

Minutes of the Graduate Student Association Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, April 6, 2022

Attendance:

Officers & Staff:

President:	J. Coley	Programming:	L. Russell
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:	J. Sharp
Art:	N. Chochrek	Materials Design & In:	M. Sandip Parasnis
Audiology:	J. Stuber	Mathematics:	K.Y. Cheuk
Biochemistry:	C. Handelmann	MAE:	A.K. Singh
Biological Sciences:	E. Vohwinkel	Media Study:	F. Clark
Biostatistics:	J. Zhou	Microbiology:	K. Sortino
Cancer Sciences- RPCCC:	K. Maraszek/ L. Martinez-Gutierrez	Music:	J. Falzone
Chem. & Bio. Eng:	J. Diehl/ S. Shahini	Neuroscience:	absent
Chemistry:	C. Gould/ M. Redington	Nursing:	L. Underwood
CSEE:	H. Carrion/ P. Cruz	Occupational Therapy:	D. Henry
Classics:	M. Barcarolo	Oral Biology:	M. Che
Communication:	N. Acosta	Pharmaceutics:	B. Boleslav/ R. Hari
Comm. Health & H.B.	C. Dauphin	Pharm. & Tox:	absent
Comparative Lit:	absent	Philosophy:	F. McMurty
CSE:	absent	Physical Therapy:	G. Ganaden/ A. Sagun
CSEP:	absent	Physics:	O. Elsherif
ELP:	K. Barnhart (absent - 1/3)	Political Science:	A. Brown
English:	S. Mehri/ L. Mullen	Psychology:	K. James/ A. Ferkin
EEH:	S. Frndak	RLL:	N.G Gablenz
ENS:	E. Lavoie	Social Work:	A. Kreib (absent - 1/2)
Geography:	C. Liu	Sociology:	J. Schoonover
Geology:	K. Griswold	Speech:	J. Salim/ R. Azzam
History:	R. Adams	Theatre & Dance:	K. Horowitz
ISE:	A. Olukoga/ S. Dsa/ M.R. Yempada	Urban Planning:	J. Kotler

International Clubs:

Indian:	P. Garg (absent - RC)	Latin American:	M. Di Luigi
Iranian:	Z. Vahidi	Taiwanese:	H.W. Huang

Special Interest Clubs:

GradSWE:	S. Kyasararm	GSPHA:	J. Rosales
Graduate Poetics:	absent	UB-EERI:	absent
Grad Students of Color:	S. Quinones	UBQ:	O. Clarke
GIGS:	X. Chen		

Guests:

J. Lippes	Legal Counsel
L. Running	Chemistry
A. Rothfuss	Chemistry
E. Hayden	Pharmaceutical Sciences
P.S. Desai	GISA

1. President J Coley calls the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve the minutes from the March 2nd Board Meeting
 - Motion: Nursing
 - Second: Geology
 - In Favor: 49; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 3
 - Motion passes

3. Announcements

- Lawrence Mullen states the GSEU has professional development funds.
 - Maximum of \$1,000; it is renewable every year; it is available to TAs and GAs for conferences, workshops, course certifications, etc., but not for things like salaries, stipends or software.
- Vice President Jen Schechter reviews the Spring MDRF funding report.
 - 29 applications received for \$70,005.78; 12 applications approved for \$27,986.90
 - The primary reason for rejection is incomplete application.
- President J Coley states that the GSA will begin summer hours Monday, May 16th and will resume regular hours on August 29th.
 - Summer Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:30am to 4:00pm, closed on Fridays.
 - Regular Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm.
- President J Coley states that there should be a vote on the 2022-2023 Board meeting format
 - Would students prefer that meetings continue to be held virtually or return to an in-person format?
 - Virtual: 40; In-Person: 17
 - Meetings will continue to be held virtually.
- 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.
 - More discount AMC movie tickets on sale no.
 - \$5 each. 1 per UB ID. Reserve online and pick up at the UB Ticket Office in 221 Student Union.
 - April 8th—GSA Gas Card Giveaway Drawing!
 - Visit us at one of our tabling events, or like us on social media for a chance to be entered to win one of three \$85 gas cards!
 - April 11th—More free Arrowhead Spring Vineyards wine tasting vouchers.
 - 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.
 - April 12th—Professional Headshots at the Career Design Center
 - \$5 each for a 5 minute session.
 - April 15th—Java Junction 10:45am – 12:45pm 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.
 - April 23rd—Sabres Hockey Game vs New York Islanders
 - \$10 each. 2 per UB ID. Reserve online and pick up at the UB Ticket Office in 221 Student Union.
 - May 2nd—Last batch of discount AMC movie tickets available!
 - May 13th—Ain’t Too Proud at Shea’s Performing Arts Center
 - Tickets on sale April 11th for \$20 each. 2 per UB ID.
 - June 24th—Cabaret at Shea’s Smith Theater
 - Tickets on sale May 23rd for \$20 each. 2 per UB ID.
 - Coming Soon!!
 - Buffalo Bisons Baseball Passes—pick your own home game!
 - Six Flags Darien Lake—June 24th
 - Shakespeare in Delaware Park—July 9th and August 13th
 - Buffalo Zoo Tickets—go on your own!
 - Moondance Cruise—July 15th
 - And much more!

4. Report of the President

- GSA President J Coley states that there will be a lecture by Ericka Hart on April 11th from 7:00-8:30pm at Slee Hall.
- They also stated that the Citizens for Regional Transit will be holding a public forum on April 20th from 5:30-7:00pm and is looking for a student representative for the panel. Any interested parties should contact the GSA President.

5. Report of the Vice President

- GSA Vice President Jen Schechter states that, if possible, it's a good idea to consider having your club's elections in the spring semester to avoid any transition issues.
- There will also be a By-Law review to make sure that all club by-laws are consistent and in compliance with all relevant rules and regulations.

6. Report of the Treasurer

- The GSA Treasurer Josh Joseph reminds clubs they have until June 1st to requisition any remaining funds and until July 15th to spend them.
 - All requisitions must be accompanied by club minutes and pre-approving the expenses by the June 1st deadline.
- The Treasurer also notes that the new fiscal year begins on August 1st.
 - This year's budget cannot be used to pay for next year's expenses.
- There is also updated travel guidance from the University
 - All individuals that will be traveling must be up to date with their SARS-CoV2 vaccinations.
 - Student organizations are currently only permitted to travel throughout the United States of America, including the U.S. territories.
 - International travel is still prohibited.
 - Failure to follow the outlined guidelines will result in loss of privileges as a student organization, including the inability to travel in the future. Individuals traveling while not fully vaccinated will be reported to the student conduct process.
- Funding Account Balances:
 - Special Activity: \$15,000 to start, \$2,290.00 allocated this month, \$12,710.00 remaining
 - Interdepartmental Activity: \$2,000.00 to start, \$550.00 allocated this month, \$1,450.00 remaining
 - Symposia: \$15,000.00 to start, \$1,400.00 allocated this month, \$12,205.00 remaining
 - Scholarly Publication: \$6,000.00 to start, \$0.00 allocated this month, \$2,000.00 remaining
 - Community Outreach: \$2,000 to start, \$0.00 allocated this month, \$2,000.00 remaining
 - Conferences:
 - 28 requests in April for \$10,511.91, 28 approved for \$10,511.91
 - Beginning Balance: \$140,000.00; Remaining Balance \$88,685.10

7. Old Business

- There is no Old Business.

8. New Business

- Early Club Recognition
 - Representatives from Iranian, Latin American, Graduate Students of Color (GSOC), Group for International Graduate Students (GIGS) and GSPHA present their club, all are requesting and recommended for the full amount they are eligible for (\$750 for international; \$350 for special interest).
 - A representative for UB-EERI was not present at the meeting and therefore the group is ineligible for Early Recognition.
 - Motion to approve all of the clubs—except UB-EERI—as a block at the recommended amounts.
 - Motion: Physics
 - Second: Chemistry
 - In Favor: 45; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 3
 - Motion passes
- Funding Requests
 - Representatives from GISA (Special Activity: Holi), Pharmaceutical Sciences (Special Activity: Pharmaceutical Sciences Distinguished Alumni Symposium), Chemistry (Symposium: Graduate Student Symposium) and Chemistry, Mathematics & Physics (Interdepartmental Activity: Club Mixer and Trivia Night) present their requests for activity funding. All have been recommended for the amounts requested (information in submitted forms).
 - Motion to approve all funding requests as a block at the recommended amounts.
 - Motion: Physics
 - Second: English
 - In Favor: 46; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 2
 - Motion passes
- 2022-2023 Budget
 - The GSA Treasurer Josh Joseph presents the 2022-2023 budgets to the Board.
 - He notes most changes are due to contractual obligations and the unusually high rate of inflation causing increased prices.
 - If the referendum fails, we will be on a skeleton budget until we can try to re-run the vote in Spring 2023.
 - This means no clubs, no funding, no grants, no activities.
 - If the budget drafts pass tonight and the referendum vote passes, the April 20th Board of Directors meeting will be canceled.
 - Motion to approve the 2022-2023 budgets as presented.

- Motion: Mathematics
- Second: Learning & Instruction (LAI)
- In Favor: 43; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 6
- Motion passes
- Election Committee Update
 - Election Committee Co-Chair Morgan Redington provides an update to the Board.
 - Motion to approve the election ballots.
 - Motion: Epidemiology & Environmental Health (EEH)
 - Second: Geology
 - In Favor: 46; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 1
 - Motion passes
 - There is a Candidate Q&A moderated by Election Committee Co-Chair Morgan Redington.
 - Elections will be held online Monday, April 11th—Thursday, April 14th

9. Roll Call and Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn at 8:06pm
 - Motion: Physics
 - Second: English
 - In favor: 41; Oppose: 1; Abstain: 0
 - Motion passes