

Date: March 5, 2021 Location: Zoom Meeting

Ohio Union Rm 2088A | 1739 N. High Street | Columbus, OH 43210 | (614) 292-4380 | cgs@osu.edu

**Delegates Present**: Ada Barach, Om Prakash Bedant, Jessica Blackburn, Anthony Bowersock, Steph Charles, Katherine Conner, Adam Culiver, Robert Dahlberg-Sears, Todd DeRose, Kendra Dickinson, Ty Drayton, Story Edison, Caroline Fitzpatrick, Annedra Gladney, Robin Gordon, Paul Gregor, Keira Hambrick, Christian Hines, Gregory Jameson, Ellia La, Yifan Li, Xinyue Lu, Alan Lujan, Charles Mace, Zari Mahmoudi, Krutant Mehta, Alexander Milder, Aviva Neff, Wanderson Novais Pereira, Shane O'Neil, Brian O'rourke, Felipe Pacci Evaristo, Jaychandran Padayasi, Maritza Pierre, Bryan Remaily, Lauren Riley, Morgan Ross, Mary Sagatelova, Erik Scaltriti, Michelle Scott, Karla Shockley Mccarthy, Daniel Smith, Kye Stachowski, Garrett Tatum, Ekaterina Tikhonyuk, Ana Maria Velasquez Giraldo, Brett Wedding

**Delegates Absent:** Ali Asghari Adib, Luke Andrejek, Selasi Attipoe, Rob Barry, Polina Berezina, John Bundschuh, Yu-Chun Chang, Fouad Choueiry, Kacey Clark, Jacob Compaleo, Carrington Conerly, Paul Consiglio, Robert Cremins, Archit Datar, Riley DeBacker, Austin DeGroff, Benjamin Duran, Meaghann Dynes, Megan Espana, StephFanelli, Bethany Frick, Jahmour Givans, Colby Gregg, Jenna Greve, Sarah Haines, Jordan Hartman, Nathaniel Heiden, Lindsey Hernandez, Morgan Heyde, Sarah Hyman, Shontiara Johnson, Ashwin Kane, Noor Khalayleh, Pouya Kousha, Ho-chieh Lin, Javonte Lipsey, Madeleine Lomax-Vogt, Doricka Menefee, Benjamin Mertus, Madison Mize, M. Dominique Nagasawa, Laura Neese, Kelsey Pinckard, Rosie Rabati, Swetha Rajasekaran, Marie Rineveld, Armando Roman, Ashweta Sahni, Melika Shahhosseini, Kumar Somnath, Goran Stevanovski, Matthew Stuckey, Greyson Teague, Jamie Utphall, Ericka Velez-Bonet, Derek Walton, Andrew Wilson,

Yitong Xin, Megan Zib

Senators Present: Tyler Beauregard, Jenna Greve, Laine Rumreich, Dustin Servello

Senators Absent: Aaron Beczkiewicz, Shahwar Ali, Akshay Asaithambi, Gala Korniyenko, Conner Sarich, Utkarsh Shah

**Executive Committee Members Present:** Katherine Conner, Caroline Fitzpatrick, Brandon Free, Abigail Grieff, Kathryn Holt, Javonte Lipsey, Madeleine Lomax-Vogt, Nick Messenger, Aviva Neff, Wanderson Novais Pereira, Michelle Scott, Carrie Anne Thomas, Leila Vieria

Executive Committee Members Absent: Jenna Greve, Javonte Lipsey, Conner Sarich, Melika Shahhosseini

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 3:30pm

- 1.1. Statement of Purpose
  - **1.1.1.** To effectively advocate and program to ensure that The Ohio State University graduate student experience is the best it can be.
- 1.2. Land Acknowledgement
  - 1.2.1. We are currently working on revising our land acknowledgement.
- 2. ROLL CALL
  - 2.1. Carmen log-in

# 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#### 3.1. Minutes from April 2, 2021

3.1.1. Minutes approved.

## 4. NEW BUSINESS

#### 4.1. Delegate and Appointments

- **4.1.1.** Delegates that graduated in May are no longer delegates. Congratulations on your degree! However, if you graduated you no longer have a vote.
- **4.1.2.** Any seat without a delegate winning election is now vacant.
- **4.1.3.** These vacancies can be filled by petitioning the Executive Committee, who will decide to fill all or some vacancies at the Exec meeting on the last Friday of June.
- 4.1.4. Email Abby Grieff.2 if you have anyone in mind to take over your seat.

- 4.1.5. University and Senate Committee terms expire at the start of Autumn 2021.
- We will be appointing 2021-2022 representatives late this summer. An email will be sent discerning 4.1.6. this in the coming weeks.
- 4.1.7. Our new executive committee has been named!
  - Academic Affairs: Menghang Wu
  - Arts & Culture: Robin Gordon
  - Equity, Diversity & Inclusion: Sly Worthy & T'Euvyn Page .
  - Government Affairs: Brian O'Rourke
  - Graduate Student Affairs: Kameron Rinehart
  - Health, Wellness, & Safety: Faith Lewis
  - Housing & Family Affairs: Blaise Truesdell
  - International Student Affairs: Sochina Ranjit
  - Membership Wellness: Caroline Fitzpatrick
  - Research & Data Operations: Katie Conner
  - Sustainability & Environmental Responsibility: Sally Ross
  - Council on Student Affairs: Caroline Karwisch
- **Questions:** 4.1.8.
  - Martza Pierra.77: If someone did not run in April 2021, then they are no longer a delegate?
    - The seat will not go vacant until the Fall.
    - If you did not run in April, you will serve through August.

# OFFICER REPORTS (as submitted in Delegate Meeting Packet)

# 5.1. President (Messenger.37)

- The Provost and Human Resources Senior Vice President search is still ongoing. 5.1.1.
- GAA Tax Change & Reclassification 5.1.2.
  - The IRS only knows/recognizes research assistants and teaching assistants as tax exempt.
  - Creates a problem for those with GAAs.
  - The university is going to begin taxing the tuition benefit appropriately received by GAAs. •
    - We asked the university to review all GAA positions on campus and change the job
  - description to reflect teaching or research.
  - The university has pledged that it will ask all departments to review this but it did not mandate it.
  - We will be meeting throughout June, July, and/or August to figure this out.
  - The hope is that there will be no more GAAs on campus by August.
- Covid-19 & Au-21 5.1.3.
  - No firm stances have been made on this.
  - Submit your vaccination statuses on BuckMD to move to once a month testing beginning in the Fall semester.
  - Buckeye Village & Family Housing
- Continuing discussions discerning the housing plan.
- Bylaw changes 5.1.5. There will be bylaw changes this summer to tidy-up and prepare for AU-21.
- 5.1.6. Culture Survey
  - Made time during meeting to fill out the culture survey.

# 5.2. Vice President (Grieff.2)

5.1.4.

- We are currently going through the delegate election process, welcome to all our new folks! 5.2.1.
- I am currently sitting on a committee that looks at the regalia differences between PhD and professional 5.2.2. doctorate students.
  - PhD has scarlet and grey gowns and gets hooded at the OSU commencement. •
    - Professional students have a black velvet gown with hoods colored to their respective profession and they do not get hooded at OSU commencement. Instead they are hooded at their own programs gathering.
      - There is a discussion surrounding this on Carmen, so please participate.

#### 5.2.3. **Questions:**

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- Edison.22: Will the PhDs still get the red robes.
  - As of now they will remain the scarlet and grey gowns. •
- Dalberg-sears.1: Do we have the definition of what counts as a professional program at OSU?
  - The difference is that PhD goes through the graduate school. For professional students, your graduation goes through the graduate school but your programspecific exams goes through your college/department/program.

PhD is more research focused, whereas the professional doctorate is more applied and research done is applied in the filed.

## 5.3. Treasurer (Scott.1445)

- 5.3.1. We have spent \$19,516.33 this year to keep CGS running..
- **5.3.2.** We had a total income of \$113,070.13, in addition to our carryover totals from last year which was \$111,000.
- **5.3.3.** Once the spending freeze lifts, we want to spend this money! So think about different activities we should have (even if hybrid).
- 5.3.4. The Ray Travel Award Funding has also been extended until May 15<sup>th</sup>.

# 5.4. Secretary (Geisse.1)

- 5.4.1. The application window for funding period 1 on the Career Development Grant was extended until May 15<sup>th</sup>.
- 5.4.2. Winners for CGS Awards have been chosen and will be announced this week!
- **5.4.3.** I'm working with Sarah to help me transition smoothly, but I'd love to get to know everyone so reach out to me and say hi!

#### 5.5. Parliamentarian (Free.41)

5.5.1. I'm Brandon, the new parliamentarian and for any procedural questions please reach out.

### 6. COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES (as submitted in Delegate Meeting Packets)

# 6.1.1. Arts & Culture

- We did Take a Break with the Arts during finals week and it was really successful.
- 6.1.2. Government Affairs
  - We will be looking for new people interested in aspects of local and state government in addition to what's happening in OSU's administration.
  - The civilian review board has been confirmed by city council.
    - At the state level we have seen updates dealing with covid-19. Get in on the lottery, and be aware that the mask mandate lifts June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

# 6.1.3. Health, Wellness, & Safety

- Wellness week this year went really well!
  - Prizes will be sent to everyone this week.

#### 6.1.4. Internal Student Affairs

• Sochina Ranjit will be our new chair and she is excited to get started!

#### 6.1.5. Strategic Communications

- We are still ironing out a strategic communications plan. As soon as it is done we want to get it to all delegates for feedback.
- If you have any suggestions, please email Carrie Anne and/or post on our Carmen discussion board.
- If you're interested in joining, contact Carrie Anne. We need interest in social media, graphic design, etc.

## 6.1.6. SERC

We generated nice discussion in our webinar with 2 professors. We also received great feedback and are excited about the level of engagements.

# 6.1.7. External Affairs

This committee is going away, and Katie will be chairing a new committee: Data and Research Operations. Anyone interested in joining should message Katie!

# 6.1.8. Housing & Family Affairs

- Refer to last minutes meeting packet for some statistics based on a survey student life did on housing.
  - They are moving everyone from Buckeye Village to one of the courts. Residents were not consulted on this.
- There are about 15 residents and this number will reduce by August.

#### 7. NEW BUSINESS

- 7.1. ACT 2021-007 Standing Committees
  - 7.1.1. Questions
    - None

# 7.1.2. Debate

# None

7.1.3. Voting

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# 36 Yeas, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain.

# 7.2. ERJC Report

- 7.2.1. We will be reviewing and voting on this at our next meeting.
- 7.2.2. Motioned to table the ERJC report.
- 7.2.3. It is posted in Carmen for review.

# 8. SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS

# 8.1. Delegate Issues & Concerns

- **8.1.1.** Gordon.215: How might we be handling moments were we are referring to documents we want everyone to all be looking at.
  - Messenger.37: We should consider creating a procedure for lengthier documents. Also one were shorter documents can be screen-shared or projected on the overhead screens
  - Conner.280: This is probably a long-standing problem where people don't read the meeting packets until we get to the meetings.
  - La.18: Is this something that could be forwarded to the operations committees or the wellness committee since this could be about members feeling burnt out and then they can decide whether this is something we should spend time on? We don't want to make a committee do extra work if it's not worth doing it.
  - Messenger.37: That's a great point. We don't want to have practices in an organization that don't get followed just because everybody thinks it's the best way to do something right. We need to figure out the best way to support our members being able to be effective delegates without making cgs feel like an extra burden or something.
- 8.1.2. Holt.351: Has there been any discussion on requiring vaccinations in the Fall?
  - Messenger.37: Based on conversations with President Johnson, they are probably not going to require vaccination broadly across the university. There has not been any explicit mandates made yet. There's currently a bill in the senate that would make public institutions unable to require the vaccine.
- **8.1.3.** Dahlberg-sears.1: I am stricken by the cost of doctoral robes. I believe the cost of robes for my friend was \$1,000. Is there a way to lobby different colleges to create some sort of granting or subsidization?
  - Messenger.37: We have heard this concern off and on for years but we never have had this type of forum with Abby on the Regalia group to maybe bring this up. We should try to keep this proactively on our minds.
- **8.1.4.** Paccievaristo.1: We (The Senate Diversity Committee) wrote a letter to President Johnson advising the university response to the death of Ma'khia Bryant. We did push for a more practical response then the beautiful words in a university email. Such as changing the relationship between the university and cpd. I don't know if this is something to be discussed at the cgs level, but we are dealing with lives here. Black and brown folks feeling threatened by cpd presence is also worth discussion.
  - Messenger.37: Thank you Felipe, these are conversations we need to continue to have, and with our new EID chairs coming to serve, this conversation is very timely. As we have seen, their response to that incident has been pretty delayed. Is it okay to have delegates email you if they have thoughts to include in this email?
  - Paccievaristo.1: Yes absolutely. I wonder what we can do? What is our role in the discussion? Should CGS put forth a letter of recommendation to the president from CGS? Do we have the autonomy to go ahead and make statements and take action regardless on what the president decides, or do we remain this sort of advising body to the president?
  - Messenger.37: We do weigh in on certain things, the same way the diversity committee does. We do have people who serve on university committees who have the ability to move resolutions through the university senate. The answer is that ultimately President Johnson has the power to decide to use Ohio State's political/financial/legal influence in whatever capacity regarding the relationship with CPD. In short: making change is very complex, but we can certainly take a stance.
  - Holt.351: Nick, have you had any conversations with President Johnson about this since the murder of Ma'khia Bryant.
  - Messenger.37: We did, but the discussion was tense and did not end the way I had wished. We have another date in June to bring this back around. She wanted us to provide her with answers like" what does divestment look like?" Etc.
  - Geisse.1: Was it that she didn't agree with your stances, or that she didn't feel like this was feasible?
  - Messenger.37: I think a little of both, but I don't want to speak for her. She seemed receptive to some thoughts though.

- 8.1.5. Lujan.14: Last year congress passed The Together As Buckeyes grant to fund student support, but some students were left out like undocumented immigrants, international students, and fasfa ineligible students. Apparently the Dept of Education had reassessed this and now undocumented students have access to those funds presumably. Is there any discussion by the administration of what is going on? Also the university sent fasfa eligible students \$1000, can we advocate that the other student groups get \$1000 as well?
  - Messenger.37: Let's reach out to financial aid together. In addition, most grad students do
    not even have a fasfa on file so the majority of the graduate student body missed out on
    those funds. My recent question to them was would they still get that money if the fill out a
    fasfa? The answer was no, they would have to apply to the together as buckeyes grant in
    addition to the fasfa.

#### 9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

**9.1.** Next meeting is June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 @ 3:30 pm.

# 10. Meeting adjourned at 6:07 pm.