

# GSA EC Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2021

4:00 pm - 5:00pm

Zoom

This meeting is moderated by GSA President Jordan Collignon. Minutes of the meeting have been prepared by GSA Internal Communications Officer Benny Nguyen.

## **Members of Executive Council in Attendance**

- Jordan Collignon (President)
- Aislinn Beam (Internal Vice President)
- Zunaira Iqbal (External Vice President)
- Benny Nguyen (Internal Communications Officer)
- Arya Rajan (International Affairs Officer)
- Binod Bhattarai (Academic Affairs Officer)
- Sara Downs (Treasurer)
- Betsabel Chicano Romero (Legislative Affairs Officer)
- Azin Shamshirgaran (Climate, Diversity, Equity Officer)

## **Serve on the Police Advisory Board**

- The Police Advisory Board would like a GSA member on their team.
- Aislinn will bring up the opportunity to the DA at their next meeting.
- Contact Jordan if interested.

## **Officer Updates**

- Jordan, President:
  - Met with Grad. Dean, Chris Kello regarding Graduate Course Catalog, gave an impression of what that might look like.

- Included in this catalog will be both University-wide Graduate Student Policies & Procedures and any department specific info.
    - The University Grad. Student Policies and Procedures are currently under revision and review, specifically adding a section on conflict resolution.
    - Once University Policies and Procedures are finalized, individual departments will be asked to edit their policies to align.
  - Return to campus 2021; Kello advised against hybrid meetings
    - Tentatively decided to continue EC meetings virtually.
- Zunaira, EVP:
  - Missed transition June UCGPC Meeting; will meet in July.
  - Will reach out to TAPS, continuing efforts to improve bus system.
  - Will reach out to Bavneet regarding Calfresh.
- Betsabel Chicana, Legislative Affairs:
  - Want to form Advocacy Team as soon as possible; Initial goals:
    - Review status of bills that Team has researched
    - Train and familiarize Team in the bill-tracking process
    - Benny & Zunaira will join!
    - Aislinn will recruit people from the DA
    - Note: The Advocacy Team members do not need to be in the GSA.
  - Will begin attending City Council meetings again; General Merced updates:
    - Downtown Construction + Expansion
    - Interest in opening a Trader Joe's
    - Wants to start conversations with city officials about how to keep graduate students in the area
  - Kello will sponsor the Advocacy Team
- Azin, Climate, Diversity & Equity:
  - Met with Larisa, formulating the goals for this year.
  - Will connect with Kello
  - Hoping to extend work into organizations Azin is already involved with such as Women in Computing
- Sarah, Treasurer:
  - Will meet w/ Cassie Gunter from Grad Div. for training.
  - Late Travel Award from last year will come from this year's GSA budget
- Binod, Academic Affairs:
  - Will follow up with Fatima, from CAPRA, regarding some administrative committees.
- Benny, Internal Comm.s:
  - Updated Meeting Minutes page.
  - Will reach out to officers for portraits to update 'Current Officers' page.

### **UC Vaccination Requirement**

- Sudden hard deadline for vaccination proof, Aug. 4th
  - Concern whether the timeline allows for requesting medical exemptions (accessibility issue)
- Conflicting information/protocol regarding the need for asymptomatic symptom testing once vaccinated.
  - Unclear when this policy goes into effect: July 15<sup>th</sup>?
  - Deadline for Incentives for uploading proof of Vaccination: June 25<sup>th</sup>
- Jordan will bring-up the lack of clarity in information to Kello at their next meeting (July 5<sup>th</sup>?).

### **Brainstorming Social Events**

- Free Little Oven
- Free Coffee
- Pet Photo Contest
- Need to consider the timing of the events, there may be less turn-out for in-person events hosted later in the day.
- Advertise events widely and consistently; Social Media person in the Fall will hopefully cover this role.
- Bring more ideas to the next meeting & consider if a social events committee ought to be formed.

### **Future Summer EC Meeting Time:**

- Mondays, Every 2 weeks, 4-5pm PST
- The next meeting, however, is shifted a day due to holiday.

### **Misc.**

- Parking is now paid again
- Bus routes have not yet adjusted, they will change closer to the start of the semester.

### **Tabled:**

- Discussing Peer Accountability Document (see email from Jordan on 06/22)

**Meeting adjourned at 5:07pm**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 6th, 4-5pm**