

## UMBC GAAC 4/15/2013 Meeting Minutes

- Planning Town Hall #2
  - Focus on the purpose of GAAC, this town hall will be a presentation and forum focusing on GAAC concerns.
  - Potentially introduce and discuss GA healthcare insurance changes?
  - This town hall will be on the last Thursday of the month (April) shortly before the graduate social hour.
- Planning Town Hall #3
  - Originally had planned to feature AFT during one of these town halls. AFT feels that they haven't built up enough support here and they don't feel comfortable running a town hall here under those circumstances. They would like to continue their face-to-face approach of bringing together people on campus.
  - This townhall could be a continuation of the ideas behind the second one but could instead focus on another category of grad student employment issues.
  - Will be held during the first/second week of May on a Tuesday. More specifics to come soon.
- AFT representative present for the Meeting (Sumner)
  - No one in the USM has begun the election process so there is no precedent for rushing to do the elections before the end of the semester.
  - The GAAC should focus on its other (primary) purposes, the AFT is not prepared to begin the election process.
  - A rushed election is not fair for all parties (administration, AFT, and GAAC).
- Other election conversations
  - What needs to happen in order to initialize the election?
    - GAAC contacts the administration and indicates that they would like to run an election to bring in a union consultant.
    - Within 60 days of the request UMBC administrators have to reasonably support the logistics of the election (not a problem, election tools are already available; talk to undergraduate student government).
    - The key thing here is that GAAC initializes the election process; the election timeline is our responsibility.
    - Considering that GAAC is responsible for the election (and that the representatives in GAAC were never themselves elected) Dan suggests that the GAAC maintain a neutral stance on the union vote in order to support a fair election.
  - Doaa to Sumner: "What needs to happen in order [for AFT] to be ready for the election to be initialized?"
    - Sumner: AFT doesn't want to think about elections until they've built up graduate student support (a committee advocating for them on campus).
    - Sumner: A solid and fixed deadline on when the election could happen would not be good for AFT. Need time to organize GA's.