



**Council of Graduate Students**  
**The Ohio State University**

**Date:** August 14, 2020

**Location:**

**<https://osu.zoom.us/j/93460523683?pwd=bHYrOWJwYWVZVTBUBlBEZmxJYXp5QT09>**

**Password:** 290109

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Ohio Union Rm 2088A | 1739 N. High Street | Columbus, OH 43210 | (614) 292-4380 | [cgs@osu.edu](mailto:cgs@osu.edu)

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### **CGS Delegate Packet August 14, 2020**

<b>1. Meeting Agenda</b>	<b>Page 2</b>
<b>2. June 12, 2020 Meeting Minutes</b>	<b>Page 4</b>
<b>3. Officer's Reports</b>	<b>Page 10</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Secretary's Report (Page 10)</li><li>• Vice President's Report (Page 11)</li><li>• President's Report (Page 12)</li></ul>	
<b>4. Standing Committee's Reports</b>	<b>Page 15</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Arts &amp; Culture (Page 15)</li><li>• Diversity &amp; Inclusion (Page 16)</li><li>• Government Affairs (Page 17)</li><li>• Housing &amp; Family Affairs (Page 18)</li></ul>	
<b>5. Senator's Reports</b>	<b>Page 19</b>
<b>6. Resolution 2019-001: Election Day</b>	<b>Page 20</b>



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## Delegate Meeting Agenda

Date: Aug. 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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1. CALL TO ORDER (3:30pm)
  - 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: Attendance Code = CGS2020 (5 min.)
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (5 min.)
  - 3.1. Minutes from June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020
4. OFFICER REPORTS (15 min.)

<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>4.1. President, Stephen Post.144</li><li>4.2. Vice President, DaVonti' Haynes.242</li><li>4.3. Treasurer, Raven Lynch.389</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>4.4. Secretary, Sarah Light.109</li><li>4.5. Chief of Staff, Jack Brandl.8</li><li>4.6. Parliamentarian, Rania Khamees.5</li></ol>
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5. COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES (15 min.)

<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>5.1. Academic Affairs, Aviva Neff.336</li><li>5.2. Arts &amp; Culture, Kathryn Holt.351</li><li>5.3. Delegate Relations, Conner Sarich.6</li><li>5.4. Diversity, Equity, &amp; Inclusion, Verdaynea EasonAgondanou.1</li><li>5.5. Government Relations, Maddy Lomax-Vogt.2</li><li>5.6. Graduate Student Affairs, Michelle Scott.1445</li><li>5.7. Health, Wellness, &amp; Safety, Abby Greiff.2</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>5.8. International Student Affairs, Melika Shahhosseini.2</li><li>5.9. Strategic Communications, TBA</li><li>5.10. Senate Advisory, Jenna Greve.41</li><li>5.11. SERC, Wanderson NovaisPereria.1</li><li>5.12. External Collaborations, TBA</li><li>5.13. Housing and Family Affairs, Leila Viera.31</li></ol>
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6. SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS (15 min.)
  - 6.1. Delegate Issues and Concerns (15 min.)
7. NEW BUSINESS (20 min)
  - 7.1. Election Day Resolution
8. ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 min)
  - 8.1. THANK YOU!!!
  - 8.2. September Delegate Meeting – 11<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30pm
9. Adjourn (~5:00pm)

## **CGS Virtual Meeting Ground Rules**

1. Be open, flexible, considerate, and kind!
2. Speak your discomfort if something is bother you.
3. Challenge the idea, not the person.
4. You will be automatically muted when you join the meeting. Please keep your audio MUTED, unless asking a question.
5. You may ask a question by submitting it directly in the “Chat” box; or if you would like to ask via video/audio, use the “Raise Hand” feature in the “Participant” section and the chair will recognize you. Sarah will be monitoring to ensure they are brought up.
6. You may keep you video on or off as to which ever is most comfortable for you, but should connectivity issues arise we may ask you turn of the video.
7. Please be visually presentable, if using video, and limit background activity.
8. This meeting will be recorded for note taking purposes, and in hopes to share our meetings in the future.



**Present:** e alexander, Pranav Ambardekar (ALT), Luke Andrejek, Ali Asghari Adib, Selasi Attipoe, Tyler Beauregard, Aaron Beczkiewicz, Jessica Blackburn, Qiuchang (Katy) Cao, Austin Cool (ALT), Katherine Conner, Robert Dahlberg-Sears, Archit Datar, Ty Drayton, Benjamin Duran, Story Edison, Jorge Torres Espinosa, Micheline Fahrbach, Brandon Free, Jahmour Givans, Jenna Greve, Abigal Grief, Lindsey Hernandez, Kathryn Holt, Sarah Hyman, Jeffrey Kast, Pouya Kousha (ALT), Carly LaRosa, Yifan Li, Stephen Lo, Madeleine Lomax-Vogt, Raven Lynch, Lucas Magee, Matthew Maynard, Rohit Mukherjee, Aviva Neff, Maritza Pierre, Priscila Rodriguez Garcia, Ashweta Sahni, Conner Sarich, Michelle Scott, Utkarsh Shah, Karla Shockleymccarthy, Ryan Slechta, Kye Stachowski, Leila Vieira, Sarah Walton, Daniel Williams, Piao Yang,

**Absent:** Jacky Anderson, Om Prakash Bedant, Andrew Borst, Mary Byrne, Yu-chun Chang, Steph Charles, Min-Seok Choi, Jorge Clavo Abbass, Alec Clott, Paul Consiglio, Kat Ellis, Elizabeth Galko, Lauren Howard, Audrey Hungerpiller, Kevin Ingles, Arsh Kumar, Jungmin Lee, Ho-chieh Lin, Ruonan Lin, Eric Loria, Emily Lundstedt, Tori Magers, Kate Ormiston, Alejandro Otero Bravo, Tricia Oyster, Ryann Patrus, Mark Pauley, Miguel Pedrozo, Kelsey Pinckard, Avi Pokala, Ken Poland, Zeltzin Reyes, Isaac Reynolds, Marie Rineveld, Erik Scaltriti, Lena Schreiber, Sarah Scott, Melika Shahhosseini, Shruthi Shetty, Preeti Singh, Sundeep Siripurapu, Nithya Sivashankar, Lindsey Stirek, Nicole Tchorowski, Philip Tice, Taylor Tomu, James Uanhoro, Jennifer Valdez, Mitch Vicieux, Derek Walton, Yu Lun Wu, Soroush Zamanian, Megan Zib

**1. CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 3:32pm**

**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 May 8, 2020**

- 3.1.1. Minutes approved.

**3.2. Minutes from June 5, 2020**

- 3.2.1. Minutes approved.

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

**4.1. President (Post.144)**

- 4.1.1. Stephen thanks delegates for attending the special meeting last week. It was really important for us to talk about these issues. Please remember to continue to take care of yourselves.
- 4.1.2. We are transitioning back to campus for fall. There was published documentation about how these procedures will go and there is a link in President's report for FAQs.
- 4.1.3. New president, Kristina Johnson, announced. Very personable and in touch with grad student issues. Productive and promising meeting was had last week. She will start Sep 1 and, in the meantime, the president of the board of trustees and the provost are handling all presidential duties.
- 4.1.4. There is still emergency fund money available for students, even those who have previously applied.
- 4.1.5. There have been conversations about finding funding for those students who have had to extend their graduation timeline because they were not able to do their research during the pandemic. The leftover grad school budget will be reallocated to help cover these funding deficits and will hopefully be matched by departments. Those who were initially planning to graduate in the next academic year will get priority for this funding. It will be on the individual students to reach out to their programs and request funding assistance. An email should go out with more info next week.
- 4.1.6. The change to GA dates will only be applied to those who are on federally sponsored programs for the

time being. This was the impetus for changing to the new appointment schedule. GAs still exempt from the hiring freeze.

4.1.7. Do the feedback survey if you haven't already. It's on Carmen.

4.1.8. Questions:

- Holt.351 asked how the grad school will determine which students are eligible for this funding assistance?
  - Will be those who were actually prevented from doing their work because of restrictions about being on campus, cancellation of practicums, traveling, etc.
- Conner.280 asked whether masks were going to be a requirement to be on campus. Will this be fully enforced and how?
  - There is a collective agreement that all students will sign and there will likely be mask-on and mask-off zones. Not sure yet how violations of these rules will be handled.
- Dahlberg-sears.1 asked when PPE will be distributed to students? What will the cleaning schedule be?
  - As of right now, there will be a limited supply distributed to each unit. Some details are still being worked out, but they will be relying on signage and cleaning protocols, limiting the number of people in rooms. Any classes over 100 people will be 100% online.
- Greve.41 asked if the same issues will still apply for those GA date changes that we are addressing in this resolution to be discussed if it will only be applied for students on federal funding?
  - They are still working with HR to figure out how people may be impacted. We are moving forward with this resolution because things have not been decided for sure yet and it was clear in conversations with administrators that they had not considered these potential complications.

#### 4.2. Vice President (Haynes.242)

- 4.2.1. The university-wide spending freeze is still active until June 30.
- 4.2.2. Fall elections will be happening soon to fill the remaining open delegate seats.
- 4.2.3. New committee has been created within the College of Arts and Sciences to manage the transition back to campus. If you are a CAS student and are interested in serving on this committee, please reach out to DaVonti'.
- 4.2.4. We will hopefully have a new website in early fall that will work a lot better than our current site.
- 4.2.5. We are adding a new grant to our repertoire in collaboration with Student Life and Outreach & Engagement for students doing community and outreach engagement work within the community. Students will be awarded between. \$500 and \$1500 for each grant. Will be rolled out in the fall

#### 4.3. Treasurer (Lynch.389)

- 4.3.1. Funding period 1 of Ray was cancelled. Funding period 2 is happening on the normal timeline but applications will only be accepted for virtual conference registration fees and the maximum award will be \$350. Previous winners can't apply again until they use their funds.
- 4.3.2. The full budget is being presented later in the meeting as an act. Questions will be addressed then.

#### 4.4. Secretary (Light.109)

- 4.4.1. The application window for the second funding period of the Career Development Grant opens next Monday. Applicants will only be funded for non-travel expenses because of current and anticipated travel restrictions imposed by the university.
- 4.4.2. A report detailing the demographics of both CDG and GGG applicants and winners over the 2019-2020 year is included in the Secretary's report.

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

### **5.1. International Student Affairs (Asghariadib.1)**

- 5.1.1. There has been a delay in printing diplomas which has been impacting visa applications for international students.
- 5.1.2. There was a letter brought to us by OIA drafted by students from MIT and others. We have talked about signing onto this letter as an organization. The letter will be distributed via Carmen.
- 5.1.3. Student support committee has been collecting issues from grads and undergrads.

## **6. SPECIAL ORDER ITEMS**

### **6.1. Delegate Concerns**

- 6.1.1. None.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

### **7.1. Resolution 1920-012: A Resolution Condemning the Injustices Against the Black Community and Columbus Protestors by the Columbus Police Department**

- 7.1.1. Post.144: This is a very important and encompassing issue that we needed to address in a timely manner with the joint letter from all student governments. With this resolution, we are creating a policy position for CGS that encompasses all of our voices and grievances. We are looking forward to future engagement with university admins and have already had some very successful conversations. This will be followed up with a second piece of legislation to create an ad-hoc committee that will further the mission.

#### **7.1.2. Questions:**

- Dahlberg-sears.1: There was a Lantern article that came out this week that contained a reply to the joint letter. He was wondering if there would be a rebuttal or discussion and whether this should be addressed in the resolution?
  - The student gov leaders are trying to meet with the author of the letter in person first and may put out a response after this meeting happens.
- Fahrbach.5: Agrees with a lot of points made in the letter about the impracticality of completely severing ties with CPD. She feels that it would be better to have separate resolutions addressing the issues and the relationship with CPD.
  - The reality of the conversation is that we will be reevaluating the relationship with CPD and likely not completely abolishing it instead.
  - One of the most important asks is the lines that ask for alternative methods of enforcing "as a means of ...". The goal is to really open lines of dialogue and lay the groundwork for productive conversations. More specific policy changes are outline in the next resolution establishing the ad-hoc committee.
- **Questions extended for 5 minutes.**
- Slechta.3: Has the administration has formally responded to the demands made in the joint letter?
  - Technically, no.
- Williams.6571: What will the connection be between the asks in Line 59 (Resolved clause that asks OSU to identify and implement alternative means of protecting the safety of students outside of current partnerships) and the ad hoc committee?
  - The ad hoc committee is going to be digging in to the research and laying out more specific policy changes we would like to see.
- Free.41: Is the policy position to still push for cutting ties with CPD if possible and is this resolution an endorsement of this policy position?
  - There are 3 different approaches employed by the different student governments. USG is still supporting that position, but we are not necessarily supporting that and it's not a realistic position to have in these meetings.

#### **7.1.3. Discussion:**

- Conner.280 emphasizes that even if cutting ties with CPD is now a ridiculous ask, if gives us some negotiation room to ask for more than we think that we will get.
- Jameson.61 (ALT for Cool.28): This resolution is not the most outrageous statement or policy position that we could make. If this is supposed to be a consensus statement
- Dahlberg-sears.1: Even if you don't support the joint statement itself, this resolution is just

- stating that we used it to initiate conversation, which has already been successful. If you are not fine with the actions of the CPD, then you should support this statement
- Holt.351: Assuming that a policy position or ask is unrealistic or unreasonable can be dangerous.
  - Shockleymccarthy.1: There is definitely more fervor for severing ties among the undergrad population. She does not see how the ad hoc committee will fit into the larger picture that this resolution is establishing.
  - Fahrbach.5: Part of the relationship between the OSUPD and the CPD Line 59 section could maybe be worded in a different way other than specifically asking for severing ties with CPD? Wouldn't it be better to ask for things that are realistic to attain?
  - **Discussion extended by 10 minutes.**
  - Beauregard.13: In this resolution, we haven't actually asked the CPD to change their behavior or advocated for any reform. This could be an important piece of this discussion.
  - Williams.6571: The important piece of change is imagining how problems could be addressed in a better way in the future.
  - Free.41: We seem to represent such a variety of opinions; it would be irresponsible for us to sign on to this as written.
  - Brandl.8: We have to be strategic in our policy positions because the university has a history of not responding to demands for change. The main point is to state our general position and the ad hoc committee is where we will follow through on creating policy demands. If this resolution is voted down in this meeting, then we are forced to delay making any statement or decisions until our July meeting.
  - Pierre.77: If we are saying Black Lives Matter, we should not walk that back with caveats.
  - Shah.1285: The existing relationship between OSUPD and CPD makes sure that CPD does not violate the rights of OSU students. There will be no repercussions if there is no partnership. Better to set more aggressive targets that CPD must meet to continue the partnership.
  - **Discussion extended by 10 minutes.**
  - Whitaker.105 (ALT for Kousha.3): There is a lot of ambiguity in the language of the resolution which is leading to some people seeing it as too aggressive and some are seeing it as not aggressive enough. For examples, in the lines that ask to identify alternatives, what happens if there are no alternatives? The most likely outcome is just different police not no police
  - Datar.10: It seems that we are in agreement with the general feeling of the resolution, but the lone sticking point is the line that states that we support the joint letter that was published. Maybe better to remove that reference to the statement entirely.
  - Fahrbach.5: Agreed that Lines 59-61 are strong, but Lines 63-65 are potentially divisive.
  - Motion to amend the resolution to replace Lines 63-65 with language that either doesn't reference the statement or removes the words "and supports".
  - Motion to amend seconded.
  - Discussion of amendment:
    - Dahlberg-sears.1: The way it is worded already says that we are using the statement as leverage so taking out those 2 words doesn't change the meaning of the line.
    - Conner.280: Agrees with the previous point and says that taking this out weakens our position.
    - Williams.6571: If we remove the language stating our support, that makes Stephen look bad. However, if we leave the language vague, we allow others to interpret our meaning.
  - Motion to amend the amendment and change Lines 63-65 of the resolution to say "recognizes and supports, as a means of initiating critical conversation and engagement with the Ohio State University administration, the statement put out on June 1, 2020 by the presidents of the student governments".
  - Motion to amend seconded.
  - Discussion of amendment:
    - Williams.6571: This wording change is a good compromise that will hopefully make people feel more comfortable.
    - Free.41: This removes a little ambiguity in the language.

- Motion to end discussion and vote on the amendment.
  - Amended amendment is voted on and accepted.
- 7.1.4. Voting conducted via Carmen survey.
- 7.1.5. Resolution passes (44 Yeas, 1 Nay, 2 Abstentions).

## **7.2. Act 1920-012: An Act Establishing the Ad Hoc Equity and Racial Justice Committee**

- 7.2.1. Brandl.8: The initial charge of this committee is to focus on police relationships but will address a wider host of issues in the future. The committee will make recommendations to CGS as they work, up until the December 2020 meeting.
- 7.2.2. **Questions:**
- None.
- 7.2.3. **Discussion:**
- Free.41: Might be good to add a sub-section that addresses policing specifically.
  - Motion to amend the resolution to add this as a sub-section of section 4: "Develop recommendations for actions the Council of Graduate Students can take to meaningfully address systemic racial injustices perpetrated by policing practices at The Ohio State University and in the Columbus community including, but not limited to: (1) specific reforms on the part of the Ohio State University Police Department and the Columbus Police Department, (2) alternative means of public safety and (3) evaluating partnerships between The Ohio State University Police Department and the Columbus Police Department."
  - Motion seconded.
  - Discussion of amendment:
    - We don't to limit to only Columbus campus as OSU has several other campuses.
    - Amendment withdrawn.
  - Motion for a second amendment as a sub-section of section 4: "Develop recommendations for actions the Council of Graduate Students can take to meaningfully address systemic racial injustices perpetrated by policing practices at The Ohio State University and in our communities, but not limited to: (1) specific reforms on the part of the Ohio State University Police Department and the Columbus Police Department, (2) alternative means of public safety and (3) evaluating partnerships between The Ohio State University Police Department and the Columbus Police Department."
  - Motion seconded.
    - Motion to amend the proposed amendment by replacing all references to the "Columbus Police Department" to "local police department".
    - Amendment to the amendment approved.
  - Amendment is approved.
- 7.2.4. Voting conducted via Carmen survey.
- 7.2.5. Act passes (43 Yeas, 0 Nay, 0 Abstentions).

## **7.3. Resolution 1920-011: A Resolution Rejecting the Changes to the Appointment Dates of Graduate Associateships**

- 7.3.1. Haynes.242: The Graduate School determined new appointment dates without any input from students or faculty. We posed a list of questions to the Graf School administrators about problems that we saw with these new dates and they did not have answers to most of them or had not considered them at all. We are asking for them to hold off on this change until they can gather more feedback. This will likely be followed up with a resolution that states that the grad school will not be allowed to change procedures and policies in the future without first gathering feedback from those who will be impacted by these changes (mostly grad students).
- 7.3.2. **Questions:**
- None.
- 7.3.3. **Discussion:**
- None.
- 7.3.4. Voting conducted via Carmen survey.
- 7.3.5. Resolution passes (40 Yeas, 0 Nay, 2 Abstentions).

#### **7.4. Act 1920-010: An Act Establishing the Ad Hoc Governance Review Committee**

- 7.4.1. Overview: Haynes.242: The goal of this committee is go through all governance documents for CGS and identify areas where they are outdated, incorrect, or inconsistent. The committee will begin working this summer and make recommendations to the delegate body by the October 2020 meeting.
- 7.4.2. **Questions:**
- Free.41: how many people will be on this committee?
    - 12 people total.
  - Beauregard.13: Will we need to include language that addresses when this ad hoc committee will be dissolved?
    - The act says that the committee has a deadline of October 2020 to make recommendations so the committee will dissolve after this has been achieved.
- 7.4.3. **Discussion:**
- None.
- 7.4.4. Voting conducted via Carmen survey.
- 7.4.5. Act passes (40 Yeas, 0 Nay, 1 Abstentions).

#### **7.5. Act 1920-011: An Act Concerning the Approval of the Budget for the 2020-2021 Academic Year for the Council of Graduate Students**

- 7.5.1. Lynch.389: We have lumped the awards and recognitions budget all together instead of having separate funds. We have halved the meeting refreshment budget as we will not be meeting in person for the fall.
- 7.5.2. **Questions:**
- Is there a way to see the numbers of what was used last year?
    - No, not during this meeting. Also, last year's budget is not a good model because there was a lot of money that did not get spent because of the pandemic and events being cancelled.
    - Would be a good idea to present these numbers simultaneously in the future?
    - This information is always included in the treasurer's report for each meeting packet.
- 7.5.3. **Discussion:**
- None.
- 7.5.4. Voting conducted via Carmen survey.
- 7.5.5. Act passes (38 Yeas, 0 Nay, 0 Abstentions).

#### **7.6. Act 1920-009: An. Act Establishing CGS Meeting Dates 2020-2021**

- 7.6.1. Post.144: Same as the act previously presented but with an incorrect date fixed.
- 7.6.2. **Questions:**
- Drayton.18 asked whether the language should state whether our meetings will be on zoom or in person?
    - For at least the whole of fall semester, we will be using zoom. We don't want to specify because we don't know for sure when we will be back in person.
- 7.6.3. **Discussion:**
- None.
- 7.6.4. Voting conducted via Carmen survey.
- 7.6.5. Act passes (39 Yeas, 0 Nay, 0 Abstentions).

### **8. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 8.1. Next meeting is July 10th, 2020 @ 3:30pm: <https://osu.zoom.us/j/96728965959>
- 8.2. There are still senate and university committees that need CGS members. Get in touch with DaVonti' if you are interested in serving.

### **9. Meeting adjourned at 5:42pm.**

**TO:** The Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
**FROM:** Sarah Light, Secretary  
**DATE:** August 7, 2020  
**RE:** Secretary's Report

The application window for funding period 2 of the Career Development Grant closed last week and we are beginning the judging process. All applicants will only be awarded funds for non-travel expenses because of the continuing travel restriction put in place by the University. The number of applicants increased from the last funding period, most likely due to our efforts to raise awareness about the grants with email announcements that went to all graduate students. The policies and expense guidelines for funding period 3, which opens September 15<sup>th</sup>, have yet to be decided and will depend heavily on the current and anticipated university policies.

Past winners of grants have been having some issues obtaining their reimbursements in a timely manner. This is an ongoing issue with the grants in general but, as we recognize that funds may be especially tight during these unusual circumstances of 2020, we are doing what we can to help the process go smoothly and quickly.

The CGS website redesign, which will involve a complete switch to a new online platform, will be happening this fall. The executive team is in conversations with Student Life staff and the IT office to prepare for this transition.

All the best,

Sarah

## August 2020 Vice President Report – Council of Graduate Students

**To:** Council of Graduate Students, Delegates

**From:** DaVonti' D. Haynes, Vice President

**Date:** 08/01/2020

**Re:** Vice President Report August 2020

Hello CGS Delegates,

As we navigate these very uncertain times and embark on this new academic year, I hope you all are doing well and taking care of yourselves, mentally, physically, and emotionally. I know this is a very stressful time as you try to balance your academic, professional, personal, and social lives. If you're ever in need of any support, be sure to check out OSU's Counseling and Consultation Services (CCS) [[ccs.osu.edu](https://ccs.osu.edu) // 614-292-5766] or reach out to a friend/family member. I wish you all the best as we navigate through this. I can't wait to see all of your faces on campus again. Go Bucks!

### **Spending Freeze**

As you may know, the university is still in a state of emergency. Therefore, all non-essential spending remains froze.

### **Autumn 2020 Delegate Election**

**There are currently 56 open delegate seats. There will be a fall election to fill those seats, more details will be released later this month. Please encourage graduate students within those departments to apply.**

### **Engaged Scholar Grant**

In partnership with the [Office of Outreach and Engagement](#), [Office of Student Life](#), [Office of Research](#), [Ohio State University Extension \(OSUE\)](#), and [Ohio Joint Council of Extension Professional \(Ohio JCEP\)](#), is pleased to announce the availability of the Engaged Scholar Grant.

The Engaged Scholar Grant incentivizes graduate students to undertake community-engaged research or community-engaged projects, in collaboration with a community partner, that address a specific need or problem within the community (in-state or out-of-state). Graduate students may apply for grants ranging from \$500 to \$1,500.

This grant will go live on September 7, 2020.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

DaVonti' D. Haynes (haynes.242)

**To:** Council of Graduate Students  
**From:** Stephen Post.144, President  
**Date:** 8/7/20  
**RE:** President's Report

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### **Remember to Take Care of Yourself!**

The end of summer is here and starting off a new academic year! Our last summer delegate meeting will be held virtually via Zoom this **Friday, Aug. 14<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30pm**. We will still be taking attendance via quiz on the CGS Carmen webpage; the attendance code will be **CGS2020**.

The link to join the meeting can be found here:

<https://osu.zoom.us/j/93460523683?pwd=bHYrOWJwYWVZVTBUbIBEZmxJYXp5QT09>

Password: 290109

### **COVID-19 and Transition Back to Campus**

Transition FAQs can be found on the Safe and Healthy Buckeyes website here:

<https://safeandhealthy.osu.edu>. The University's Post-Pandemic Transition Task Force final meeting was on Wednesday, July 29<sup>th</sup> as it was determined that we had met the charge we were supposed to fulfill. I thought this was a horrible decision and pushed for the group to continue meeting, but admin. seemed set on disbanding the group. We will continue to respond to your questions and concerns as best we can and relay them to OSU administrators. We have compiled a list of resources where graduate students can find support here: <https://cgs.osu.edu/covid-19-resources/>

### **Current COVID-19 Graduate Student Issues**

#### *Accommodations*

We have heard increasing concerns of GAs, especially GTAs, not receiving appropriate accommodations when students asked for them. A lot of these negotiations are happening within the department. If you or other students are getting internal push back after speaking with your supervisor, then I ask that you submit a formal COVID-19 Accommodation Request Form to your HR Director/University HR here: <https://hr.osu.edu/coronavirus/accommodations/>. Please let me know about the issue via email ([post.144@osu.edu](mailto:post.144@osu.edu)) so I can follow up. Even if the accommodation is for just fear of returning amidst COVID-19, that is a valid reason especially when categorized as anxiety. These accommodations must be raised to the university level to be documented, even if the student thinks they will be denied, we must push for the form to be filled out as seeing those denial numbers are important for us to keep advocating.

#### *Timeline and Funding Extensions*

Please see the Graduate Schools final announcement on delay of graduation and matching tuition and fee authorization program here: <https://gradsch.osu.edu/news/graduate-school-announcement-delay-graduation-and-matching-tuition-and-fee-authorization>

Dean Bertone said students who were supposed to graduate within the next year will be given priority to any funds. This must be student initiated so please spread the word to your fellow peers that may be experiencing increased need or accommodations. While no central university dollars have been allocated for this, the Provost is aware of the issue and ensured me that once the financial uncertainties were more clear he would have a better idea of what may be available.

### *Employment & Hiring*

We were assured that all Graduate Associates are still *EXEMPT* from the OSU hiring freeze. Please advise folks to speak with their advisors and PIs about continuing their GA. All GA appointments now have to be approved by the Dean of the College or VP of the unit. As enrollment numbers are solidified, we will have a better understanding of the effects on GAs. These positions are being evaluated for international students and the recent changes to visas that may prevent students from pursuing academic progress or a GA. Some GAs have been cited as a loss due to enrollment and not having enough Masters/PhD students matriculate into the department. So far we have not heard of any cuts due to budget losses, except for within the Arts and Sciences. Of which, I have spoken to Dean Ritter and she assured me the stipend problems will be resolved this week.

### **Post-Candidacy Leave Option**

There will be a new Leave of Absence policy to be generally used by post-candidacy students. The Grad School will release a petition soon that will require a reason for the request, evidence of support from the advisor, and Graduate Studies Committee approval. They will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and a final decision will be communicated to both the student and the program. Further info should be coming out before the start of the school year to allow students to take leave for the AU20 semester if desired.

### **Emergency Funds Relief**

As a reminder, Ohio State launched the [Together As Buckeyes emergency grants program](#) to assist students who are having difficulty with living expenses or facing other unexpected financial challenges related to COVID-19. It is available to undergraduate, graduate and professional students — subject to eligibility requirements — through the Student Financial Aid office. The size of these grants will vary based on each student's circumstances. Additionally, the Graduate School's graduate student specific funds are available through the Office of Student Life Student Wellness Center here: <https://advocacy.osu.edu/student-emergency-fund/>.

### **Equity and Racial Justice**

We continue to engage with administration on this issue through CGS representation on the Public Safety Advisory Committee (myself), the President's Racial Equity Task Force (Raven Lynch, Treasurer), CGS' Equity and Racial Justice Ad Hoc Committee (ERJC), and CGS' standing Diversity, Equity, an Inclusion Committee. Please reach out to Jack, Verdaynea, Raven, or myself if you have questions or want to get involved. We should have the 1<sup>st</sup> round of ERJC policy recommendations presented in our September meeting, see Verdaynea's update for more details.

### **Graduate Ombudsman**

As a follow up to the policy passed last year, OAA organized the first meeting to discuss implementation of the Graduate Ombudsman position. It will be further institutionalized as part of a University Office of Ombudsmen and the position should be filled by January 2021.

**COVID-19 Resources -** <https://cgs.osu.edu/covid-19-resources/>

Safe and Healthy Campus: [SafeandHealthy.osu.edu](https://SafeandHealthy.osu.edu)

Full list w/ Policy Changes: <https://wexnermedical.osu.edu/features/coronavirus/staff-and-students>  
Mental Health Support: <https://ccs.osu.edu/ccs-covid-19-updates/for-students/>  
Wexner Medical Center: [go.osu.edu/coronavirus](https://go.osu.edu/coronavirus)  
Office of the President updates: <https://news.osu.edu>  
Student Life Student Supports: [go.osu.edu/buckeyesupport](https://go.osu.edu/buckeyesupport)  
Office of Research: <https://research.osu.edu/news-events/coronavirus-and-your-research-program/>  
Human Resources: <https://hr.osu.edu/coronavirus/>  
For e-learning success: [KeepLearning.osu.edu](https://KeepLearning.osu.edu)  
For GTAs and Candidacy Exams: [KeepTeaching.osu.edu](https://KeepTeaching.osu.edu)  
All Graduate Associates and Staff: [KeepWorking.osu.edu](https://KeepWorking.osu.edu)

### **CGS Resources**

As always, the [CGS.OSU.EDU](https://CGS.OSU.EDU) website should be up-to-date so you have easy access to any necessary resources and know where to point fellow grad students when they ask for more information! Additionally, the CGS Carmen page is updated to provide delegates access to any info, documents, or other resources you may need.

Please follow CGS on social media via our pages on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Linkden](#). This will allow you to stay up-to-date with programming, event/meeting reminders, and other great resources that we encourage you to share on these platforms. Our handles are @CGSOSU. Always feel free to reach out to me with any concerns via email at [post.144@osu.edu](mailto:post.144@osu.edu)! Stay well and Go Bucks!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen J. Post". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**TO:** The Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
**FROM:** Kathryn Holt, Arts and Culture Chair  
**DATE:** 08/14/2020  
**RE:** Committee Report

The Arts and Culture committee has taken a break from meeting over the summer, and will begin meeting again after the first day of classes. Our focus for this year will be on providing appropriate virtual and/or socially distanced arts and culture programming, and completing the work started in the 2019-2020 school year to address how CGS can better support Arts graduate students through the grants program and Hayes Forum.

**To:** The Council of Graduate Students, Delegates  
**From:** Verdaynea Eason Agondanou, Chair of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion  
**Date:** August 7, 2020  
**Re:** Secretary's Report

Dear CGS Delegates,

Please find some of the key updates for the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee below.

- The DEI Committee has not officially started yet. There will be an introductory meeting the week of August 10<sup>th</sup> and the first official meeting will be held after welcome week.
- The DEI Ad Hoc Committee started meetings in early July to prepare for the upcoming school year. These meetings have consisted of setting member expectations, setting goals for the upcoming year, and starting the beginning stages of policy development.
- The DEI Ad Hoc Committee will begin to introduce CGS Resolutions to Delegates in mid-September. The committee also hopes to begin the roll out of listening sessions in September. These sessions are meant to make sure that the voices of African American students are uplifted, documented, and heard throughout the policy development process.
- The DEI Chair has started conversations with the Chair of Government Affairs and the Chair of Health, Wellness and Safety in hopes of beginning the development process for programs and/or other offerings that will target BIPOC students.

Thank you for your support as we begin our journey together this upcoming school year. This committee hopes to make many positive developments that we will be proud to report in the near future. If you have any questions about the DEI Committee, you can always reach me at [easonagondanou.1@osu.edu](mailto:easonagondanou.1@osu.edu). If you have any questions about the DEI Ad Hoc Committee, you can reach out to me at the email address stated above or my Co-Chair, Jack Brandl, at [bandl.8@osu.edu](mailto:bandl.8@osu.edu).

Madeleine (Maddy) Lomax-Vogt.2  
CGS Government Affairs Committee  
July 2020 – August 2020

### Summary

In July, Maddy contacted all 2020-2021 members, asked for information about member interests, goals, concerns for the year. All members responded.

Held optional meeting August 6, 2020. We discussed committee expectations (members are encouraged to write resolutions, research concerns, connect with other committees as needed – just keep Maddy in the loop); semester goals including voter registration, meetings. Most of the meeting focused on concerns, ideas to increase voter registration and absentee requests and ballots.

Government Affairs wrote a resolution to make Election Day a paid university holiday. Resolution will be presented at the August 2020 CGS full body meeting. Resolution is sponsored by the Government Affairs committee and Executive committee.

Government Affairs will work with OSU Votes, DEI, Student Affairs, and any other interested CGS committees to increase Graduate Student voter registration and voter participation this November 2020.

The next Government Affairs committee meeting is Thursday, September 3, 2020 at 10 a.m. via Zoom.

### Voter registration, voting this November

- Goal is to make voting (registration, casting ballot) as easy and accessible as possible
  - Wrote resolution to make Election Day a university paid holiday
  - Considering writing a resolution to encourage the university to pay for COTA busing to the Franklin County Board of Elections early vote for faculty, staff, students
  - Considering writing a resolution to
  - Talked about how to provide stamps for student voter registration, absentee ballots
- Maddy attended an OSU Votes meeting
  - OSU Votes has excellent voter registration, ballot, election resources to engage students
  - Maddy requested OSU Votes presents at the September 2020 CGS full body meeting
- Want to encourage graduate students to volunteer to be Election Day poll workers
- Maddy will make a short presentation about committee goals, plans to present at the September 2020 Executive Board meeting

## **Council of Graduate Students – Housing and Family Affairs Committee**

Chair: Leila Vieira.31

Date: 08/04/2020

Hello all,

I hope you are safe and healthy. This month the committee has met with the Parenting & Pregnant Student Support Committee, Buckeye Village Residents and Admin, and we also had our first meeting with members.

From the Parenting & Pregnant Students Support Committee the updates are:

- There will be a tab focusing on resources for parenting and pregnant students in the OSU Wellness app
- The ACCESS Collaborative is organizing monthly community chats about topics relevant to parenting students. More info can be found here:  
<https://odi.osu.edu/community-chats>
- Student Parents are concerned about returning to campus in the fall and managing their classes without childcare and K-12 going hybrid/online.
- OSU marketing should be more inclusive towards parenting and pregnant students
- Stephen has sent a letter to the Provost asking for OSU to commit to family housing

From the Buckeye Village meeting, we've learned that:

- There is the possibility that undergraduates might move into to BV to decrease occupancy in dorms in Fall 2020
- We also discussed the possibility of international students having to move out due to the new immigration policy, but that ended up not moving forward

In our committee meeting we discussed our expectations for the committee and ideas moving forward.

If you have any questions/suggestions about any of this or would like to be part of this committee, please let me know at Vieira.31.

Name: Dustin Servello

Committee(s) you are on: Council on Academic Affairs

Attendance record (number of meetings the committee had and how many you attended):  
Newly elected member. First meeting is scheduled for September 2, 2020

No agenda of topics of discussion has yet been determined.

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Authors: Madeleine Lomax-Vogt(.2), Government Affairs Chair; Verdaynea Eason Agondanou(.1), Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair  
Sponsors: Executive Committee;

WHEREAS, the fundamental values and goals of The Ohio State University embrace the mission of preparing a diverse student body to be leaders and engaged citizens<sup>1</sup>; and

WHEREAS, a recent Census study indicated that 14 percent of registered voters did not vote because they were too busy or had a scheduling conflict<sup>2</sup>; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the challenges that students, faculty, and staff already face when attempting to vote, including scheduling time to vote in between work, classes, and extracurricular commitments; and

WHEREAS, ample time for democratic participation on Election Day is key in preventing voting disparity between those who are constrained by work or school from voting and those who have the luxury of time and access; and

WHEREAS, the Big Ten Voting Challenge encourages member institutions to increase voter turnout and voting rates in order to “form the habits of active and informed citizenship, make democratic participation a core value on their campus, and cultivate generations of engaged citizens who are essential to a healthy democracy”<sup>74</sup>; and

WHEREAS, other Big Ten and peer institutions do not recognize election day as a paid holiday<sup>5</sup>; and

WHEREAS, election day is always held on the first Tuesday of November in the State of Ohio;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of Graduate Students officially recommend that The Ohio State University observe election day as a paid holiday recognized as the “John Lewis Voting Rights Day”; and

<sup>5</sup> Except universities in Virginia and Illinois where election day is recognized as a statewide holiday.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of Graduate Students supports the creation of an Election Day  
43 paid holiday to make The Ohio State University a leader and model of democratic commitment that other Big  
44 Ten and peer institutions may follow; and

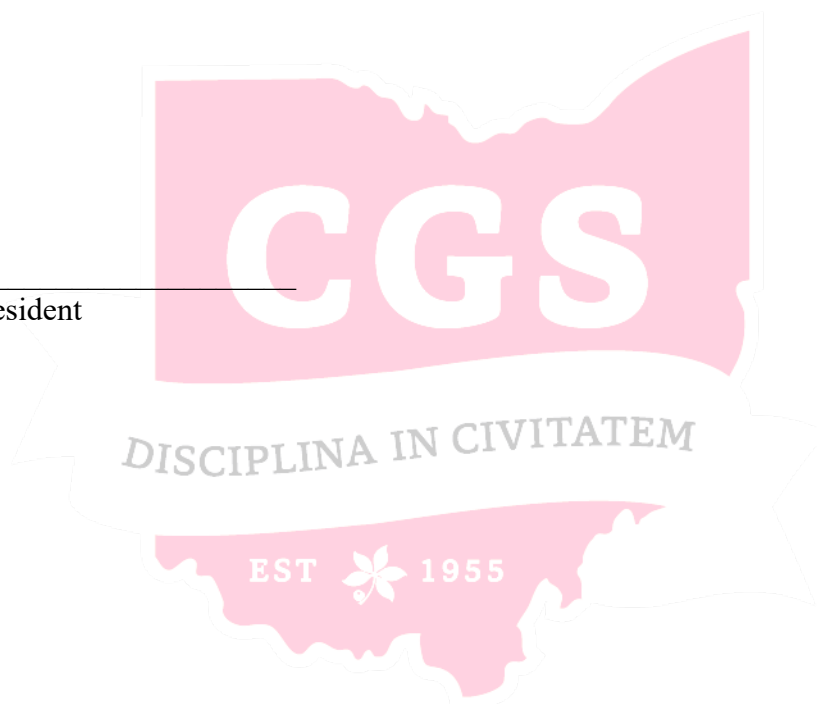
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46 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of Graduate Students supports the right to vote regardless of a  
47 citizen's race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual  
48 orientation, or military status; and

49  
50 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to The Ohio State University  
51 President Kristina M. Johnson, Executive Vice President and Provost Bruce McPheron, Vice Provost for  
52 Graduate Studies and Dean of the Graduate School Alicia Bertone, Vice President for Student Life Melissa  
53 Shivers Calhoun, Vice President for Government Affairs Stacy Rastaukas, and the Chair of the Council on  
54 Student Affairs Jordan Vadja.

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57 Approved: Yes/No

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59 Date: \_\_\_\_

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Stephen J. Post, President



Council of Graduate Students  
at The Ohio State University