GSA Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, Apr 6, 2022
Location - Zoom
Presiding Officer: Tomos Evans (President)

I. Welcome & Introductions
   A. Began at: 6:02 pm
   B. Attendance:
      1. Officers: Tomos, Justin, Zeke, Leah, Caroline, Marie, Felipe, Morgan, Jen
      2. Reps: Annabelle, Heather, Molly, Spenser, Elizabeth, Elliot, Madison, Kevin, Moira
      3. Public: Anshu

II. Officer Reports
   A. President (Tomos)
      1. COGS meeting canceled, so no updates
      2. All conference travel funds completed and informed
      3. Grad bash a big success
      4. Fish Fry coming up April 30th at VIMS
      5. A&S socials: Election promoting event (recruit new people by having officers around), week of April 18th
         a) One more every week until end of semester afterwards
   B. Vice President (Marie)
      1. Elections: please find people to nominate for roles
         a) Deadline for nominations April 22th, elections the next week, new officers can then attend May 4th meeting
         b) Reps please try and keep spreading the word
      2. Dean of research and graduate studies hiring committee: met twice since last meeting (grad rep has limited participation, can’t vote or participate in formal discussion of strengths and weaknesses of candidates)
         a) Helped form questions to make sure about graduate students are treated as people not a concept under graduate studies
   C. Treasurer (Jen)
      1. GSA has to spend all funds by last day of classes (May 6th), same for department reps
      2. Plan to have food at May 4th GSA meeting
   D. Senate Representative (Leah, Morgan)
      1. Morgan doing awesome in role
      2. Ramadan meal situation: W&M fails to provide halal meals to students breaking fast during Ramadan
         a) SA provided funds to help support Muslim student association
      3. Academic town hall immediately after GSA meeting on academic stress
         a) No idea if it will be a “real” town hall or mostly softballs
b) Impression was “open mike” style, but to a panel, President Rowe only in attendance  
c) Will be recorded  
4. SA receives $66297 from all graduate fees, $7399 from A&S fees, and can use extra money if we use all of our money  
5. Trying to make sure SA funds are distributed equitably in the future  
   a) Finance committee difficult to get on, but Morgan has gotten a role  

E. Social Chair (Cam)  
F. Parliamentarian (Zeke)  
   1. Amendments  
      a) Planning for motion to approve amendment next meeting  
      b) Cleaning up  
         (1) Ability to have multiple SA reps  
         (2) Clarification about funding  
         (3) Clarification about Good Standing definition  
         (4) Journal Club representation to GSA  
      c) Found in Institutional Documents  

G. Secretary (Justin)  
   1. May 4th meeting, hybrid, in-person section is Washington 201  
   2. Website  
      a) Please try and look at it and provide feedback so it can be approved at the May meeting  

H. GSAB (Felipe, Ali)  
   1. March GSAB meeting  
      a) GSAB mentoring program, paired with professional, can apply over the summer  
      b) Sarah Glosson got money for Beyond the Professoriate platform access (like Aurora but for master’s students)  
      c) Concerns about health insurance access: Health Center closed often during the summer but graduate students often here  
         (1) Virginia will talk to Health and Wellness about it  
      d) 100% of insurance covered for next year, but not in the future (only 75% in future)  
      e) Depending on Board of Visitors meeting: salary increase to match UVA (final numbers not known yet, but will be some kind of increase)  
      f) Next year funds will be available to bring back Graduate Research Symposium and Three Minute Thesis  
         (1) Will need students to help organize  
            (a) Get paid for helping?  
         (2) Will be a call of volunteers next year  
      g) $5000 approved for Journal Club next year
SA doesn’t like spending money on food, but if we focus our money on food, we can ask them to cover other parts

I. Journal Club (Caroline, Tim)
   1. Welcome to get feedback
   2. Unsure if they will continue, so reach out if interested
   3. Send any more GSA money to JC to help?
      a) Start buying the cups and such for next year
      b) T-Shirts for presenters?
      c) JC gifts to incoming graduate students?

J. Department Reps

III. Grad Council Updates
    A. Revive ViMS JC sessions (1 per semester at ViMS)
    B. Looking for people to fill officer positions

IV. Dean’s Advisory Board Updates

V. DEI Updates

VI. New Business

VII. Open Floor
    A. Law students (research students) have experience paying out of pocket for insurance and such so open to coordinating with other schools
    B. Union is also trying to get info and help advocate for these issues

VIII. Meeting adjourned at: 6:50 pm