



Present: Pranav Ambardekar, Luke Andrejek, Ali Asghari Adib, Tyler Beauregard, Aaron Beczkiewicz, Jessica Blackburn, Qiuchang (Katy) Cao, Steph Charles, Katherine Conner, Robert Dahlberg-Sears, Archit Datar, Ty Drayton, Benjamin Duran, Story Edison, Brandon Free, Jahmour Givans, Jenna Greve, Abigail Grieff, Kathryn Holt, Lindsey Lawson, Yifan Li, Madeleine Lomax-Vogt, Raven Lynch, Aviva Neff, Tricia Oyster, Maritza Pierre, Kelsey Pinckard, Ashweta Sahni, Conner Sarich, Erik Scaltriti, Michelle Scott, Karla Shockleymccarthy, Kye Stachowski, Philip Tice, Mitch Vicieux, Leila Vieira, Sarah Walton, Daniel Williams, Yu Lun Wu (ALT), Piao Yang, Megan Zib

Absent: e alexander, Jacky Anderson, Selasi Attipoe, Om Prakash Bedant, Andrew Borst, Mary Byrne, Yu-chun Chang, Min-Seok Choi, Jorge Clavo Abbass, Alec Clott, Paul Consiglio, Austin Cool, Kat Ellis, Micheline Fahrback, Elizabeth Galko, Lauren Howard, Audrey Hungerpiller, Sarah Hyman, Kevin Ingles, Jeffrey Kast, Pouya Kousha, Arsh Kumar, Carly LaRosa, Jungmin Lee, Ho-chieh Lin, Ruonan Lin, Stephen Lo, Eric Loria, Emily Lundstedt, Lucas Magee, Tori Magers, Matthew Maynard, Rohit Mukherjee, Kate Ormiston, Alejandro Otero Bravo, Ryann Patrus, Mark Pauley, Miguel Pedrozo, Avi Pokala, Ken Poland, Isaac Reynolds, Zeltzin Reyes, Priscila Rodriguez Garcia, Lena Schreiber, Sarah Scott, Utkarsh Shah, Melika Shahhosseini, Shruthi Shetty, Preeti Singh, Sundeep Siripurapu, Nithya Sivashankar, Ryan Slechta, Lindsey Stirek, Nicole Tchorowski, Taylor Tomu, Jorge Torres Espinosa, James Uanhoro, Jennifer Valdez, Derek Walton, Soroush Zamanian

1. CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 3:33pm

1.1. Statement of Purpose

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

2. ROLL CALL

2.1. Carmen log-in

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1. Minutes from June 12, 2020

- 3.1.1. Minutes approved.

4. OFFICER REPORTS (as submitted in Delegate Meeting Packet)

4.1. President (Post.144)

- 4.1.1. The post-pandemic transition task force had its last meeting on July 29th. The implementation task force is now taking over the return to campus for the fall semester. CGS has student representation on all sub-committees of this task force.
- 4.1.2. The leaders of all 3 student governments met this week with President Johnson to talk about the updated university policies regarding COVID testing, social distancing measures, mask mandates, and class sizes.
- 4.1.3. All graduate students, faculty, and staff will not be included in the surveillance testing program (unless they live in on-campus housing) but are able to get tested at any time, even if they are asymptomatic. They may be more testing availability in the future, but the university anticipates being able to meet the current demand.
- 4.1.4. Many students have made the decision to switch to all online classes and not return to campus, especially those who live out of state.
- 4.1.5. Some GAs have been struggling to get approval from their departments to teach their classes virtually if they are concerned about the risk of in-person instruction. Fill out the official accommodation form and submit it through the University HR office. About half of the requests that have been submitted are

already approved and others are waiting for approval. None have been denied so far.

- 4.1.6. 30-40% of all students, staff, and faculty have already signed the mandatory online pledge. Any GAs who make the choice not to sign the pledge will face consequences as a student rather than an employee. These include being barred from attending any on-campus activities.
- 4.1.7. The Grad School is creating a post-candidacy leave policy to give students the option to pause their education for up to 2 semesters with approval from their advisor. Those who choose to do this will not be allowed to work on their research while on leave. This leave policy still needs to be approved by Graduate Council.
- 4.1.8. The new graduate student trustee will be announced soon. We are advocating for the presidents and vice presidents of the student governments to serve as ex-officio members of the board.
- 4.1.9. The position of graduate ombudsperson has been expanded to a full office housed within the Office of Academic Affairs. The position will hopefully be filled by January 2021.
- 4.1.10. Questions:
 - ShockleyMcCarthy.2: Is the COVID HR accommodation request different from a request submitted through student disability? Will students need to submit separate requests for their work and teaching duties?
 - The COVID form is a separate request. You probably do not need to submit separate requests.
 - Dahlberg-sears.1: Is the post-candidacy leave policy applicable for 2 semesters total or consecutively?
 - Either is acceptable.
 - Conner.280: Is the university considering removing the language at the end of the pledge that many people have taken issue with?
 - At this time, no.
 - Holt.351: Is there a situation in which a leave request would be denied by the Grad School even if the student has approval from their advisor?
 - They are mostly concerned about students who may try to use this to delay their graduation timeline. Most likely, all requests will be approved, especially in these unusual times.
 - Dahlberg-sears.1: Will those on leave be able to keep their student health insurance coverage?
 - Most likely not, if you are not enrolled as a student during this time.

4.2. Vice President (Haynes.242)

- 4.2.1. Fall elections will be happening soon to fill the 56 remaining open delegate seats. Please encourage your peers to apply!
- 4.2.2. We are launching a new grant opportunity for students doing community and outreach engagement work within the community. This grant is funded in collaboration with Student Life, Outreach and Engagement, The Office of Research, and University Extension. Students will be awarded between \$500 and \$1,500. More details will be announced on Labor Day.
- 4.2.3. The Arts & Sciences Dean Advisory Committee needs a second student representative (someone from outside the Chemistry Dept). Please email if you are interested in serving.
- 4.2.4. All Senate and University committee appointments have been filled and the list of representatives will be posted on the website this weekend.
- 4.2.5. Registration is now open for the fall Diversity Dialogue series.

4.3. Treasurer (Lynch.389)

- 4.3.1. The university-wide spending freeze is still active although we have some flexibility to purchase necessary operational items.
- 4.3.2. Applications for funding period 2 of Ray are currently being judged. Applications will be awarded a maximum of \$350 for non-travel expenses.

4.4. Secretary (Light.109)

- 4.4.1. Applications for funding period 2 of CDG are currently being judged. Applications will be awarded a maximum of \$350 for non-travel expenses.

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

5.1. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (Easonagondanou.1)

- 5.1.1. Dean Brown will be meeting with the committee soon to talk about his investigation into the actions of the Columbus Police Department.

6. SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS

6.1. Delegate Concerns

- 6.1.1. Dahlberg-sears.1: For those who switch back and forth between GTA and lecturer positions, there is a complete gap and disconnect between the timing and logistics of these systems that cause problems with accessing email, contracts, and paychecks.
 - In theory, the switch to WorkDay should fix all of these issues. This system will go live in January 2021.
- 6.1.2. Beauregard.13: There has been a long-standing issue of a super-long reimbursement timeline for students awarded CDG or Ray funding.
 - Much of the time is due to the fact that the Business office must approve and process all the paperwork and we have no control over this part of the process. There are several things that can slow down the process: the student fails to submit the required paperwork or fills it out incorrectly, the student has initiated reimbursement before the activity has taken place, the student's home department has not processed the paperwork on their end.
- 6.1.3. Holt.351: There is a lot of anxiety amongst grad students about returning to campus and teaching classes in person this semester.
 - Neff.336: Where can GTAs go to find up-to-date information about how to teach effectively and safely? Many undergrads want more information about what GTAs are doing to keep them safe while they are in the classroom.
 - Conner.280: Students of the Linguistics Dept had meetings with admins and came to an agreement that all accommodation requests will be approved for students who wish to move to a fully virtual format. Some students are being told by their advisors that unless the university is shut down, they are still expected to do all activities required by their research project, regardless of the student's level of comfort with these activities.
 - Zib.1: Students in the Occupational Therapy program are concerned that their peers are not abiding by social distancing guidelines while not on campus and do not want to attend in-person classes with these people. Conversations with the admins of the department about solutions to this issue have stalled.
 - Pinckard.6: In general, many students have been feeling a lot of pressure from their mentors to return to work full time and may not feel comfortable with these expectations.
 - Post.144: Please encourage your constituents to pass on these issues and questions along to us so we can contact the admins and the Grad School, who can put pressure on departments that have not been properly addressing student requests and concerns. The official stance from the university is still to work at home whenever possible.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1. Resolution 1920-013: A Resolution Calling for the University to Observe Election Day as a Paid Holiday Recognizes as The John Lewis Voting Rights Day

- 7.1.1. Lomax-vogt.2: There is a greater movement across the nation to make election day a federal holiday and given the unique schedules and obligations of graduate students, this would allow students to making voting a priority.
- 7.1.2. Questions:
 - None.
- 7.1.3. Discussion:
 - None.

- 7.1.4. Resolution is voted on via Carmen survey.
- 7.1.5. Resolution passes (30 Yeas, 0 Nays, 1 Abstention).

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 8.1 Next meeting is September 11, 2020 @ 3:30pm
- 8.2 If you are interested in helping out with some events this year to celebrate CGS' 65th Anniversary, please get in touch with Sarah, Jack, and DaVonti'.
- 8.3 If you or someone you know can participate in an OUAB Grad School Survival Skills workshop and panel on August 29th, please get in touch with Kerry Hodak.2.

9. Meeting adjourned at 4:43pm.