

Minutes of the Graduate Student Association Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday, March 2, 2022

Attendance:

Officers & Staff:

President:	J. Coley	Programming:	
Vice President:	J. Schechter	Dir. of Operations:	S. George/ D. Staly
Treasurer:	J. Joseph	Editorial Assistance:	
		MDRF:	

Board Members:

Departmental:

Africana & Americana:	T. Coleman	LAI:	R. Enser
Anthropology:	E. Pinkston	Linguistics:	absent
Art:	N. Chochrek	Materials Design & In:	N. Deepak Sali
Audiology:	J. Stuber	Mathematics:	K.Y. Cheuk
Biochemistry:	J. McGlohon	MAE:	K.K. Gabani
Biological Sciences:	E. Vohwinkel	Media Study:	F. Clark
Biostatistics:	H. Sheng	Microbiology:	E. Ivey
Cancer Sciences- RPCCC:	K. Maraszek/ L. Martinez-Gutierrez	Music:	J. Falzone
Chem. & Bio. Eng:	J. Diehl/ S. Shahini	Neuroscience:	M. Kumar
Chemistry:	M. Redington (absent- 1/2)	Nursing:	absent
CSEE:	K. Eltouny/ A.A. Fathi Ali Solimna	Occupational Therapy:	A. Kubiak
Classics:	absent	Oral Biology:	M. Che
Communication:	N. Acosta	Pharmaceutics:	R. Hari (absent- 1/2)
Comm. Health & H.B.	C. McGillicuddy	Pharm. & Tox:	S. Xu
Comparative Lit:	A. Rasul	Philosophy:	absent
CSE:	M. Tulugu/ V.S.K. Kuruganty	Physical Therapy:	G. Hendershot/ E. St. Pierre
CSEP:	J. Casella	Physics:	O. Elsherif
ELP:	K. Barnhart/ M. Price/ R. Jones	Political Science:	A. Brown
English:	S. Mehri/ B. Bastie	Psychology:	A. Wiseblatt/ A. Ferkin
EEH:	F. Ali	RLL:	M. Dufay-Verbie
ENS:	E. Lavoie	Social Work:	P. Hennigan / A. Kreib
Geography:	C. Liu	Sociology:	J. Schoonover
Geology:	K. Griswold	Speech:	K. Kearney/ K. Wong
History:	R. Adams	Theatre & Dance:	absent
ISE:	A. Olukoga/ S. Dsa/ M.R. Yempada	Urban Planning:	J. Kotler

International Clubs:

Indian:	M. Raj	Latin American:	M. Di Luigi
Iranian:	Z. Vahidi	Taiwanese:	H.W. Huang

Special Interest Clubs:

GradSWE:	K. Patidar	GSPHA:	M. Urooj
Graduate Poetics:	M. Green	UB-EERI:	absent
Grad Students of Color:	B. Salazar	UBQ:	absent
GIGS:	X. Chen		

Guests:

J. Lippes	Legal Counsel
E. Novak	AAS

1. President J Coley calls the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve the minutes from the February 2<sup>nd</sup> Board Meeting
  - Motion: Mathematics
  - Second: Physics
  - In Favor: 44; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 1
  - Motion passes

3. Announcements

- El Novak provides an update on the PhD Excellence Committee's survey.
  - Based on survey responses, the top three most important things to graduate students in their pursuit of a degree: (1) funding; (2) job placement; (3) community outreach/networking. It was not mentoring or accountability, but support for non-academia track students.
- Vice President J Schechter states that the University will be lifting its mask mandate on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.
- The Vice President also states that the GSA has lifted its in-person event ban, but reminds clubs they must follow University and GSA requirements, or their budgets will get frozen, with the most severe infractions being derecognized by the University.
  - All events require prior approval from the University and EH&S.
  - Clubs must use the Event Pass App to check students into events.
    - Instructions for how to do this are located on the GSA's website.
  - All participants must complete the GSA Liability Waiver before being allowed admittance to events.
- GSA programming is reviewed.
  - Free KN95 masks are now available for graduate students.
    - 1 per UB ID while supplies last. Reserve online and pick up at the UB Ticket Office in 221 Student Union.
  - Free Arrowhead Spring Vineyards wine tasting vouchers are now available.
    - 1 per UB ID. Limited quantity available. First come, first served. Reserve online and pick up at the UB Ticket Office in 221 Student Union.
  - March 7<sup>th</sup>—Discount AMC movie tickets on sale.
    - \$5 each. 1 per UB ID. Reserve online and pick up at the UB Ticket Office in 221 Student Union.
  - March 7<sup>th</sup>—Free New York Beer Project tour tickets available.
    - 1 per UB ID. Limited quantity available. First come, first served. Reserve online through the UB Ticket Office.
  - March 11<sup>th</sup>—Java Junction 11:00am-1:00pm in 210 Student Union
    - Free Tim Horton's coffee and donuts for graduate students. All students must complete the GSA Liability Waiver before they will be admitted.
  - March 14<sup>th</sup>—Buffalo Museum of Science Antarctic Dinosaur Exhibit Passes on sale.
    - \$5 each. 1 per UB ID. Tickets include museum admittance as well. Reserve online and pick up at the UB Ticket Office in 221 Student Union.
  - April 5<sup>th</sup>—Distinguished Speaker Series presents Jeff Corwin
    - Free tickets will be available for graduate students approximately two weeks before the lecture.
  - April 22<sup>nd</sup>—Anastasia at Shea's Performing Arts Center
    - Tickets on sale March 21<sup>st</sup> for \$20 each. 2 per UB ID. Reserve online and pick up at the UB Ticket Office in 221 Student Union.
  - April 23<sup>rd</sup>—Sabres Hockey Game vs New York Islanders
    - Tickets on sale March 14<sup>th</sup> for \$10 each. 2 per UB ID. Reserve online and pick up at the UB Ticket Office in 221 Student Union.

4. Report of the President

- GSA President J Coley states that the Provost and the President's Council on Race Implementation Committee (PACOR) have invited the UB community to three virtual town halls. They will be attending and encourage everyone to attend.
  - The townhalls are March 15<sup>th</sup>, March 16<sup>th</sup> and March 17<sup>th</sup> from 12:00-1:30pm.
- The President also explained that this is a referendum year for the GSA and provided information on what the fee pays for. They encouraged everyone to vote and to spread the word to all graduate students.
  - The referendum is voted on during the general election Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>—Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>

5. Report of the Vice President

- GSA Vice President Jen Schechter states that the early club recognition deadline is March 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Any Special Interest and International clubs that don't apply for Early Recognition will not have access to their budgets until recognition happens in the fall.
- The Vice President also provides a reminder about club voting and funding guidelines.
  - All votes must take place in open club meetings.
  - Club members must approve of all expenses and amounts.

- Must meet quorum in order for votes to be legitimate!
- Minutes must show the motion, the second, and the voting tallies.
- Any requisition submitted without minutes will not be processed/approved until the minutes are received.
- Lastly, the Vice President stated that they will be looking for feedback on the Mandatory Officer Training provided by the GSA. A survey will be going out to all clubs' Presidents and Treasurers.

#### 6. Report of the Treasurer

- The GSA Treasurer Josh Joseph states that budget preparation is underway within the Finance Committee and will be presented to the Board for a vote at the April 6<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.
  - If the budget passes, the April 20<sup>th</sup> meeting will be canceled.
- The Treasurer also notes that the final deadline for all funding requests (Special Activity, Interdepartmental Activity, Symposia and Community Outreach) for this year is Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> by 4:30pm.
- 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, \$13,605.00 remaining
  - Scholarly Publication: \$6,000.00 to start, \$0.00 allocated this month, \$1,600.00 remaining
  - Community Outreach: \$2,000 to start, \$0.00 allocated this month, \$2,000.00 remaining
  - Conferences:
    - 42 requests in March for \$18,029.28, 42 approved for \$18,029.28
    - Beginning Balance: \$140,000.00; Remaining Balance \$99,197.01

#### 7. Old Business

- There is no Old Business.

#### 8. New Business

- Funding Requests
  - There are no funding requests this month.
- Election Committee Update
  - Election Committee Co-Chair Morgan Redington provides an update to the Board.
    - Presentation of Candidates:
      - For President: J Coley
      - For Vice President: Jennifer Schechter
      - For Treasurer: Joshua Joseph and Ryan Enser
    - There will be a Candidate Q&A/Debate during the April 6<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.
    - Elections will be held online Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>—Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>

#### 9. Roll Call and Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn at 7:06pm
  - Motion: Mathematics
  - Second: Exercise & Nutrition Science
  - In favor: 47; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 1
  - Motion passes