

## Delegate Assembly 10/12/2020 Meeting Minutes

### Members in attendance:

- Adam Binswanger (Applied Mathematics, Newly elected DA Chair)
- Melissa Goodlad (Chemistry & Chemical Biology)
- Ben Falandays (Cognitive & Information Sciences)
- Maryam Khazaei (Electrical Engineering and Computer Science)
- Yulissa Perez Rojas (Environmental Systems)
- Angela Macedo Andrade (Materials and Biomaterials Science and Engineering)
- Melissa Baker (Political Sciences)
- Yumary Vasquez (Quantitative & Systems Biology, primary delegate)
- Sammy Villa (Quantitative & Systems Biology, alternate delegate)
- Shayna Bennet (President)
- Jordan Collignon (Internal Communications Officer)
- Benny Nguyen (Internal Vice President)
- Quy Lam (Treasurer)

### Opening Remarks

- Reviewed meeting agenda

### GSA Budget review and voting

- Quy Lam, GSA Treasurer, presented on all parts of the GSA Budget Proposal
  - The proposed budget for the 2020-2021 GSA is \$18,850
- Questions + Answers:
  - Why do the EVP and LAO need a travel budget during this pandemic?
    - A: As part of their duties, these officers must attend different meetings, therefore to ensure they can fulfill their duties, our budget reflects all potential travel expenses. Unused money will rollover into the next year.
  - What is the GSA Meeting & Events money being used for?
    - A: The GSA hosts events such as Trivia Night that include prizes of monetary value.
  - Could you talk more about the UCGPC expense?
    - A: UCGPC is a UC-system wide organization that brings together leaders across the UC campuses to discuss and act upon student issues. The membership expense is proportional to the size of our graduate student body.
- Unanimous approval of GSA Budget: **8 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain**

### Reviewed and voted on Amendments 6 – 10

- Amendment 6: Revision of the responsibilities of the Climate Diversity & Equity Officer.
  - Unanimous approval: **8 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain**
- Amendment 7: Appointing temporary replacements for vacant seats in the Delegate Assembly

- Expressed concern about a resigning delegate being unable or unwilling to contribute to choosing their replacement and potential abuse of this rule.
- Unanimous disapproval, Amendment 7 does not pass: 0 yeas, 8 nays, 0 abstain
- Amendment 8: Establishes Election Officer responsibilities
  - Unanimous approval: 8 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain
- Amendment 9: Pools the legislative review process for the Delegate Assembly into one section
  - Unanimous approval: 8 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain
- Amendment 10: Have training for incoming Delegate Assembly cohorts
  - Unanimous approval: 8 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain

#### Voted on Delegate Assembly Chair

- Adam Binswanger nominated himself and was unanimously elected as DA Chair for the 2020 - 2021 academic year: 8 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain

#### GSA 2020 - 2021 Agenda, presented by Shayna Bennett, GSA president

- Questions, answers & comments:
  - What does 'Literature' mean in item 4a?
    - A: The GSA has been in conversation with the library to acquire more literature from BIPOC scholars.
  - Comment: Delegates are interested in being involved in conversations around retention of Black Graduate Students.
    - A: There are ongoing conversations with Dean Chris Kello, and the DA and GSA can work to get more opportunity to speak with him, to express ideas and strategies around this issue
  - What does community involvement mean in during this pandemic?
    - A: As it stands, there was no explicit statement for promoting involvement in the Merced community. During these pandemic circumstances, there still exist virtual meetings and efforts students can be involved in.
- Unanimous approval of GSA Agenda: 8 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain

#### Survey of graduate students concerns and issues during remote learning/this pandemic.

- Discussed what channels to navigate in order to send survey to the general graduate student body
  - A committee (whose name escapes) exists which will review the survey
    - Adam will work to figure out who to contact
- The survey is still amenable to change

Adam is thinking about how delegates who cannot attend DA meetings can be involved and included.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm

Next meeting: Monday, November, 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 – 7:00pm