

GSA Summer 2021 Executive Council Meeting

July 6, 2021

I. Check-In & Attendance

A. Introductions and ice breaker -

1. In attendance: Amy Cruz, Joel Tyson, Kara Seidel, Ehan Post, Brittany Evans, KT Sai Sri Ram, Shahin Hossain, Achala Denagamage, Akash Vartak, Masud Ahmed, Ruchita Reddy.
2. Ice breaker question: What is your go-to restaurant for dinner today?

B. Quick rules and roles reminder -

1. General Robert's Rules
2. Meeting quorum - For any meeting to be in quorum and for discussions to be made there need to be 3 of the 4 executive council heads (President, Vice-president, Treasurer, Historian) and 1 of the committee chairs.
3. Member roles were discussed.

II. Reports (*if any)

A. E-Council Members -

1. Joel and Shahin have been interviewing candidates for Writing Advisor and will be meeting the candidates again for final selections.
2. Shahin brought up the UNDP project for sustainable development and it was discussed in the scope of finding how many and which graduate students are working around similar projects.

B. GSSC updates -

1. Summer 2021 will involve brainstorming ideas for graduate student success.
2. Surveys and forums are being conducted to get a lay of the land - by talking to various grad students on campus and via PROMISE.
3. GSSC will then move on to becoming a bridge between all graduate students and GAAC and GEARS and PROMISE.

III. Business

A. Selecting senators and discussion/vote on conducting interviews -

1. Shahin proposed the idea of interviewing applicants since senators have a very important role of representing their constituencies. Interviews would be 5-10 minutes long and would instill a sense of importance of these senator positions in each candidate.
2. Motion for scheduling the interviews was set and voting took place and it passed with a majority.

B. Outlining vision/tasks for the semester/year -

1. Important to increase the reach of GSSC and awareness about it.
2. Try securing funding from alumni and departments and UMBC.
3. Improving the town hall meetings and getting a higher attendance.

4. Normalising talking about mental health and welfare. Involving the graduate assistants, student advisors and UMBC departments and getting their inputs about how this can be achieved.
- C. The GSA retreat has to be organised.

IV. Open Discussion

- A. Accountability of the E-Council members - members should be held accountable for their responsibilities by all of E-Council.
- B. Constructive mutual criticism - and constructive criticism is always welcome.
- C. As of now, the next meeting is scheduled for 2:00PM Monday July 12, 2021.