Minutes of the Graduate Student Association Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, October 7, 2020

Attendance:
Officers & Staff:
President: J. Coley Programming: C. Doxbeck
Vice President: C. Walters Dir. of Operations: S. George
Treasurer: J. Joseph Editorial Assistance: MDRF: J. Schechter

Senators:
Departmental:
Anthropology: H. Angelini ISE: D. Thiyia/ A. Olukoga/ A. Chivate
Architecture: absent Information Sciences: absent
Art: T. Petch LAI: W. Dai
Audiology: absent Linguistics: J. Schechter
Biochemistry: S. Rosenblum Management: absent
Biological Sciences: absent Materials Design & In: absent
Biomedical Eng: absent Mathematics: M. Schilder
Biostatistics: M. Tian MAE: absent
Biotechnology: absent Media Study: F. Clark
Cancer Sciences- RPC A. Athans/ A. Dynka Microbiology: A. Stovall
Chemistry: N. Hazel/ C. Gould Neuroscience: M. Kulkarni
CSEE: H. Kim/ M.J. Jung Nursing: L. Underwood
Classics: absent Occupational Therapy absent
Communication: Z. Glowacki Oral Biology: M. Che
Comm. Health & H.B. absent Pathology & Anatomy: absent
Comparative Lit: A. Rasul Pharmaceutics: D. Duran/ I. Hamada
CSE: G. Singh Pharm. & Tox: C. Lafargue
CSEP: absent Philosophy: Y. Xia
Economics: absent Physical Therapy: D. Lanzillotta/ R. Heim
ELP: K. Michener/ M. Price/ P. Arment Physics: N. Fuller/ M. Morris
EE: absent Political Science: O. Guney
English: S. Mehri/ B. Bastie Psychology: K. James/ J. Gillies
EEH: S. Frndak RLL: V. Marulanda Ospina
ENS: absent Social Work: C. Green/ K. DeRose
GGB: absent Sociology: absent
Geography: J. Swiezy Speech: N. Feeley
Geology: K. Griswold Theatre & Dance: M. Kirchhoff
Global Gender St: absent Transnational Studies E. Novak
History: E. Deutsch Urban Planning: N. Hill

International Clubs:
Bangladeshi: absent Latin American: J.E. Fontecha Garcia
CSSA: H. Li Middle Eastern: absent
Hellenic: absent Taiwanese: absent
Indian: I. Jolly Turkish: absent
Iranian: S. Hodaei
Special Interest Clubs:
AI in Medicine        D. Moukheiber    MD/PhD:          C. Brady
Computational Sci:    absent          UB-AI:           L. Moukheiber
Graduate Poetics:     C. Tranchino    UB-EERI:         R. R. Singh
Grad Students of Color B. Salazar  UBQ:          A. Rivera
GIGS:                 X. Chen

Guests:
1. Vice President Connor Walters calls the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. They give a brief introduction to the procedure for remote board meetings – motions are made by text chat and voted on using Zoom’s polling function.

2. Approval of Minutes
   - Motion to approve the minutes from the September 9, 2020 Board Meeting
     - Motion: Anthropology
     - Second: Urban Planning
     - In Favor: 57; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 1
     - Motion passes

3. Announcements
   - The Board Meeting Schedule for this year is part of the packet that was emailed to all attendees.
   - GSA programming for September is reviewed by the Programming Coordinator, Courtney Doxbeck
     - Discount Hatchet & Hops Voucher available
       - $15 each for $40 voucher that allows for 2 hours of axe throwing. 2 per UB ID. Reserve online and pick up at the UB Ticket Office in 221 Student Union.
     - Fall Fest at Becker Farms ~ Free Ticket Promo Code Available
     - 1 per UB ID. Reserve online to be emailed the code.
     - October 19th- More Free $5 Tim Hortons gift cards available
       - 1 per UB ID. Reserve online and pick up at the UB Ticket Office in 221 Student Union.
     - October 26th- Free $10 Chipotle gift cards available
       - 1 per UB ID. Reserve online and you will be sent a virtual gift card.

4. Report of the President
   - GSA President J Coley states that they are sitting on a new committee addressing general graduate student concerns, and any students who have concerns to share can email them at gsa-president@buffalo.edu.

5. Report of the Vice President
   - Connor announces the meeting date and time for the final Mandatory Officer Training, to be held via Zoom is October 8th at 7:00pm.
   - Connor reviews the roles of club officers and board members, the requirement for clubs to use UBLinked for all elections, and some of the paperwork and required training for both club officers and Board members.

6. Report of the Treasurer
   - GSA Treasurer Josh Joseph states that the student activity fee referendum has passed, keeping GSA funding secure for another two years.
   - Funding Account Balances:
     - Special Activity: $15,000 to start, $0.00 allocated this month, $15,000.00 remaining
     - Interdepartmental Activity: $2,000.00 to start, $0.00 allocated this month, $2,000.00 remaining
     - Symposia: $15,000.00 to start, $0.00 allocated this month, $15,000.00 remaining
     - Scholarly Publication: $6,000.00 to start, $0.00 allocated this month, $6,000.00 remaining
     - Community Outreach: $2,000 to start, $0.00 allocated this month, $2,000.00 remaining
   - Conferences:
     - 12 requests for $2,231.00, 12 approved for $2,231.00
     - Beginning Balance: $140,000.00; Remaining Balance $135,843.00

7. Old Business
   - Board of Directors Training Review and Q&A
     - GSA Legal Counsel Josh Lippes takes questions regarding board of directors training.
     - Josh responds to questions regarding legal liability coverage and reminds representatives that when serving on the Board they are legally obligated to vote in the best interests of the organization, and not necessarily in the best interests of oneself or their club/Department.
   - Policy Receipt Acknowledgements
     - Each club must have at least one person sign and submit the Policy Receipt Acknowledgement for receiving the GSA Conflict of Interest and Whistleblower policies.
     - These policies were submitted as part of the meeting packet.
   - Election Committee Call for Members (5 Members, including chair)
     - Daniel Duran (Pharmaceutical Sciences) (Chair)
     - Tania Islam (Public Health)
     - Xingyu Chen (GGS)
     - Mi Jin Jung (CSEE)
     - Gursimran Singh (CSE)
   - Motion to approve the Election Committee members and Chair
     - Motion: Nursing
Second: Anthropology
In favor: 56; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 0
Motion passes

8. New Business

- Club Recognition
  - A representative from Iranian GSA presents on their club.
    - Recommended: $750
  - A representative from AI in Medicine presents on their club.
    - Recommended: $350
  - A representative from UB-AI presents on their club.
    - Recommended: $350
    - Stipulation: Club must recruit more members to diversify membership list before receiving funding
  - A representative from UBQ presents on their club.
    - Recommended: $350
  - Motions come in simultaneously for voting on clubs individually and for voting on clubs as a block. Because the motion for individual voting is seconded first, that motion is voted on.
  - Motion to vote on clubs individually at the recommended funding amounts
    - Motion: Industrial & Systems Engineering
    - Second: Microbiology
    - In Favor: 39; Oppose: 15; Abstain: 0
    - Motion passes
  - Vote to approve Iranian
    - In favor: 48; Oppose: 2; Abstain: 3
    - Motion passes
  - Vote to approve AI in Medicine
    - In favor: 47; Oppose: 5; Abstain: 3
    - Motion passes
  - Vote to approve UB-AI
    - In favor: 50; Oppose: 3; Abstain: 1
    - Motion passes
  - Vote to approve UBQ
    - In favor: 49; Oppose: 1; Abstain: 4
    - Motion passes

- Funding Requests
  - There are no funding requests.

- Petition for Voting Privileges
  - Connor explains the process by which Special Interest clubs can petition the Board of Directors for voting privileges.
  - They read the petition for voting privileges from UBQ, which will be voted on at the next Board meeting.

9. Roll Call and Adjournment

- Connor thanks everyone for their patience and flexibility in the delivery of the Board meeting.
- Motion to Adjourn at 7:31p.m.
  - Motion: Nursing
  - Second: English
  - In favor: 54; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 0
  - Motion passes