

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

Attendance:

Officers & Staff:

President:	I. Kolding	Programming:	J. Garcia Ramirez
Vice President:	S. MacDougall	Dir. of Operations:	S. George/ D. Staly
Treasurer:	M. March	Editorial Assistance:	
		MDRF:	

Board Members:

Departmental:

Africana & Americana:	R. Pitonyak	ISE:	inactive
Anthropology:	S. Biswas	Information Science:	A. Crabtree
Architecture:	S. Brunstein (absent- 1/2)	LAI:	M.N. Esfahani
Art:	S. Browning	Linguistics:	T. Grosso
Audiology:	G. Cerneskie	Materials Design & In:	S. Padmanabha
Biochemistry:	J. Sosa	Mathematics:	J. Kazimer
Biological Sciences:	absent	MAE:	C. F. Fernandes
Biostatistics:	S. Liang	Media Study:	J. Hager
Cancer Sciences- RPCCC:	T.S.M Pandian/ M. Atwater	Microbiology:	J. Furfaro
Chem. & Bio. Eng:	absent	Music:	J. Falzone
Chemistry:	N. Kalita/ R. Routray	Neuroscience:	R. Patel
CSEE:	V.R. Solanki/ F.S. Bardales	Nursing:	L.Pasek
Classics:	M. Pehringer	Occupational Therapy:	S. Kim (absent- 1/2)
Communication:	K. Heneveld	Oral Biology:	E. Horeth
Comm. Health & H.B.	S. Lawson	Pharmaceutics:	B. Ly
Comparative Lit:	N. Arnone	Pharm. & Tox:	K.G. Kedari
CSE:	A.R. Alugupally/ M. Lary	Philosophy:	inactive
CSEP:	J. Casella	Physical Therapy:	absent
ELP:	E. Duggan/ M. Morrissey	Physics:	J. DeMaria
Electrical Engineering:	absent	Political Science:	R. Lawlor
English:	S. Williams	Psychology:	B. Greene
EEH:	K. Manney	RLL:	W. Vera
ENS:	N. Presti	Social Work:	absent
Geography:	absent	Sociology:	N.T. Reyes
Geology:	L. Wilson	Speech:	S. Beattie/ L. Santalis
Global Gender Studies:	M.L. Nutting	Theatre & Dance:	absent
History:	K. Kostin	Urban Planning:	Y. Mullen

International Clubs:

Bangladeshi:	P. Paul	Latin American:	E. Chacin Ruiz
Indian:	N. Evagala	Taiwanese:	B. Chen
Iranian:	K. Borazjani		

Special Interest Clubs:

GradSWE:	S. Agarwal	GSPHA:	absent
Graduate Poetics:	A. VanSteinberg	UB Sci & Health Policy:	absent
Grad Students of Color:	F. Arcy	UBQ:	S. King-Shaw
GIGS:	absent		

Guests:

J. Lippes	Legal
M. Grela	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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup>
  - Closed Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>
  - Open on Summer Hours Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> – Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>
    - Monday – Thursday 8:30am – 4:00pm, Closed on Fridays
  - Closed Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> for MLK Jr. Day observance (University Closed)
  - Regular Business Hours resume Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>
- 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 Horton's 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 25<sup>th</sup>!

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](mailto:gsa-president@buffalo.edu), [gsa-vicepresident@buffalo.edu](mailto:gsa-vicepresident@buffalo.edu), or [gsa-treasurer@buffalo.edu](mailto: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