Description: This bill will create a formal council for the Grad Studies Senator (GSS) comprised of the current graduate student representative on each senator’s council. The GSS will be responsible for helping each senator obtain grads to apply for the position and assist in the selection of this position in any way the college senator’s wishes. The responsibility of this council member will serve their respective college as well as the GSS office.

Responsibilities of Grad Committee Members to GSS Office
- Attend monthly council meeting
- Comprise formal scholarship selection board for Research and Project Grants in the Fall and the Grad Enhancement Awards in the Spring.

WHEREAS, the GSS office is not meeting the needs of the broader student body,
WHEREAS, there is no formal way for the GSS to communicate with this constituents in the different colleges to better meet their needs,
WHEREAS, it has been hard for the college senators to find graduate students to serve on their committees,
WHEREAS, it will make GSS scholarship selection more fair with a formalized committee with representation from each college,
WHEREAS, it allows the GSS to have more communication with each college’s grad students to better serve them,
WHEREAS, graduate students want to be more involved in leadership on campus,
WHEREAS, it will increase representation to help bring awareness to the grad students of the opportunities given by the GSS office; i.e., scholarships, grants, leadership opportunities,
WHEREAS, this council is already being organized on an informal basis

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED THAT the GSS charter should change to include this council composition and the offices responsibilities to that council
BE IT FURTHER ENACTED THAT each college senator’s charter should be changed to require a mandatory graduate student representative with the stipulation that the selection of this position will be aided by the current GSS.

Tags:

Sponsor: Brittney Garbrick, Graduate Studies Senator

Co-sponsor: Matt Anderson, CHaSS Senator
Policy Paper

Committee: Academic Senate
In Attendance: Emily Esplin, Steven Mortenson, Matthew Ditto, Ashley Lee, Sam Wright, Brittney Garbrick, Kellie Erickson, and Trevor Olsen
Absent: Matthew Anderson, CJ Nielsen, Tucker Smith
Result: Passed

History:
When the Graduate Senate disbanded, the representation of the diverse graduate student population decreased. The current GSS office only has three officers which make up a small sub sect of constituents it serves. Currently, this office does not have the resources to reach out to each group in an effective and efficient manner. With that said, a survey conducted by the GSS in Fall ’13 confirmed these assumptions for a need for more formal representation.

Purpose:
Creating a formal GSS committee will allow for the current GSS to more easily reach out to the diverse constituent group in which it serves. This committee will also create a more fair and diverse scholarship selection board.

Pros:
Creates a formal board to make scholarship and grant selection more fair and consistent
Allows for better communication for the GSS to the individual colleges and its graduate students
Helps college senators find graduate students to sit on their council
Allows the GSS a better system to be able to support the various students in each college
Creates relationships between graduates in different colleges

Cons:
More time constraints on the grad position of each council