GSA EC Meeting Minutes

March 01, 2022

5:00 pm - 6:00pm PST

Zoom

This meeting was moderated by GSA President Violet Barton. Minutes of the meeting have been prepared by GSA Internal Communications, Benny Nguyen.

**Members of Executive Council in Attendance**

* Violet Barton (President)
* Aislinn Beam (Internal Vice President)
* Azin Shamshirgaran (Climate, Diversity and Equity Officer)
* Arya Rajan (International Affairs Officer)
* Benny Nguyen (Internal Communications Officer)
* Edgar Perez-Lopez (Undocumented Affairs Officer)
* Arya Rajan (International Student Affairs Officer)
* Destina Bermejo (Social Media & Graphic Design Specialist)
* Betsabel Chicana Romero (Legislative Affairs Officer)
* Sarah Downs (Treasurer)

**Officer Updates**

Graduate Rights & Responsibilities

* Incorporating Student Feedback regarding informational links; we’re adding the links back in
* GSA is supportive of continuing conversation w/ Dean Kello w/ regards to this new version
* Better acknowledgment of past GSA’s and other contributors’ work

Referendum on Athletics

* Committee move to student vote
* Cannot separate graduate and undergraduate student votes
* Why $40? No good justification, no room for change for this year
* If passes:
  + Make sure space usage is equitable
  + Fees are transparent (+ any additional)
* Election Commission will put on

Committees

* Library committee: student has not heard back
* Research committee: student did not accept; Benny will fill.

Letters

* For the creation of Chancellor’s committee on Accessibility Issues/on Status of Students with Disabilities
* For the issue of mask-mandates (instead of advocating for hybrid learning)
* Recruit from DA

Election Commission

* Do some outreach about GSA’s work beforehand
* Need to form the Election Commission soon
* Recruit from DA (Election Commission)

UCOP Meeting

* Writing a letter to President Drake regarding meetings/engagement w/ students

Legislative Affairs Updates

* Meeting w/ UCGPC Legislative Director, formed a committee to discuss last year’s white paper, meets weekly
  + Details: Look at active state-level and federal-level bills that are relevant to graduate + prof. Students.
  + DC Meeting, unclear whether will be sufficiently organized
* GSA agreed to sponsor a graduate student to use EVP funds to travel for advocacy work
* Notable bills/issues:
  + Bill: Allows Universities to take loans to build housing for students
  + Loan forgiveness

Future General Assembly Meeting Speakers

* Vice Chancellor of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
* Dr. Cecil Howard,
  + Dr. Claudia Penia, UCLA
* Accessibility Services
* Referendum Committee (Sarah will reach out)

Updating Rubrics (for GSO Events) + Funding/Travel award process

* Timeline for rubrics is long, not needed til next year
* Students frustrated with randomness
* Grad. Div. Wants to take over Travel Award; Our position?

Food/Using our Budget

* Destina will meet with Cassie to coordinate food-related events (what serves + when)
  + Election-related event

Podcast

* No word from Dr.Berhe, perhaps next month
* Interviews with Inclusive Excellence Fellowship recipients
* Still need interviewers and interviewees
* GSA Officers!!

**Meeting adjourned at 6:02 PM**

**Next General Membership Meeting, Tuesday, March. 29th 4 – 5 PM via Zoom**

**Next meeting Tuesday, March 15th, 5 – 6 PM via Zoom**