**MEETING MINUTES**

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|  | **Meeting:** | General Council Meeting |  |  |  |  |  |
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|  | **Date of Meeting:** | 18th August 2020 | **Time:** |  |  12:00 PM to 01:00 PM |  |
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|  | **Minutes Prepared By:** | GSA Secretary – Naga Venkat Palaparthy | **Location:** |  |  Individual home via Google Meet. |  |
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|  | **1. Meeting Objective** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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General Council Meeting

 **2. Attendees**



Executive Council Members: Sandeep Bonagiri (President), Naga Venkat Palaparthy (VP Academic Affairs and External Relations), Deepthi Gudapati (VP Student Life), Bhargava Sai Nakkina (VP Finance).

Management: Dr. Schmidt.

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| 3. Agenda and Notes, Decisions, Issues |
| Topic | **Discussion** |
| Other Issues   | * Sandeep started the session by informing about the GRC meeting all the GSA members had to Dr. Schmidt
* He explained about the issues and concerns most of the students are facing currently regarding fee discrepancies and gave an example about the student who charged differently.
* He added that financial department responded to student query saying it happened due to some IT error.
* Sandeep explained that students are charged as per the new academic calendar and added that students who moved from masters to GIDS will be considered as new admission and they will be charged as per new 2020 academic calendar standards.
* Deepthi told Dr. Schmidt about the approved events budget for fall term and explained him about the series of events she planned from September to December
* She said that in September GSA is planning to have a meet and greet event on 12th and 26th with limited number of people( maximum 50 people) and added that Christmas will be the major event for the next term among the proposed events followed by Diwali, Africa day etc.
* Deepthi raised a point about Adam request regarding budget allocation for individual program gathering in GRC meeting.
* She asked Dr. Schmidt whether it is okay to have individual program gatherings?
* Dr. Schmidt said that it will be up to GSA council members decision on giving funds to have program specific gatherings.
* He further added that graduate students are increasing in CUE, so we have to very careful on how much money we spend.
* He said that GSA is for everyone and is here to create a community even though students are from different programs and getting all students together for the events is always a ongoing challenge.
* Deepthi told that Adam explained about the nature of MEd program by saying that most of the students in MEd are teachers and they travel a lot, so it is important to interact with everyone rather than individual specific.
* Sandeep told Dr. Schmidt that even though budget allocation of Adam’s request was approved by previous council but that meeting never happened.
* He further said that if we approve for one program other programs may come for individual program gatherings.
* Sandeep asked Dr. Schmidt whether charges for GIDS students are 2/3rd of MISAM students?
* He said that MISAM has three semesters and GIDS can be completed in two semesters.
* Dr. Schmidt said that he will contact student accounts regarding the same and get back to us
* Naga told about the ETS low income ride pass program they discussed in GRC meeting.
* He explained that ETS has a program which offers transit passes for 35$ which most of the people are unaware, so GSA is planning to roll out an email to students explaining the procedure to enroll to have maximum people benefited from it.
* Deepthi asked about offering scholarships to only full-time students and not to part-time students
* Dr. Schmidt replied saying that as of now the procedure for scholarships will be same and part time students are not eligible to apply.
* He added that the scholarships committee has rules and guidelines and also, they look into funds where they come from and they decide.
* Bhargava told everyone about the approved budget in GRC meeting and told about the postal charges for delivering cheques.
* Sandeep told about having e- transfers rather than giving cheques for GSA people since both costs the same.
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