

- I. Ann Gosky
 - A. Will match Domestic Travel Award with \$200
 - B. Publication Award
 - C. Graduate-Undergraduate research mentorship
- II. Call to Order at 12:40 pm
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Approval of September 6, 2016 Minutes
- V. Executive Board Reports
 - A. **Executive Chair** – Fritz Yarrison – fyarriso@kent.edu
 1. Faculty Senate Report
 - Establishment of 5 research institutes
 - Search for Head of Brain Health Institute
 2. Health Care Letter
 - GA's classified as students will no longer receive employee health care subsidy
 - Must be signed up for healthcare before December 1st for Spring semester if choosing to go through Kent States provided plan
 - B. **Executive Vice Chair** – Mark Rhodes – mrhode21@kent.edu
 1. Spring International Travel Award
 - Application opens October 28th
 - Deadline: November 28th by 11:59 pm
 - All applicant information must be blinded before submission
 2. Education Policies Council
 - Inactivated Post Master's certificate in advanced study of Library Science
 3. Presidents' Lunch
 - Blue and Gold Pride fund
 - Meant to fund events that coincide with traditions of individual's organization and the University
 - If interested contact: kgoldrin@kent.edu
 4. Student Media Board
 - Now its own entity
 - Student media survey
 - Looked at student usage of media outlets
 - Requested \$5,100 to help develop a website housing all things related to student media
 5. University Accessibility Committee
 - Looking at University Accessibility footprint
 - Working toward complete accessibility
 - Oct 27th Talk in student center Ballroom
 6. University Libraries
 - RCM budget model
 - Reduction of 8.2%
 - Will cut number of books purchased and subscriptions to Academic Journals

C. **Finance Chair** – Suparna Navale – snavale1@kent.edu

1. Increase in award amount from \$300 to \$500
 - \$200 of the \$500 will come from the University Research Council
2. The Fall Domestic Travel Award:
 - 142 applicants
 - 105 Awardees

D. **Advocacy Chair** – Kathryn Klonowski – kklonows@kent.edu

1. Research Award
 - Looking for volunteers for Research Award review committee
 - Fall Reimbursement Deadline: Oct. 27th by 11:59 pm
2. Service Project – International Institute of Akron www.iiakron.org
 - Need for items:
 - Men's work boots, size 8 – 9
 - Winter clothing
 - Monetary donations
 - Looking for volunteers to help:
 - Assist around building
 - Teaching English
3. GA Task Force
 - Survey Precursory Results

We have received 1,261 responses at the time of this report. **596 responses contain relevant data we can use.**

First, let's begin with the positives!

1. GA satisfaction seems to be very high - approximately 80% of respondents are satisfied (37%) or very satisfied (43%)
2. About the same percentages on positive professional growth development.

The largest concerns are as follows (and not surprisingly):

1. The stipend amounts - **not adequate (72%)**, inconsistent (the range is all over—more time is needed to examine these numbers), contingent (based on later questions)
2. The removal of the health subsidy - 62% of respondents don't take advantage of them, and of those that do, 52% have never used them. **58% say that the removal of the subsidy will make it difficult or unlikely for them to pay for health care, and 45% have said that the subsidy is vital to their physical and mental well-being.**
3. Approximately 23% of respondents' report working outside of contracted arrangements.

Another important factor is that 62% of respondents say that the GA is their ONLY source of income. The university also encourages students to not have outside employment (you need a waiver in many cases) and international students are at a particular disadvantage as many are here on student visas and are not authorized to work in off-campus positions. Along the same lines, family issues came into play in the written comments. We will want to look at these exceptions as well.

Lastly, it is important to note that the question regarding the level of comfort in approaching supervisors. While 48% responded that they were not concerned with approaching their supervisors, that leaves over 50% with varying levels of discomfort with 20% being "concerned" (10%) or "very concerned" (10%). This is indicative of a need for policy change at the university level when addressing GA/supervisor relations.

- Looking for Volunteers for GA Task Force to address these concerns
 - Can be any graduate student – please email Kate ASAP if interested in assisting/joining

E. **Research Symposium Chair** – Brooke Long – blong21@kent.edu

1. Symposium Theme: Standing Together, Building a Better Tomorrow
2. 2018 Symposium April 20th
3. 2019 Symposium April 12th
4. Want to increase:
 - Arts and Humanities participation in Symposium
 - Undergraduate participation
5. Will be adding more Awards
 - Additional \$4,000 to go towards awards
 - 5 Awards based on interdisciplinary sessions
6. Considering expanding the length of the Symposium

F. Info Services Chair – Tyler Smith – gss.info@gmail.com/esmit149@kent.edu

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2. Check Your Spam Folder for gss.info@gmail.com

V. New Business

A. Survey Research Lab

1. Making available 3-6 hour consultation period for graduate students pertaining to survey methods

B. Scientista Panel

1. Time: Thursday, Oct. 20th 4:45 pm - 5:45 pm
2. Location: LCI second floor conference room

VI. Announcements

A. Fall 2016 General Senate Meetings:

Date	Start	End	Location
9/6/2016 Tue	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	KSC BR Balcony
10/18/2016 Tue	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	KSC 306A
11/1/2016 Tue	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	KSC 306A
12/6/2016 Tue	12:30 PM	2:30 PM	KSC 310AB

B. Gradfest Schedule

Date	Start	End	Location
10/21/2016	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	Zephyr
11/4/2016	6:00 PM	8:00 PM	Dominick's

C. All student and Faculty have full access to NY Times material as provided by the Kent State University Libraries. This access includes:

- NYTimes.com
- NYTimes mobile apps
- The international editions

1. To activate your complimentary access to NYTimes.com:

- While connected to the Kent State University network, visit accessnyt.com and follow the instructions to create an account

VII. Adjournment – 1:32 pm Motioned by Sociology, Seconded by Philosophy