

Graduate Student Association Meeting Agenda

Date: April 28, 2020

Time: 5:15 - 6:15 p.m.

Location: Zoom

Presiding Officer: Nick Beluzzo (president)

I. Welcome & Introductions

A. Began meeting at 5:20 pm

B. 19 people present

1. Officers: Parliamentarian (Ryan) present only for open floor; all others present
2. Department representatives:
 - a) Applied Science & Chemistry reps absent
 - b) All other reps present
 - c) Guests: several nominees for 2020-21 academic year

II. Officer Reports

1. President (Nick)

2. Vice President (Richard)

a) GSA 2020-21 Elections (All votes passed)

- (1) President - Holly Grunter (History)
- (2) Vice President - Tomos Evans (Anthropology)
- (3) Treasurer - Justin Cammarota (Physics)
- (4) Senate Representative - Charde Reid (Anthropology)
- (5) **Social Chair - OPEN**
- (6) Parliamentarian - Zeke Wertz (Physics)
- (7) Secretary - Taylor Triplett (Anthropology)
- (8) GSAB Reps - For Humanities - Alexandra MacDonald (History); **For Sciences - OPEN**
- (9) Department Representatives (no vote required) -
- (10) Jasper (History)
- (11) Anthro will know soon
- (12) Jamie Bieron (CS)
- (13) Meagan Thompson is temporary rep, may change
- (14) Colin - temp rep (physics)
- (15) Peter Varga & Annabelle Bass (will rotate)
- (16) Public Policy may not continue as a department, so no rep - department must contact us to reinstate

3. Treasurer (Casey)

- a) Funds transfer from 2019-20 to 2020-21 year still has not been fully processed, but Chasity is still trying
- b) GSAB has not decided on what is happening with Journal Club funding

- c) School organisations are warned to prepare for decreased budgets for the 2020-21 school year
- 4. Senate Representative (Holly)
 - a) Senate is finalizing positions for 2020-21 academic year
 - (1) Anthony Joseph (AJ) is new president of senate & seems dedicated to including & advocating for graduate students
- 5. Social Chair (Tomos)
 - a) Suggests that (like this year) other members of GSA collaborate on social events in coming year since this helped
- 6. Parliamentarian (Ryan) - absent
- 7. Secretary (Jessica)
 - a) Please submit documents of position responsibilities so they can be shared with new officers and representatives
 - b) Once department reps
- B. GSAB Report (Casey & Tomos)
 - 1. GSAB wants to write up what they have been working on, but have no new reports since GSAB funding, etc. is not yet decided on
- C. Old Business
- D. New Business
 - 1. Funding for graduate life is uncertain lately
 - a) Many departments are struggling to fund new & returning students for the upcoming year
 - (1) Not all departments have contractual confirmation of summer and/or 2020-21 funding, but the school did state that most *summer research funding* for graduate students is guaranteed
 - (2) This potential lack of funding could heavily impact the graduate population (especially incoming students)
 - b) Dean's Office recently tried to process some graduate student funding payments & it was marked as non-essential -- the A&S administration fought this and it has been fixed; payments will arrive to affected students soon, but this may be a future returning issue
 - c) What to do with the OGSR/GSA research and conference grants that were cancelled?
 - (1) These are currently listed as non-essential and may not be available
 - d) There is funding available for students who may have financial struggles. It's called the HEART Fund. Grad students can request money through it by emailing Student Affairs at studentaffairs@wm.edu.
 - 2. Town Hall tonight (4/28) at 6:30pm may address some of these issues, but is not an open forum

- a) <https://www.wm.edu/about/administration/senioradmin/studentaffairs/students/gradtownhall/>

E. Open Floor

- 1. Student Assembly recently successfully moved a bill to endorse the W&M Workers' Union

- a) Motion proposed by History Rep (Jasper; seconded by Holly) to have GSA also endorse (non-monetary support of items on the platform) the Union and its efforts to secure the platform of:
 - (1) Minimum wage of \$15/hr for all hourly employees
 - (2) Minimum of \$28,000/yr for all salaried and stipended workers (including graduate workers)
 - (3) All workers have accessibility rights to all of campus
 - (4) Affordable & accessible parking on campus
 - (5) University-subsidized vision, dental, and healthcare for all full-time and graduate workers, call to involve the union in decisions
- b) Motion unanimously passed

- III. Meeting adjourned at 6:34pm