

GSA Senate Meeting

September 7, 2022 @ 5pm – 7pm



Location: Baker 254 and Zoom

Agenda Notes

1. Welcome
2. Roll Call – Quorum Obtained!
 - a. Apologies
3. Recap
 - a. Decisions Taken July – August 2022 – minutes from 7/25/22 meeting confirmed
 - i. VP of Communications – Shumaila Bhatti
 - ii. VP of Social Activities – Azmery Afnan
 - iii. Meeting recap from July
 1. Mario (Emme) confirmed as President
 2. Shumaila confirmed as VP Communications
 3. Azmery confirmed as VP Social Activities
 4. John Pezzullo resigned as VP Curriculum
 5. Sandy Slovikosky resigned as EB Department Rep
4. New Business
 - a. Transfer of Key Bank to the new president
 - i. Melanie still has access to account, needs to be removed and replaced with Mario (Emme), the current President
 - ii. Motion made by Mike and seconded by Annie, passed
 - b. Resignations
 - i. VP of Curriculum – John Pezzullo
 - ii. EB Representative – Sandy Slovikosky
 - c. Open seats
 - i. Strategies to fill seats
 1. Flyers on notice boards
 2. Emails to graduate students within the departments
 3. Speaking up at department meetings
 4. Talk to friends one on one
 5. Email the graduate student listserv as a whole and post on Discord channel
 - d. Review of GSA Senate Positions
 - i. Individual meetings with current senate members
 1. Looking for efficiency within the organization – do this through a review of the bylaws, cosmetic editing to match what is happening on campus
 2. Only seen 3 reports so far, need ones for other roles (3 to 5 missing) – Emme is going to talk to Melanie about those that are missing from the 21/22 year
 3. All VP's and Department Reps typically are required to submit an annual report – only can be lenient if they are a continuing VP (only lenient in terms of timeline)

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4. Positions that have changed should not hesitate to contact the old VPs to remind them of the reports and get a sense of what has happened in the past
5. Good for record keeping purposes
- ii. Review of Bylaws
 1. Look at this again and decide if we want to move forward with this motion and a deadline that we want to set can be discussed at the next meeting
- e. GSA Mandate 22/23
 - i. Image/Branding
 1. Embark on a mission to rebrand and improve our image!
 - ii. Vision
 1. What do we want for the grad student body at ESF? What do we want for our future?
 - iii. Mission
- f. Upcoming Events
 - i. Fall Involvement Fair – Sept 9, 11 am – 2 pm on the Quad
 1. Mostly targeting undergrads but a grad presence is appreciated
 2. We are sharing a table with MOSA
 3. Good opportunity to interact with the seniors to be able to ask any questions they may have about transitioning to grad school
 4. No need for people to do anything right now besides be present – we have stickers and brochures – just an opportunity to engage with students
 - ii. Corq – front face of Engage App and is downloadable to your phone (push this with the grad students) – gives access to all events through all ESF organizations and makes RSVP'ing easier
 - iii. Alumni TG – Sept 16
 1. Waiting on more information from the organizer
 2. Going to be in Gateway – Alumni event beforehand that leads into the TG
 3. Want more interaction between alumni and the current grad students
 - iv. Skä-noñh – Sept 17 & October 6, 7, 8, 10, 11
 1. 200 tickets – open to grad students
 2. Shuttle service through SU GSO leaving from Waverly to and from the event
 3. Open on all these dates and you can bring a guest
 4. More information will be coming about this event and its cultural importance/implications
- g. Campus committee appointments
 - i. AG (Academic governance)
 1. Emme on the Academic Affairs and Student Experience Committee
 2. Abishek being appointed to the Faculty and Staff Advancement Committee
 3. Shayan being appointed to the Research and Scholarship Committee
 4. Form on the committees and what they do to be sent to the Senate members so they can read about them and decide if they want to join

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5. At-large members are most likely going to be the same people – mainly just formality positions for voting purposes
 - ii. DAC (Dean's Advisory Council)
 1. Valorie from OIGS is looking to put this together
 2. Mix of grad and undergrad students
 3. Information was sent in an email at the beginning of the semester but will be sent out again
 4. Application process to join – not appointment based
 5. Thought is to have Department Reps to sit on this committee, but she has concerns about diversity and equity (purpose of the application-based committee)
 6. Applications coming in slowly and the 15th of September is the deadline currently – Emme going to apply but others are welcome
 - h. Trainings
 - i. Anti-bias and safe zone training (would normally be handled by VP of Diversity and Equity)
 - ii. Emme going to meet with OIDE (must meet anyways to talk about lack of VP in this position) and will set up trainings
 - iii. Both group and individual trainings can be arranged
 - i. GSA-MOSA Relations
 - i. Emme has met with Silas from MOSA
 - ii. Graduate students are welcome at all events on campus regardless of the relationship is between grads and undergrads
 - iii. Being more proactive of planning joint events (and splitting costs) to improve the image of student relations on campus
 - iv. Strengthening this relationship could help us show management and administration that we are serious about establishing ourselves on campus as a force that deserves our needs to be met
5. Committee Updates
- a. Open Floor
 - i. Community involvement – professional headshots before graduation event sponsored by GSA
 1. Career service does this yearly (mostly for undergrad) – early February usually – reach out to them and see if they will include grads in this process and make sure the communication is streamlined about how to access this resource and where to find the photos
 - ii. TEDx event – start local, investigate if SU doing this event as well – would be a big highlight for GSA, Emme going to meet with GSO President, but Aaron could bring this up at the next GSO meeting (next Wednesday or Thursday 9/14 or 9/15), can use the stadium and can have a large group of people if we involve SU – could be a general student population event
 - iii. Central NY PhD workshop – 30-minute slot to present a paper/presentation or workshop an idea for the research, having it be local would be beneficial for lack of

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- travel funding, could partner with SU for this as well (hope that different years cater to different things)
1. Form an action committee to take these events to the next step and start planning goals and how to achieve these goals
 2. If SU hosts a conference at some point, we can have the PhD workshop within the conference – support comes from the Graduate Student Office if we need it
 3. Aaron reaching out to GSO, Emme reach out to Silas and MOSA and then see where the GSA stands in terms of planning
- iv. Encourage and boost grad student research – first publication from various grad students “token” of sorts
1. Include the first page of their publication on one side and the GSA logo on the other
 2. Have a physical thank you from ESF to congratulate the grad students on getting their first publication
- v. Publishing information for master’s students just as much as PhD students, inform about the stress of peer review and where to publish – host various workshops
1. Look for connections to journals and editors
- vi. EB Department Rep Update
1. Sandy stepped down
 2. Talked with Cynthia Downs and Daniel Kavanaugh – host an EB bagel/coffee hour on 9/14 (not sure if this event is happening officially though)
 3. Cynthia has \$500 per semester to host events
 4. Also thinking about doing a writing group every Wednesday morning at 9 am starting late September – wants the grad students to be closer, will also have bagels
 5. Presentations and pizza starting 9/16 every other Friday at 11:45 am – for students to practice presenting their work
 6. Would be open to expanding with more funding from other sources
 7. Cynthia’s student Richard is going to help facilitate the presentations and pizza event
 8. Presenting original research is very tricky with unpublished research – maybe consider proposals or even just papers or presentations on how grad school’s been a driving force for the student
- vii. It would be worth it to check what funding looks like from other departments for events like the EB one – if we can make a document with this information, we can see what departments would be more likely to help out
- viii. Marketing department has formed a committee to market students – could give support from them
1. Having students on the podcast that the school started (talk about field and research they are doing)
 2. Zach Schneider is the Social Media Manager for ESF – they are on the committee

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- ix. Annie needs someone from the Senate to be on the Grants and Awards Committee to help go through applications – meet twice per year to go through applications
 - x. Easier for grads to apply to Grants and Awards and Professional Development all in one place (combine travel, research, and professional development grants) but this puts a lot of work on the committee members twice per year to go through all the applications within one decisions week – transfer the Professional Development grants to the Grants and Awards Committee’s responsibilities (because they fall under grants and awards) – transfer of responsibilities but still keeping the three distinctions
 - xi. Maybe do a workshop on how to apply for grants and awards – Annie will think about it
 - xii. Certificates for the grants and awards given out – recipients can come and collect the tangible certificates or send them as a PDF, put them on the GSA website as well
 - xiii. Board of Trustees Meeting in 2 weeks (9/22) – anything that needs to be brought up to them can be emailed or told to Mike before then
 - xiv. International students have trouble getting transport after 5 pm and on the weekends in the summer especially – buses operate from 8 am to 6 pm, helpful for a shuttle system or some form of transport in the evening during the summer and winter breaks and weekends all year around – bring up with Board of Trustees, maybe with GSO again (SU members on the Board of Trustees), and the Academic Governance committees
 - xv. People who have not turned in reports – get those in!
 - xvi. Accessible rock climbing for GSA bonding event or maybe open it up to other grads (about an hour away, Mike has extra gear and equipment) – would start planning in a few weeks corresponding with people’s availability
6. General Operations and Planning
- a. Senate Communication
 - i. Emails
 - 1. Important going forward
 - 2. Decisions that don’t need voting to be made can be done via email – check periodically
 - 3. Emme tries to schedule emails for daytime hours
 - ii. Meeting Minutes etc.
 - 1. Come after the meeting and approved first-thing the following meeting
 - b. Date & Location of GSA meetings
 - i. Meetings will be scheduled on Engage and then can be RSVP’d to on Corq for the general grad population
 - ii. Senate
 - 1. Have these meetings still every other week
 - iii. GSA General/Town Hall?

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1. Have these once every other month or generally twice per semester to update the grad student body and get feedback for the Board of Trustees meetings and committee meetings
2. Dates for BoT meetings are posted online – schedule these town halls for a few weeks before one of these
- iv. Invited Guests
 1. Anybody people think would add value to the meeting (about issues to address that we don't know where to start with) bring forward ideas
- c. Deadline for submission of committee plans and budgets
 - i. Drafts due by September 23
 1. Good date
 - ii. Budgets from previous years are available in the Google Docs – Emme has access to these and can send them to people who need them
 - iii. Will be making decisions on the budgets and plans subsequently as a Senate
7. Date of next meeting – Emme will send out a when2meet so we can decide on a time and date, will be 2 weeks from today (week of 9/19)
 - a. If you cannot attend the meeting – try to find a proxy!!!! If not send the update to Emme and it will be read
 - b. Proxies are important because they can participate in the voting process
8. Any other Business
 - a. Establish presidential succession line next meeting – planning on updating the Bylaws in general