

GSSA Assembly Meeting [Elections]
[2021-4-1] --- [Zoom Conference Call]

- I. Call to Order **6:04**
- II. Approval of Minutes **approved**
- III. Officer Reports
 - A. President - Ron Koshita (rkoshita@tulane.edu)
 1. Awards Committee Updates
 - a) **Victor and I met!**
 - b) **Selections made!**
 - (1) **Waiting to hear back from Jennifer for how to send out the letters**
 2. **Enjoying my emails? :)**
 - B. Vice President - Sophie Delsaux (sdelsaux@tulane.edu)
 1. Still working on the crawfish event
 - a) **Reminder: Friday, April 16th @5:30, not yet confirmed**
 - b) **Email if and when approved**
 - c) **Question: +1 available as in previous years?**
 - (1) **Answer: No, unfortunately**
 - C. Treasurer - Paolo Suating (psuating@tulane.edu)
 1. Summer travel award deadline: 15 April 2021 at 5 PM
 - a) **Deadline coming! Remember to remind your constituents**
 - b) **Question: approval and reimbursement timing?**
 - (1) **Answer:**
 - (a) **Approval ~5 days**
 - (b) **Reimbursement**
 - (i) **Precovid ~2 weeks after you turn in your packet, which must be turned in within 14 days end of the conference date**
 - D. Secretary - Alyssa Walker (awalker11@tulane.edu)
 1. A bit behind on website updates
 2. **& news on incoming SLA graduate students receiving stipend raise**
 - a) **Confirmed by Victor**
 - b) **Happened last year to French department**
 - c) **b/c they want to appear more competitive**
 - d) **Officially in sla stipends end at 4 years, but it will be changed to 5 now**
 - e) **Also changes to dissertation completion fellowship**

- f) **Recommendation for action: talk to your departments, talk to your constituents; do we want to petition or raise concerns about this? Let's talk about it at our next GSSA meeting on April 29th @ 6 pm.**

E. SLA Rep - Alejandra Castillo (mcastil4@tulane.edu)

- 1. Reminder to answer email about upcoming meeting for TA/GSI committee

- a) **Email availability so we can meet! This applies to those departments whose constituents responded to the TA/GSI information form**

IV. New Business

A. GAPSA Senator Report

GAPSA Senator Report

The GAPSA Senator Report for Tuesday, March 23, 2021 is as follows:

Title IX – Guests Meredith Smith and Julia Broussard during GAPSA Meeting April 23, 9-11am - Coalition Meeting; graduate students welcome to come for any amount of time of this meeting; Spring 2022 – next climate survey will be released; contact Julia Broussard - jbrouss@tulane.edu for more information.

Suhoor Dining Initiative

Ramadan will take place during the academic year (April 12 to May 11 this year) and we have been working with partners on campus to discuss solutions for individuals who will be fasting during this time. We believe that we have the ability to provide access to food, a basic need, to all students as it directly connects to one's ability to thrive academically, socially, and culturally. GAPSA has met with the Tulane Muslim Student Association (MSA), the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA), and USG to discuss with Sodexo on potential options.

Action Item: If you or a member of your constituency would like to be a part of the conversation with Sodexo to ensure that the options available meet the needs of students observing Ramadan, please email me at gapsapres@tulane.edu. As we want to have options available and planned out ahead of April 11, the meetings for this initiative will be held within the next three weeks.

If you want to know more information about when (and where) Suhoor Dining will be available for students, contact the Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA), Sienna Abdulahad at sabdulahad@tulane.edu.

GAPSA Elections

It is time for the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GAPSA) Executive Board elections for the 2021-2022 school year! GAPSA is the unifying body of the graduate and professional divisions of Tulane University. Details on each position below.

Nominations will be open through Friday 4/9. If you are interested in running please fill out this form:

<https://forms.gle/kHqNTKqZHmcC3zLx9>

1. ***President-*** The President shall be the primary representative of the graduate and professional student body. The President shall preside at GAPSA Assembly and Executive Council meetings. The President shall enforce the Constitution, laws, decrees, and bylaws of GAPSA.
2. ***Executive Vice President-*** The Executive Vice President shall coordinate the operation of the GAPSA Assembly. The Executive Vice President shall chair the Election & Recruitment Committee and coordinate the Executive Council Election and Assembly Election. The Executive Vice President is also in charge of programming for GAPSA.
3. ***Vice President, Finance-*** The Vice President, Finance shall oversee the budgets of GAPSA and authorize the payment of GAPSA expenditures as they come due. The Vice President, Finance shall chair the GAPSA Finance Committee, supervise the preparation of the annual GAPSA budget, and distribute funds to constituent division student governments.
4. ***Vice President, Communications-*** The Vice President, Communications shall prepare, distribute, and maintain information and files for GAPSA. The Vice President, Communications shall take minutes at all Executive Council and Assembly meetings. The Vice President, Communications shall maintain the GAPSA website.
5. ***Vice President, Uptown-*** The Uptown Vice President shall coordinate events and communications between GAPSA and the uptown campus. The Uptown Vice President shall ensure fair representation of the uptown students within GAPSA. The Uptown Vice President shall also serve as the co-chair of the Graduate Diversity Committee (GDC) which oversees the GAPSA-sponsored Interdivisional Graduate Diversity Organizations (IGDOs).
6. ***Vice President, Downtown-*** The Downtown Vice President shall coordinate events and communications between GAPSA and the downtown campus. The Downtown Vice President shall ensure fair representation of the downtown students within GAPSA. The Downtown Vice President shall also serve as the co-chair of the Graduate Diversity Committee (GDC) which oversees the GAPSA-sponsored Interdivisional Graduate Diversity Organizations (IGDOs)

Crawfest

Crawfest is Saturday, April 17th

Crawfish -1pm- 'til

Concert Live Streams- 1pm-6:30pm

Location: Dining Pavilion on the Uptown Campus across from the Commons.

Free crawfish and non-alcoholic drinks for all Tulane students, faculty, & staff. We have reserved a 4 - 5 tables (~20 seats) for grad student seating. <https://crawfest.tulane.edu/>

GAPSA Senator Changes

It's election time, so send updates about GAPSA Senators to gapsavpc@tulane.edu.

Question on the picking up meals ahead of time instead of at sunrise day of

- Kamiya said she will email multicultural affairs about this option

B. Graduate Council Report

Next meeting: within the next 2 weeks, so we'll hear from Michael then

C. SLA Graduate Studies Committee Report

Next meeting: April 12th. Email Sarah Scism if you have anything you want to bring up

D. OISS Liaison Report

No meeting held; no movement on additional fee for dissertation period for international students

E. Elections!

1. Treasurer:

- a. Nomination: Nirasha Thilakaratne
- b. No other nominations
- c. Election: yes! Elected to treasurer

2. VP

- a. Nominations ... none forthcoming; take a pause and come back to this later

3. President

- a. Nomination: ... had to go nuclear... Paolo Suating!
- b. Elected!

4. Back to VP

- a. Nomination: Anika Tabassum
- b. Nomination accepted; no others
- c. Elected!

5. International Student Rep - saving these for next e-board

6. SSE Rep - saving for next e-board

V. Old Business

VI. Announcements

VII. Adjournment

A. Motion, 2nded, 7:09 pm