Graduate Student Association for the Arts & Sciences  
Monthly Meeting  
April 13, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

I. Welcome  
- All Officers and Representatives Present, plus two student attendees

II. Public comment (None)

III. Officer’s reports

A. President, Holly Gruntner

1. A&S Graduate Faculty Mentoring Award update  
   a) Delays - potentially pushing back the ceremony to next semester, Dean Torczon will discuss options with

2. OGSR funding update  
   a) Summer funding for Arts graduate students should be in process
   b) Next year: OGSR planning to offer additional fellowships to those students coming off of funding who do not get Hallerans or other sources of support
   c) Summer Conference Fund applications are now open; the Spring Conference Fund has been discussed and grantees have been nominated to Sarah Glosson.
   d) GSAB grants are up to 350$, and they are available into the summer and fall. Cannot cover travel as of now.

3. Virtual Grads Check-In w/Counseling Center  
   a) Recap - about fifteen in attendance, was a good space for venting and commiserating.
   b) Still trying to convince the Counseling Center that there is demand for a grad exclusive space. If anyone wants to take up the mantle it would be good to get volunteers for next year.

4. Commencement speaker competition  
   a) Grad student volunteers (two more!) needed to judge the speech competitions for about 1 hr and 45 min. They’re trying to choose multiple speakers for the commencement ceremony. This Thursday, April 15th @ 5-6:45pm.

5. GSA Officers/Reps. Duties  
   a) Update in GSA Drive: please take time to read the descriptions and add details that may be useful (for example: projects, initiatives, and points of contact).

B. Vice President, Tomos Evans

1. Election updates - consider which roles you would like to run for, check the link below and indicate your interest in serving next year.
2. At the final meeting in May we will pass on the baton.
3. Bug your friends about joining!

**C. Treasurer, Justin Cammarota**
1. GSA has a pot of “discretionary” funds which we need to allocate before
the end of the semester. Suggestions:
   a) Donating to the GSAB research fund
   b) Providing summer research resources (like, Grad Writing Center)
   c) Improving the Grad lounge
2. Will ask Chasity/Sarah about what our options are, Justin will update the
   Slack.

**D. Secretary, Taylor Triplett (No Report)**

**E. Parliamentarian, Zeke Wertz (No Report)**

**F. SA Rep, Chardé Reid**
1. A Bill passed last session, allowing the president of Grad Council to meet
   with President Rowe in the future.
2. Happy to discuss the SA position with anyone who would like to run.

**G. Social Chair, Phillip Emmanuel**
1. Let’s do Trivia this weekend!
2. Consider whether we need to reserve in person space next year for one
time events

**H. GSAB Rep, Alexandra Macdonald and Felipe Ortega Gama**
1. Had meeting with GSAB last month:
   a) the OGSR is predicting that there will be a rush for funding next
      year. The Dean will be holding/reserving monies to help fill gaps
      for the next fiscal year.
   b) Several new endowments will be available
   c) GSAB: Writing a letter supporting University sponsored health
      insurance for graduate students and advocating for improvements
      with the Counseling center. Also, encouraging participation in the
      mentorship program
   d) Creating panels with the GSAB to supplement the Reps so we can
      have more graduate student involvement.
   e) Interested in rebooting Graduate student social events. If you have
      ideas, submit proposals and we can make them realities.

**I. Journal Club, Justin Cammarota**
1. Talk this week - please come!
2. Volunteer to run Journal Club next year or share the word - contact JC reps!
3. Remaining dates: April 22 and May 6

**J. Department Reps (No Comment)**

**IV. DEI Committee updates - Tomos, Phillip**

A. Mentoring Initiative Updates:
   1. kicked off mentoring last month with an orientation meeting, with a follow-up survey to mentees. It was a small group, but productive!
   2. Filling out promise cards in order to set expectations/goals for mentees/mentors
   3. Next year: maybe we can provide training in addition to orientations, as well as guest speakers. Seek out more mentors and mentees. Hannah is graduating, so we need to keep action going forward if others are interested in helping (with the mentorship program and the DEI committee generally).
   4. Perhaps instituting an official DEI Rep to liaise with departmental DEI programs.

B. The Arts and Sciences DEI Committee has disbanded due to conflicts; the election of a DEI Dean is in limbo and its questionable whether/when the committee will be reinstated.

**V. Open floor:**

A. Dean is unsure when we will be able to create more NTE contracts - claiming that it is dependent on enrollment issues.

B. Think about ways to create community within Departments, particularly for first years.

**VI. Meeting adjourned - 7:03.**