

GSSA Assembly Meeting
Minutes
[2021-11-4] – [On Zoom]

- I. Call to Order **6:01**
- II. Approval of Minutes and Adoption of Agenda **minutes distributed for 10/7 and 10/21, both approved**
- III. Officer Reports
 - A. President - Paolo Suating (president.gssa@tulane.edu)
 1. Ida Emergency Fund Update
 - a) **\$21,000 is now gone from the deficit**
 - b) **For any future requests, the other \$20,000 that we voted to allocate can be used.**
 2. CELT Update
 - a) **EDI coaches for instructors? Incl. graduate student instructors**
 - b) **good on resumes**
 - c) **typical to see diversity statements for academic careers**
 - d) **positive response in CELT meeting**
 - e) **looking for roll out over the next year**
 3. Graduate Honor Board
 - a) **Case happening**
 - (1) **Email should have been sent to those selected from the pool of all GSSA representatives**
 - b) **This rule will be codified in the future**
 4. OGPS Career Services
 - a) **Temp of the room: services provided by OGPS on career planning, etc?**
 - b) **Motivation: Briana Mohan is the only career services director for all 800 GSSA students**
 - (1) **2 week wait time for meeting**
 - c) **Should GSSA look at promoting expanding this office?**
- EMAIL your thoughts! Paolo Suating
(president.gssa@tulane.edu)
 - B. Vice President - Anika Tabassum (vp.gssa@tulane.edu)
 1. Last Trivia (Oct 28)
 - a) **Went great!**
 - b) **2 winners! for trivia and for costume**
 2. November trivia got postponed to December 2nd, 2021
 - ***Venue: Cooter Brown's**
 - ***Time: 6 – 8:30 pm**
 - ***\$1000 will be used which has been approved for the November trivia**

3. Exam preparation and mental health day

*Are people interested?

General interest shown in the meeting (thumbs up on zoom)

Will convene the event committee to set this up

Ideas for what this workshop/event should entail?

EMAIL: vp.gssa@tulane.edu

C. Treasurer - Nirasha Thilakaratne (treasurer.gssa@tulane.edu)

Event Date	Event Title	Department	Amount requested
11/09	Math Graduate Student Colloquium	Mathematics	\$70
11/16	Math Graduate Student Colloquium	Mathematics	\$70
11/30	Grad Student Colloquium	Mathematics	\$70
11/3	Computer Science Graduate Colloquium	Computer Science	\$80
11/10	Computer Science Graduate Student Colloquium	Computer Science	\$80
11/17	Computer Science Graduate Student Colloquium	Computer Science	\$80
12/01	Computer Science Graduate Student Colloquium	Computer Science	\$80
11/26	Downtown Uptown North Shore Neuroscience Krewe (DUNNK) Monthly Meeting	Neuro Science	\$100
12/10	Spring conference planning and end-of-the-semester meeting	Spanish and Portuguese	\$200
11/ 25	Philosophy Friendsgiving	Philosophy	\$500

- do you have any ideas/feelings about this email? EMAIL: (president.gssa@tulane.edu)

New Downtown gym
-current timeline still unclear

Instructor mask mandate possibility

- Concerns about recent mask optional changes
- instructors (all kinds) can implement mask requirements in their classroom
- see the recent email from Provost

New divestment discussions

- a resolution was shared at the most recent GAPSA meeting to divest from various institutions that do not share the values and commitments of Tulane students
- add info from Kamiya here
- input will be requested from the student body
- thoughts & opinions?? EMAIL: (president.gssa@tulane.edu)
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President Fitts lunch report

- discussions about isolation within departments, within schools, within various communities
- communication before ida was wanting, but after ida students were generally happy
- support to students feels like it need not be essential to provide so much emergency funding but could instead meet the needs of students prior so they are prepared for living in a place like New Orleans and surrounding areas
- thoughts about whether there is an interest/need for a new dean of graduate studies/school
- space for graduate students

B. Graduate Council Report

C. SLA Graduate Studies Committee Report

Discussions about program approvals
2 new programs will start soon
And a handful of courses!

D. SSE Graduate Representative

Department of River-Coastal Science and Engineering Proposal to SSE Faculty for Establishing Graduate Programs (PhD and Masters) was discussed in Graduate Studies Committee's last week meeting!

E. OISS Liaison Report

If you are struggling in relation to your status as an international student, get in contact with Paolo and we can put you in touch with the Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) resource.

president.gssa@tulane.edu

V. Old Business

VI. Announcements

A. OGPS Donut Days

Lots of leftovers, so be sure to attend next time!

VII. Adjournment **6:41 pm**