Minutes of the Graduate Student Association Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, September 7, 2022

Attendance:

Officers & Staff:

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

Board Members:

Departmental:

Africana & Americana: S. Hunt LAI: R. Enser
Anthropology: Z. Apolito Linguistics: J. Sharp
Art: T. Robers Materials Design & In: absent
Audiology: J. Stuber Mathematics: K.Y. Cheuk
Biochemistry: J. McGlohon MAE: absent
Biological Sciences: E. Vohwinkel Media Study: absent
Biostatistics: H. Sheng Microbiology: M. D’Angelo
Cancer Sciences- RPCCC: absent Music: J. Falzone
Chemistry: absent Nursing: absent
CSEE: H. Carrion (absent- 1/2) Occupational Therapy: R. Arian
Classics: A. Hill Oral Biology: M. Che
Communication: E. Lapan Pharmaceutics: B. Boleslav (absent-1/2)
Comm. Health & H.B. absent Pharm. & Tox: S. Xu
Comparative Lit: absent Philosophy: absent
CSE: absent Physical Therapy: S. Hutton/ A. Sagun
CSEP: J. Casella Physics: J. Carvalho
ELP: H. Carroll/ A. Dresnack/ J. Raymore Political Science: A. Brown
English: S. Mehri/ L. Mullen Psychology: X. Ma
EEH: S. Lima RLL: absent
Geography: C. Liu Sociology: S. Upadhyay
Geology: K. Griswold Speech: K. Kearney/ K. Wong
History: J. Labbie Theatre & Dance: K. Horowitz

International Clubs:

Indian: absent Latin American: absent
Iranian: S.S. Tabalvandani Taiwanese: absent

Special Interest Clubs:

GradSWE: absent GSPHA: B. Keenan
Graduate Poetics: absent UB-EERI: absent
Grad Students of Color: S. Quinones UB Sci & Health Policy M. Garcia
GIGS: X. Chen UBQ: absent

Guests:

J. Lippes Legal Counsel
E. Colucci Graduate School
B. Cooper UBIT
T. Vane Student Engagement
1. President J Coley calls the meeting to order at 6:31pm

2. Approval of Minutes
   - Motion to approve the minutes from the April 6th Board Meeting
     - Motion: Exercise & Nutrition Science
     - Second: Mathematics
     - In Favor: 37; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 2
     - Motion passes

3. Announcements
   - Elizabeth Colucci—Assistant Dean for Graduate Professional Development—reviews Graduate School offerings.
   - Blake Cooper—IT Communications Specialist—reviews important UBIT information for graduate students, including scams, the Microsoft 365 update, and upcoming student input sessions.
     - Report any suspected scams to abuse@buffalo.edu
   - Tom Vane—Assistant Director of Student Engagement for Student Governance & Organizations—provided a brief training on UBlinked (how to access a club’s Roster, Events and Elections).
     - He also reminded all clubs they need to re-register with the University by October 15th or their club will be frozen the remainder of the school year.
   - President J Coley provides a brief introduction to the GSA staff and goes over the office hours, board schedule and Board member training requirements.
     - GSA staff are working partly remotely.
     - Walk-in hours will be on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:30a-11:30a. All other in-person meetings will continue to be held by appointment only.
   - GSA programming is reviewed.
     - More discount AMC movie tickets on sale now.
       - $5 each. 1 per UB ID. Reserve online and pick up at the UB Ticket Office in 221 Student Union.
       - September 23rd—Buffalo Bisons vs. Rochester Red Wings baseball game
         - $10 each. 1 per UB ID. Reserve online and pick up at the UB Ticket Office in 221 Student Union.
       - October 7th—Java Junction, 11:00am—1:00pm in 145 C&D Student Union.
         - Free Tim Horton’s coffee and donuts for graduate students.
       - October 8th—Fall Fest at Becker Farms
         - $5 each. 1 per UB ID. Reserve online and pick up at the UB Ticket Office in 221 Student Union.
       - October 11th—Distinguished Speaker Series presents Ken Jeong
         - A limited number of free tickets will be available for graduate students starting September 26th. 1 per UB ID.
       - Coming Soon!!
         - November 12th—Buffalo Sabres vs. Boston Bruins Hockey Game (on sale Oct. 10th)
         - November 15th—Distinguished Speaker Series presents Marie Yovanovitch (on sale Oct. 31st)
         - November 27th—Disney’s Aladdin at Shea’s (on sale Sept. 26th)

4. Report of the President
   - GSA President J Coley states that the Whistleblower Policy and Conflict of Interest Policy were included with the meeting packets.
     - Verification of receipt of these policies by all Board members will need to be received by the October Board meeting.
     - Acknowledgement forms will be emailed out with the next meeting agenda.
     - They remind all in attendance to share the policies with any newly (or soon-to-be) elected Board members.
   - The President states that they are interested in forming a writing group this academic year for Black and POC graduate students working on projects. Examples of writing projects include Masters theses, Dissertation Proposals, Dissertations, as well as fellowship and grant applications.
     - This could potentially become a recognized GSA club but will remain informal for now.
     - If you are interested in joining this writing group, please send an email to gsa-president@buffalo.edu

5. Report of the Vice President
   - GSA Vice President Jen Schechter reviews the process for Mandatory Officer Training for all club Presidents and Treasurers.
     - Passed quiz results must be received from all Presidents and Treasurers by September 30th or club funds will be frozen.
   - Also, please remember that it is the responsibility of club officers to forward GSA emails to their constituent listservs, as the GSA is not given access to the University’s master listserv of graduate students.

6. Report of the Treasurer
   - 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
o Community Outreach: $2,000 to start, $0.00 allocated this month, $2,000.00 remaining
o Conferences:
  - 19 requests in August for $8,250.29, 19 approved for $8,250.29
  - 29 requests in September for $10,547.15, 28 approved for $10,197.15
  - Beginning Balance: $140,000.00; Remaining Balance $121,552.56

7. Old Business
• There is no Old Business.

8. New Business
• Call for Committee Members
  o Finance Committee (9 Members, 2 Alternates)
    ▪ Monika Che (Oral Biology)
    ▪ Cassy Dauphin (CHHB)
    ▪ Tom Cheuk (Mathematics)
    ▪ Jeremy Raymore (ELP)
    ▪ Stephine Hunt (AAS)
    ▪ Lawrence Mullen (English)
    ▪ Julia Diehl (CBE)
    ▪ Andrew Brown (Political Science)
    ▪ Elizabeth Vohwinkel (Biological Sciences)
      Alt 1. J Coley (Sociology)
      Alt 2. Sharmeen Mehri (English)
  o Motion to approve Finance Committee members
    ▪ Motion: Mathematics
    ▪ Second: Neuroscience
    ▪ In Favor: 37; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 4
    ▪ Motion passes
  o Services Committee (5 Members)
    ▪ Ahmed Elsheikh (Pharmaceutical Sciences)
    ▪ Monika Che (Oral Biology)
    ▪ Taylor Robers (Art)
    ▪ Jeremy Raymore (ELP)
    ▪ Tom Cheuk (Mathematics)
  o Motion to approve Finance Committee members
    ▪ Motion: Physical Therapy
    ▪ Second: Mathematics
    ▪ In Favor: 37; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 2
    ▪ Motion Passes
  o Election Committee (5 Members)
    ▪ Andrew Brown (Political Science)
    ▪ Monika Che (Oral Biology)
    ▪ Stephine Hunt (AAS)
    ▪ Elizabeth Vohwinkel (Biological Sciences)
    ▪ Emily Lapan (Communications)
  o Motion to approve Finance Committee members
    ▪ Motion: Microbiology
    ▪ Second: Mathematics
    ▪ In Favor: 36; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 2
    ▪ Motion passes
• Call for an Ethics Officer
  o Lawrence Mullen
    ▪ Motion to approve Ethics Officer
      ▪ Motion: Mathematics
      ▪ Second: Exercise & Nutrition Science
      ▪ In Favor: 35; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 7
      ▪ Motion Passes
• Club Recognition
  o A representative from UB Science and Health Policy presents their club. They are requesting and recommended for the full amount they are eligible for ($350 for a new special interest club).
Motion to approve the club at the recommended amount
  - Motion: Anthropology
  - Second: Neuroscience
  - In Favor: 37; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 3
  - Motion passes

- Funding Requests
  - There are no funding requests

9. Roll Call and Adjournment
- Motion to Adjourn at 8:21pm
  - Motion: Sociology
  - Second: Microbiology
  - In favor: 37; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 1
  - Motion passes