

Meeting Minutes
3/20/25

- Approval of meeting minutes from February, 2025 Council meeting
 - Motion to approve was made by Coleson Weir (*Economics, GSG Treasurer*)
 - Motion was seconded by Patrick McQuestion (*Kroc Institute for International Peace*)
- We have minor quorum
- Guest speaker, Dr. John Lubker (*Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, The Graduate School*)
 - Graduate School [Ombudsperson](#)
 - John discussed [LASER](#)
 - Leadership Advancing Socially Engaged Research
 - Experiential training program for Ph.D. students who have completed coursework
 - Develops leadership proficiencies & aptitude
 - Builds skills for socially engaged research
 - 1 year program in 9th cohort
 - [Now accepting applications](#) for 10th cohort
 - Almost 200 students have gone through the program
 - 71% vs 64% first job placement satisfaction
 - 95% said they significantly grew in their growth with values
 - 85% feel more confident about leading & leading with their values
 - 86% significantly grew in their understanding to grow in communication about their research
 - 87% grew in their social implications of their research
 - Students feel enriched to spend a year with those in other disciplines in LASER
 - Provides a safe space for exploration
 - Program Benefits
 - All Ph.D. candidates eligible
 - August through August
 - \$3,000 stipend
 - Mix of in classroom & experiential learning
 - Application window for 2025-2026 LASER cohort is March 1 to April 1, 2025
 - [LASER FAQ](#)
 - [Apply to LASER](#)
- Committee Reports were discussed (Refer to [Agenda Packet](#))
 - Correction to Professional Development report
 - Professional Wear Drive begins March 24th, not 20th
- Child Care Stipend proposal was discussed
 - Hanna Jewell (hjewell@nd.edu), (*Biological Sciences, GSG Quality of Life Chair*) created proposal

- Question from Kesavan Thanagopal (*Philosophy*)
 - Some stipends are capped at an amount and are ineligible for certain scholarships
 - Hanna said this (child care proposed stipend) is not related to income
- GSG transition was discussed
 - April 24 is last Council meeting where new elected officers will be sworn in
 - Committee Chairs will be hired by July 1
 - End of Year reports were discussed
 - Reports have historically been compiled and submitted after the last Council meeting and due by May 15 at the latest.
 - Some current chairs were not aware of any such reports when they were hired
 - León Heitler (*Political Science, GSG Academic Affairs Chair*) said some learned on the spot. No communication. Any communication we've established should be acknowledged.
 - Jacquelin Zak (*Chemistry & Biochemistry, GSG Communication Chair*) said action items (should be mentioned) in beginning, what worked, what didn't
 - Hanna Jewell
 - When we do BGSO transition, we have contact info of last two previous chairs. Most are ok with being contacted
 - Carolyn Davin (*Economics, GSG Professional Development Chair*) Each committee (should) write down events. They should have planned sooner.
 - Mimi Beck (*Director, Grad Student Life, GSG Advisor*)
 - Would it be useful to have a standard template?
 - Most chairs and reps agreed
 - Ideas were collected for a template
 - What worked, what didn't work
 - Projects you wanted to do but didn't get to do
 - Suggested timelines
 - Angie Abarca Perez (*CEEES, GSG Co-Vice President*)
 - Asked dept reps to be thinking about next department rep. Best communication is word of mouth. Start looking now.
 - Regina Scime (*Sacred Music*) suggested that committee assignments should happen much sooner. Would have been happy to do things in the summertime, had this process happened earlier.
- Concern Brainstorming
 - Thomas Poitevin (*Economics, GSG President*)
 - Did a fun activity
 - Chairs & reps signed into menti.com with a code
 - Questions were projected on the screen
 - Participants could respond anonymously

- Announcements
 - Mimi
 - Next & last Council meeting of this academic year will be held in Bond Hall, Rm. 104, due to the change in date & current room unavailable.
 - Priority date requests for next year, (ex: Jingle Bell Ball) due now!
 - If you are considering running for office, talk to Mimi (mbeck1@nd.edu)
 - Or the GSG Election committee
 - Jacquelin Zak (jzak@nd.edu)
 - Subash Gamage (rgamage@nd.edu)
 - Mimi Beck (mbeck1@nd.edu)
 - The University is prioritizing students & research. Lots of folks here at UND who are working very hard to protect your financial well-being and what you come here to do.
 - Grad Life Survey coming out soon
 - GreeNDot Training Tuesday, March 25
- Meeting Adjourned at 8:09 p.m.