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
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