



MINUTES

General Assembly Meeting

Thursday, September 1, 2022

4:00-5:00 pm

Room: SOEB 120

Watch the recording [here](#)

Agenda Overview and Attendance

Welcome Message from our President

- Goals and visions: continue building gsa community, support grad students; highlight and empower grad students; be a voice for grad students

Introductions from the Executive Board

- Alexander, Pres
- Amanda, VP
- Krista, Treasurer
- Ashley Loper-Nowak, Student Relations
- Dr. Adrienne Craig, Faculty Advisory

Guest Speaker: Dr. Greg Bell, Interim Dean of the Graduate School

- Former Faculty advisor of GSA
- Professor of Math and currently the interim dean of the graduate school
- Grad students are the voice; want to hear from grad students about the barriers and how to help you setup for your success
- Goals for the GSA: speak with Alexander who is on the graduate council; use Alexander as a liaison between the faculty and grad students; facilitate communication between his office and grad students; there are often barriers because grad students aren't always aware of what's possible
 - Graduate student bill of rights; helps set everyone's expectations and makes people aware of what is possible
 - Volunteer for the bill of rights; just an idea at this stage; GSA can take it on
- Minerva mailbox is no more; need to redesign because it was not being used as originally intended
- GSAW: week long event in the spring

Vote on Constitutional Revisions

- Membership removal needed in constitution to be approved
- Need lingo in the constitution about membership removal; vote to approve by senate

- Removal would not be permanent; for permanent removal it would be played by ear
- No objection

Budget

- This year there is approximately \$74,000
- Office salaries: 20%
- Programming: 3%
- Leadership travel: 2%
- PDF/RCF: 75%
- This current budget will only give programming about \$1000 which is not a lot for programming
 - The programming for Halloween was about \$4800 last year
- There will be two funding windows for the fall; one in October and one in November; each open for a week
- \$300 for RCF and \$500 for PDF
- Online grad students are not eligible for these funds as they do not pay for the same student fees as in-person students
- GSA still represents and can advocate for online students
- Will be updating website with forms and InfoReady

Review Committees and Committee Sign-Up

- Programming: help with organizing and running events
 - Any annual/yearly event grad students wish to continue
 - Halloween for the fall
- Financing: Help with funding applications
- Student Engagement: advocating; policy questions
- Ask senators to sign-up for committees; need help to advocate on your behalf
- Student Government Association (SGA) is the organization that focuses more on policy building
- Graduate council meetings are not open meetings; will double check
- Faculty senate meetings are open and their meetings are listed on the website
- There will be brief updates with committee meetings at the general assembly meetings; but not thoroughly discussed

Senator Responsibilities

- Need to attend meetings; otherwise will not be eligible for funding
- Ready the constitution
- Advertise, participate, inform

Guest Speaker: Naglaa Rashwan, Former GSA President

- PhD student and full time staff
- Moving to Center of Youth, Family, and Community Partnerships
 - Working on a pilot program for mental health
- Why GSA? Funding, community, connecting, networking; connections will open doors for you; Naglaa came to GSA for empowerment; GSA allowed for that, but she brought her voice and initiative
- Make your experience with GSA impactful; make it your own
- Student voices are powerful

Meeting Adjourned