



**Delegates Present:** Selasi Attipoe, Blake Barnett, Rob Barry, Om Prakash Bedant, Polina Berezina, Jessica Blackburn, Anthony Bowersock, John Bundschuh, Yu-Chun Chang, Steph Charles, Jacob Compaleo, Carrington Conerly, Katherine Conner, Paul Consiglio, Adam Culiver, Robert Dahlberg-Sears, Archit Datar, Riley Debacker, Todd Derose, Ty Drayton, Benjamin Duran, Meaghann Dynes, Story Edison, Megan Espana, Steph Fanelli, Caroline Fitzpatrick, Brandon Free, Bethany Frick, Jahmour Givans, Annedra Gladney, Colby Gregg, Paul Gregor, Jenna Greve, Sarah Haines, Keira Hambrick, Jordan Hartman, Nathaniel Heiden, Lindsey Hernandez, Christian Hines, Sarah Hyman, Gregory Jameson, Ellia La, Yifan Li, Ho-chieh Lin, Javonte Lipsey, Madeleine Lomax-Vogt, Zari Mahmoudi, Benjamin Mertus, Alexander Milder, Aviva Neff, Wanderson Novais Pereira, Brian O'Rourke, Felipe Pacci Evaristo, Maritza Pierre, Kelsey Pinckard, Swetha Rajasekaran, Marie Rineveld, Mary Sagatelova, Akanksha Sahn, Ashweta Sahn, Erik Scaltriti, Michelle Scott, Melika Shahhosseini, Karla ShockleyMccarthy, Daniel Smith, Kye Stachowski, Goran Stevanovski, Matthew Stuckey, Jamie Uthall, Ana Maria Velasquez Giraldo, Ericka Velez-Bonet, Yitong Xin, Megan Zib

**Delegates Absent:** Ali AsghariAdib, Deja Beamon, Jake Hausmann, Ashwin Kane, Pouya Kousha, Matthew Maynard, Krutant Mehta, Armando Roman, Derek Walton

**Senators Present:** Shawar Ali, Aaron Beczkiewicz, Tyler Beauregard, Jenna Greve, Gala Korniyenko, Laine Rumreich, Conner Sarich

**Senators Absent:** Akshay Asaithambi, Dustin Servello, Utkarsh Shah

**Executive Committee Members Present:** Jack Brandl, Katherine Conner, Jenna Greve, Abigail Grieff, DaVonti' Haynes, Kathryn Holt, Rania Khamees, Sarah Light, Madeleine Lomax-Vogt, Raven Lynch, Aviva Neff, Wanderson Novais Pereira, Stephen Post, Conner Sarich, Michelle Scott, Melika Shahhosseini, Leila Viera

**Executive Committee Members Absent:** Verdaynea Eason Agondanou

## 1. Guest Speaker: Micky Sharma (Counseling & Consultation Services)

1.1. Mental health concerns should be talked about and taken seriously in the same way that physical ailments are. Both stress and anxiety are very common problems experienced by students as they balance their academics, work, and personal life. CCS will evaluate the specific needs of any student and then identify the service that will be most helpful for them, based on how severe their symptoms are. There are a number of internal counseling groups with specific focuses, some of which are targeted toward graduate students. There are also virtual drop-in workshops (see website for offerings: <https://cgs.osu.edu/>). Both CCS locations are open (virtual appointments are available as well as some in-person appts).

### 1.2. Questions:

1.2.1. Conner.280: What is the distribution of BIPOC counselors within CCS? Does CCS have plans to hire or bring in more black counselors specifically?

- All counselors must demonstrate a commitment to multi-culturalism when they are hired. Currently, 30% of senior staff identify as people of color and there are 8 clinicians who identify as black.

1.2.2. Velasquezgiraldo.1: If there is a need for a workshop outside of the planned drop -in topics, will CCS work with departments?

- Yes, please get in touch if this is something you're interested in pursuing.

1.2.3. Jameson.61: Is counseling over the phone or zoom less effective than in-person?

- There's not a lot of research about this right now but one positive about virtual appointments is that the counselor can see your whole face without a mask, which would need to be worn for in-person appointments. There have been positive outcomes since CCS switched to virtual in March.

1.2.4. Dahlberg-sears.1: Do you think that OSUPD is properly equipped to handle mental health crises? Are there plans to create other units that could handle these types of situations?

- The Director of Public Safety has created a working group to address these types of questions and CCS has a representative in that group.
- 1.2.5. Rineveld.1: What is the average wait time to get a first appointment for those who report mild to moderate symptoms?
- Sometimes, there is no wait at all. There are still open spots in groups. The average time to get an appointment is 1-2 weeks.

## **2. Guest Speaker: Anna Wagner (OSU Votes)**

- 2.1. The voter registration deadline in Ohio is October 5<sup>th</sup>. Any address changes must also be submitted by this date. Anyone who is a U.S. citizen and an Ohio State student can register to vote in Franklin County or in their home county. If you do not have an Ohio Driver's License or Identification Card, you can still register via a paper form. Dropoff locations on campus can be found on the OSU Votes website. To prove an Ohio address, you can use a physical copy of a utility bill or a Statement of Account from OSU. Ohio early voting opens Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> and runs through November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Hours for Franklin County Board of Elections are listed online. Voting by mail/absentee also begins October 6<sup>th</sup> and Ohio has started to send out ballots already. You can turn in the ballots at the Franklin County Board of Elections. The deadline to request an absentee ballot is October 31<sup>st</sup> at noon. The ballot must be returned in person by 7:30pm on November 3<sup>rd</sup> or postmarked by November 2<sup>nd</sup> (and received by Nov 13<sup>th</sup>). You can track your absentee ballot online. OSU Votes is creating workshops to train people about how to vote, working on accessing stamps for mail-in ballots. There is a desperate need for poll workers for this election so volunteer if you can!

## **3. CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 4:25pm**

### **3.1. Statement of Purpose**

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

## **4. ROLL CALL**

### **4.1. Carmen log-in**

## **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **5.1. Minutes from August 14, 2020**

- 5.1.1. Minutes approved.

### **5.2. Minutes from August 24, 2020**

- 5.2.1. Minutes approved.

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

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

- 6.1.1. The post-pandemic transition task force had its last meeting on July 29<sup>th</sup>. Since then, there hasn't been a central committee to deal with issues and we are still working on getting grad representation on the sub-groups that currently exist. The 3 student governments requested that a central committee be created to streamline communication.
- 6.1.2. The spring calendar has been adjusted to get rid of spring break and replace it with 2 weekdays where no classes are scheduled.
- 6.1.3. This semester, students will likely have the option to take classes pass/no-pass. This is still being discussed and will likely be voted on this coming week.
- 6.1.4. If you are interested, please volunteer to be a part of the Together as Buckeyes Ambassador Program to encourage safe and healthy practices among your peers on campus.
- 6.1.5. Election Day resolution that was passed at our last meeting will be voted on this week at the Council of Student Affairs. The university won't be able to formally recognize the day this year, but it will still hopefully be granted as a [aid holiday this fall.
- 6.1.6. We are still trying to get more information about the furlough policy that some departments have taken advantage of.
- 6.1.7. The statehouse recently passed House Bill 6060, which grants PSU immunity from ant civil liability

lawsuits related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Students previously had concerns about this possibility in relation to the Safe and Healthy Buckeyes pledge.

6.1.8. We have not gotten a recent update about emergency funding awarded to grad students but will check in about these numbers.

6.1.9. There is already a position description for the grad ombudsperson and the Office of Academic Affairs would like to hire someone quickly, even ahead of the original plan of January 2021.

6.1.10. Questions:

- Ali.637: Can grad students apply for funding more than once?
  - Yes, you are able to apply multiple times, even within the same semester.
- Pinckard.6: OSU advertised that they would update the COVID-19 dashboard daily, or at least weekly. That has not been reliably happening. Additionally, are there any protections in place for GTAs who are working in person?
  - We are trying to get more information about this problem. It was recently reworked to include more data and display it differently, but the transparency is still lacking. Please send documentation of anyone who has been denied the opportunity to work virtually. We can use these examples to put pressure on the admins.

## **6.2. Vice President (Haynes.242)**

6.2.1. If you did not fill out the committee preference form, please email ASAP so you can be assigned.

6.2.2. Fall elections will be happening soon (September 28 – October 2) to fill the 56 remaining open delegate seats. The application is open from now until September 26<sup>th</sup>. Please encourage your peers to apply!

6.2.3. The Engaged Scholar Grant is now open. 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.

## **6.3. Treasurer (Lynch.389)**

6.3.1. The university-wide spending freeze is still active although we have some flexibility to purchase necessary operational items.

6.3.2. 4 applicants were awarded \$350 each for the last funding period of ray. We will likely raise the award amount as some virtual conference fees have been more than \$350.

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

6.4.1. 11 applicants were awarded a Career Development Grant for funding period 2 (activities between October 1 and December 31, 2020).

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

### **7.1. Internal Affairs (Sarich.6)**

7.1.1. The committee is working to plan a zoom trivia night.

### **7.2. Health, Wellness, & Safety (Grieff.2)**

7.2.1. The committee will be sending out a survey soon for delegates to distribute to their constituents to get a sense of what kind of programming, events, etc. people need and want to see this year.

### **7.3. SERC (Novaispereira.1)**

7.3.1. The committee is working on a project to obtain and promote recyclable gloves.

7.3.2. Also continuing a project from last year that was cancelled to host a case competition in the spring.

## **8. SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS**

### **8.1. Delegate Concerns**

8.1.1. Zib.1: Department faculty have shown that they are unwilling to step in and mediate situations where students are concerned about the risky behavior of their peers off-campus. The system for reporting violations has some issues and does not allow you to submit anonymously.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

### 9.1. Resolution 2021-001: A Resolution for Hazard Pay and Additional Hourly Compensation for In-Person Graduate Teaching & Coverage

9.1.1. Holt.351: This resolution advocates for fair compensation for GTAs during the extenuating circumstances of COVID-19. It also asks for equity across departments in the compensation policies that are being applied.

#### 9.1.2. Questions:

- Derose.28: Graduate students have been told that they may be required to work for up to 2 weeks without compensation to cover for faculty who have to quarantine. Is this something that would be covered by the language in this resolution?
  - The document specifically requests compensation for anything beyond the contracted hours so, yes.
- Novaispereira.1: Does this cover grad associates who are not GTAs?
  - As currently written, it focuses exclusively on GTAs as those are the people who are being asked to work in congregate settings.
- Fanelli.18: Would any “volunteer” work being asked of students to monitor health checkpoints also be covered?
  - Yes.
- Pierre.77: Is this resolution passes and the administration agrees to this policy, would it be enacted retroactively to cover time already worked?
  - We will certainly advocate for this but we won’t be able to make that decision.

#### 9.1.3. Discussion:

- Drayton.18: suggestion to alter Line 66 to read “...the coverage of faculty, staff, or graduate students that must be...”
- Dahlberg-sears.1: suggestion to change the language to say graduate associates in general rather than GTAs
  - Probably better to write a second resolution to address the extra work being asked of GAAs and GRAs as the background and context are different.
- Free.41: suggestion to cite the previous resolution (Res 1920-014) against the return to campus at the end of Line 85
- La.18: suggests the language be broadened to also cover non-GTAs who still have teaching responsibilities
- Velasquezgiraldo.1: suggestion to alter Line 66 to read “...receive hazard pay for in-person teaching, including the coverage of other faculty, staff, or teaching assistants that must be...”
- Beauregard.13: Some grad students had additional new duties and work written into their contracts for this year.
  - Probably better to address this on an individual basis.

9.1.4. Resolution is voted on via Carmen survey.

9.1.5. Resolution passes (63 Yeas, 2 Nays, 2 Abstentions).

### 9.2. Resolution 2021-002: A Resolution Calling Upon the University to Provide Transportation to the 2020 Election Early Vote at the Franklin County Board of Elections

9.2.1. Lomax-vogt.2: OSU Votes has coordinated transportation like this for previous elections. This is especially important this year because of the extra difficulties associated with voting during a pandemic.

#### 9.2.2. Questions:

- Velasquezgiraldo.1: Did OSU Votes have input on this resolution?
  - No but the committee will initiate that conversation if the university agrees to this request.
- Beczkweicz.1: Who does this only ask about Lyft and COTA? What about CABS buses?
  - CABS could certainly be added. Those two were singled out because they are companies with pre-existing partnerships with OSU.

#### 9.2.3. Discussion:

- Jameson.61: CABS should be listed in a separate WHEREAS clause unless the language is changed because it is internal to OSU, unlike Lyft and COTA
  - DeBacker.2: suggestion to rewrite Line 28 to read “established transportation

networks including CABS and partnerships with Lyft and COTA”

- Velasquezgiraldo.1: We should consider that this might send a message that we are encouraging people to vote in person rather than by mail.
  - Lomaz-vogt.2: We want to make voting more accessible for everyone, including those who can't or are not comfortable with mail-in voting.
  - Gregg.186: Line 32 of the resolution specifically states that this should and will be done in a safe and socially distant way.
  - Barnett.615: Additionally, any students who take advantage of this opportunity will therefore not be attending in person on election day and so will reduce density that day. We could add in language about this in a new clause stating, “WHEREAS, robust access to early voting reduces the congregate density, waiting times, and demands on polling stations on Election Day; and”
  - Haines.241: A service like this could also be used for people who need to drop off their completed absentee ballots at the Board of Elections. Another new clause is proposed that reads “WHEREAS, students who wish to return their absentee ballots in person may use this free, safe, socially distant transportation; and”

9.2.4. Resolution is voted on via Carmen survey.

9.2.5. Resolution passes (58 Yeas, 2 Nays, 4 Abstentions).

## **10. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

8.1 Next meeting is October 2, 2020 @ 3:30pm

**11. Meeting adjourned at 5:43pm.**