

# GSA Delegate Assembly Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2021

12:00-1:00pm

Zoom

## **Members in Attendance**

- Adam Binswanger (Applied Mathematics, DA Chair)
- Jay Colond (Sociology)
- Melissa Baker (Political Science)
- Aislinn Beam (Psychology)
- Ben Falandays (Cognitive Science)
- Yulissa Rojas (Environmental Systems)
- Maryam Khazaei (Computer Science)
- Benny Nguyen (IVP)

## **Opening Remarks**

- Reviewed agenda

## **Department Updates**

- Political Science
  - General want for more communication/information about what the intention to be in-person in Fall 2021 entails; There has been zero communication from administration about vaccines.
- Psychology
  - Unsure about what Prospective Graduate Student Visitation Weekend will look like this semester; Want communication from Grad Div. / department / whoever relevant.
- Environmental Systems
  - Finalizing proposal for concentrations
  - Planning virtual events
- Computer Science
  - Planning a coffee hour/social events (strategy for getting information about student issues in an informal space)

## **Diversity**

- There will be an anti-racist pedagogy workshop in April part of CETL programming; There may be opportunity for DA to help and be involved.
- Planning for an independent workshop hosted and ran by DA, perhaps on teaching first-generation students, or

- Commitment estimate: Research (a couple hours /week), Meeting every 2 weeks or so.
- Email Adam to be included in the communication about this!

### **Communication Taskforce**

- Continuing conversation from last semester about creating a taskforce to consolidate common documents, information, and procedures (e.g. fellowship disbursement, graduation forms, progression timelines/norms(?)) so that they're in one centralized location.
- Call for participation in this taskforce from the DA; please email Adam!

Q: Any notable changes in the by-laws?

- Primarily reorganizing such that the responsibilities and jurisdiction of each GSA body is more clear
- Potentially new officer positions: Social Media, Undocumented Students
- Q: What happened to Public Relations/Community Outreach Officer search?
  - The search failed, the EC decided to move forward without this officer for the rest of the semester, distributing the duties. This position will be filled and continued in the next administration.

General Comments:

- Want to push for more transparent communication and information about COVID-19 and the decision making process; What does being in-person in Fall 2021 entail?
  - There has been zero communication about vaccines.
- Relatedly, want to support Union's effort towards extending NRST waiver, extra year/extra semester, to account for graduation delays due to COVID.
  - Psychology dept. has explicitly guaranteed their students more time
- In general, think about and pursue ways DA can leverage its position to place pressure on these issues. Perhaps Dean Chris Kello is someone to contact!

Meeting adjourned at 12:31pm

The next Delegate Assembly Meeting will be Tuesday, February 23, 12:00pm