

GSA Meeting: Tuesday, March 29, 2016, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM Sadler Center York Room

The meeting was called to order by President Menuka Ban at 6:03 PM

The meeting began with introductions from all in attendance, 18 people were present representing 9 of 10 departments, 4 of 6 executive officer, and two students expressing interest in running for an executive position.

The meeting started with an update on the spring election. The nomination form closes Wednesday at midnight. President Menuka Ban encouraged members to apply and to recruit other from their department to apply.

Menuka reminded everyone that the next meeting will be mandatory for both incoming and outgoing members. The meeting will be Tuesday, April 26, 2016, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Washington Hall 307. Menuka also requested that officers meet one on one with incoming officers before the final meeting.

Menuka requested that all department representatives email her the name of the new department representatives before school ends to make it easier to contact them in the fall.

The GSA discussed reducing the number of SA senators from 2 to 1 over concerns that the secondary representative may be superfluous. It was decided that, since we have a very engaged senator now, it is not necessary to have two. It was decided not to change the constitution and to pass that on to next year's council.

We then received a final update on the GRS from Andrew Kottick. He requested we send him suggestions for how to improve the GRS next year (akottick@email.wm.edu). The GSA was acknowledged for their contribution in the GRS booklet, however the council wanted to make sure that carries on to next year. Andrew and Menuka said they would look into it and email the Dean if necessary.

Lauren Liegey and Mallory Moran then updated the GSA on the latest GSAB meeting. Mallory and Lauren were confirmed as temporary representatives for the GSA to the GSAB in early March. Lauren and Mallory confirmed that alum on the GSAB are interested in engaging with graduate students and reported on several subcommittee meetings that impact A&S graduate students.

The Engagement Subcommittee is interested in having a presence at the end of semester volleyball cookout to collect donations for One Tribe One Day. Andrew Kottick noted that the GSA does not have money from Advancement to host the volleyball cookout this year, however he will contact advancement to try to get the funds.

The Communication and Advocacy subcommittee is looking to improve the number of donations to GRS and would also like acknowledgement for help with GRS.

There is a new travel fund that humanities doctoral candidates can now request for travel assistance to professional conferences.

Lauren and Mallory noted that the GSAB is interested in making the application process completely online and do an exit survey of graduating students to show how prepared students are.

There are efforts to develop an intellectual property initiative in conjunction with the GRS to help graduate students take advantage of William and Mary's intellectual property policies. This may include having the business school review GRS applications for intellectual property worth.

The GSAB is interested in knowing how the graduate library room is working and what people think of the space. They will be using swipe card data to gauge interest.

Lauren and Mallory noted that the GSAB is interested in assisting the GSA in creating a three minute thesis competition possibly in conjunction with journal club. They offered coaching, travel funding to competitions and other assistance. The GSA decided to table this discussion and talk to the new committee about this.

Student Assembly representative Mitchell Croom notified the GSA that the SA budget did go through and most organizations got the money they wanted. If you have any issues with the budget, contact Mitch (macroom@email.wm.edu).

Andrew Kottick then gave an update on journal club. It has been going well and the VIMS hosted event will be 4/7.

Lauren Liegey gave an update on the Professors Round Table. It was moved to a later date and will now be held on April 21st from 7-9 in the Cohen Career center. We will be discussing the Syrian refugee crisis. We have one professor committed and are in the process of contacting more professors. Anyone who knows a professor interested this topic, contact Lauren (lliegey@email.wm.edu)

Peter Quinn-Jacobs gave a brief update on Grad Bash. There is no final date set however it will be at the end of the month and we will receive more information about it soon.

President Menuka Ban closed the meeting at 7:04.