

## **GSA Fall 2022**

### **Executive Council Meeting Agenda**

**November, the 7th, 2022, 10:00 am**

**This Meeting Will Be Recorded**

#### **I. Check-In & Attendance:**

- **Grace De Oro, Zane Poffenberger, Ethan Post, Anoosha Fayyaz, Emily Shrope, Aminah Amjad, Jeffrey Halverson, Emily Faber, Kara Seidel, Jennifer Artis, Jameer Robinson, Amy Cruz, Michele Berry, Geeta Shanbhag**

#### **II. Open Discussion**

- Follow-up to senate meeting. Next steps? (Maybe Save Details for meeting after?)
  - Kara update on Friday meeting - debriefed
    - Steered toward GCSC, around 8 people came to the open debrief. Some senators expressed confusion over why it was an issue, especially the international senators. It was also expressed that Nancy has been at events and has pushed people to convert. People expressed that they were uncomfortable, felt attacked, not sure what to do.
    - Jeffrey asked where students were hearing Nancy had had the agenda of proselytizing. Kara said the senators had seen her at some events.
    - What are our roles as GSA around mission and action?
    - Emily Shrope: add this discussion to discussion of bylaws. How should GSA handle these issues? Is it okay to fund religious organizations?
    - Zane: there are no rules and regulations around GSOs/pretty limited. As former Community Liaison it was concerning not to have a structure about how GSOs should operate. Proposed a workgroup to develop this guidance. Emily Faber and Jameer

seconded in the chat. A GSO standards list. What is allowed and not allowed?

- Grace: issue in that the mission was not clearly expressed. We should have a list of rules so that we are careful when getting into the legality. This specific group has a concerning website/language.
- Jameer: a possible better practice would be to have a sit down/briefing/consultation to clear up what the group needs to have before proposing
- Group Norms
  - Grace proposes that any time there is a guest, they should be sent google form with our group norms that they need to read and sign. Discussion of a “mute or boot” if the norms are not followed during meeting.
  - Kara: Clear with constructive feedback and reasoning
- Drafting an Email and Reaching out to the GSO's that presented (**Graduate Christian Fellowship & International Students Connect Club**) as well as Salsa Club who didn't get to present
  - Grace: not our responsibility to set up a meeting with them but we have an open door. Reach out to students of ISCC that their opportunity to be a GSO was hurt by having Nancy as an advisor - we should keep students separate from advisor.
  - First item on the agenda should be Salsa Club, send an email to them apologizing for not getting to them in the last meeting
  - Ethan volunteered to send the emails to all three clubs
- Equity of Funds Committee
  - Emily Shrope: this has been brought up several times and wanted clarification on the guidelines
  - Amy Cruz was chair last year
  - Kara: last year, the purpose was deciding what to do with our grant money. The proposal was any student could get one type of GSA grant per semester.
  - Emily Shrope: potential to have a position in the student affairs office funded by GSA due to our balance of a few thousand dollars.

- Zane: another point was reforming stipends. Equity of Funds Committee can be another avenue to advocating for positions and discussing budget.
- Amy: all stipends should be equitable. Needs clarity on budget and how much is in the balance from Dawn.
- Ethan: There's a grad student budget and a GSA budget.
- Jennifer: and the matriculation fee is not in the budget Amy and Dawn sees.
- Grace: Student Affairs gets most of funding from Commons fee
- [Budget Summary](#)
- President Stipend?
  - Budget has 16k allocated, 8k for each co-Pres
    - Ethan has a bias on this
    - Kara: was this 10K as the original?
      - It should be 10K and then reallocate the left-over to Senate Speaker
      - Does COLA count?
    - There is 8K extra
      - 4500 for the Senate speaker that will allow us to break even
    - Would the Speaker be making as much as the Senate
      - Kara brings up points of equity within the ECouncil for the addition of the speaker position
    - ShREMILY→ a conversation regarding an increase of the stipends for the Ecouncil as a whole
      - Zane: take the meeting with the EoF before figuring out stipend changes for FY2023-2024 so that those are equitable (Pres, VP, rest of Ecouncil)
      - Zane: the pay should go ahead and match the credit hours
      - Grace: will start logging hours for time keeping purposes
        - Important for the inaugural position
        - Meetings & work outside of meetings will be incorporated into this
        - ECouncil→ logging of hours for the entirety of ECouncil

- Jennifer A: you need to take a look at what people do
  - Job descriptions, position descriptions to get that people get paid for the work that they do
  - Committee: set up meetings for each individual position
- ShRemily→ can these committees be “created”?
  - Zane + Ethan: already exists just hasn't been meeting
  - Kara: do we want to fund a student affairs position→ this will then change the amount of work (OGSL stipends being changed too?)
    - They've been doing great work this year!
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### III. Reports

- **Treasurer [Anuja and Amy]**
  - 12 PD grants and 1 Research Grant approved for a total of \$10,214 (\$2,036 under budget for this period).
  - 5 GSOS approved for funding = \$1,010
  - GSOS keep applying late, should we send out an email to remind them of deadlines?
    - 3-4 of them have requested very late in terms of 2-3 weeks before their events →Zane (email, post on myUMBC)
    - A month deadline is to review the events, and provide with funding that makes sense – Zane
  - Direct questions to Amy
    - Zane: Student Fee Advisory Presentation
      - Fee holders meeting is in December→ Amy is presenting and representing
      - RAC fee; athletics fee → where does this come from? (500+ a year for the total)
        - Kra: those fees pay the salary for athletics → can't be funded from MD State Budget

- Grad students invited to events and some athletes who participate are also 5th year/grad students
- Kara: Amy is doing a lot of the work; and it doesn't seem fair that she gets
  - That we think about this issue as ECouncil
  - It feels like Amy is doing the bulk of the work as Asst. Treasurer → making sure to hold each other accountable regarding her work
  - 7K currently for her stipend → 3.5K per the semester
  - Anuja: 8K for the year for Anuja
- ShRemily -> would it be helpful to have a meeting with Amy; looping Anuja and Ethan in to make sure responsibilities are equitably distributed
- **Historian [Geeta Shanbhag]**
  - Catching up on website
    - a) Question re: uploading Senate meetings?
      - (1) Will be uploaded post-this
    - b) Meeting Minutes should be updated for ECouncil
    - c) Will touch base with Jameer for a meeting on GSO section of the website
    - d) GAAC updates ongoing
    - e) Added town halls to the website
- **GAAC [Anoosha Fayyaz & Sahara Ali]**
  - Met with Dr. Rutledge, Dr. Halverson and Jennifer last Wednesday for M&C.
    - a) Meeting minutes will be shared
  - We were able to share all of our concerns but we ran out of time for discussion so we are meeting again on November 28th for a follow up discussion.
  - The meeting minutes will be shared after review
  - We got to know that there are reports from previous M&Cs that were submitted to USM that we are requesting since we don't have any other information from previous M&Cs
  - About the onboarding process, they said that they are very active in dealing with issues in COEIT and CBEE and if we know of anyone outside these departments, we should let them know.

- Had a discussion about in-state tuition
  - For cross-department postings of GA opportunities, some professors are already posting them on Handshake but that could be better.
  - We did ask them about grad school, research office within grad school (haven't had any discussion yet)
  - We got to know about GAAC's email. We have to submit a ticket for access to this mailbox but not sure who will initiate that.
- **GSSC (Kara Seidel and Emily Faber)**
  - Nothing to report
- **GEARS (Aminah Amjad)**
  - Room reservations are in and registrations for all three of our events in November starting today afternoon to tomorrow in parts.
  - Trivia (16th Nov), Scott Session (17th Nov)
    - Everything is ready for trivia night
    - Career office hasn't given the go-ahead → they need 10 pre-registration slots
    - The form for that will be sent out ASAP → ECouncil & Senate as potential pre-registrants
    - Need volunteers to make this event happen
    - Trying the Scott session is more inclusive for non-STEM students this year
  - Working closely with the Career Office on workshop (hopefully 18th Nov), just waiting for their confirmation.
  - May need help in terms of volunteers for our events, as events are planned according to when rooms are available, so my committee may have to juggle between classes. Will ask more definitely at the next e-council meeting.
- **OGSL**
- **LC [Zane Poffenberger]**
  - Following semester: doing this for the next semester where we get a half-hour extra for ECouncil meetings
    - a) Ethan and ShRemily will talk about in another meeting
- **Speaker of the Senate**
  - Make sure that we promote the Senate meetings in terms of transparency
    - a) Promoting this through myUMBC

b) Disclosures → ShRemily; the recordings are aiding the minutes and not necessarily viewing publicly

- **President [Ethan Post]**
  - Graduate Speech: Writers Room needed.
    - Ethan wants to delegate and work with Ethan to represent the GSA more broadly → please help Ethan in writing speech
    - Writing a speech: GSA getting information from UMBC grad students and their experiences to be able to get information
    - Ethan confirmed as speaker- Jennifer Artis
      - Can we have it by the beginning of December so that it can be gone over?
      - Will loop back by a specific date
  - Registration form: volunteers
    - Will be sent out the Senators to be able to recruit for
    - Ethan will send this out
- **Vice President [Emily Shrope]**
  - From USC meeting: Provost Rous will be stepping down, national search with Issacson, Miller. Provost will stay in position until a new Provost is found.
  - Also from USC meeting: potential to create a position within student affairs that is specifically geared towards supporting grad students
  - Bylaws meeting for senators, to go over how GSA operates generally. Would anyone like to help coordinate this?

**IV. Adjourn → at 11:05 AM**