

Graduate Student Senate—General Assembly Meeting—November

Date and Time: November 15th, 3-5pm

Location: Hybrid Zoom/Olscamp 221

Call to Order

- 3:04

Roll Call

- Quorum met

Chair remarks

Panel: Funding opportunities on campus (Reordered before approval of minutes)

- Alexia Coffman, Senior Administrative Assistant from the Graduate College
 - Oversight of the GSS FPD process
 - Funding for professional development
 - Oversight and support for the graduate college awards
 - Oversight of awards administered by the GSS
 - Helps with scholarships and stipends within the graduate college
- Stacey Allen, Associate Director of Student Engagement
 - Funding for student led organizations
 - Semesterly funding for anticipated events
 - Weekly funding for events, travel, and supplies

Approval of minutes

- Motion to approve last meeting's minutes by Data Science PhD
- Second: Psychology PhD
- Minutes approved by majority vote

Special Elections

- Online student representative
 - Motion to move into election for online student representative: Theatre and Film MA
 - Second: Sociology MA
 - Candidates
 - Damilola Osamika: Self-nomination accepted as motion
 - Second: Data Science PhD
 - Floor nominations
 - None
 - Motion to move into questions: Theatre and Film MA
 - Seconded by Sociology MA
 - Motion to move into discussion: Theatre and Film MA
 - Seconded by Sociology MA
 - Motion to move into voting: Theatre and Film MA
 - Seconded by Sociology MA
 - Damilola Osamika, elected as the Online Student Representative

Officer Reports

David Fisher: listserv, parking and meal swipes

- Listserv

- Used for administrative purposes only
- A separate listserv would be duplicative of Canvas
- A listserv would require more intensive maintenance than our Canvas
- A listserv would not be an adequate replacement of Canvas
- Parking
 - Costs are not the primary concern
 - Focus on raising stipends to address the financial concerns
 - Costs are one of the lowest in the state and nationally
 - Availability and proximity is the greater concern
 - Trying to adjust where students can park
- Meal swipes
 - Secondary benefit from during COVID as a result of faculty benefit
 - Concern that if the issue is pursued, we may lose the benefit entirely
 - Can go to the Dean of Student's office to request donated meal swipes on a card with 5 swipes precharged on it

New Business

- Position of secretary
 - Accepted the resignation from the previous secretary
 - Opening up applications for secretary to be voted on in the December meeting
- Senator training: Discussion and questions for consideration
 - What do you require in your position?
 - PowerPoint was good but not helpful when it won't be seen again. Instead it would be beneficial to have a more readily available set of materials
 - How do you understand your role?
 - Being a go between for the GSS and your department.
 - Faculty don't always understand your role, and only want representatives to have access to funding
 - The SEC can help communicate with faculty the importance of a senator's role.
 - Advocating for the department and students
 - How can we get the constituents engaged in what the GSS does?
 - What is the ideal format for senator training?

Old Business

- None

Announcements for good of the order

- Shanklin awards on March 31st
- Zainab will not be chairing the next GA

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn: Theatre and Film MA
- Second: Sociology MA
- 4:54