



## CGS Executive Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Sarah Light, Libby Bauman, DaVonti' Haynes, Kevin Ingles, Kathryn Holt, Jack Brandl, Alec Clott, Stephen Post, Andrea Davis, Melika Shahhosseini, Leila Vieira, Abigail Grieff, Michelle Scott, Jenna Greve, Aviva Neff, Raven Lynch, Maddy Lomax-Vogt

**Absent:** Priscilla Rodriguez Garcia, Mark Pauley, e Alexander, Conner Sarich, Carly LaRosa, James Uanhoru, Ehsan Estiri, Rania Khamees, Blake Szkoda

### 1. President's Report

- 1.1. The graduate student emergency fund is live now. For administrative efficiency, it was pooled with the pre-existing Bush fund. Each year, the Grad School will contribute \$20,000 and ensure that those funds only go to graduate students.
- 1.2. The Student Life Emergency Fund has gotten applications from 248 grad/prof (18% of applicants). 105 have been approved for funding and those that were not approved did denied because they did not have a FAFSA on file, had an expected high family contribution, or had already met their financial caps for the year. The federal funding is available to all students, international and non-international. OSU allocated 21 million to a pool that all students can apply for.
- 1.3. The university has announced a transition task force that will make decisions and plan for the eventual return to on-campus instruction. Initially, there was no student representation, but the three student government presidents are now serving on it.
  - 1.3..1. It's likely that fall semester will be all or mostly virtual because of social distancing constraints in person on campus. The task force is discussing what programs and classes are necessary to hold in person. The goal is to still encourage those who can telework to continue to do so.
  - 1.3..2. Opening campus is contingent on the state and the university meeting certain metrics about new cases and ability to monitor the population sufficiently.
  - 1.3..3. There are 8,900 new students who have paid enrollment fees already, but we expect that those numbers may go down. If there is a significant decrease in undergrad numbers, there may be fewer GTA positions, however, the provost directed department to avoid cutting GTA budgets. CGS is drafting a letter to send to administration supporting this position. There are some GTAs who are being paid right now from disaster funding because they are not able to do their work online.
  - 1.3..4. There will not be a blanket extension of the 10-year graduation timeline because that is a very small population of students. Those who have had their research interrupted will have an extra year of funding guaranteed. Holt.351 advocated to push for generalized policies and to avoid a petition process in order to avoid creating more sources of stress for students.

- 1.3..5. Decisions about reopening for fall will be made by June 15<sup>th</sup>. It's unlikely that normal research schedules will recommence during the summer. July 15<sup>th</sup> is probably the earliest date that larger numbers of staff will be allowed to return to campus. Shahosseini.2 mentioned that PIs in Scott Labs are working on an official protocol that will allow people to return to labs but with specific zones within spaces or rotating between days. Other students are suffering from a lack of rehearsal and studio space by not being allowed onto campus.
- 1.3..6. If there is a dominant issue where students have not been able to get information from department heads and coordinators, please forward to Stephen so he can send them on to the Provost.
- 1.4. The Student Life Task Force is looking for student reps for their sub-committees: facility operations, staff support, student support, student programming, client services, and housing/residential. Interested volunteers should get in touch with Stephen.
- 1.5. Undergrads received a 25% discount on summer tuitions that was not extended to grad students. This is a traditional holdover from past years when the university offered a free May-mester but it can't be changed for this summer because it was approved by the Board of Trustees. We hope that this will be rectified by fall semester.
- 1.6. GCBC is still planning to ask for a stipend increase as faculty and staff have already been guaranteed their 2.5% merit raise.
- 1.7. There is a new \$100 Distance Learning fee that was applied to all students because of the transition to virtual learning. Some graduate students are questioning why they have to pay this when they are not taking any classes online.
- 1.8. We are compiling resources for wellness and will work on an email about this topic to be sent out to graduate students.
- 1.9. Neff.336 asked about CampusParc reimbursements.
  - 1.9..1. You can cancel your yearly membership and they will either stop your payroll deductions or reimburse your money if you paid the full amount.
- 1.10. Greve.41 asked how departments are going to meet a 20% budget cut while avoiding GTA position cuts.
  - 1.10..1. It's possible that there will be disproportionate cuts depending on funding situations and the cut rate will be closer to 5-7%. Decisions about opening campus for fall will impact these budgets a lot. It will be important for us to know when and where these situations are happening.

## 2. Vice President's Report

- 2.1. Delegate elections end today, and the new group will take over in August.
- 2.2. We are working on appointing exec members to Senate or University committees. This will help us to maintain open lines of communication between CGS and the greater university governance. There are still a few open spots: Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching, Arts & Sciences Curriculum, COAM, Graduate Associate Teaching Awards, Mental Health Task Force, Ohio Union Council, Parking Advisory, OCIO, University Lab Safety. Email DaVonti' if you are interested in serving on any of these committees.
- 2.3. The new delegates will be distributed to the committees that they have indicated their interest in. Outside people should fill out the committee application form on the CGS website so they can be added in the system and we can keep track of everyone.
- 2.4. We are working on revised descriptions for all of our committees. They will be sent out for approval and further edits to all chairs.

## 3. Treasurer's Report

- 3.1. Funding period 1 of Ray was already cancelled and funding period 2 will likely be

cancelled as well.

- 3.2. For on campus meetings, we order food for exec and if you are not able to attend, please let Raven know so that we don't order extra food and can be mindful of our budget.
- 3.3. We are finally getting our \$32,000 technology fee back.
- 3.4. We will suffer from a lack of Student Activity Fees this summer and next year but we are able to hold onto our unspent budget, so we are in a good financial position for next year. We are still on a spending freeze right now with the exception of CDG and emergency funds that we have used to purchase face masks that we can distribute to students.
- 3.5. If there are any recurring events or planned events in the new school year, find a date and time and we can pre-emptively book space in the Union.

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

- 4.1. Remember to submit your updates for the delegate meeting packet. New chairs or officers should also send in a headshot, short bio, and brief plans for the committee.
- 4.2. Global Gateway applicants will be notified next week of their award decisions.
- 4.3. Funding period 1 of the Career Development Grant closes tonight and will be judged in the next few weeks. Applications were only accepted for non-travel expenses.
- 4.4. We will likely shuttle some Ray money into the CDG budget for the next funding period as Ray is cancelled. This will allow us to fund more people for a wider range of activities as the CDG already accepts travel and non-travel expenses.

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

- 5.1. Government Affairs (Lomax-vogt.2)
  - The committee has been in contact with local and state elected officials and if there are issues you would like to raise at that level, please reach out to the committee.

#### **6. Old Business**

- 6.1. None.

#### **7. New Business**

- 7.1. Act 1920 SU-008: 2020-21 Delegate & Exec Meeting Dates
  - 7.1..1. Approved
- 7.2. Act 1920 SU-009: 2020-21 Standing Committees
  - 7.2..1. Some names were updated to better reflect the mission of the committees.
  - 7.2..2. Senate Advisory was changed to Graduate Caucus. This name change was proposed by previous chair Blake Szkoda.1. This was changed because the senators really did not meet as a committee or fulfill an advisory role. This year, the committee will also be expanded to include all students who serve on Senate and University Committees rather than just the 10 senators.
  - 7.2..3. Approved.
- 7.3. President and VP have working appointments through CGS and other departments/centers that add up to 75%. The executive committee must approve the planned workload for the year.
  - 7.3..1. Approved.
- 7.4. Dr. Eric McGilvray from the Political Science Department is the new proposed candidate to be our faculty advisor. He is very familiar with Senate policy and university governance procedures. He is also favorable to graduate student issues and politics and could be a useful ally within the faculty.
  - 7.4..1. Approved

7.5. The Association of American University Professors has put together a proposal and documents circulating in support of ensuring compensation for the extra week of work that happened due to the delay in the spring semester return after break. Also, it supports the university continuing to keep on GTA and contingent faculty positions.

7.5..1. There is another proposal circulating calling for larger paycuts for administrators and those who are the highest paid rather than cutting graduate student and staff positions.

7.5..2. Approved CGS support of both letters.

## **8. Open Floor Announcements**

8.1. Vieira.31 asked what is happening with the presidential search.

8.1..1. The committee has identified a profile for candidates. The search began in mid-April and 10 quality candidates will be presented to the committee. President Drake may stay on longer than planned in order to oversee the transition back to campus.

8.2. Outreach & Engagement has put together a steering committee to look at graduate student recognition and representation, particularly within the arts and humanities. This committee will have a permanent graduate student position.

8.3. Next delegate meeting May 8th, 2020 @ 3:30 PM

## **9. Meeting adjourned at 5:43 pm.**