GSA Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, May 4, 2022
Location - Zoom, Washington Hall 201
Presiding Officer: Marie Pellissier, VP

I. Welcome & Introductions
   A. Meeting began at: 6:00pm
   B. Attendance:
      1. Officers: Marie, Justin, Cam, Tim, Jen, Zeke, Caroline, Morgan, Leah, Felipe
      2. Reps: Heather, Spenser, Elliot, Madison, Elizabeth, Molly, Moira
      3. Public: 6

II. Officer Reports
   A. President (Tomos)
   B. Vice President (Marie)
      1. New dean of research and graduate students search has completed
         a) 3 internal candidates, fair consensus among committee members
   C. Treasurer (Jen)
      1. Last to spend funds is Friday, May 6th
   D. Senate Representative (Leah, Morgan)
      1. First organization and funding committee cycle (quarterly basis)
      2. Looking at how Grad Students get access to SA funds
         a) Conference fund for example
      3. Divesting from fossil fuels?
         a) Pres. Rowe in favor, however endowment and BOV issues
   E. Social Chair (Cam)
      1. Last social on Friday, May 6th organized by Felipe and Jen
      2. Please spread the word within the departments
   F. Parliamentarian (Zeke)
      1. Amendments
         a) Summary: Updated election process (removed Honor Council reference), language to allow multiple SA reps, allow JC co-exec a spot on General Council if not already there
         b) Align SA rep elections with SA general elections
            (1) In the past: difficulty finding reps, onboarded in the summer
            (2) Ideal: find someone to start the term
            (3) Future amendment to improve
         c) Motion passed with unanimous consent
   G. Secretary (Justin)
      1. Website
         a) Motion to publish passed with unanimous consent
   H. GSAB (Felipe, Ali)
I. Journal Club (Caroline, Tim)
   1. Final meeting tomorrow
   2. Tim and Caroline planning on continuing, schedule and improve volunteer organization
   3. Appreciate GSA support for JC and help making everything happen
   4. GSA appreciates JC coming back after pandemic

J. Department Reps
   1. Comp Sci COLA survey (Heather)
      a) Ran a similar survey in computer science department
      b) Majority having struggle paying bills, some with food insecurity, general dissatisfaction with stipend
      c) Sharing with department chair, curious if any one else wants the data/information
      d) Deans generally support raising stipend but have not given any hard numbers yet
      e) Living wage is not $39k according to MIT Living Wage Calculator
      f) Research students on outside funding supposed to get regular COLA, however OGSR teaching stipend can’t match so departments generally avoid disparity
      g) Compiling data, take it to SA to get undergraduate support, resolution from SA, talk to BOV, try to tie our raises to F&S raises
         1) Undergraduate workers rely on wage labor to pay for schooling, they could benefit from this information
         2) However limited to student body
         3) Union can connect staff, graduate students, undergraduates, etc (all campus workers), working to coordinate these surveys across campus
            a) Hopefully not duplicating work
            b) Reach out to zarahquinn@gmail.com (use non-W&M email address) for blank form
      h) History ran the survey, put together info, presented to department; all the departments combined to show for all grad students
      i) Share this info with the new deans, reflect struggles and help them set priorities
      j) Include note on survey about possible uses (shared across campus)
      k) Put data files in GSA shared drive, hopefully gather over the summer
      l) Provide data to GSAB as well

III. Grad Council Updates
   A. Grad bell ring last friday
1. If graduating and want glass, let (agsharma@wm.edu)

B. Evan Flynn as Grad Council president
C. Working on advocacy next year
D. Committees being formed for planning next year
E. If ideas for Grad bash next year, inform them

IV. Dean’s Advisory Board Updates

A. Once a semester town hall?
   1. Don’t want to do it if no one comes, but will hold one if people actually want it
   2. More open to more graduate directors and administrators (previously have attended, but not directly invited)

B. Still waiting on budget for COLA
C. Following up with Student Health concerns, especially making things accessible when undergrads aren’t on campus
   1. Doing market research to compare with other universities and health care packages

D. Trying to talk to parking people, slowly working up chain
   1. Talk to SA? Graduate student parking decrease means undergraduate parking increase
      a) Most likely a compromise: grad student instructors getting faculty parking prices
      b) Parking committee exists somewhere, has undergrads but no graduate students
      c) Difficulty using app when bringing visitors
   2. Follow up meeting once more next week

V. DEI Updates

VI. New Business

A. New Officer Inauguration
   1. President: Justin Cammarota
   2. Vice President: Tim Case
   3. Secretary: Open -> Still searching for interested nominees, contact Justin if interested
   4. SA Rep: Morgan Brittain
   5. Parliamentarian: Mica Miralles Bianconi
   6. Treasurer: Zeke Wertz
   7. Social Chair: Kai Werner
   8. GSAB reps: Marie Pellissier and Felipe Ortega Gama

B. Old officers, please update documents in drive with outline of duties for new officers

C. Old reps, please contact Justin (jcammarota@wm.edu) if you are staying on as department rep or find a new rep from the department and contact Justin with their information
D. Hope to have an organizational meeting end of July/beginning of August

VII. Open Floor

VIII. Meeting adjourned at: 6:55 pm