Minutes of the Graduate Student Association Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Attendance:

Officers & Staff:

President: I. Kolding
Vice President: S. MacDougall
Treasurer: M. March

Programming: J. Garcia Ramirez
Dir. of Operations: S. George/ D. Staly
Editorial Assistance: MDRF:

Board Members:

Departmental:

Africana & Americana: R. Pitonyak
Anthropology: S. Biswas
Architecture: S. Brunstein (absent- 1/2)
Art: S. Browning
Audiology: G. Cerneskie
Biochemistry: J. Sosa
Biological Sciences: absent
Biostatistics: S. Liang
Cancer Sciences- RPCCC: T.S.M Pandian/ M. Atwater
Chem. & Bio. Eng: absent
Chemistry: N. Kalita/ R. Routray
CSEE: V.R. Solanki/ F.S. Bardales
Classics: M. Pehringer
Communication: K. Heneveld
Comm. Health & H.B. S. Lawson
Comparative Lit: N. Arnone
CSE: A.R. Alugupally/ M. Lary
CSEP: J. Casella
ELP: E. Duggan/ M. Morrissey
Electrical Engineering: absent
English: S. Williams
EEH: K. Manney
ENS: N. Presti
Geography: absent
Geology: L. Wilson
Global Gender Studies: M.L. Nutting
History: K. Kostin

ISE: inactive
Information Science: A. Crabtree
LAI: M.N. Esfahani
Linguistics: T. Grosso
Materials Design & In: S. Padmanabha
Mathematics: J. Kazimer
MAE: C. F. Fernandes
Media Study: J. Hager
Microbiology: J. Furfaro
Music: J. Falzone
Neuroscience: R. Patel
Nursing: L. Pasek
Occupational Therapy: S. Kim (absent- 1/2)
Oral Biology: E. Horeth
Pharmaceuticals: B. Ly
Pharm. & Tox: K.G. Kedari
Philosophy: inactive
Physical Therapy: absent
Physics: J. DeMaria
Political Science: R. Lawlor
Psychology: B. Greene
RLL: W. Vera
Social Work: absent
Sociology: N.T. Reyes
Speech: S. Beattie/ L. Santalis
Theatre & Dance: absent
Urban Planning: Y. Mullen

International Clubs:

Bangladeshi: P. Paul
Indian: N. Evagala
Iranian: K. Borazjani

Latin American: E. Chacin Ruiz
Taiwanese: B. Chen

Special Interest Clubs:

GradSWE: S. Agarwal
Graduate Poetics: A. VanSteinberg
Grad Students of Color: F. Arecy
GIGS: absent

GSPHA: absent
UB Sci & Health Policy absent
UBQ: S. King-Shaw

Guests:

J. Lippes
M. Grela
Legal
FSA
1. President Isaac Kolding calls the meeting to order at 6:33pm.
2. Approval of Minutes
   - Motion to approve the minutes from the November 1st Board Meeting
     - Motion: Linguistics
     - Second: Civil, Structural & Environmental Engineering
     - In Favor: 48; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 3
     - Motion passes
3. Announcements
   - Michael Grela from FSA Accounting reviews the GSA’s 2022-2023 990 and CHAR500 tax reports
     - Motion to approve the 990 tax filing
     - Motion: Mathematics
     - Second: Music
     - In Favor: 47; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 6
     - Motion passes
   - GSA Winter Break schedule is reviewed
     - Open through Monday, December 11th
     - Closed Tuesday, December 12th – Tuesday, January 2nd
     - Open on Summer Hours Tuesday, January 2nd – Tuesday, January 23rd
       - Monday – Thursday 8:30am – 4:00pm, Closed on Fridays
     - Closed Monday, January 15th for MLK Jr. Day observance (University Closed)
     - Regular Business Hours resume Wednesday, January 24th
   - Programming
     - Discount AMC Movie Tickets Now On Sale!
       - $5 each. 1 per UB ID. Reserve online and pick up at the UB Ticket Office in 221 Student Union.
     - December 8, South Campus Java Junction, 11:00am to 1:00pm in 105 Harriman Hall
       - Free Tim Hortons coffee and donuts for graduate students
     - Canalside Ice Skating Vouchers Coming Soon!
       - $2 each. 2 per UB ID. Include skate rental and admission. Reserve online and pick up at the UB Ticket Office in 221 Student Union.
       - Must be used by February 25th!
4. Report of the President
   - COAL Programming Grant Update
     - GSA President Isaac Kolding states that three GSA grant applications were approved:
       - $10,000 for GSA Conference Funding
       - $23,450 for an interdisciplinary Mixer Event
       - $6,500 for Iranian GSA
   - Update on the Committees and Meetings
     - Isaac has been meeting with various University administrators and committees promoting better professional development opportunities for students, a PhD stipend floor increase, fighting the elimination of health insurance options and requirements, and asking for more and improved student services, such as the Blue Table food pantry.
     - Any students with issues or concerns that they would like to see addressed should email any of the GSA E-board officers (gsa-president@buffalo.edu, gsa-vicepresident@buffalo.edu, or gsa-treasurer@buffalo.edu)
5. Report of the Vice President
   - GSA Vice President Sarah MacDougall states that this is the final meeting at which clubs can be recognized for this academic year. Therefore, all new club requests will have to be submitted in Fall, 2024.
6. Report of the Treasurer
   - GSA Treasurer Melanie March discusses funding account balances
     - Funding Account Balances:
       - Special Activity: $15,000 to start, $0.00 allocated this month, $13,500.00 remaining
       - Interdepartmental Activity: $2,000.00 to start, $0.00 allocated this month, $2,000.00 remaining
       - Symposia: $15,000.00 to start, $1,095.00 allocated this month, $13,905.00 remaining
       - Scholarly Publication: $6,000.00 to start, $1,400.00 allocated this month, $4,600.00 remaining
       - Community Outreach: $2,000 to start, $0.00 allocated this month, $2,000.00 remaining
       - Conferences:
         - 13 requests in December for $7,144.00; 12 approved for $6,944.00
     - Beginning Balance: $200,000.00; Remaining Balance: $126,393.09
7. Old Business
   - No Old Business
8. New Business

- Club Recognition
  - No clubs up for recognition
  - Sarah announces that now that all Special Interest clubs have been funded, an additional $350 will be allocated to each of the previously recognized groups. New clubs are only eligible to receive a maximum of $350 in their first year.

- Funding Requests
  - Melanie states that the representative from Biological Sciences is absent, and therefore, their request for funding cannot be approved. Representative from Art GSA presents on the MFA Catalogue.
  - Motion to approve the Scholarly Publication request at the recommended amount
    - Motion: Speech-Language-Hearing
    - Second: Exercise & Nutrition Science
    - In Favor: 53; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 3
    - Motion passes

9. Roll Call and Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn at 7:03pm
  - Motion: Graduate Students of Color
  - Second: Mathematics
  - In favor: 54; Oppose: 0; Abstain: 1
  - Motion passes