



**Board of Directors Meeting**

**March 4, 2026**

**6:30pm**

# 1. Call to Order

- Officer Candidates- Please remember that campaigning is not allowed at Board of Directors meetings.

## 2. Approval of Minutes

- Please remember that meeting guests and most Special Interest club representatives are non-voting members, and therefore should not make or second any motions, nor participate in voting polls.
- Approval of February 4<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes

# 3. Announcements

- UBIT Services
  - Mike Canfield ([canfiel2@buffalo.edu](mailto:canfiel2@buffalo.edu))

# Announcements (continued)

- Please note that the GSA will be on Summer Hours for the week of Spring Recess
  - Business Hours: Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am to 4:00pm. Closed for lunch daily 1:00 to 2:00pm
  - Walk-in Hours: Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30am to 11:30am
  - Closed Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>

# Announcements (continued)

- **Programming:**

- More 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.
- March 6<sup>th</sup>, North Campus Java Junction
  - Free Tim Horton's coffee and donuts for graduate students in 145C&D Student Union
- March 9<sup>th</sup>- Mindfulness Monday ~ Mindful Movement
  - Free tickets available now. Limited spaces available
- March 10<sup>th</sup>, Distinguished Speaker Series presents Hoda Kotb
  - Free tickets available now for graduate students. 1 per UB ID. Reserve online and digital admission tickets will be emailed out approximately 24 hours before the show.
- March 13<sup>th</sup>, South Campus Java Junction
  - Free Tim Horton's coffee and donuts for graduate students in 105 Harriman Hall
- March 20<sup>th</sup>, Know Your Rights Workshop
- March 27<sup>th</sup>, Know Your Rights Workshop

# Announcements (continued)

- MDRF Spring Grant Application Deadline
  - Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup> by 4:00pm
  - For research to be conducted between May 1, 2026 and April 30, 2027

# 4. Report of the President

- Proposed April Board Meeting date change
  - Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> is Passover, so we would like to hold a vote to see if the Board would prefer to move the April Board meeting to Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> to allow observant students to be able to attend.
- NSF Funding Workshop
  - Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> in 330 Student Union with Jorge Valdez Kroff
  - Free tickets available starting Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>
- Write Your Reps Campaign
  - Taking place during Java Junctions for the remainder of the semester

# Report of the President (continued)

- CAS PhD Excellence Oversight Committee (PEOC)
  - Needs two graduate student representatives to serve through June 30, 2026, starting with the March 30<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - Please email [gsa-president@buffalo.edu](mailto:gsa-president@buffalo.edu) by this Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> if interested
- Interprofessional Mixer
  - Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> 8:00 – 11:00pm at The Admiral Room
  - Additional tickets will be on sale tomorrow at 6:00pm
- Text and email scams
  - GSA will never text you for anything, nor will we email you asking for gift cards

# Report of the President (continued)

- GSA Referendum Vote
  - Every two years SUNY requires that we put the mandatory student activity fee up for a referendum vote on whether the fee should remain mandatory or become voluntary
    - A mandatory vote ensures funding for GSA clubs, programs and services.
    - There is no mechanism available to collect voluntary fees, so if the referendum fails, GSA will cease to exist
    - We will not be able to ask for a re-vote until Spring, 2027
  - We will be asking all club representatives to help us get the word out about the importance of the GSA Referendum vote that will be taking place along with the officer elections April 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>

# 5. Report of the Vice President

- Early Club Recognition deadline is Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>
  - Special Interest and International clubs that do not apply for Early Recognition will not have access to their club budget when the new fiscal year starts August 1<sup>st</sup>!
  - Clubs will then need to apply for recognition at one of the Fall semester Board meetings before their club will be considered active.

# 6. Report of the Treasurer

- Budget Preparation is underway within the Finance Committee and will be presented to the Board for a vote at the April 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.
  - If the budget passes on April 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> then the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Board meeting will be cancelled.

# Report of the Treasurer (continued)

- Please note that the final deadline for all funding requests for this year (Special Activity, Interdepartmental Activity, Symposia and Community Outreach) is **Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> by 4:00pm.**
- This is also the final deadline for clubs to submit proposals for capital equipment purchases so that they may be reviewed by the Finance Committee accordingly.
  - No club capital equipment purchases will be allowed that have not been properly reviewed and pre-approved by the GSA Finance Committee!

# Funding Account Balances

	Updated Beginning Annual Balance	Recommended this month	Remaining Annual Balance
Special Activity	\$10,000.00	\$3,600.00	\$2,890.00
Interdepartmental Activity	\$3,000.00	\$500.00	\$2,500.00
Symposium	\$10,000.00	\$5,032.00	\$3,568.00
Scholarly Publication	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Community Outreach	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00

# Conference Funding

	Applications	Amount
<b>Requested:</b> March	54	\$31,378.93
<b>Approved:</b> March	50 (1 ineligible, 3 late)	\$29,570.42

Beginning Balance	Remaining Balance
\$225,000.00	\$80,985.57

# Symposium Funding Highlight

- This fund exists to provide graduate students with the opportunity to create and organize formal meetings that will allow graduate students to prepare and present research papers, posters, programs and projects to their peers.
- Any club may request up to \$1,400.00

# 7. Old Business

# 8. New Business

- Graduate Student Health Insurance Discussion
- Funding Requests
- Election Committee Update

# **Graduate Student Health Insurance Discussion**

# Funding Requests

- Special Activity

- Iranian Nowruz

- Requested/Recommended: \$1,200.00

- GISA 5-Wits

- Requested/Recommended: \$1,200.00

- Bangladeshi Pohela Boishakh

- Requested/Recommended: \$1,200.00

- Interdepartmental Activity

- Biochemistry/Physiology & Biophysics Paint Night

- Requested/Recommended: \$500.00

# Funding Requests (continued)

- Symposia
  - Media Study Conference
    - Requested/Recommended: \$1,400.00
  - Psychology Behavior and Brain Sciences Symposium
    - Requested/Recommended: \$832.00
  - History Milton Plesur Conference
    - Requested/Recommended: \$1,400.00
  - English Symposium
    - Requested/Recommended: \$1,400.00

# Election Committee Update

- Presentation of Candidates
  - **For President:** Sarah MacDougall
  - **For Vice President:** Sherika Caliste
  - **For Treasurer:** Daniel Kulesza

# **Election Committee Update (continued)**

- Candidate Q&A will take place during the April 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Board meeting.
- Elections will be held online Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>  
– Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>

# 9. Roll Call and Adjournment

- Don't leave just yet! We need a motion and a vote to approve adjournment.

