Bill

Committee: GSS
First Reading Date: 31 January 2012
Second Reading Date: 7 February 2012
Final Action Date: 7 February 2012
Final Action: Passed

ECB 2012-07 Restructuring of the Academic Senate

Description: Restructuring the Academic Senate to include a Graduate Student Senator and graduate representatives to create a more efficient and effective representation for the student body.

1 WHEREAS the responsibilities of the Graduate Student Senators are being duplicated by the responsibilities of the Academic Senators.
2 WHEREAS an Academic Senator can be represented by either an undergraduate or graduate student.
3 WHEREAS graduate students would be better represented by clarifying the responsibilities of the Academic Senators.
4 WHEREAS one Academic Senator and their committee will be more effective and efficient in representing students in their respective college.
5 WHEREAS there is a consistent lack of interest in the Graduate Student Senate positions.
6 BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED the Academic Senator will be responsible for representing all students within their respective college.
7 BE IT FURTHER ENACTED a Graduate Senator will be added to the Academic Senate structure.
8 BE IT FURTHER ENACTED the Graduate Senator will appoint the Director of Research and the Director of Campus Affairs.
9 BE IT FURTHER ENACTED the responsibilities of these positions will be outlined in their respective charters.
10 Tags: Graduate Student Senate, GSS, Academic Senate, Restructuring,
11 Sponsor: Cami Jones, Graduate Student Senate President;
12 Cosponsor: Tanner Wright, Academic Senate President;
ECB 2012-07 Restructuring of the Graduate Student Senate

Policy Paper

Committee: Graduate Student Senate
In Attendance: Passed by a 6-1-2 vote, January 25, 2012
Academic Senate: (1/30/2012) Amended title from “Restructuring of the Graduate Student Senate” to read “…of the Academic Senate” and Line 12 to replace “Academic Senator” to “Academic Senate”
Passed first reading.
Executive Council: (1/31/2012) Passed as a first reading
Academic Senate: (2/6/2012) amended line 6 to remove “positions”. Passed as Amended.
Executive Council: (2/7/2012) Passed as a second reading item.

History:
Since the restructuring of the ASUSUSG in 2005-2006 the GSS has been consistent area of concern. On a frequent basis many of the GSS positions, including the GSS vice president have had no one run for office and had to have been appointed. This general lack of interest from graduate students, the duplicating affect of having two senators representing each college, along with other contributing factors has lead three different councils to attempt a restricting of the GSS.

• The Graduate Student Senate responsibilities are being duplicated by the Academic Senators responsibilities.
• Academic Senators currently represent both undergraduates and graduate students.
• Graduate Students would be better represented by clarifying the responsibilities of the Academic Senator positions, creating a more effective and efficient unified body.
• There has been a consistent lack of interest in the Graduate Student Senate positions.

Strengths:
• By adding a Graduate Senator to Academic Senate will create a more competitive and consistent representation for graduate students within ASUSU.
• The graduate students will not lose any funding for Travel, Research, and Enhancement Awards.
• The Graduate Student Senator will appoint a Director of Research and Director of Campus Affairs.
• Creating appointed Director Positions will allow for a better verify the qualifications of individuals in these positions.
• Appointed Positions will create more continuity with the Department of Research, ASUSU, and the School of Graduate Studies.

Weaknesses:
• Clarification to graduate students about the restructuring of graduate representation.
• Graduate Students actively involved within the Academic Senate.