

GSSA Assembly Meeting
[2020-10-8] --- [Zoom Conference Call]

- I. Call to Order **6:01pm**
- II. Approval of Minutes **approved as read**
- III. Guest Speakers:
 - A. Briana Mohan (OGPS Senior Academic and Career Adviser) **career support does exist for everyone that OGPS covers. Canvas courses now. One for just OGPS, one for Career support, one for Academic support.**
 - B. Lauren Lukkarila (OGPS Academic Development and Resource Specialist) **there's a calendar on Canvas that you can sign up for one on ones, workshops, and discussions. October 14 at 4pm principles of academic writing. Master's students feel isolated because they aren't here as long. October 20th group discussion for just Master's students. Please tell your master's students so they can share their experience. Workshops together as well (3) - diversity statement, research statement, teaching statement. Pre-register please! Please let Lauren know what times work for workshops. Two emails about the same event.**
- IV. Officer Reports
 - A. President - Ron Koshita (rkoshita@tulane.edu)
 1. Reminders:
 - a) Office Hours: Wednesdays at 10 am - 12 pm **not limited but there is time for y'all during the week. Feel free to voice comments, questions and concerns**
 - b) Joining Committees:
 - c) https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1PdF_vGlwB6a2btq0RUHOp19MmSgz1nJasCsMOP67Dgc/edit?usp=sharing **you have to join one. Do it.**
 - d) SLA/SSE Rep Positions Available **please let your constituents know as well. To help tighten lines of communication between eboard and schools**
 2. General updates from Jennifer
 - a) **RSO hazing recently. So if you are a part of an RSO please make sure that's not happening**
 - b) **Fewer cases of covid for grads than undergrads. Good job y'all**
 - c) Public Beta Testing for New Library Website: **please give them feedback** <https://newlibrary.tulane.edu/>
 - d) Opportunities for Current Grad Students and Postdoctoral Fellows: **Can check this page for awards and prizes** <https://ogps.tulane.edu/content/opportunities-current-graduate-students-and-postdoctoral-fellows>

- e) Public Commenting on DHS Proposed Ruling on International Student Visas: **DHS wants to restrict visas for international students that limits their duration of status to a maximum for 4 years. So this would impede a lot of PhD students into their research. Please go comment on the ruling and let your constituents know. OISS has a package that you can use to make comments.**

(1) More information: <https://global.tulane.edu/advocacy-toolkit-proposed-dhs-rule-eliminating-ds-support-international-students>

B. Vice President - Sophie Delsaux (sdelsaux@tulane.edu)

1. Vote on international student rep approval: **Clément Dubuisson 1st year student in french. Has been in the US for a few years now so he has experience with visas. He's excited to act as a middleman to help international students with various issues. Motion to vote on Clement for the position. Second. Approved.**
2. Event committee will meet as soon as the treasurer is elected **October 20th for care packages**
3. Three Minute Thesis competition: deadline this Friday, the 9th

C. Treasurer - Paolo Suating (psuating@tulane.edu) **decided during the eboard meeting that it would be presented to the assembly that he would take over the position temporarily. He's already been treasurer once so this is his second go around of this.**

1. Vote on treasurer approval **Motion said position. Seconded. Approved.**
2. State of the budget **the forms for events will be opened up. Travel requests are still open until October 15. Applications for the spring need to be in by December 15th. Requirements for reimbursement is approval from the university. GSSA approval is not university approval. Funds can also go to virtual conference fees.**

D. Secretary - Amanda Reusch (areusch@tulane.edu)

1. Wavesync **I have added you all to wavesync. You should see the invitation when you log on to wavesync. If you need extra permissions, please let me know.**
2. Update from Mike Cunningham **Mike passed along our concerns from last meeting about teaching and Covid. Overall, please only talk to the Case Manager when dealing with students who are isolating or quarantining. You can be tested if you came in contact with someone who tested positive. See this reporting form:**
https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?TulaneUniv&layout_id=17 **They are also working on opening up to testing options for people who want to be tested more frequently (See GAPSA information below).**

Check out CELT for help with engaging with students online if you're struggling with instruction. Finally, all faculty members are required to have office hours during this time. Graduate TAs and instructors should only be working 20 hrs a week. If at any point either of these is not happening, please contact your department director of graduate studies.

V. **New Business**

A. **GAPSA Senator Report report was also sent via email**

- 1. GDC is starting back up again. International student support is a main concern. There is a BIPOC group for graduated students. If any diversity, equity and inclusion work is going on in your department, we want to know; email Kamiya. kstewart1@tulane.edu**
- 2. Student fees - activity and rec center fee. Arianne has compiled a list of information. Look at the info and support. If you want to take the lead and take next steps to begin doing an opt in or out option. Contact Ron if interested. Next steps would be we as GSSA need to figure out what we want to fight for as an entity. This year, in the future, which fees etc. We can set up a committee for this. Ron is meeting with Dr. Osteen to get more details about what this process looks like.**
- 3. Campus Health/Covid testing - self-testing is reliable method. Repeat testing is available. There is a document about the covid testing. Follow up with the health center. If you need clarifications or have questions, contact Ron about it**
- 4. DHS ruling. SUPPORT YOUR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS. CALL YOUR REPRESENTATIVES. PUT IN YOUR COMMENT.**

B. **Grad Council Report**

C. **SLA Graduate Studies Committee Report**

- 1. approved syllabi for 2 courses.**
- 2. Representative from GSC will present communication concerns to the DGS meeting.**
- 3. Not open to increasing stipend.**
- 4. Are open to changing TAs to instructors of record for course sections they teach. There can be a meeting with SLA about this. If interested in participating in meeting fill out this document: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1nuZZ2lejYXOCaJ_Lm3CXnEIGu3n7NRGxVRPA_5QX76M/edit?usp=sharing**

D. **ISAB Liaison Report Nirasha 3rd year PhD. ISAB international student advisor board. 12 members. 3 main committee employment committee. Weekly meetings about international student issues. New post created for GSSA to communicate ISAB goals and vice versa. Connections between our goals and how we can help international students. Information to be connected between the reps. Employment - how can we support**

employment outside the US? Inputs from students. Addressing the visa issues etc. Communication - mental health and health and safety. Health insurance - what is it doing for international students for now and new students. Campus support - how we can focus in terms of financial issues, visas, mental health and counseling. Clement will be working with Nirasha for what are the needs in SSE and SLA. COMMENT ON THE DHS RULING PLEASE

- E. Graduate Diversity Committee Report **one meeting. GAPSA's initiative for diversity representation. Looking to connect with TU Alianza and WiSE. Anika will reach out to WiSE and let Ron know what is going on with them.**

- VI. Old Business
 - A.

- VII. Announcements

- VIII. Adjournment **7:02pm**