

GSA Fall 2021

Executive Council Meeting

03 November, 2021

I. Check-In & Attendance

- A. In attendance: Akash Vartak, Joel Tyson, Zane Poffenberger, Amy Cruz, Ruchita Reddy, Dawn Galindo, Britany Evans, Shahin Hossian, Ethan Post, Jefferey Halverson, Ivan Perez, Sai Sri Ram KT, Kara Seidel.

II. Reports

A. E-Council Members

1. President -

- a) Discussed College Park graduate student housing initiatives with Tamara Allard , president of UMD graduate student government. UMD has historically had some of the same issues we are experiencing- temporary housing needs, especially for international students, a need for more graduate student housing and a need for affordable graduate student housing in the area. But they have had orders of magnitude larger difficulties, costs and number of students. They have come up with some innovative, but somewhat intricate solutions, which we can discuss in our housing committee.

- b) Student affairs would like graduate students to participate in the community risk survey:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe_P5REkubyNmSTzldT1B_OyzmqY_jcFx5_Yaasck3jr3Wsuw/viewform

- c) Non-academic town hall is Tomorrow at 12:00

<https://umbc.webex.com/meet/ntelfer1>

2. Vice President -

3. Treasurer -

- a) GRP approved 8 PD grants totaling \$4,171.24, and 2 research grants totaling \$802.94

4. Historian -

- a) Nothing new to report. Pending: Kara has sent over a list of resources which need to be added to the website..

B. GEARS -

C. Legislative Concerns -

D. OGSL -

E. GAAC -

F. GSSC -

1. We met with Erin Durham at the library. We are working on a few things. First, Erin is going to pilot dissertation/thesis reading prep office hours view webex. She is going to run them in the

afternoons and evenings (tentatively: December 8 or December 14, 4-6 pm; January 12 or January 26, 4-6 pm; or we also can try 8 to 9:30 pm). They are also going to work on updating our reference guides and will email us with them as they make changes (that is more of a long-term thing). We are working on a writing workshop before Thanksgiving (if possible) to come up with a reading/writing plan over winter break, as well as developing some type of event or resource specifically for international graduate students.

2. I emailed Jeff to set up a time to chat about moving forward with Grad student mania.
3. Emily is working on planning a de-stress pet event, and Sahara is coordinating a GSSC member being at all of the town halls.

III. Business

- A. Documenting Achievements update
 1. Shahin, Dawn and Amy will be meeting today to discuss more on this.
- B. Committee Budget Review
 1. Committee budgets were reviewed by the E-Council and were approved from the E-Council's perspective.
- C. Motion/Discussion to create/use college graduate student lists managed by the Dean's Office.
 1. Jefferey Halverson will be looking into who manages these lists and if they are available for GSA to use.
- D. Motion to provide bus services from Washington DC airport to Baltimore Campus area once per semester to UMBC incoming international students who first arrive in the US.
 1. The motion was set and discussion was in progress. The amended motion is that GSA will reach out to Global Engagement committee and UMBC Transit. The motion passed with a majority.
- E. Motion to collaborate with ABCEI in organizing speakers' session and workshops
 1. Shahin met with Vivian and Kevin to understand how we can work together.
 2. Extensive discussion took place and we reached a conclusion to table this for a future E-Council meeting.
 3. More research into who the speakers would be, how and who would we invite, what are we contributing, how would it be a GSA focused event, etc is needed.
- F. Finding a date for leadership training by Kevin
 1. Kevin has been preparing for a leadership training for the E-Council and the Senate on either of November 18th or 19th @ 1pm-2pm.

2. The motion was split into two: Do we want to have leadership training for the E-Council and Senate? When do we want to have it, if we do?
3. We passed the motion to actually have a leadership training for E-Council and Senate.
4. The motion to hold the training on November 18th @ 1pm.

IV. Open Discussion

A.