



Council of Graduate Students  
The Ohio State University

## Delegate Meeting Minutes

Date: June 24th, 2016

Location Ohio Union

---

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

---

### **Call to order.**

Walterbusch.1 called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Walterbusch.1 notes that she is running the meeting with Bowers out of town.

Wesaw.1 read the Code of Ethics.

### **Approval of minutes.**

There were no requested changes to the May meeting minutes as presented.

### **Reports**

Bowers communicated that if you have any questions regarding his report please contact him via email.

Walterbusch.1 referred to her report in packet.

Wesaw.1 did not submit report in the packet.

Wesaw.1 presented an updated budget. He reported that the Ray Travel report funding cycle just ended on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Wesaw.1 asked for delegates to serve as judges as we are currently lacking judges. The second funding deadline for the Ray is August 1<sup>st</sup>. This funds from Oct 1 through Dec 31.

Chief of Staff- no report

### **Secretary Election**

Walterbusch.1 notes that each candidate will have five minutes to speak before the floor is opened up for questions and we will proceed in alphabetical order.

Antonucci.21 -3<sup>rd</sup> year biophysics Ph.D. student. Why am I running for secretary and why am I qualified? Was chair of the Communications Committee for CGS. Importance of getting out information to graduate students and a lot of grads don't get the info they need. This is why I want to be secretary. Qualifications include being an administrator for two years during master's degree. Good at calendars and typing and that sort of thing.

Bhaktha.1 -Ph.D. student in Educational Studies in QREM. Why should you vote for me? Cites constitution and role of secretary. As a graduate student note keeping has been major part of life. Quantitative background means very good listener. Taught grad and undergraduate students so good communication skills. Will be in a good position to keep the minutes, maintain records, and conduct correspondence. Always wanted to be a part of CGS since coming to OSU. Desire became stronger when volunteered for the Hayes Forum. Reviewed abstracts, manned reception booth, and the reception. Can use this experience in planning and executing. Nonprofit organization for fundraising activities. I can contribute positively with experiences have had. IF voted can do justice to all of the duties of this position and has lots of flexibility in schedule so can attend meetings. Growing up in India was able to travel from place to place. Now first time in life can be somewhere for 5 years (upon graduation). Wants to give back to OSU.

Mueller – With the German department and in the final two weeks of finishing MA and moving to PhD. Would like to be secretary for CGS. Not been involved with CGS previously but has heard a lot about it and knows it is important to graduate student life. Talked a lot to department's delegate and spoken with Schoreder.650 and has heard a lot about CGS. Can contribute because been secretary... background with nonprofit organization for youth exchange across the world. Secretary experience before. Taking notes and trying to get information for everyone to comprehend. Reached out to CGS. I can be fun but also be serious. If you want me to step in and do extra work. It is about getting a project across and whatever we need to do gets done. Very diligent. Organizing calendars is a hobby. Being involved with Hayes as proctor realized how much great work is offered through CGS. I can grow from this as a person and can give back. IF this doesn't work out it is fine. For me it is not about being the head person, but want to give back. If you want me to be in other positions or help out in other ways as well. Would be happy to do that.

Vijaya- Wesaw.1 reads statement.

2<sup>nd</sup> year Ph.D. in WGSS at OSU. In 16 ESL reviewing body failed me in the oral English proficiency test on grounds of unclear pronunciation. Decided accent was unsuitable for teaching. This led to termination in teaching and rendered pedagogical development conditional to taking a remedial English course. Problem was not in accent but in the implicit bias used to evaluate international students. Many international students of color at OSU fail to get advocacy on campus. CGS actively lobbied for ESL reviewers to reevaluate. Consistent advocacy efforts helped me garner more support from faculty. As a result will be able to return

to teaching in Fall 2016.. CGS plays a major role in deliberating and lobbying for more fair university policies. CGS has a crucial presence at OSU. CGS is a key student government body. Objectives of CGS in synergy with own understandings of student engagement. Past experience of working with student organizations given close insight into campus governance from multiple vantage points. Can work independently and as part of collaborative committee. Worked with Debanuj on Diversity Committee and WGSS Graduate Student group and Intersections. Has significant experience conducting minutes. Can make all meetings. Appeal to delegates to vote for me.

Walterbusch.1 notes that at this time there will be a 25 minute question and answer session and calls candidates to the front. 25 minute session can be extended.

Puthawala.1 asks only one of you can be elected, in what ways would you put your talents and motivations to use in CGS?

Bhaktha – if not voted in, will still be involved in Hayes. Also would be involved in Grants administration if possible.

Mueller - Hayes Forum is an area of interest. Also would be interested in helping out with Arts committee as it is her area of research. Participated in Implicit Bias training so would benefit there as well.

Antonucci – For next year I will be a Senator but would also like to serve on the communication committee because people don't get information. Would like to see CGS get more data and get new delegates from underrepresented departments and programs

Perkins.442- What is the biggest hurdle to getting more involved in CGS is? We have historically have had low involvement from certain departments.

Mueller- An abundance of organizations on campus. As international student I didn't discover CGS until being on campus for year. Very difficult to navigate. Make presence be known better. Have committee of individuals willing to go talk to departments. Create tiny events to get students involved with a focused group.

Antonucci - Would agree with Caroline but one of the obstacles in Sciences is that advisors actively discourage involvement. Some faculty don't want students to have voices (i.e. calling for higher stipends). People don't know what CGS is doing.

Bhaktha - Agrees with Carline. Didn't know who delegate was. Have meeting once a semester with our delegate so we can tell them issues we are facing and get more participation.

Waterbush explains that we are going to move into executive session. All candidates asked to leave and only voting members, officers, and advisors allowed to stay in chambers.

Walterbusch.1 calls body back into session and moves to new business.

Wesaw.1- Bowers and Wesaw.1 are putting together a proposal for the budget next year. Need to know money we get from student activities fee and everyone is counted and money distributed. Based on last three year averages we are expecting 196,500 which is down from what we expected. Explanation is the new CSA formula reduces expected money. We can request additional funding from CSA for possible programs. Total committees moved from 50,950 to 47,700 because there will be only one Ray reception.

Admin budget will be down from 40,650 to 30,185 due to the reallocation of Spring Picnics. OUAB will fund these in full.

New expenses include \$5,000 for NAGPS to host regional meeting in Spring of 2017, additional expense for parking pass for Chief of Staff, and an increased Ray Travel Grant.

Parking permit: have budgeted additional money because Chief of Staff attends all meetings that elected officers do.

Increased Ray budget...

Question:

Alex.25- Are we going to modify our budget based on the amount that we have left over?

Alex.25- Is it too late to make any recommendation to increase the maximum amount that students can request for the Ray Travel Grant?

Advisor- Someone would need to bring a resolution

Zak- At the start of the Spring Term we increased the amount for funding period three from \$750 to \$1000

Hodak- Students often supplement their Ray funds with departmental funds.

Eugene DOT NUMBER? - also the Global Gateway Grant.

Proposed budget assumes that major costs for the second year of Implicit Bias Training will come from Student Life rather than CGS.

Wesaw.1 offers the body a copy of the budget.

Act passed at 4:15 p.m.

Delegate Issues and Concerns:

Puthawala.1- Have heard a lot in today's meeting about faculty advisor's reluctance for students to participate in CGS

Antonucci.21- May be specific to sciences. Everything is dependent on advisor's grants so anything is taking away. Issues of postdocs not getting paid enough.

Pierce.508 in Physics – pervasive climate in physics (despite his advisor) that if you aren't in the lab that you are a slacker. We have been trying to get own graduate student sin own internal student government. It is a very big issue in science in general and a climate that pervades relationships with one another.

Wheeler.1008 also experienced these problems of advisors in science only wanting students to devote selves to research. This is natural for advisors whose work is dependent on graduate student work. Nothing we can likely do legislatively. But we can discuss what our rights are and what is reasonable. Would be beneficial to know what is reasonable.

Wesaw.1 asks if you have contracts.

Grice.17- education ethos – there is a push that no matter that we are making the lowest of any of the departments, which we are told we have to do more. That we have to be on graduate student committees. Interesting balance that we are never doing enough versus you (sciences) can't do anything at all. Suggests reminders to students during orientations about their rights and to faculty as well. What you can participate in and advisors can't undermine. Messages to advisors and students that they have options of things to do. Clearly an ethos difference between departments.

Perkins.442- organized lunch for department with someone in work force to have lunch with people about how they got their job. Former CGS member. Said one reason they got their job was involvement in CGS. Impressed employer to have work outside of lab. Testimonials from former students about value of experiences outside of Lab.

Pierce.508- Dovetails nicely to TA expectations. Question came up on Listserv about should TA be expected to work on weekends? CGS could be useful for clarifying expectations for both TA's and RA's. Sounds messy.

Alex.25- Asked Pierce.508 what came from last month's discussion about workload. There are graduate student unions across the country who have collective bargaining rights and make sure that graduate students are treated fairly. Hears OSU is too big to organize, but doesn't buy this logic. References U Iowa graduate student union. Fear seems to have always dominated conversations around stipend increases. Asking for the minimum is the worst thing we can do and that's what we did last year. Encourage body to think about recommendations as asking for more than what you think you can get.

Schroeder.650- we continue to have this conversation. Perhaps we should have a special session on this topic, but not sure how productive it is to keep talking about this.

Bhaktha - Can we start a focus group or committee to address this problem? Grads feel powerless.

Pierce.508- Given that Bowers said he would collect information that this is something slightly broader and funneling anecdotal notes to David and then next meeting discuss relevant action to take.

Hodak- CGS used to be very actively engaged in compensation issues and it was there work that raised increased stipend and the standard letter of offer that didn't exist 16 years ago. As a part of that, don't want CGS to be overwhelmed by GA issues when less than 50 percent of Grads have GA. I would push this to GCBC which is designed of these issues. Fellows, GA, GTA to push them in this direction to do this data collection to report back and that you can endorse. It will give that group something to do. Faculty support is important. Encourages refer to committee.

Puthawala.1- What is the status of the stipend increase?

Walterbusch.1.1- David waiting to hear.

Wesaw.1- now that the new Provost has been appointed, waiting to hear.

Alex.25- where did stipend increase come from?

Hodak- came to CGS and took it to administration.

Alex.25- Was anyone here involved in writing that?

Hodak- David was chair of GCBC.

Alex.25- Little input from delegate body before it was passed. Need more communication.

Walterbusch.1 In process of confirming committee members for GCBC.

Schroeder. – I was on GCBC before. We did collect things from delegates. Don't recall the exact process, thinks president at time put out a call for information from departments on compensation. Agrees with Hodak to take it to GCBC.

Wesaw.1- Changes from the report Josh did, but the process is written by GCBC then gets CGS approval.

Schroeder- moves that we refer this discussion to GCBC

Walterbusch.1 announces that the new secretary is Nivedita Bhaktha. Walterbusch.1 thanks candidates and asks them to stay involved with CGS.

## **Announcements**

Walterbusch.1.1 reminds delegates that there is no July meeting and there will be an orientation before the August meeting.

Meeting is adjourned at 4:36 p.m.