



◆ **GSA Meeting Minutes**
Date: May 6th, 2020

1. Welcome/Call to order: 5:16

Gillian Mbambo	Kelly Rock	Chintal Shah	Raquel Shortt	Elizabeth Robinson
Jennifer Kirk	Alyssa Grogan	Hadley Bryan	McKayla Mickle	Eposi Elonge
Sarah Tanveer	Ashley Marquardt	Chrissy Carney	Sydney Ashton	Raziyeh Baghi
Ioana Ghita	Nick Montes	Sol Baik		

2. Review minutes of previous meeting -

a. Motioned to approve:

3. Erin Golambewski was present at meeting to answer questions:

- a. A yearbook will be made available to all graduates that is similar to a Commencement program at the University level
- b. Hooding ceremony will be moved mostly online. Students should submit photos and title and mentor's name as well as comments that mentors would normally deliver at ceremony as voice memos.
 - i. Would like to do something similar for Outstanding Mentor Award if possible.
 - ii. Graduating students may be welcomed back for a future ceremony at some time.
- c. Final graduate council meeting on Thursday
- d. Student emergency fund will remain open - 10 students have received support, 12 under review. If you know a student who needs funds, please direct them to this link.
 - i. Link: <https://umbforms.wufoo.com/forms/mmqsk350a4jovc/>
- e. Established a 'Student Experience Committee' and would love student feedback. Want diversity in the committee to be sure there is a clear picture of what it means to be a student at UMB
- f. Making plans for Orientation now. Not sure whether Orientation will take place in person at this time.
- g. Question about when we will return to campus: Student clinicals and field experiences/research is a top priority. A lot of solutions are being discussed so that

students can receive their degrees without a delay. No decisions have been made. Will be meeting with President on Monday to discuss further.

- h. There is no answer regarding classes in the fall: Likely will be more online courses in the Fall than is typical. Courses that can be done online we will try to do online. Other campuses may have different options you should explore.

4. Reports

a. President

i. Announcements

1. Reps for next year- send template email out with meeting minutes
2. Bake Your Thesis- **April 16th CANCELLED**
 - a. Keep in mind for next year
3. Plant Swap Social - **POSTPONED**
 - a. Hope that we can reschedule as a fall event

ii. Meet & Confer Committee- GSA members meet with Grad School Admin staff to talk about student needs and issues

1. Next Meeting (hopefully May- still scheduling a webex meeting)
2. Agenda items for next meeting?:
 - a. Student Stipend: Stipends are set by each Program. Drafted email with our stance was sent to the Graduate School for consideration. Graduate School leadership has shown general support
 - i. Will bring up at GAAC meeting if we don't receive update
 - b. Campus Smoking Policy
 - c. Chief Cary phone call Friday (4/3)
 - i. Pratt Street garage already on Chief Carey's agenda (brought up by faculty senate) - no timeline but hopefully before people get back
 - ii. Update on hiring new officers- 18 hired and looking for 12 more people

- iii. Chief Cary cell #: 410-274-4385
 - d. Will bring up summer and non-semester parking options for graduate students
 - e. Anything else to be discussed?
- b. Vice President
 - i. Announcements
 - 1. Social Activities Committee:
 - a. All socials are postponed (TBD if we are having events in the fall)
 - 2. USGA Announcements:
 - a. Any questions or concerns about COVID-19 and UMB? Check out UMB's coronavirus [website](#)
 - b. Keep an eye out for UMB virtual events in The Elm or Campus Life Weekly
- c. Treasurer
 - 1. Current Balance: \$12,243.26
 - a. GRC checks
 - i. Please email umb.gsa.treasurer@gmail.com with the address you'd like me to use.
 - 2. Student Group Funding: ISPE - please contact me for reimbursement. Name needed is who will be receiving the reimbursement so that we are sure the funds are getting to whomever sent the money.
 - 3. Updating Travel Reimbursement - Putting to Vote
 - a. Increase maximum amount to \$500
 - b. Include application before attending conferences:
 - c. "Tentative Award Upon Presentation of Receipts. The GSA is accepting travel applications prior to conference attendance on the basis of anticipated costs. The application and corresponding abstract will be judged and given a maximum award value, all

travel receipts must be submitted in a single pdf document including conference registration and accepted abstract after the conference in order to receive the funding. Costs reimbursed will not exceed the awarded value. Awards given prior to conference travel can be submitted one application quarter prior to the anticipated travel. Reimbursement based awards will be given precedence in the application Quarter.”

- d. When can pre-applications be applied?
 - i. In the Quarter before travel
 - ii. Quarters are 1: July, Aug, Sept **Due:** Oct 15
2: Oct, Nov, Dec **Due:** Jan 15
3: Jan, Feb, March **Due:** April 15
4: April, May, June **Due:** July 15
 - iii. Depending on availability reimbursement awards will be given precedence over pre-applications. The awarded funds are to be taken from the applied quarter (not the traveled quarter), depending on demand the funding quarter may be in the anticipated travel time period.
 - iv. Discussed possibility of moving to only pre-applications, with an overlap period between where they would be split 50/50 between pre- and post-applications for funding.
 - v. Proposed new timelines:
 - 1. Q1 Jan-March (deadline Dec. 15)
 - 2. Q2. April-June (deadline March 15)
 - 3. Q3. July-Sep (deadline June 15)
 - 4. Q4. Oct-Dec (deadline Sept 15)
 - vi. Will be clarifying rules and voting on the changes in June

d. Secretary

- i. Announcements: None
 - e. Grad Council rep
 - i. Announcements:
 - 1. Received 10 applications for Outstanding Mentor Award, currently scoring and will have a decision by the second week of May! Any suggestions on publicly awarding this individual since there's no hooding ceremony?
 - ii. U of M grad council:
 - 1. Tomorrow (May 7th)
 - 2. No updates from previous meeting: Discussion of how to conduct classes in the Fall
 - f. PR
 - i. Announcements: Last grad gazette for the semester went out last week!
 - 1. <https://www.graduate.umaryland.edu/gsa/gazette/>
 - 2. Looking for volunteers to participate in a COVID-19 vaccine study!
 - 3. Tomorrow there is a presentation for the President's Fellows from 3-4. Several graduate students will be presenting their findings on how to implement the Core Values.
 - ii. Communications Committee
 - 1.
 - iii. Volunteer Committee:
 - 1.
 - g. Meyerhoff: No updates
 - h. NOVA: No updates
- 5. Old Business:
 - a. Graduate Student Lounge Update
 - i. Administration is still moving to 1st floor Lexington by this April. We will not move there because the new building will be completed within 1.5 years so it would be a waste of money
- 6. New Business:

- a. Outstanding rep winner: Hadley Bryan
- b. E-board nominations for next year! We will vote directly following this meeting and an email with results will be sent out. People can self-nominate or nominate someone else. All nominees must accept the nomination (an email to umb.gsa.president.com will suffice). Nominations will be accepted up until the position is voted upon during the May meeting. You can abstain from voting. Deadline for voting will be one week from now. Current nominations are listed below:
 - i. President - Emily Smith (accepted) Emily briefly shared that she has enjoyed being VP this year. Hopes that socials will be able to happen in the coming year. This experience has helped her realize that she enjoys advocating for graduate students and looks forward to the opportunity to do so as president.
 - ii. Vice President - Lauren McCarthy (accepted) Lauren had fun on her first year on exec board and learned a lot planning events like the GRC. She's excited for the opportunity to represent grad student and attend USGA events and use her previous event planning experience for the benefit of students in the fall and spring.
 - iii. Treasurer - Gillian Mbambo (accepted) Gill has been a rep for her program for two years, and is interested in treasurer position so she can be more involved in GSA. Has been in the finance committee for the past year. Has been the coordinator for journal club which has given experience in financial planning and management. Would love the opportunity to be on the E-Board!
 - iv. Secretary - Hadley Bryan (accepted) Hadley has been on GSA as a rep for the past two years. Has been on the GRC committee for the past two years so has experience. Wants to start more research-based events that are more casual than the GRC, but is open to new ideas!
 - v. Public Relations Officer - Sydney Ashton (accepted) Sydney has been pretty heavily involved in outreach organizations since undergrad. Is a part of NOVA at UMB which has given her experience with outreach and volunteering. Was recently given approval to start a Twitter account for these purposes by UMB.

Looking forward to being involved!

- vi. Grad Council Rep - Katie Gwilliam (accepted) Katie already holds the position and would love to be able to continue. Enjoy being able to talk with grad council committee and involvement with other universities in the system. Is familiar with all the dates for awards due to experience with the position.

c. Upcoming Events:

- i. Taking ideas!

7. Other Business/Announcements

- a.

Date of next meeting: Teleconference (?) June 3rd

Motion to adjourn: