

GSSA Assembly Meeting
[2021-2-18] --- [Zoom Conference Call]

- I. Call to Order **6:03 pm.**
- II. Approval of Minutes **Approved as read.**
- III. Officer Reports
 - A. President - Ron Koshita (rkoshita@tulane.edu)
 1. Clément's departure **Contact Ron (rkoshita@tulane.edu) if you are interested in filling the International Student Rep position. Claps for Clément for doing such a great job!**
 2. Voting for a new Secretary: Alyssa Walker **Three motions: 1) Consider the position, 2) approve Alyssa as interim Secretary, 3) approve Alyssa as both Secretary and Representative of Philosophy. All motioned. All seconded. All approved. Congratulations to Alyssa!**
 3. Update on Reily Center opt-out feature **GAPSA Assembly unanimously approved Ron's proposal, next steps will be to have meetings with administrators.**
 4. Still need volunteers for the Faculty Appreciation Award Committee!
 - a) Write in some letters of appreciation: 3-6 sentences on how this faculty member contributed
 - b) Potentially two, one each from SLA/SSE
 5. Election season is coming up!
 - a) April 8th is the penultimate meeting of the semester.
 - b) Please contact us if you are interested in replacing us.
 - B. Vice President - Sophie Delsaux (sdelsaux@tulane.edu) **No words of wisdom.**
 - C. Treasurer - Paolo Suating (psuating@tulane.edu)
 1. Final spring travel approvals forthcoming **Closed as of three days ago. Will be sending out approval emails before the week is out. Everyone will be funded in full. Please let constituents know to wait for the emails. We rely on the information on the emails heavily, please do not have the email addresses incorrect.**
 2. Summer travel deadline — April 15 **After the penultimate meeting. May want to push the deadline for another two weeks.**
 - D. Secretary - . . . **Alyssa will be here next time!**
 - E. SLA Rep - Alejandra Castillo (mcastil4@tulane.edu)
 1. TA/GSI: Department Reps can create committees inside their own departments to bring up the issue of payment distinctions, if necessary.

Not many responses from department reps on getting testimonies/evidence. Cannot schedule a meeting with the Deans until we have more evidence. Please reach out to TAs/GSIs of your own department to get feedback. Will be sending out a document to forward to your constituents next week.

IV. New Business

- A. GAPSA Senator Report **Please refer to Kamiya's document from January 26th.**
- B. Graduate Council Report **Making sure graduate students take advantage of the Lagniappe Days that the administration is giving us and just to relax. Talking about how OGPS functions, which can be found on the Canvas website.**
- C. SLA Graduate Studies Committee Report **Committee plans to exempt CELT pedagogy courses which are only an hour from limits on credit hours; pushing departments to expand credit hour limits to include more interdisciplinary efforts; Committee has decided to monitor the situation of using the Duolingo language test as a replacement for the TOEFL, will come back to it in the future; not changing the language composition of MA Thesis committees and leaving it up to the departments to decide who can serve on thesis committees.**
- D. OISS Liaison Report **Sending a letter to the Tulane administration regarding OPT fee and comparisons with peer institutions. Discussion with Lauren Lukkarila about having graduate student support workshops and financial issues of graduate students. Contacting alumni about job opportunities for international students. OGPS links are not working, so Lauren will speak with the staff about fixing them.**

V. Old Business **None.**

VI. Announcements

Next meeting will be in two weeks! Mostly because the date of the elections will just be about elections. Expect this to be pushed back to mid-March.

VII. Adjournment **6:30 pm.**