



**Purdue Graduate Student Senate (PGSS)**  
*Senate Meeting Minutes*

Second Meeting  
Wednesday, October 26, 2022, 6:00 PM  
Purdue Graduate Student Center (PGSC)

**GUEST SPEAKER**

Speaker: Dr. James L. Mohler

- I. Research Integrity Officer, Associate Dean and Professor ([jlmohler@purdue.edu](mailto:jlmohler@purdue.edu))
  - A. Presentation on Authorship of Scholarly Works Policy
    1. Going before University Senate in November
    2. Important to Graduate Students
    3. Most Big 10 schools have such a policy
      - a) Purdue has not had a standard or policy
      - b) The proposed policy is modeled on Ohio State's
  - B. The Standard
    1. Defines who should be an author
      - a) "Substantial contribution" to the project and work
      - b) Authorship should be reflective of the effort
    2. Unacceptable practices noted in policy
      - a) Due process of mediation of disputes
  - C. Question period
    1. NIH requires that we certify that Purdue has good research practices.
    2. A lab with an NDA doesn't restrict a student from coming to Dr. Mohler and relaying bad research practices.
    3. Students (as Purdue Associates) are mandatory reporters for research integrity issues. Dr. Mohler assures that he will protect students when they come forward.
    4. Dr. Mohler is the first point of contact for research misconduct.
      - a) fabrication
      - b) falsification
      - c) plagiarism

**AGENDA**

- I. **Call to Order**
  - a. 6:20 pm
- II. **Roll Call**
  - a. Announcement of Newly Elected Senators and Alternates
    - i. Agronomy
    - ii. Aviation and Transportation Technology
- III. **Approval of Minutes**
  - a. Motion to approve minutes from Senator from Statistics
  - b. Second from Senator from Industrial Engineering
  - c. Motion carries by voice vote

#### IV. Approval of the Agenda

- a. Motion to Approve from Senator from EAPS
- b. Second from Senator from Anthropology
- c. Motion carries by voice vote

#### V. Officer Reports

- a. Report from Public Relations Officer (PRO)
  - i. This Officer updates the PGSG website and sends the Newsletter
  - ii. If you have not received a newsletter to your Purdue email, you may have unsubscribed from these emails
  - iii. Hindu Heritage Month (October)
  - iv. Native American Heritage Month (November)
    1. If your department is planning any events related to these, please share with PGSG
- b. Report from President Alex Seto
  - i. Possible purchase of software by Graduate School
    1. More information to come in New Business
  - ii. Budget Changes coming up
  - iii. Thank you for your participation at events

#### VI. Committee and Team Reports

- a. None

#### VII. Other Reports

- a. None

#### VIII. Old Business

- a. **Confirmation of Presidential Appointment** - Parliamentarian
  - i. President presenting on a nominee, Elnara Mammadova
  - ii. Parliamentarian duties
    1. Chair of the Legislative Review Committee
      - a. Makes sure Legislation is Constitutional
  - iii. Parliamentarian is appointed by unanimous vote
- b. **Consideration of Prior Legislation**
  - i. **FA22-R002** – *“Empowering Graduate Student Employees to Use Rightfully Earned Time Off or Be Compensated”*
    1. Period of Discussion open
      - a. Senator from ECE mentions that wording about funding could be a problem
      - b. Senator from Statistics motioned on the floor to end the discussion
        - i. Second from Senator from MSC
      - c. Senator from Statistics is concerned about the vague wording of the resolution and wants to stop the discussion
      - d. Voice vote for ending discussion carries
    2. Period of voting for the resolution
      - a. The resolution does not pass

- b. This legislation will not have the president's and senate chair's signatures
- c. The legislation will have the senate clerk's signature

## IX. New Business

### a. Introduction of Emergency Legislation

- i. None

### b. Confirmation of revised PGSG budget

- i. The budget was sent earlier to senators via email
- ii. President speaks
  - 1. Working to move expenses to be covered by different groups within Purdue
    - a. Graduate School and Provost's Office to take on some expenses to allow for more of PGSG budget to go to programming
    - b. More money is slated to go to teams
      - i. GRAC
      - ii. Life
      - iii. Community
    - c. Increasing food budget
    - d. Period of questions for factual clarification only
      - i. How to read the spreadsheet
        - 1. The third column indicates changes from last year's budget
      - ii. Senator from Agronomy asks who suggested that the Graduate School is to take on some costs
        - 1. President discusses that the Graduate School doesn't want salaries coming from student fees
      - iii. Senator from Computer Science asks about the Above and Beyond Awards
        - 1. These awards are for senators who go above and beyond in contributing to PGSG
      - iv. The Chief of Staff asks about a cell under the Executive Board heading that is labeled "90000"
        - 1. This was the homecoming alumni event and is changed
      - v. Senator from MSE asks about an Emergency Needs grant
        - 1. This is on the second page of the document
        - 2. It was not part of this year's budget
      - vi. Senator from SLH asks where the budget funds come from
        - 1. The budget comes from the Student Activity Fee
  - 2. Period of Discussion
    - a. Senator from MSE asks about the Book Reading budget

- i. The Chief of Staff answers that food and books are to be paid for with this budget
  - b. Senator from SLH asks what happens to leftover money
    - i. This money should roll over to next year
  - c. Senator from Environmental Engineering asks about the budget for the President
    - i. Hoping that the graduate school will be covering this
  - d. Senator from EAPS asks about President's salary: is there a problem that it is below the minimum GA salary now?
    - i. President will find out about this
  - e. Senator from HDFS motion to end discussion
    - i. Second from Senator from MSE
- iii. Period of voting on the motion to end the discussion
  - 1. Voice vote
  - 2. Motion carries
- iv. Period of voting for the amendments to the budget for AY 22-23
  - 1. The vote carries
- c. Software that graduates students should not pay for
  - i. The Chief of Staff notes that they are trying to gather a list of software that graduate students pay for out of pocket that they should not
    - 1. Provosts are interested in funding these
    - 2. Some might come from PI funding
  - ii. The floor is to be open for senators to note software that students pay for that they should not
  - iii. Questions and Suggestions
    - 1. Does the software include Google Maps/any transportation research?
      - a. Yes
    - 2. Parallels for Mac
    - 3. Reference Managers such as Zotero, some require a yearly fee
    - 4. Endnote- might these apps be available for personal download?
      - a. A conversation will be had about how these software programs can be offered in a convenient way
    - 5. Mathematica
    - 6. What is an example that a PI should fund instead of the Graduate School?
      - a. This may be affected by usability and cost
    - 7. Snappene
    - 8. Envivo
    - 9. Aztec
- iv. Motion to extend time by Senator from Food Science
  - 1. Second senator from Computer Science
  - 2. Motion carries by voice vote
- v. Questions and suggestions continue
  - 1. Accessibility of current software is sometimes difficult

2. Adobe license- what might it include?
  - a. Some programs are not currently included
3. Writefull
  - a. The Chief of Staff notes that it is being trialed right now, feedback from trial users will be sought soon
4. N+
5. Transcription software, like Otter
6. Premium version of Slack for GSOs
7. Zoom
  - a. Do students still have the premium version? Think so.
8. Comparison with other Big 10 schools? Do other Big 10 schools offer these programs?

**d. Consideration of New Legislation**

**i. FA22-R003/ FA22-JR001 – “Resolution Establishing Student Well-Being Day”**

1. Senator from ECE yields time to Diversity Officer
  - a. Legislation is to establish a day for both graduate and undergraduate students to focus on mental health
  - b. Modeled after other schools like the University of North Carolina
  - c. The resolution could open the door to further legislation to dedicate more resources to mental health
  - d. Importance of getting resolution today- this needs to go to the Undergraduate Senate and University Senate in November
  - e. Mental Health Action Week is during classes, there is no break from research or class days
    - i. This day could be a way to work towards more resources
2. Report from Legislative Review Committee from Senate Chair
  - a. One suggestion- might RA pay be cut for this day if it is implemented?
3. President speaks
  - a. This is a very important bill.
  - b. It will be passed on to University Senate if passed.
  - c. It is a good step to acknowledge mental health on campus.
  - d. This may spark more changes.
4. Disclosure announcement from Senate Chair
  - a. Involved with writing legislation.
5. Motion to waive reading by Senator from IBSC
  - a. Second from EAPS
  - b. Motion to waive reading passes
    - i. voice vote
6. Question Period (factual clarification) opens
  - a. Senator from EAPS asks if Mental Health day will take place in the spring semester.

- i. Senator from ECE says the plan is to get the day to begin in the Spring 2023 semester and occur every semester
  - b. Senator from MSE asks about the comprehensive action plan mentioned in the bill.
    - i. The Diversity Officer answers that the goal is to have a day off and to show how the university is addressing mental health by creating a plan and then sharing with students. Senator from ECE adds that these things could include more CAPS counselors and these things would be mentioned to the larger population.
  - c. Senator from HDFS asks if this is to be a paid day off for students
  - d. Senator from Food Science asks about how this mental health day could impact research deadlines. Also asks how it might relate to spring break and fall break and how the mental health day might be implemented.
    - i. Senator from ECE notes that RAs and others do not get spring and fall break off work. This day would not have students forced to do meetings. etc. on this day.
  - e. Senator from Statistics asks if graduate assistants are exempt from fall and spring break.
    - i. Senator from ECE says that they are not.
7. Period of discussion opens.
8. Resolution is not able to be tabled (time sensitive)
  - a. Senator from Computer Science asks if the mental health initiatives will be led by students or the university.
    - i. Senator from ECE notes that the resolution is asking for the university to lead initiatives and make known the mental health resources on campus. Diversity officer adds that the university could also highlight the student initiatives, but the university will be asked to lead initiatives.
  - b. Senator from Computer Science follows up about possible student-led events on this day.
    - i. Senator from ECE clarifies that this is an option but students would not have to lead things.
  - c. Senator from EAPS asks where the mental health day might occur in a given semester.
    - i. Senator from ECE notes that the day is asked to happen on the Friday before spring break. Another option is that the day may occur before the exam period. The day is to be left open for the university- would like to be between spring break and the time exams begin. Leaving the decision up to the university senate.



- ii. Senator from EAPS suggests giving the university senate a range of dates for the possible well-being day. Argues that between the break and exams may be a good suggestion.
- d. Senator from MSE is concerned about the university's approval of calendars and how this procedure might affect the implementation of this bill.
  - i. Senator from HFLS argues that spring calendars may be approved in the summer/fall.
- e. Senator from SLHS has experience with such a kind of day from their undergraduate institution. In their experience, meetings/classes/rehearsals were canceled for the day. There was a campus-wide picnic. Senator supports the idea as a great memory for students and a way to foster campus community. The day was between spring break and finals week.
- f. Senator from Statistics reads an email from a department member who suggests more mental health days and seeks to amend wording focusing on "workers."
- g. Motion to amend from Senator from Statistics
  - i. Second from Senator from Food Science
- h. Vote on the floor to amend carries
  - i. A possible amendment by the senator from Statistics to change page 3 "research assistantships" to "graduate assistantships" and on page 3 "graduate and undergraduate students" with "students and graduate workers"
- i. Period of discussion
  - i. Senator from Computer Science reminds us that this bill will also be sent to the undergraduate senate and says amendment could exclude undergraduate workers
  - ii. Friendly amendment by the senator from Computer Science to replace "graduate assistantships" to "research and graduate assistantships" and on page 3 "graduate and undergraduate students" to "all students and salaried student workers"
  - iii. Friendly amendment stands
  - iv. Senator from MSE is concerned about amendments being exclusive of some of the intended students
  - v. Senator from ECE thinks that changing the words to include "salaried" could exclude students since this legislation is to apply to both graduate and undergraduate students
  - vi. Senator from Statistics asks about how much the legislation was discussed with the undergraduate senate

1. Senator from ECE says that the resolution is supposed to represent all students and objects to the wording of “salaried” student workers
- vii. Friendly amendment to remove the word “salaried”, Senators from Statistics and Food Science agree with the friendly amendment
- viii. Senator from English Departments states that the original wording has a larger scope- “graduate and undergraduate students”
- ix. Senator from TLI has a friendly amendment to go back to “graduate and undergraduate students” instead of “all students and student workers” Senator from Statistics agrees
- x. The amendment goes to a vote
  1. “research assistantships” to “research and/or graduate assistantships” on page 3
  2. amendment carries
- xi. Substitute Senator from Biology notes that after talks with Dean Mason that academic breaks are supposed to be days off for graduate students who are employed through the academic year. They do not know if the Graduate School will support the bill.
- j. Senator from EAPS wants to amend the resolution to add and specify the time period that the day off may take place. Motions to Amend to add the clause, “BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED The student well-being day in the spring semester should fall between the end of spring break and the onset of the final exam period.”
  - i. Second from the senator from Mechanical Engineering
  - ii. Senator from ECE notes that this resolution is not specific to the spring semester and this wording could restrict the resolution. Senator is against this amendment.
  - iii. Senator from Computer Science is divided on this amendment. The amendment could help or harm this resolution.
  - iv. Senator from EAPS is worried about the university passing this resolution and then putting this day at a time when there is no coursework.
  - v. Senator from ME and thinks it would be good to hold off on making these specific additions of information since this is a joint resolution.
  - vi. Senator from EAPS has a question for one of the sponsors of the bill (Senator from ECE). Wonders if this



resolution may come back to PGSG after it goes to University Senate.

1. Senator from ECE says it could come back to the graduate student government. Senator from ECE understands the concern of the senator from EAPS and suggests that specifics could lead to the university senate rejecting this resolution.
- vii. Friendly amendment, “be it further resolved that student well-being day should not fall congruent to any breaks and finals week at Purdue.”
- viii. Senator from Food science motions to end the discussion
  1. Second from the senator from Civil Engineering
- ix. Vote on motion to amend
  1. Motion to amend carries
- k. Discussion period resumes
  - i. Senator from ECE motioned to add a clause- “Whereas that Purdue SERU indicate that 31% of Purdue undergraduate students report emotional health concerns as a condition that affects their student experience.”
    1. Seconded by the Senator from ME
    2. Motion to amend by voice carries
  - ii. Motion to end the discussion by Senator from Food Science
    1. Second from the senator from PULse
    2. Motion by voice carries
9. Period of Voting on the resolution
  - a. The first part to the joint Resolution by PGSG carries

**e. Consideration of Emergency Legislation**

- i. none

**X. Reports of University Committees and Boards**

- a. Committee members should receive emails on committee reports
- b. The grade appeals committee has openings

**XI. Announcements**

**a. GRAC: Upcoming GSO – based Grant deadlines**

- i. Today is the deadline for the October round
- ii. Fliers are available in the senate meeting room
- iii. GSOGA grant is for graduate student organizations to fund activities held by the organizations
  1. Would like to receive more of these applications
- iv. Symposium grants include two or more GSOs
- v. Graduate Student Equipment Fund
  1. Please apply
- vi. Questions

1. Symposium Grant is a minimum of 30% or \$2000 dollars, \$2000 is the maximum award
2. Poster printing fees can be covered by a Professional Development grant
3. If you present a poster, you cannot request money from multiple grants
4. November 16 is when the next round of applications is due.

**b. Diversity Industry – Academia Conference Planning Committee**

- i. Planning a research showcase to solicit more industry partnerships
- ii. Looking for members to join the planning committee
- iii. The conference is planned for March 9, 2023

**c. Upcoming events**

- i. World Cup Watch Party (beginning November 20, 2022)
  1. November 20-December 2, 2022
  2. Food provided
  3. RSVP due to room capacity
  4. Streaming through a one-month subscription to some streaming service
- ii. Literary Club Meeting (October 27, 2022)
  1. Community Team
  2. Club members might read together or read before the meeting.
- iii. Winterization (November 12, 2022)
  1. Free breakfast and lunch
- iv. Literary Club Movie Night (October 29, 2022)
- v. Literary Club October Book Mini Review

**d. Announcement from Senate Chair about Discord**

**XII. Adjournment**

- a. Motion by the Senator from Food Science
- b. Second by Senator from ECE
- c. 8:42 pm