Graduate Professional Student Committee
September 16th 2019 - Minutes
Time: 1:00 - 2:16 PM
Location: SGA Meeting Room

Attendees:

Maryam Rafieifar <mrafi007@fiu.edu>
Angel Algarin <aalga016@fiu.edu> (came in at Shahnawaz Rafi <srafi004@fiu.edu> (leaves at 1:54)
Michaela Mills <mmill185@med.fiu.edu>
Marko Nikitovic <sbasga@fiu.edu>
Teresa Amador <tamador@fiu.edu> (for 20 minutes)
Michelle Castro <mimcast@fiu.edu>
Galina Bogatova <gboga002@fiu.edu>

In this meeting we addressed the following points:

1. Introduction of all members
2. Michelle mentioned how we can spend $150. Discussion on the budget
   a. Prefer to use caterers for planned events to lower costs (coffee, icecream, etc).
      Restrictions: coca-cola is not allowed, no alcohol
   b. Grad skellar - we need to figure out what the budget will be
   c. Maryam requested access to the updated expenditures and budget
   d. Orders need to have a request through panther connect
   e. Angel is the Financial coordinator - keep track of GPSC budget
   f. Teresa can send us the expenses and details of the budget
   g. Teresa can share this document once a month
   h. All accounts pay 5.5%
   i. Galina mentions the lack of printing services - how to include this in the budget
   j. $310,000 total budget
   k. SOP changed to $650 for local travel and $850 for international travel
   l. Discussion of the application emailed by Angel
      i. Decision: the 24 hour flight will be funded regardless of the one she uses the funds for
   m. Discussion on how to make the application process easier
      i. The website needs to be edited to make it more user-friendly
ii. Angel volunteers to do the edits on the form

iii. Use red letters and highlights

n. Angel - email David to add additional check questions to the application

3. Review other schools’ award programs sent by Dr. Kos and Dr. Gil on research awards programs:
   a. Comments from Teresa - the programs that were shared by Dr Kos and Dr Gil are not funded using A&S money. They were funded through grants and UGS

4. Chair and vice-chair will be absent next week so Angel will represent us in the leadership

5. Open Conversation
   a. Discuss the candidacy of a new member (Galina)
   b. We need to figure out if we are changing the SOP to accommodate more grad students interested in being part of GPSC

These topics are left for next week’s meeting:
1. Brainstorm about who should be tasked with reading proposals and the design of the award system

2. GSAW
   Brainstorm about attracting undergrads and grads to the event

Next Meeting: September 23, 2019