
      3. Process through reimbursement
      4. Won’t have QuickBooks access
   2. Move to the Research Foundation
      1. Apply for own tax ID
      2. Can’t get purchasing card
      3. Work through business office
   3. Stand-alone Entity (Non-profit)
      1. Requires most work and money
      2. Tax exempt status
      3. Purchase QuickBooks ourselves
      4. File annual tax returns
      5. Set up own KeyBank account
      6. We can get purchasing card and sign our own check
      7. Would have to amend bylaws
      8. Gives complete control
   4. Chellby motioned to accept 3rd option Chellby and Rea second. The motion was accepted by everyone.
2. GSA Survey Update – Rea
   1. 96 respondents
      1. 67% females, 33% males
      2. Age 49% between 26 and 30
      3. Degree MS 43%, PhD 48%, others (MPS and MLA) 9%
      4. Years of study 35% first year, 17% second year
      5. Departments 40% from EFB, 17% from GPES
   2. Greatest academic concerns (from high to low): Quality of classes > Number of grad classes relevant to major > Number of methods based classes > Rigorous course work > Class size
   3. Returning students
      1. Overall experience 6.65
      2. Relationship with Academic Advisor 7.58
      3. Classroom experience as student 7.15
      4. Access of funding 6.36
      5. Interaction with administration offices on ESF 7.19
      6. 51% agree that ESF that their time as a grad student at ESF has met their expectations
      7. Over half the students drive to campus/other half bike or get another form of transport
   4. New Students
      1. Overall experience 7.5
      2. Relationship with Academic Advisor 8.03
      3. Classroom experience as student 7.19
      4. Access of funding 6.36
      5. Interaction with administration offices on ESF 7
      6. 40.63 % agree ESF met expectations for gradschool
   5. Suggestions for input
      1. More students interested in events on campus
      2. Most anticipated event TG
      3. Apple picking/hiking and skiing trip/grad trivia night/speaker series
      4. Want an increase to travel grant
      5. 93% want awards back
      6. 1/3 respondent’s international students
      7. Good support for international night
      8. Bike lanes on Euclid
      9. Child care services on demand
      10. Good job for GSA
      11. Advertise joining committees so one time volunteers
      12. Petitions for bike lane in Euclid
      13. Request for access to the drive
      14. People do want the awards to come back (2015 last time they gave the award)
      15. Send out communications survey in the beginning of next semester
3. Budget Discussion – Ryan and Greg
   1. Graduate enrollment decreasing
   2. 15 more accounts we can use to access funds
   3. Check per student activity fee per semester or per year from business office
   4. Rea: Increase student activity fee or not?
   5. Chellby motioned to table the budget and Vaishnavi second. Motion passed.
4. Officer Reports
   1. President- Ryan
      1. SUNY leader’s sustainability summit October 10th (big event)
         1. Need volunteers
         2. What would you like to share? Research and careers (community service)
      2. Academic governance meeting September 19th
         1. Faculty vs shared
         2. Ryan to get more information regarding the meeting including students or not
      3. Redesigning website
         1. Degree requirement is hard to find
         2. Let Ryan know if anyone wants anything to be updated on the website
      4. SUNY SA Fall conference October 13th to 15th
         1. There is an account for that
         2. Need a representative
   2. VP of Social- Bob (Ryan filled in)
      1. Help plan apple picking (Aimee)
      2. 14th or 15th October (Saturday or Sunday)
      3. He isn’t available for apple-picking event
   3. VP of Grants & Awards- Jorge
      1. Reimbursement phase for grants
      2. Waiting for reimbursement for Spring 2017
   4. VP of Professional Development- Chellby
      1. Anything you need to know to defend (October 17 11:15 to 12:15 110 moon)
      2. Can email presentations
   5. VP of Speakers & Presentations- Jeff
      1. Pitching new idea in the survey to start monthly speaker/ presentation events where students speak at those series to help them practice before their seminars
      2. Suggested presentation competition in collaboration Chelby
   6. VP of International Activities- Sri
      1. Tom is putting on a new event international students retreat into Adirondacks 14th to 15th October
      2. Contribution from GSA check bylaws for voting process for the retreat
      3. Professional advancement skills for international student in collaboration with Chelby
   7. VP of Communications- Rea
5. Any Announcements?
   1. Opening in Academic Governance
6. Blake motioned to adjourn the meeting. Chellby second the motion. Motion passed.