



## CGS Executive Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Stephen Post, Sarah Light, Carrie Anne Thomas, Michelle Scott, Leila Vieria, Kathryn Holt, Wanderson Novais Pereira, Nick Messenger, Brandon Free, Abigail Grieff, Caroline Fitzpatrick, Javonte Lipsey, Katie Conner,

**Absent:** Melika Shahhosseini, Jenna Greve, Aviva Neff, Conner Sarich, Maddy Lomax-Vogt, Raven Lynch, Alissa Geisse

### 1. President's Report

- 1.1. We are focusing a lot of ensuring a smooth transition to the new administration and downloading all relevant information to assist the new officers.
- 1.2. We are still having meeting about the GAA issue. The solution that will go forward is to reclassify these people as GRAs or GTAs to get around these taxation and tuition waiver problems. Student Life has already taken this step, and this represents a large chunk of the 230 affected students. We have more meetings coming up to make sure that this will be carried out centrally and not department by department.
- 1.3. **Questions:**
  - Holt.351: What is the situation with AGRRS application dates?
    - 1.3..1. We haven't heard an update, but Stephen is meeting with Dean Bertone next week and will ask again.

### 2. Vice President's Report

- 2.1. The new exec team is reviewing the exit interviews and the responses to the survey and these will both be really helpful in helping us carry forward ongoing projects and make positive improvements into next year. One thing to focus on is returning to our long-term goals as an organization as we recover from the very unusual year we weathered during the pandemic, solidifying our mission statement, rebranding some of the committees to more closely align with the needs of our committees and delegate body, and recruiting great new committee chairs.
- 2.2. We are still working with the Graduate School to craft this new graduate student orientation, which will not be mandatory. The Grad School has taken the lead on this project, but we want to make sure that they are working with the right groups and making something that will actually be useful to students.
  - 2.2..1. The idea is that this will be paired with some kind of informal in-person event where students can be introduced to department heads and administrators- potentially could be paired with the fall picnic. For example, this would go live and be available over the summer and then an on-campus event would take place a few weeks into the semester.
  - 2.2..2. Our vision is that the online piece will have modules with an intro video

outlining the information that will be covered and then separate pieces. This online orientation could be accessed at any time and will ideally live somewhere permanent, like Carmen, so students can access it at any time throughout their career at OSU for reference. We want to make sure that there isn't a new one added to your Carmen page for every year or if there can be an associated webpage where everything can live more permanently.

- 2.2.3. Some other topics that should be added: taxes, health insurance, residency requirements,
  - 2.2.4. Submodules within each containing info for international students rather than a separate module will be better.
  - 2.2.5. Hopefully, CGS will have a primary review of everything before it is launched so we can make suggestions and give feedback.
  - 2.2.6. There is a balance between being comprehensive and thorough and being overwhelming. We also want to make sure that if departments have their own orientation activities, there isn't too much overlap of information. It will also be important to incorporate some kind of table of contents to make it easy to find the info that is needed.
- 2.3. The three student governments are planning to draft a letter to the administration that will support the asks listed in the upcoming resolution to require the vaccine for in-person activities in Fall 2021.
  - 2.4. Hayes is coming up soon! We have a lot of participants and still need some more volunteer proctors!
  - 2.5. We've been in contact with Business & Finance and Administration & Planning and there is now a plan to move forward soon with graduate student housing. The goal is to make sure that this new housing complex is going to remain affordable and have the amenities that students need. There was a survey of almost 800 students that has a lot of good information that will inform the project.
  - 2.6. In April, there will hopefully be a town hall on the future of policing at Ohio State. There was a survey that has collected over 1700 responses so far and we are going to sit down with admins to go over the raw results.
  - 2.7. There have been a handful of meetings concerning student wellness and we are working with Student Life to craft a large project on this topic that will improve grad student's access to mental health resources and counseling and try to institute more resources that are specific to grad students. This will include trying to get embedded counselors within each college who would be affiliated and also work with CCS.

### **3. Treasurer's Report**

- 3.1. CSA did officially vote to allow us to carry forward our unspent budget from this year, which is about 60k. This will balance out to about the same for our normal budget, which was abnormally small this year because of reduced student activity fee income. Next year's exec team will have a lot of funding for new programming and events.

### **4. Secretary's Report**

- 4.1. Rather than planning a virtual event to present the annual awards and share the end-of-year reports, we will probably try to pre-record something that we can post to the website and social media so people can watch on their own time.
- 4.2. More information will be coming out soon about how exec members will cast their votes for the three external annual awards.

### **5. Committee Member Agenda Items**

- 5.1. Health, Wellness, and Safety

- Wellness week is April 5-9<sup>th</sup> and will be a mix of virtual planned programs and at-home activities.

#### 5.2. SERC

- The committee is working to recognize students doing research and community work around sustainability. Winners will be announced and celebrated around Earth Day in April.
- We are also working on a grant program to help students have their bikes repaired.

#### 5.3. Arts & Culture

- The committee is putting together a raffle to send arts-related books to participants.
- Also working on planning an art-walk to highlight some of the sculptures around campus using a map that has been put together by the Art History department.

#### 5.4. Graduate Student Affairs

- Committee is working on benchmarking OSU's residency requirements, but this might require some collaboration with legal offices because there is a lot of jargon.
  - There may be a cohort of law students already working on this who can help.

#### 5.5. Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity

- ERJC is trying to finish a final report of the work the committee has done this year.
- The committee has a draft of the internal climate and culture survey that all delegates will be taking during the May meeting via Qualtrics. Potential feedback listed below.
  - Collect information about how long participants have been involved with or affiliated with CGS and how they first learned about and got involved with the organization.
  - Ask which internal committees people serve on.
  - Man and woman versus male and female in the demographics section.
  - Add a question about which year students are in their degree program.
  - Include examples of what is meant by terminology used in the demographic section.

### 6. Old Business

- 6.1. None.

### 7. New Business

#### 7.1. Resolution 2021-018: Vaccine Requirements

- We are going to be monitoring the news over the next week to see if any other universities adopt this requirement and may add these to the document.
- This resolution asks the university to update the immunization requirements for all in-person on-campus activities, communicate a clear process for opting out of the vaccine that lays out the consequences for this decision, and encourage the university to have a plan in place to provide the vaccine to incoming students.
- There is no language in here about requiring immunization for university employees because that is a lot more complicated legally. This may be a conversation that happens at the admin level and probably not something we need to advocate for specifically.
- Approved by exec to be on the April delegate meeting agenda.

### 8. Open Floor Announcements

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

### 9. Meeting adjourned at 5:28 pm.