

GSA Meeting: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 @ 6:00pm-7:00pm, Sadler Center York Room

The meeting was called to order by President Menuka Ban at 6:00pm. Attendance was taken and 17 of 19 positions were present and quorum was met.

Menuka began the meeting by proposing necessary changes to last month's minutes. All changes can be seen at the link below and were approved by acclamation

<http://wmpeople.wm.edu/site/page/gsa/meetingminutes>

SA representative Mitchell Croom updated the GSA on the progress of amending the SA constitution. He did not have recommendations for changes to Title 2, which deals with the Senate and Grad Council. Mitchell asked that anyone with questions or suggestions talk to him. Mitchell then gave an update regarding the SA budget. It will be coming down soon and if a department is unhappy with the funding they have received to talk to Mitchell and begin the appeals process. [SA constitution](#)

Menuka reminded members of the date, time, and location of the remaining meetings.

- Tuesday, March 29, 2016, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Sadler Center York Room
- Tuesday, April 26, 2016, 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Washington Hall 307

Elizabeth Scholz, GRS Volunteer Coordinator, attended the meeting and asked for every GSA member to sign up for two spots to proctor GRS presentations. If you have questions about the times you signed up, email eascholz@email.wm.edu. Menuka then noted that the GSA has not been recognized as one of the GRS sponsors despite the fact that the GSA funds the GRS.

Andrew Kottick, another member of the GRS organizing team, and Elizabeth Scholz agreed that they would bring this up to Chasity at their next meeting.

Jeremy Abramowitz gave an update on the Graduate Student Research Grants. They have been completed for the Spring. Menuka asked Jeremy to send her the awardees names so they could be published on the GSA website.

Katie Baugh and Menuka Ban discussed the spring elections. Menuka asked members to encourage students from their departments to apply. We discussed the possibility of holding GSAB elections at the same time as the regular spring elections, but decided to hold the spring election independent of GSAB elections, if needed. Menuka asked Sean and Andrew to make spring election announcements at Journal Club that positions will be open soon for GSA executive positions including President and Vice President.

Sean Koebley and Andrew Kottick gave an update on the Journal Club. So far there have been 4 meetings with an average of 38 attendees. We have also received additional funding and no longer have open spots available to present.

Lauren Liegey gave an update on the Professors Round Table. We expect topics to come before the GSA soon so that we can begin asking professors for assistance.

Sean Koebley informed the GSA that Grad Bash and Night at the Muscarelle (March 19th) are being planned for this year. He asked that anyone with TIPS training sign up for a time to volunteer.

Menuka Ban then moved the GSA into voting procedure. At this time, Mitchell Croom and Mark Mulligan were not present. There were 15 members present and quorum was still achieved

The GSA accepted the resignations of GSAB representative Nabeel Siddiqui and SA Senator Skip McClinton by acclamation. We decided that we will consider both vacancies emergency vacancies and will vote to appoint new representatives. Menuka Ban noted that, according to the Constitution, we are allowed to fill an emergency vacancy with a two thirds majority vote from the GSA. She noted that this may have to be done online instead of in person before the next GSA meeting.

Menuka Ban asked all Applied Sciences students to recuse themselves from the meeting.

At 6:53 Amy Shafqat was not present to present to the GSA. Menuka explained that we had given her the opportunity, after the approval last meeting of a resolution to ask the GSAB to allow the GSA to hold early elections for GSAB representatives, to present why she believes she can continue on as GSAB representative. At 6:58, the GSA voted unanimously not to wait for Amy Shafqat and to continue with our discussion on the matter.

Vice President Katie Baugh then led a discussion about replacing the GSAB representatives. The GSA decided that because of a lack of attendance at GSA meetings, we would forward our previous resolution to the GSAB and ask that we hold elections to replace both representatives. The vote to forward our resolution to the GSAB began with department representatives in alphabetic order of department and is as follows:

President	Menuka Ban	YES
Vice President	Katie Baugh	YES
Parliamentarian	Peter Quinn-Jacobs	YES
Treasurer	Andrew Kottick	RECUSE
Secretary	Wanji Zhang	YES
Social Chair/Grad Council Rep	Sean Koebley	RECUSE
Computer Sciences	William Hollingsworth	YES
American studies	Jennifer Ross, Khahn Vo	YES
Anthropology	Mallory Moran	YES
Applied Science	Adrienna Bingham	RECUSE
Biology	Matt Femia	YES

Chemistry	Nick Udell	YES
Public Policy	Jeremy Abramowitz	YES
History	Mark Mulligan	NOT PRESENT
Physics	Lauren Liegey	YES
Psychology	Morgan Thompson, Thomas McCauley	ABSTAIN
GSAB Representative (Sciences)	Amy Shafqat	NOT PRESENT
GSAB Representative (Arts)	Nabeel Siddiqui	NOT PRESENT
Senator	Scott "Skip" McClinton	NOT PRESENT
Senator	Mitchell Croom	NOT PRESENT

Students from Applied Science were then allowed back in the room and were informed that we would be forwarding our previous resolution to the GSAB. We discussed logistics of finding replacements for the March meeting, and decided that both GSAB representative positions would be considered emergency vacancies whereby allowing the President to appoint new representatives with the GSA's consent ($\frac{2}{3}$ vote).

The President ended the meeting at 7:08 with reminders to sign up to volunteer at the GRS.