

GSSA Assembly Meeting
[2021-4-29] --- [Zoom Conference Call]

- I. Call to Order **6:08 pm**
- II. Approval of Minutes **no objections, approved as read**
- III. Officer Reports
 - A. President - Paolo Suating (psuating@tulane.edu)
 1. First meeting run by the new E-Board.
 2. New email addresses for the E-Board members, active after this meeting:
 - a) President: president.gssa@tulane.edu
 - b) Vice President: vp.gssa@tulane.edu
 - c) Treasurer: treasurer.gssa@tulane.edu
 - d) Secretary: secretary.gssa@tulane.edu

Working on emails for SLA and SSE reps

3. Working on creating a new need-based award.
 - a) Waiting for more details from Student Affairs.

**Coming from reserve fund (previous allocated to us but unused)
6 individuals over the summer
the point is to supplement the income over the summer while
researching/writing**

Details TBD:

- **Who will be eligible**
 - **Who will do the selections? Not GSSA**
4. GAPSA resolution/change to constitution passed: need to fill in empty seats on GAPSA Executive Council

New resolution for fair representation of graduate and professional students on GAPSA eboard -- covers 9 divisions

Change: "no 2 divisions shall hold all seats on eboard" + at least two members must be ma/phd or professional

Problem: no Phd/ma students are stepping up to fulfill this new resolution for fair representation

WE NEED TO FILL 2 positions! Uptown vice prez and downtown vice prez.

If you are interested:

- **Job details on GAPSA website**
- **<https://gapsa.tulane.edu/content/executive-council>**

B. Vice President - Anika Tabassum (atabassum@tulane.edu)

1. Crawfish fest boil happened -thanks to Sophie!
2. Sophie and I are working together for the end of the semester rep appreciation event.
 - a) Tentative date - May 28th ,2021 6 pm
 - i) **2 hours**
 - ii) **Date scheduled on wavesync application**
 - b) Budget needs to be asked- \$3000

Problem: **don't have quorum (only 26 people)**

Discussion of possible options

1. **Suspend rules for quorum today**
2. **Vote by email**
3. **Call another email**

Motion to suspend rule for quorum ONLY FOR TODAY - 2nded - approved

Motion to fund the #3000 rep appreciation event - 2nded - approved !

- c) Venue TBD
 - d) We will need sober volunteer for it
 - e) Event committee meeting once it gets approved
3. GAPSA needs sober volunteer for their event- please sign in

C. Treasurer - Nirasha Thilakaratne (gthilakaratne@tulane.edu)

1. Fall travel form now open - Deadline August 15th
2. **Find the form here:**
 - a. **<https://gssa.tulane.edu/travel-funding/>**

Department	Date	Event	Time/Location	Amount requested
Biomedical Engineering/ Bioinnovation	6/4/2021	BME AND BIOINNOVATION GRADUATE STUDENT POST-QUAL CELEBRATION	Dat Dog - 5030 Freret Street	\$250

For celebrating post-qualifying exams, and department partially funds.

Motion - 2nd - approved

D. Secretary - Alyssa Walker (awalker11@tulane.edu)

1. Updates to website
2. Department representative transition reminders
 - a) Membership management
 - (1) Listservs
 - (2) Wavesync
 - b) Basic responsibilities of grad rep - document
 - c) Transitioning your rep :)

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

1. Please send me an email if you have any updates from your department regarding TA/GSI stipends.

IV. New Business

A. GAPSA Senator Report

Reminders: need to complete elections!

Gapsa social event

B. Graduate Council Report

- **Everyone on campus is eligible to be vaccinated!**
- **Pregnancy.tulane.edu**
- **Provost created an audit for thinking about centralizing graduate services, e.g., external marketing and “other academic things”**
- **Legacy of the academic year**
 - **Possibility of keeping online classes, still no solid answer**
- **No decisions on whether covid vaccines will be required for everyone**

C. SLA Graduate Studies Committee Report

- **Approved courses for anthropology and dance**
- **International students & case-by-case basis on visas for next year**
- **Loosening restrictions on how many online classes students will take**

D. OISS Liaison Report

- **No updates**

V. Old Business

A. SLA Stipend Raises

1. Solidarity Tulane
2. Tulane Hullabaloo
3. News from Philosophy Department
4. News from other departments?

a) **Nothing happening with master's raises either**

B. Problem in Art History

1. Rep: Michael russo

- **Retroactive change to graduation requirement (independent studies for both this semester and next semester), so students must pay retroactive fees (between \$300-600) and 4+1 must pay full tuition for courses that never happened.**
 - **Flow of info:**
 - **DGS said sign up for Independent studies**
 - **Administration fee \$20/course , but this was expected**
 - **After, the other fees came in that were not expected.**
- **Spoken to DGS and SLA (via Schumacher); request to have the fees removed. Response: fees don't stop one from graduating only from getting diploma**
- **What to do????**
 - **Advice:**
 - **Consult the chair with the schedule of class that was in place when you first started the semester, because they are duty bound to follow that catalogue.**
 - **Paolo will think and send an email to Art History rep.**
 - **Anecdote:**
 - **Physics had a change to catalogue and graduate students were informed and allowed to participate in the decision making progress.**

Is this happening in any other departments?

C. Diversity & Inclusion Meeting

1. Building awareness of needs of undergraduate and graduate students
2. Empowering self-advocacy
3. What do they need to do better on the topics of accessibility, ability, and disability within the Tulane framework of equity, inclusion, and diversity?
4. Contacts:
 - a) Goldman Center: patrick@tulane.edu
 - b) shiss@tulane.edu
 - c) To be included in more information:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSedgmf_BYbVWQz6xmpoJ-dRstZywnlSkV_xRAqXTEu31vrJsA/viewform?usp=sf_link

VI. Announcements

VII. Adjournment

Motion, 2nded, 6:57 pm.