

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. Thiya/ 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
Chem. & Bio. Eng:	D. Choudhury/ A. Chakraborty	Music:	absent
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	Pharmaceuticals:	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
Computational Sci: absent
Graduate Poetics: C. Tranchino
Grad Students of Color B. Salazar
GIGS: X. Chen

MD/PhD:
UB-AI
UB-EERI:
UBQ:

C. Brady
L. Moukheiber
R. R. Singh
A. Rivera

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