

GSS Executive Meeting Minutes
August 26, 2019

I. Updates from the Graduate College

A. Dean Keller

1. No longer serving in two positions, so, will be more involved with GSS this year
2. Need to identify students from GSS to be on GSEC
3. Need one grad council member, biological and life sciences, as soon as is practical
4. Office of Graduate Inclusion has changed, renamed to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, new director Elizabeth Lara started recently
5. Director of Communications has left, appointed new director
6. New staff in professional development, Brady Krien

B. Dean Varga

1. Moved back single deposit by four days, will be announced

II. Goals for the year

A. Increase recruitment and retention of senators

B. Make sure communication between senators and constituent is efficient, transparent, and easier

1. Working with Joe Cannella for template going from minutes to take home messages
2. Suggestion, put bullet points in the communications in dining facilities, College of Medicine

C. Increased level of perceived value of GSS to students, increased visibility

1. Also could produce “fact sheet”, differences between GSS and GPSG and how they also work together
2. Also working with Joe Cannella for a “rebranding” of GSS, promotional materials

D. Advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion

1. Microaggression training for TAs, teaching committee should organize this training
2. BUILD workshop, reach out to BUILD, can organize a workshop for your student group, identify a meeting where half of the meeting or the whole meeting can be a BUILD workshop, goal is Fall semester, maybe September or October
3. Cultural competency, take survey, get personalized report, have in person meeting and go through the report, could be useful for Executive Council and committee chairs

III. Roster

A. Roster does not agree with Engage

B. Make sure that the roster is up to date, make sure that the number of senate seats is reflective of the number of students in each department

C. A lot of people have been emailing Caroline, better than last year

D. Send out an email just about the roster maybe? Should be sent after the first meeting

E. Idea, talk to prospective senators early in the year, then they can be prepared to transition

F. Have more formal first day meeting, what are your duties and roles as a senator? This meeting might help with the roster issue and also raise awareness of GSS. Good first order of business at the first meeting. Describe what GSS is, how does it work with GPSG, how do you fit into this organization, here are the expectations of you as a senator, tell people to look around and fill the empty seats for their department

G. Will have Google Doc for signing in during the first meeting

IV. Ad hoc committees

- A. Committee for the roster issue, could help Caroline with the roster
- B. Committee for constitutional changes, split into constitution and by laws

V. Delegate vacancies

- A. Grad Council (Biological and Medical Sciences)
- B. Graduate Student Employment Committee (4 seats to fill)
 - 1. Maybe don't need nomination and election process
 - 2. If there is a vacancy, the president can appoint until we can have an election
 - 3. Can appoint for interim position, then have the election during the next meeting (see below for more on voting procedures)
- C. GPSG (Social Sciences & Education)
- D. Send out nomination spreadsheet before meeting, send out with meeting reminder and agenda
 - 1. Have the call for nominees be the first item in the email, then the rest of it
- E. Can have a special election in September as time and interest allows, article V.G.1.j., do not need to elect at the next meeting

VI. Budget

- A. Jennie is not here
- B. Christian will follow up with Jennie on the budget
- C. Budget is due to GPSG soon
- D. Usually we just request the amount that was requested last year
- E. See what we have done in past years

VII. Promotional Materials

- A. Talked about work with Joe Cannella
- B. Always open to suggestions

VIII. Vaping Forum

- A. Will GSS participate in the vaping forum?
- B. Make sure it is on the agenda, Emma Gabriel will talk about it

IX. Other

- A. Peter is updating the by laws document, hopefully will get it done by the first meeting if not shortly after, Ryan then will put the new document on the website
- B. Parliamentary procedure workshop? Maybe during the first or second meeting?
- C. Host watch party for climate crisis townhall?
- D. Probably cannot host a candidate
- E. Can the teaching committee host some event on teaching during this political climate?

X. Agenda for Next Meeting

- A. What is GSS and expectations of senators
- B. Forming ad hoc committees
 - 1. Roster/senator retention
 - 2. Constitutional changes
- C. Delegate vacancies
 - 1. Have special election based on nominations from the Google doc
- D. Vaping forum