



CGS Executive Meeting Minutes

Present: Stephen Post, Sarah Light, Kathryn Holt, Jack Brandl, Conner Sarich, Libby Bauman, DaVonti' Haynes, Ehsan Estiri, Alec Clott, James Uanhoro, Mark Pauley, Andrea Davis

Absent: Rania Khamees, Priscilla Rodriguez Garcia, Kevin Ingles, Carly LaRosa, Maddy Lomax-Vogt, Blake Szkoda, E Alexander

1. President's Report

- 1.1. GCBC met recently and Post.144 is drafting an initial recommendation for the new stipend levels. This will hopefully include information related to housing and childcare expenses. Anyone who has comments or opinions about what the stipend level should be should be in touch. This recommendation will likely be a hard number rather than a percentage increase.
- 1.2. The December delegate meeting will likely be held in the Blackburn Victory room or Curl Hall instead of Drinko Hall because of the holiday party taking place right after the meeting. Food for the meeting will be served at 5pm to encourage people to attend the party.
- 1.3. President Drake is scheduled to attend our December delegate meeting. Exec will work on preparing a list of questions to ask him.
- 1.4. CGS passed a resolution last spring that supported no changes for GAA appointments. The Grad School was considering changing these appointments to hourly employees or reclassifying them as GTAs or GRAs. The justification given was that GAAs do not have an educational component to their appointment. This assertion is not really true and many students who hold these positions are often going into administrative role and are doing things directly relevant to their future careers. Some students have already been talked to about their position changing. The official position of CGS still aligns with what had been put forth in this resolution last year, which would be to maintain GAA positions as they are. So far, it seems like the Grad School agrees with us, but they are still pursuing this potential change. Post.144 is having a meeting with Susan Basso, head of HR, and will try to have her or someone from her office come to a delegate meeting to talk more about this issue.
 - Brandl.8 points out that in those instances where GAAs are doing strictly administrative work, this could reflect a problem with the supervisors who oversee these appointments not giving students meaningful work to complete.
 - Haynes.242 adds that none of these supervisors receive any training on how to effectively supervise and support graduate students.
- 1.5. The Graduate Ombudsperson Resolution was taken to the Grad Council, CSA, and GCBC. We received a lot of positive feedback and Post.144 is working on a draft of a formal faculty rule change. This will be presented at the January steering committee and University Senate meetings to be hopefully passed.

- One issue that was brought up is whether this ombudsperson needs to be a mandatory reporter under university rules. This raises the concern that students may not feel comfortable talking to this person if they know concerns will be reported.
- 1.6. Update on Grants Funding Resolution: Office of Academic Affairs expressed that they are not able to increase any grants funding (they already fund the Ray). The Office of Research is finalizing their strategic plan, and this possibly includes new funding and programs for graduate research.
- There is a possibility that we might be able to start an endowment fund for CGS grant funding using some of our Coke money. We can solicit donations and grow this over time.

2. Vice President's Report

- 2.1. Hayes Forum really needs abstract and conference judges still.
- The committee is planning to emphasize advertising and marketing for this event this year.
- 2.2. Committee chairs need to submit the descriptions of their committees to be included as part of the website update.

3. Treasurer's Report

- 3.1. We are still focusing on making sure we spend all of our budgeted money this year so that we avoid having to fight to carry it over into the next year.
- 3.2. Please fill out the demographic survey if you have not already done it!
- 3.3. 9 people have been selected as winners of BucklExperience. There will be a second round in the spring with less stringent rules about who can apply.

4. Secretary's Report

- 4.1. Students who are on fellowship are often not made aware that taxes are not being taken out of their monthly stipend. Light.109 is working on setting up a meeting with reps from the Grad School to work on a collaborative awareness effort.
- 4.2. The CDG Committee met earlier this week and discussed the success of the current grant process. Suggestions were made to clarify and update some of the prompts to make applications easier to evaluate.

5. Committee Member Agenda Items

- 5.1. Health, Wellness, & Safety
- There will be a Health & Wellness event in late March/early April, likely held at the RPAC- more news to come soon. This event will be put on in collaboration with the Graduate Students Affairs Committee.
- 5.2. Arts & Culture
- There was another lottery held recently and 5 students won tickets to A Midsummer Night's Dream, performed on campus. The next lottery will be for the December 3rd School of Music's Holiday Concert.
 - There is a symposium planned for the spring on Arts and Self-Care. The call for proposals will go out soon. The idea is to get graduate students from all over the university to participate in this event.
- 5.3. Delegate Relations
- 40 people have responded to the RSVP for the winter party on December 6th.
 - There is a graduate student party hosted by CGS on January 17th at Trism. Tickets are \$10 a person. If we make money on this event, we can put that into an off-campus account to be used at our discretion.

5.4. Diversity & Inclusion

- Meeting with Kerry to revamp the Diversity & Implicit Bias training, which students participate in on a voluntary basis.
- In collaboration with WOSU, there is a diversity video campaign still in the works for the spring.
- There will potentially be a collaborative diversity and inclusion team composed of members from all 3 student governments. The university has not done a diversity-specific strategic plan since 1998 so this may be something that comes out this year.

5.5. Graduate Student Affairs

- Post.144 and Pauley.66 met with Jay Kasey with other questions about the Lyft initiative. More detailed information is forthcoming from that office.
- The committee is meeting with the Office of Institutional Equity to discuss the “U Got This” assault and harassment online training. The current training is insensitive and triggering for survivors of sexual assault.

5.6. International Student Concerns

- The film series is ongoing and has been successful so far. The committee is buying the rights to screen these films on campus and has been happy to see a good turnout.
- The services provided to international students by the Writing Center are not adequate. The consultants are not necessarily helpful at the level needed by graduate students and there should be someone hired who has better training to be able to assist this population of students.

5.7. Housing & Family Affairs

- There is a working group composed of students with families from all areas of the university. This group is putting together a list of needs of these students that can be presented to the University.
- There is a protest organization happening within the population of current Buckeye Village residents. The committee is planning to work in parallel with this group to keep pressure on the university and keep focus on this issue.

5.8. External Collaborations

- The committee is working on a mentorship program put together by Dr. Jordan.
- There is a report coming out from the committee in January about benchmarking and unionization that will inform future conversations within CGS.

6. Old Business

6.1. None.

7. New Business

7.1. Siripurapu.4 submitted a resolution about the short-term issues directly relevant for current Buckeye Village residents who will have to move to University Village at the end of the year. This documents the current rent and associated fees and calls for the university to ensure that these residents will continue to pay the same rate once they have moved.

- One potential issue with this resolution is that if we pass this, it might send the message that we are ok with the fact that the university is getting rid of Buckeye Village at all.
- As CGS, we can make these statements preemptively to try to protect these students. Also, this holds these officials more accountable, especially with the coming turn-over in administrators.

- This resolution is supported by the executive committee to be discussed at the next delegate meeting, with some small grammatical edits.

8. Open Floor Announcements

8.1. Next delegate meeting December 6th, 2019 @ 3:30 PM

9. Meeting adjourned at 5:37 pm.