

GSA Delegate Assembly Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2020
4:00pm-5:00pm
Zoom

Minutes prepared by Cerena Lee with meeting chaired by Cerena Lee.
Call to Order: 4:01pm

Members in Attendance

- Cerena Lee (Internal Vice President)
- Phoebe Coy (Applied Mathematics Delegate)
- Shannon Proksch (Cognitive Sciences Delegate)
- Shaina Sta. Cruz (Public Health Delegate)
- Albert DiBenedetto (Physics Delegate)
- Houa Vang (Sociology Delegate)
- Sammy Villa (QSB Delegate)
- Taylor Fugere (Management of Complex Systems Delegate)
- Farhana Sharmin (Mechanical Engineering Delegate)

EC Meeting Updates

Summary of EC Meeting and call for questions (none were asked).

Vote on proposed bylaws amendments

1) By-laws amendment to clarify a process for filling vacant delegate positions
Unanimously passed.

2) By-laws amendment to allow the GSA to appoint members of the general membership to the Executive Council after the interim election fails to do so
Unanimously passed.

3) By-laws amendment to allow officers of the Executive Council to delegate tasks of the vacant officer positions
Unanimously passed.

4) By-laws amendment to formally establish a process for the general membership
Unanimously passed.

Letter against threat of military invasion of Venezuela in the middle of the COVID 19 pandemic

Tabled – No Speaker

Letter of Support for the Gallo School (draft available)

Please write any suggestions on the document sent out by Shannon or make a comment (and please set your name) by Midnight Sunday 12th.

Discussion of student fee on ballot

Discussed the \$50 raise in student fees that will be for grad students and undergrads. This raise in fees will partly go toward new sports facilities, but majority of it will fund sports teams, which grad students cannot even participate in.

Some points mentioned:

- Undergrads can go to sports events for free, grad students cannot and must pay.
- Graduate students don't participate in sports at all, majority of the fee goes toward sports teams.
- Grad students are only allowed on intramural sports teams.

GSA will send out an email informing the students of this fee proposal. Phoebe will most likely have a draft done by Wednesday the 15th.

We ask the same procedure as the Gallo school letter for suggestions for editing before we send it out to the public.

GSA Information/News Sharing (Shannon)

How do graduate students bring up topics to the GSA to disseminate information to the entire graduate student body?

Shannon tried to email the GSA email, but was told this method was not relevant. But this is probably the best way to do so. Let the GSA know, then the GSA should contact their delegates to disseminate the information through their respective departments.

Clarification Note from Shannon

Just wanted to clarify that the email referred to was sent from another graduate student to the gsa email and I was copied on the response. That graduate student was told that emailing the GSA requesting that info be forwarded was not the way to send their message to graduate students. Which led me to the question of <Well what is the proper way for graduate students to contact and send information to the graduate student body if not through the GSA and the Delegate Assembly? (beyond showing up at a general meeting or telling a delegate and waiting until DA/EC/general meeting for the info to be passed on)

Candid COVID-19 Discussion (Albert)

Charles Nies said that the predicted peak for COVID-19 is in June, does anyone know where he got that information? The email said it was from public health officials, but we are unsure of who that source is.

The DA wants to know when we can start coming back to campus to start research again:

- Who is considered essential or allowed to go on campus for experiments that needs upkeeping?
- What about students who don't have human participants?
- The DA would like more clarification on what kind of research can be done right now and also moving forward. Weekly/regular updates would be appreciated.

Items Voted on (4 items)

1) By-laws amendment to clarify a process for filling vacant delegate positions

- In Favor/Against/Abstaining: 8/0/0
 - **Passed**

2) By-laws amendment to allow the GSA to appoint members of the general membership to the Executive Council after the interim election fails to do so

- In Favor/Against/Abstaining: 8/0/0
 - **Passed**

3) By-laws amendment to allow officers of the Executive Council to delegate tasks of the vacant officer positions

- In Favor/Against/Abstaining: 8/0/0
 - **Passed**

4) By-laws amendment to formally establish a process for the general membership

- In Favor/Against/Abstaining: 8/0/0
 - **Passed**

Meeting adjourned at 4:54pm.