

NAGPS Legislative Concerns Committee Meeting – December 28th 2010

Requested Attendees:

Chad Foerster – 2010 Legislative Concerns Chair
Mary Winn – 2011 Legislative Concerns Chair
Scott Carlson - Legislative Concerns Committee Member
Andy Guess - Legislative Concerns Committee Member
Richard Kerr - Legislative Concerns Committee Member
Conrad Ottey - Legislative Concerns Committee Member
Tiffany Thacker - Legislative Concerns Committee Member
Joe Reneker – Legislative Concerns Committee Member

Agenda:

1. Status reports on past action items
2. Legislative Issues
 - a. Graduate Student Taxation
 - i. Gearing up support for the reintroduction of H.R. 5078 in the next congress
 - b. America COMPETES
 - i. Notifying membership about the passage of America COMPETES
 - ii. Ensuring it is a talking point in the LAD lobby visits for legislators who supported the House and Senate versions
 - c. FRPAA
 - i. Gearing up support for the reintroduction of FRPAA in the House and Senate
 - d. Graduate Student Loans
 - i. Creating a definable ask for the Spring 2011 NAGPS Legislative Action Days on this issue
3. Spring 2011 NAGPS Legislative Action Days
 - a. Event planning
 - b. Document preparation
4. Legislative Concerns Committee Charter
5. Open Floor

Meeting Minutes:

1. Status reports on past action items
 - a. Graduate Student Taxation
 - i. NAGPS was pushing for H.R. 5600 and H.R. 5078 to be included in the temporary 2 year extension of the Bush Era tax cuts, only 5600 was included before the bill was voted on and passed
 - b. America COMPETES
 - i. Bill passed in the Senate with the open access language that would not endanger NIH's open access policy or any future legislation regarding open access to published research like FRPAA
 - c. FRPAA
 - i. Pushed for more co-sponsors in the House and Senate

- d. Dream Act
 - i. Bill was not passed but it will be brought up again, NAGPS supports this bill and maybe the International Student Concerns Committee can lead an advocacy campaign in the future for any similar bill that comes up
- 2. Legislative Issues
 - a. Graduate Student Taxation
 - i. Discuss with lawmakers about the contents of the recently passed tax bill and what provisions in it relating to education should be made permanent, i.e. employee education assistance, Coverdell educational savings accounts, etc.
 - ii. Help push for the reintroduction of H.R. 5078 with the assistance of SAGE and NAICU
 - b. America COMPETES
 - i. Notifying NAGPS membership about the passage of America COMPETES
 - ii. Ensuring it is a talking point in the LAD lobby visits for legislators who supported the House and Senate versions
 - c. FRPAA
 - i. Gearing up support for the reintroduction of FRPAA in the House and Senate
 - d. FY 2011 Omnibus Bill
 - i. Support the inclusion of language that would mandate the implementation of an open access policy similar to the NIH's for the ED, HHS, DLC
 - e. Graduate Student Loans
 - i. Creating a definable ask for the Spring 2011 NAGPS Legislative Action Days on this issue
- 3. Spring 2011 NAGPS Legislative Action Days
 - a. Scheduled for February 27th to March 1st
 - b. Announcement was sent out in the NAGPS Annunciator, an event page was created on the website, and Vieth registration was opened for the event
 - c. NAGPS Legislative Concerns Committee members are encouraged to spread the word about the event in their respective regions
 - d. Decide what topics to support at LAD in the next two weeks
 - e. Create the leave behinds and have the rough drafts done by the end of January but keep them open for edits in case any new bills are introduced
 - f. Spreading the word out about the event, including announcements in the NAGPS Annunciator, direct email to all members, emails through Vieth system to all previous LAD attendees from 2010
 - g. Scheduling meetings for the NAGPS leadership delegation, start sending out the meeting request letters at the end of January
 - h. Develop an agenda for training session on Sunday night and debrief session of Monday and Tuesday night
- 4. Legislative Concerns Committee Charter
 - a. Still needs to be discussed and approved by the full committee
- 5. Open Floor
 - a. Question about jump starting regional advocacy efforts, consensus was to work closely with Regional Directors and Legislative Concerns Committee Members in that specific region to lead these efforts