



**Present:** e alexander, Pranav Ambardekar, Jacky Anderson, Luke Andrejek, Ali Asghari Adib, Selasi Attipoe, Tyler Beauregard, Aaron Beczkiewicz, Jessica Blackburn, Andrew Borst (ALT), Mary Byrne, Qiuchang (Katy) Cao (ALT), Yu-chun Chang, Steph Charles, Jorge Clavo Abbass, Alec Clott, Katherine Conner, Paul Consiglio, Robert Dahlberg-Sears, Archit Datar, Amanda Deighen, Ty Drayton, Benjamin Duran, Story Edison, Kat Ellis, Ehsan Estiri, Brandon Free (ALT), Elizabeth Galko, Jahmour Givans, Lindsey Lawson, Kathryn Holt, Audrey Hungerpillar, Sarah Hyman, Kevin Ingles, Jeffrey Kast, Gala Korniyenko, Pouya Kousha, Arsh Kumar, Carly Larosa, Yifan Li, Ruonan Lin, Stephen Lo, Madeleine Lomax-vogt, Emily Lundstedt, Raven Lynch, Lucas Magee, Tori Magers, Matthew Maynard, Rohit Mukherjee, Aviva Neff, Kate Ormiston (Connor Mahler), Alejandro Otero Bravo, Tricia Oyster, Ryann Patrus, Mark Pauley, Miguel Pedrozo, Maritza Pierre, Kelsey Pinckard, Avi Pokala, Ken Poland, Zxeltzin Reyes, Isaac Reynolds, Marie Rineveld, Priscila Rodriguez Garcia, Ashweta Sahni, Conner Sarich, Erik Scaltriti, Lena Schreiber (ALT), Michelle Scott, Sarah Scott, Utkarsh Shah, Melika Shahhosseini, Karla Shockleymccarthy, Ryan Slechta, Aaron Snelgrove, Kye Stachowski, Lindsey Stirek (ALT), Jorge Torres Espinosa, James Uanhoro, Jennifer Valdez, Mitch Vicieux, Leila Vieira, Derek Walton, Sarah Walton, Chris Wiegman, Daniel Williams, Yu Lun Wu, Piao Yang, Soroush Zamanian, Megan Zib

**Absent:** Om Prakash Bedant, Richard Broshious, Min-Seok Choi, Austin Cool, Leah Demko, Coralie Farinas, Jenna Greve, David Hibler, Kara Johnson, Lauren Howard, Jungmin Lee, Ho-chieh Lin, Eric Loria, Shruthi Shetty, Preeti Singh, Sundeep Siripurapu, Nithya Sivashankar, Blake Szkoda, Nicole Tchorowski, Philip Tice, Taylor Tomu

**1. CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 3:41 pm**

**1.1. Statement of Purpose**

- 1.1.1. To effectively advocate and program to ensure that The Ohio State University graduate student experience the best it can be.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**2.1. Carmen log-in**

**3. MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE UPDATE (Stephen Lo.208)**

**3.1. Suicide and Mental Health Task Force: Implementation Team Update**

- 3.1.1. This task force was charged in 2018 by President Drake to assess and evaluate mental health and suicide resources at OSU and compare prevention resources with other universities.
- 3.1.2. This task force compiled a 40 page recommendation document that outlines the current status of mental health resources on campus. The implementation team is focused on following through on the short- and long-term recommendation goals set forth in this document.
- 3.1.3. Buckeye PAL program was created as a warm line (support network for anyone to call in and talk to someone about any issues they are struggling with). This program is available 8pm-midnight when Counseling & Consultation Services (CCS) is closed.
- 3.1.4. STAR (Stress, Trauma, and Resistance) is a program in collaboration with the Wexner Medical Center to employ a case worker and care provider to work one day a week at CCS to interact with students who are survivors of trauma.
- 3.1.5. There is an ongoing effort to create a culture of care by including mental health statements in syllabi, creating a Faculty Network to disseminate information about resources and services, streamlining the withdrawal and re-enrollment processes for students struggling with mental health issues, and distributing resource cards to faculty, staff, and students.
- 3.1.6. REACH suicide prevention training and online suicide screenings have been expanded and are being more heavily utilized by the campus population.
- 3.1.7. JED Campus recently did an on-campus audit of the services and resources available on campus and we will receive a report of this audit soon.

- 3.1.8. In collaboration with Digital Flagship, a mental health wellness app is in the works. This app will be rolled out in the spring. They are looking for grad students to provide feedback about the app.
- 3.1.9. The number of counselors has increased by 50% at CCS and some departments are now employing in-house counselors.
- 3.1.10. SMART LAB will teach stress management and resiliency strategies. In-person appointments are available on weekdays and are free for all students. There is also a six-week Stress Control program hosted by the OSU Psychological Services Center that is free for all students to attend.
  - Conner.280 asked whether the implementation team has considered adding in-house counselors within the Graduate School itself. Lo.208 responded that this idea was considered but rejected. One other feasible option is to push for some counselors that would work specifically with grad students within CCS.

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

##### **4.1. Minutes from September 6, 2019**

- 4.1.1. Shah.1285 motioned to approve the minutes.
- 4.1.2. Motion was seconded by Beauregard.13.
- 4.1.3. Minutes approved.

#### **5. OFFICER REPORTS (as submitted in Delegate Meeting Packet)**

##### **5.1. President (Post.144)**

- 5.1.1. An emergency fund has been established for graduate students at \$20,000/year for the next five years. There is still work ongoing to clarify the policies and application processes. The Graduate Student Affairs committee is putting together a working group that will make recommendations to the Graduate School about policies to determine who is eligible to receive the funds and what they may be used for.
- 5.1.2. The issue of student leave that was brought up at a previous meeting has referred out to the Graduate Compensation & Benefits Committee and this committee will make recommendations to Dean Bertone and the Graduate School about updating the current policy.

##### **5.2. Vice President (Bauman.193)**

- 5.2.1. 105/146 delegate seats are currently filled. Please encourage interested parties to petition to become a delegate in departments still lacking representations.
- 5.2.2. The Hayes Forum Committee is currently accepting nominations for faculty judges.

##### **5.3. Treasurer (Haynes.242)**

- 5.3.1. There is a special meeting at **4:30pm on October 24<sup>th</sup> in the Senate Chambers** to discuss changes to the GE requirements. Please inform other grad students who have GTA appointments to share feedback about how these changes will impact graduate students.
- 5.3.2. Ty Bender, our new Deputy Treasurer, has started and will be helping CGS to complete audits of university offices and programs related to CGS.
- 5.3.3. As of last month, CGS has spent about \$58,000. About half of this number went to grants. Delegate outreach grants have been awarded to 6 people so far this year.
  - Shah.1285 asks why our technology budget is already up to almost \$7000. Haynes.242 clarifies that this is because our monthly website fee increased by 500% with no warning over the summer. We are in negotiations with Student Life to rectify this problem and to investigate if any other student orgs have been affected.
- 5.3.4. Funding period 3 of Ray closes November 1<sup>st</sup>. 11 people were awarded in funding period 2.

##### **5.4. Secretary (Light.109)**

- 5.4.1. The Career Development Grant application window for the third funding period closes November 1. There will be a meeting of the committee at **4:30pm on Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> in 134 Biomedical Research Tower (BRT)** to discuss the application and judging process and talk about any updates or changes that would make the grant more successful. All delegates are welcome to attend and anyone who has thoughts to share, please send via email.

- 5.4.2. A survey will be going out to all delegates asking for feedback about the organization, layout, and user-friendliness of the CGS website. Please respond with any comments or opinions you have. There will be a focus group meeting at **4pm on Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> in the CSG Offices** to discuss the specific changes that should be prioritized as we try to clean up the website.

#### 5.5. Chief of Staff (Brandl.8)

- 5.5.1. There are meetings scheduled with IPC and USG to begin the process of collaboration across student government bodies on issues that affect us all. Any concerns that may be relevant to these conversations should be sent to Brandl.8.

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

#### 6.1. Arts & Culture (Holt.351)

- 6.1.1. There is ticket lottery going live next week for the Columbus Symphony's Performance of the Nightmare Before Christmas on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. All graduate students are eligible to apply for two free tickets.

#### 6.2. Delegate Relations (Sarich.6)

- 6.2.1. Starting next month, we will be hosting informal happy hours after delegate meetings.  
6.2.2. At the end of the semester, the committee will be hosting a holiday party for all delegates.

#### 6.3. Graduate Student Affairs (Pauley.66)

- 6.3.1. The working group that is putting together recommendations about the emergency fund is accepting feedback until next Wednesday, the 9<sup>th</sup>.

### 7. SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS

#### 7.1. Delegate Concerns

- 7.1.1. Mukherjee.110 has been meeting with Arts & Sciences Dean as part of the Dean-Student Advisory Board about experiences with online teaching and learning. Any relevant feedback should be sent via email.
- 7.1.2. Shah.1285- Senate Research Committee is revamping the policies about Research Misconduct. Issues or feedback should be sent via email.
- 7.1.3. Pinckard.6- Lots of grad students feel that they don't have a faculty member they can talk to about issues they may have without the fear that these conversations will get back to their advisor and cause problems. Suggests that it would be a good idea to have a program that pairs students with faculty from other departments with whom they can discuss issues.
- Post.144 agrees with this sentiment and points out that this issue will be addressed by the resolution to be discussed later in the meeting.
- 7.1.4. Sarich.6 asks whether the delegate body would like to establish a GroupMe. The general consensus is that we are doing a pretty good job with communication so far. We have the ability to utilize discussion boards and calendar on the Carmen page.
- Galko.2 suggests that GroupMe might be good for social purposes.
  - Pauley.66 says that maybe a closed Facebook page might be better because you can check in as often as you like, and you won't be constantly bombarded with notifications.
  - Williams.6571 asks why Slack was abandoned last year. Delegates simply did not use it for communication.
  - The executive committee will discuss this issue further and make a decision soon.
- 7.1.5. Shah.1285- Suggests that CGS might consider getting a Reddit presence because it affords more space and flexibility for discussion on hot issues.
- 7.1.6. Lomax-Vogt.2- Reminds all delegates that voter registration closes October 7<sup>th</sup>. Information about your district and voting locations can be found on the Franklin County Board of Elections website.
- 7.1.7. Dahlberg-Sears.1- There is a concern that grad teaching lounges and office areas are in bad shape and asks whether there is a system in place to assess the state of the facilities.
- Post.144 answers that currently, these assessments are made by departments and there is no centralized system where information can be found.
- 7.1.8. Kousha.2 asks whether there has been forward progress about issues of student safety brought up at the last delegate meeting.
- Post.144 answers that there are meetings planned with Jay Kasey to discuss this.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

### 8.1. Senator Elections (Bauman.193)

- 8.1.1. Ballots are passed out. All eligible voting members of the delegate body are asked to participate in voting. Ballots are collected.
- 8.1.2. Salha Sassi.4 is elected to fill the vacant Senate seat.

### 8.2. Resolution 1920 AU-003: A Resolution Calling for the Creation of the Position of Graduate Student Ombudsperson at the Ohio State University

- 8.2.1. Pauley.66 moves to extend initial presentation time by 5 minutes in order to more clearly explain the resolution. Motion passes.
- 8.2.2. The language for this resolution was taken from the letter of support CGS received from the Graduate School (included in the meeting packet) as well as the University Rules and previous resolutions that established the position of faculty ombudsperson.

#### 8.2.3. Questions:

- Drayton.18 asks whether this position is open to only current OSU faculty or candidates outside OSU.
  - Pauley.66 clarifies that as constructed, the resolution states that a current OSU employee would be preferred. Post.144 also adds that this position is at 50% appointment.
- Dahlberg-Sears asks whether there is language to guarantee that the vacated responsibilities of the person who becomes ombudsperson will be filled by another faculty member or new hire.
  - Pauley.66 clarifies that lines 48-49 somewhat address this now but this can be further clarified by the search committee that will select this person.
- Shockley McCarthy.2 asks what is meant by a “informal impartial mediator”.
  - Post.144 clarifies that this language is intentionally vague, and the technicalities of this issue will likely be determined in collaboration with Vice Provost McPheron.
- Uanhoro.1 motions to extend discussion by 3 minutes. Motion passes.
- Uanhoro.1 asks whether we can extend this position to also be available to post-docs.
  - Pauley.66 points out that there is no exclusionary language that would not allow post-docs to also utilize this resource.
- Pierre.77 asks for clarification about the language in Lines 47 and 48: this person “will no longer be affiliated with their prior department/unit”.

8.2.4. Shah.1285 moves to discuss the resolution.

8.2.5. Motion passes.

#### 8.2.6. Discussion:

- Givans.2 proposes an amendment to strike the word “faculty” from Line 55.
  - Amendment passes.
- Larosa.15 proposes an amendment to strike the words “will no longer be affiliated with their prior department/unit” from Lines 47-48
  - Edison.22 brings up that language in Line 27-28 (“free from any ties to students’ academic programs”) is also related to this issue of impartiality
  - Clott.1 asks that if, for example, the appointed ombudsperson is from Sociology, would Sociology students be unable to use this resource?
  - Drayton.18 says that the undergrads have a system with 2 ombudspeople to avoid such a problem.
  - Amendment passes.
- Uanhoro.1 points out that emeritus faculty may not be eligible for this position.
  - Light.109 points out that current faculty would be most familiar with current university rules and policies, which is an important component of the position.
- Shahhoessini.2 asks whether we should amend the current resolution to include language about a vice-ombudsperson
  - Lomnax-Vogt.2 says that in her previous experiences with this position as an undergrad, impartiality was not a problem. Any person who goes out of their way to apply for this position will take this issue of impartiality very seriously.

- Sarich.6 points out that during the hiring process, potential conflicts of interest will be taken into account.
  - Beauregard.13 points out that the point of this resolution is to keep the momentum going that was already established by the Graduate School with their letter to CGS. We do not need to spell out every small detail in this resolution as there will be further discussions and decisions made by the search committee.
    - Slechta.3 agrees and warns that if we make too many changes to the resolution as written, we run the risk of contradicting ourselves.
- 8.2.7. LaRosa.15 moves to vote on the act.
- 8.2.8. Motion seconded by Kousha.2
- 8.2.9. Motion passes.
- 8.2.10. Resolution is voted on.
- 8.2.11. Resolution passes.

## **9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 8.1 Next meeting is November 8th, 2019 @ 3:30pm, Room 348 Drinko Hall
- 8.2 Advertise BucklExperience!

## **10. Meeting adjourned at 5:18pm.**