I. CALL TO ORDER:

II. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Chair Chris Tom, Michael Benson, Phil Saccone, Janakiraman Balachandran, Steven Apotheker, Alex Gutierrez, Kaitlin Flynn, Anna Belak, Eugene Daneshvar

Present:

Excused:

III. CURRENT INITIATIVES & TASKS

a. Resolutions
   i. Resolution for Class Bank System - make it so that PhD candidates can take upper-level classes that are offered sporadically
   ii. Resolution to Amend the Emergency Fund Requirements - allow other individuals besides program/department head to write the required letter for emergency fund. Avoids privacy problems
   iii. Resolution to Disband the Continuous Enrollment Dispute Resolution Board - CEDR isn’t used, so we can formally disband it.
   iv. Resolution to Require Evaluations Before Receiving Grades - help GSIs and professors get meaningful feedback from grads/undergrads, which will either serve to enhance teaching abilities or goes towards tenure/salary evaluations
   v. Resolution to Amend the Non-Discrimination Policy of the University (part 2) - “Relationship status” was passed as part of this resolution last Spring. Chris will be re-introducing it to include “sexual practice” (or something along those lines) in the NDP.

b. SACUA Joint AAC Committee
   i. Eugene, Chris, Alex (?) interested

c. Eugene’s inquiry for academic discrimination (see appendix)

d. Career Services/Consulting workshop
   i. February date?
   ii. Best practices between programs
IV. OPEN DISCUSSION

V. ACTION ITEMS

[Eugene] Email information about IP issues
[Eugene] Start outlining brief overview pamphlet regarding basics of IP for graduate students
[Phil] Email Paula and CC events director
[Michael] Set up meeting with Janet for GSBOR
[Chris] Set up dropbox
[Everyone] Send Chris 5 survey questions for next meeting
[Kaitlin] Send other committee chairs notice to gather 5 survey questions

VI. ADJOURNMENT: 7:27 pm

VII. APPENDIX

Excerpt from Eugene

Chris,

My constituent asked me if we have the ability to request information from the Registrar's office to aid in determining if he was discriminated against in taking a course. Specifically, he wants to find out if an override was issued for any other student in a class that he was denied because of missing preqs.

Background:

• A PhD student in Engineering and Master's in Economics wanted to take a Finance course that had introductory accounting as a prereq.
• The student attended the first few classes and felt that he understood the material well and asked for an override. The instructor agreed that he would allow him to take the course.
• During class, the student pointed out a mistake in the mathematical theory of the instructor. He asked it as a question during the class, and followed up after class to point it out without embarrassing the instructor.
• The instructor seemed flustered by the realization that he may be incorrect.
• The student emailed multiple times without response to be added to the class. Later, the instructor claimed that he replied, however, the student has confirmation from ITS that no emails were sent.
• At the next class, the instructor claimed that he had misspoke and would not be able to issue the override due to the prereq needed. The instructor said that he would add the student to the CTools site, but still has not done so.
• The student believes that the instructor is treating him differently than other students and is lying to cover it up.

I've instructed the student to contact Darlene Ray Johnson.

I too have an experience that is troubling. Last term I was dis-enrolled from a class by the University's General Counsel the night before the first day of class because I was told that I had "past strained interactions" with the professor teaching the course. I did not know this was a justification for dis-enrollment. I think these two issues raise the broader question of what are our rights to take a class and under what conditions are they taken away.

I would like to propose to explore this issue by adding it to the AAC's agenda.

Thanks,

-Eugene