

Council of Graduate Students at The Ohio State University
Executive Committee Meeting
Friday, August 18, 2017 3:30PM
CGS Offices, 2088A Ohio Union

Present:

Matthew Connolly.93
Hoda Hatoum.9
Laura Hopkins.774
Jennifer Perkins.442
Chris Pierce.508
Daniel Puthawala.1
Tracey Walterbusch.1
Alex Wesaw.1

Meeting Agenda:

1. Called to Order at 3:30pm.
2. Introduction of Jennifer Perkins.442
 - a. Laura, Chair of Health and Wellness Committee graduates in December so Jennifer will be joining as Co-Chair so that she can pick up Chair in the spring semester.
3. Grants Stipulation
 - a. A question was raised about the Ray Travel Award: Why do we have the verbiage in the grants, specifically the Ray, which requires this to be used as a last resort for funding and other funding is not supposed to be used for this.
 - b. Multiple students agreed about removing this verbiage so that individuals could apply for as much funding as possible, specifically since graduate students typically get some funds and not enough and it is hard to monitor this during the application review.
 - c. Other students agreed or brought up the idea of adding text boxes to the application for applicants to further explain the additional funding they have available.
 - d. Point was raised that this verbiage is in place to protect students who do not have funding available to present ever.
 - i. “The Ray Award is to be considered supplemental to other sources of funding. Applicants are expected to seek travel funds from their departments, advisors, or other outside sources first. It is to your advantage to obtain other funding, since it will usually decrease your out-of-pocket expenses and will not necessarily reduce the amount of your travel grant. You must disclose funds received for any aspect of your trip, even expenses the Ray Award does not cover (food, for example).”
 - ii. https://cgs.osu.edu/funding-opportunities/ray-travel-award/ray_expenses/
 - e. The suggestion was brought up again about adding a text box to the application for individuals to explain if they have some funding available what that looks like and how they were hoping to use that and the supplemental funding from the awards.
 - f. Koss.31, Chair of Grants Administration agreed to talk with Montoya.29 who chairs the Ray Travel Award about adding a text box for further explanation of additional funding and the plans for use of those funds.
4. Social Media

- a. We will be making extra efforts with Social Media this year. Particularly, Committees are going to be encouraged to help come up with content for Social Media to increase the exposure of all the work that CGS does. This semester we are planning to increase visibility and enhance recruitment through our social media sites.
 - b. Prewritten social media posts should be sent to the Marketing Chair, Connolly.93, by Sunday at noon of the week you want it posted.
 - c. Also, if you need something posted last minute you can send it to the marketing chair or officers who have access to post immediately.
 - d. Point was raised that we may want to construct a response to Charlottesville.
 - i. Wesaw.1 indicated it would be important to come together to create a response that the entire executive team signs off on.
 - ii. One suggestion was raised about being more progressive about preventing things like this from happening on our campus. A suggestion was raised to have an anonymous graduate student email or group where individuals could go with any concerns. Support (?) was raised for this suggestion.
 - iii. One suggestion was to talk with the President or the Provost to understand Ohio State's stance on the issue as well.
 - iv. Another suggestion was raised about addressing this in a larger conversation in the Diversity lecture series and to follow it up with a panel where we discuss University responses to issues like this. Support was raised for this suggestion.
 - v. Wesaw.1 agreed after the body confirmed they would like a response from Dr. J regarding the potential opportunity to participate in a forum or discussion regarding these concerns.
 - e. Connolly.93 will circulate the social media document for everyone to review and approve the policy and strategies behind the social media campaign for CGS.
 - f. Connolly.93 recommended everyone start thinking about their own committee hashtags.
5. Emails
- a. Koss.31 is gathering emails of interested graduate students from all welcome events and personalizing emails regarding what they dictate they are interested in (delegate position, committee position, grant information, etc.).
6. Health and Wellness Chair Update
- a. Health and Wellness Chair is working with the Student Wellness center about collaborating this year.
 - b. Last year there was a spring wellness day that about 250 graduate students came too and they are planning to do that again this year.
 - c. Dean Melnyk (Chief Wellness officer of the University and Dean of Nursing) has been leading a program with about 10 health related graduate programs regarding coping and stress management and has been seeing positive outcomes. They are collaborating this year to expand this program to all graduate students.
 - i. This will be a few months out due to IRB approval process. Dean Melnyk is also hoping to speak at a future CGS meeting to generate interests.
 - d. Student Wellness Center is planning on coming to speak at an upcoming CGS meeting about the services they offer graduate students.
7. President Updates
- a. President's Convocation and Columbus Welcome

- i. Wesaw.1 described there is no welcome from the President and Provost to the graduate students at this time, meaning there is no exposure to the traditions of the University. Therefore, we have been working to get graduate students invited to the President’s Convocation (since it is an event for “first-year” students) and an invitation to the Columbus welcome. Incoming Graduate Students are now invited to the Columbus Welcome.
 - ii. We are planning to work together to receive an invite to the President Convocation as well.
 - iii. One suggestion was raised about trying to create a graduate student specific welcome instead of working to be invited to the general convocation.
 - b. Graduate School Dean Search
 - i. Wesaw.1 updated us that this fall the Provost would be launching the search for the Dean of the Graduate School. It is our understanding that at least one graduate student will be a part of that committee.
 - c. NAGPS
 - i. We are a member of the National Association of Graduate and Professional Students and we have funding set aside if individuals are interested to go to their Hill day and participate in advocacy for legislation that impacts graduate students. This is September 29th through October 3rd. There is also an opportunity to go in spring. There is also the potential to go to the SAGE conference in February.
 - d. UCAT
 - i. UCAT is looking for grant reviewers for the GTA Program Enhancement Grant.
 - e. LGBTQ Task Force
 - i. President Drake is looking for a graduate student representative to join an LGBTQ task-force committee. Let Wesaw.1 know if you’re interested.
 - f. Retreat
 - i. The Executive Committee retreat is September 29th-1st, more details to come!
 - g. Additional Service
 - i. Wesaw.1 disclosed that he was sworn into his tribe’s Tribal Council last Saturday and has a plan to balance the time between this commitment and his presidential duties. Congrats to Wesaw.1! 😊
 - ii. Wesaw.1 stated if anyone has concerns to please reach out to him directly.
- 8. Adjourned at 4:48pm.