

NAGPS Legislative Concerns Committee Meeting – November 4th 2010

Requested Attendees:

Chad Foerster - 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. Informing key Representatives about the path forward for H.R. 5078 and H.R. 5600 that was discussed with House leadership at the Fall 2010 NAPGS LAD
 - ii. Pushing for equality with undergraduates on what is classified as a higher education expense
 - b. America COMPETES
 - i. Keep in contact with Senate leadership about the public access language in the current America COMPETES bill
 - c. FRPAA
 - i. Encourage Chairman Towns to conduct a full markup of the bill in the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee
 - ii. Continue encouraging Representatives and Senators to co-sponsor the bill before and during the lame duck session
 - d. Graduate Student Loans
 - i. Informing legislators about H.R. 2492, H.R. 5043, and S. 3219
 - ii. Asking for policies on par with what currently is available for undergraduate student loans
3. Fall 2010 NAPGS Legislative Action Days
 - a. Re-cap and path forward based on the advocate reporting forms
4. Revise the NAGPS Legislative Platform
5. 2010 NAPGS National Conference
 - a. Game plans for conducting advocacy efforts at the conference and enabling the membership to advocate for the issues discussed at LAD during the lame duck session which starts right after the conference

Meeting Minutes:

1. Status reports of past action items
 - a. Graduate Student Taxation

- i. No movement on the bill yet, still waiting for word back from the House leadership about including the bills or bill language in more comprehensive tax legislation in the lame duck session
 - b. America COMPETES
 - i. Senator Brown from Massachusetts is looking to support the bill
 - c. FRPAA
 - i. No movement on the bill
 - ii. We are continuing to encourage NAGPS members to contact their representatives about supporting the bill
 - d. Graduate Student Loans
 - i. No movement on the bills related to this issue
 - ii. Continued information gathering
- 2. Legislative Issues
 - a. Graduate Student Taxation - Chad
 - i. Contact representatives that were met with at LAD to inform them of the path forward discussed with House leadership for H.R. 5600 and H.R. 5078
 - ii. Finish standard supports letters for the two house bills and one senate bill to be put on the NAGPS Legislative Action Center
 - b. America COMPETES – Scott and Chad
 - i. Email MIT DC office asking for a bill status update and what specific senators should be contacted and encouraged to support the bill
 - ii. Email Senator Reid’s office and ask about movement for America COMPETES in the lame duck session
 - iii. Post the standard support letter that was created earlier in the year on the Legislative Action Center
 - c. FRPAA – Andy and Chad
 - i. Send follow up emails to Universities that were contacted earlier in the year about supporting open access to research but never responded
 - ii. Reach out to key Universities in states with representatives and senators on the key committees that are looking at the FRPAA legislation
 - iii. Encourage Spring and Fall 2010 LAD attendees to contact the offices they met with and ask them to co-sponsor the FRPAA bills in the lame duck session
 - iv. Check with the offices of Senator Lieberman about what subcommittee the FRPAA senate bill went to after it was directed to the Homeland Security Committee, then contact the Chairman of that subcommittee to press for a hearing or markup during the lame duck session
 - d. Graduate Student Loans – Conrad, Tiffany and Joe
 - i. Prepare support letters for the graduate student loans bills which NAGPS could potentially support
 - ii. Create a list of the disparities between graduate and undergraduate student loans
- 3. Fall 2010 Legislative Action Days
 - a. Over 50 meetings were conducted, broad support for the issues but there was a wait and see attitude for their course of action based on the November election
 - b. Still processing the debrief forms and will send out the comprehensive review document of all the legislative visits by mid November
 - c. Continuing to encourage LAD attendees to follow up with offices they met with
- 4. 2011 NAGPS Legislative Platform

- a. Shortened the document to 4 pages by taking out redundant statements and eliminating statements regarding specific bills past or present
- 5. 2010 NAGPS National Conference
 - a. Legislative Concerns Committee Meeting will occur on Friday of the Conference, send the time out for the meeting to all the committee members
 - b. Special session about jump starting advocacy efforts at your university will be lead by the Legislative Concerns Chair on Saturday, send out the details to the committee
 - c. Requesting help from committee members for both of these sessions to help setup and lead breakout group discussions
- 6. General Action Items
 - a. Send a link to the committee group page to all the committee members