

Council of Graduate Students The Ohio State University

Date: January 22, 2021 **Location**: Zoom meeting

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

CGS Executive Meeting Minutes

Present: Stephen Post, Sarah Light, Caroline Fitzpatrick, Carrie Anne Thomas, Michelle Scott, Aviva Neff, Leila Vieria, Kathryn Holt, Conner Sarich, Wanderson Novais Pereira, Raven Lynch, Katie Conner, Nick Messenger, Brandon Free, Abigail Grieff, Jenna Greve, Maddy Lomax-Vogt

Absent: Melika Shahhosseini

1. President's Report

- 1.1. Met with Dean Bertone. Grad school is reluctant to agree to an earlier timeline for announcing AGGRS because of staffing issues.
- 1.2. There have been a lot of concerns about the functionality and support for using the new Workday system. The Grad School is supposed to get training for this system and there will be more trainings available hopefully soon.
- 1.3. We are still advocating for further funding for students negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. There should be another round of CARES funding coming into OSU and some of that should be available for students to apply for.
- 1.4. Beginning February 1st, the office of the Graduate Ombudsperson will begin accepting requests from students. She will be coming to our February delegate meeting.
- 1.5. We are still pushing on the community enrollment question and to get student representation on the relevant committees.
- 1.6. There are ongoing federal investigations into the Capitol violence. We are still waiting to see exactly how OSU will react as more information is released.
- 1.7. CGS will send a condolence gift to the family of Victoria Strauss.
- 1.8. Senate Steering will be voting soon on the emergency pass grading system for the spring semester and the 04 Rule.
- 1.9. Questions:
 - Conner.280: Constituents have complained that the Zoom update has caused the name showing up to be what is listed in Buckeyelink and it can no longer be updated within Zoom.
 - **1.9..1.** This may be related to the Workday transition.
 - Greve.141: Do we have any more information about when Buckeyelink is transitioning into the Workday system?
 - **1.9..1.** The listed date is still almost 2 years from now. There have been so many issues brought up by faculty so it's unclear what decisions may happen.
 - **1.9..2.** None of the administrators and coordinators who need to use this system for all of their job functions were not trained about how to use the new system and they did not even have the access to the needed functionalities so this has slowed down everyday tasks significantly.
 - Conner.280: Right now, degree extensions are still being handled on a case-by-case basis and students are concerned that they may have issues "proving" that their

research was affected by the pandemic. Who will make those decisions about who will get extensions?

- **1.9..1.** Currently, everyone's extension petitions are being accepted and they are accepting a large range of reasons.
- **1.9..2.** Any information or thoughts about this should be emailed to Aviva as she is working on a resolution on this issue.
- **1.9..3.** We should maybe ask that anyone who was enrolled when the pandemic happened to be eligible to apply for these extensions because there will be long-lasting effects into the future.
- Are there any updates about the vaccine rollout schedule at OSU?
 - **1.9..1.** Some grad students got them while other in the same department didn't and there's not a lot of transparency about how they are deciding who will get them and when.
 - **1.9..2.** Can we advocate for students to have access to doses that are not claimed by those who have been invited?
 - **1.9..3.** We should work on pushing out some information about vaccine safety and continuing to maintain social distancing and mask-wearing.
 - **1.9..4.** The Safe Campus committee is working on some marketing to go out on this issue as well, even before the vaccine becomes widely available to students.

2. Vice President's Report

- 2.1. 222 participants applied for Hayes and abstracts will be sent out to judges soon.
- 2.2. There has been some confusion about the fee structure for this semester. Working with Business & Finance to get some answers about many of these issues.
- 2.3. We are having conversations with the Grad School next week to create an orientation experience specifically for grad students that will help students feel like more of a part of the community and raise awareness about available support services.

3. Treasurer's Report

- 3.1. Ray closes Feb 1st.
- 3.2. We have some wiggle room with spending if we can justify it as operational so please check in if you have a potential idea about something your committee wants to spend money on.

4. Secretary's Report

- 4.1. Ad-hoc gov will be presenting the second of two constitutional amendments at the February meeting for approval. Two bylaws amendments are also on the voting schedule for that meeting.
- 4.2. We will be collecting nominations for the annual CGS awards this spring. More information will go out when the nomination dates have been set.

5. Committee Member Agenda Items

- 5.1. Health, Wellness, & Safety
 - The committee is working on a virtual format for the spring wellness event. This will take place over a week in April with different events and programming each day. There will also be suggested activities that people can do on their own time and submit for gift cards or other incentives.
- 5.2. Government Affairs

- Still working on gathering more information and talking to different offices about the proposed EHS changes to lab safety inspection procedures.
- The committee is organizing a "How Things Work at the Ohio Statehouse" training to share information about how to lobby and get involved in state politics.

6. Old Business

6.1. None.

7. New Business

- 7.1. Act 2021-003: Apportionment Amendment
 - 7.1..1. Approved by exec to be on the February delegate meeting agenda.
- 7.2. Act 2021-004: Bylaws Amendment
 - 7.2..1. Approved by exec to be on the February delegate meeting agenda.
- 7.3. Resolution 2021-015: Counseling Support
 - 7.3..1. Approved by exec to be on the February delegate meeting agenda.
- 7.4. Stephen's new appointment is approved.

8. Open Floor Announcements

8.1. Next delegate meeting February 5, 2021 @ 3:30 PM

9. Meeting adjourned at 5:43 pm.