



**GSA Meeting Agenda**

**Date: August 4, 2021**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://umaryland.zoom.us/j/95895751767>

- 1. Welcome/Call to order: 5:03 PM

**Please put your full name and program in the Zoom chat so attendance can be taken!**

***For this meeting, please indicate whether you are the primary, alternate, or extra rep or a guest!***

David Annis	Alexander Malyshev	Ioana Ghita	Makenzy Mull
Kristen Montgomery	Ashley Marquardt	Mashood Wani	Jernelle Miller
Katie Gwilliam	Theeb Alquria	McKayla Mickle	Lauren McCarthy

- 2. Review minutes of previous meeting

- a. Motion to approve minutes  
Ashley Marquardt and Kristen Montgomery

- 3. Reports

- a. **President** - Sydney Ashton (umb.gsa.president@gmail.com)
  - i. Orientation will be the week of August 23rd; Graduate School Events on Wednesday 08/25 and Thursday 08/26
    - 1. Mostly in-person!
    - 2. We're holding ~two~ Crab Feasts (Wed. & Thurs. night, will replace the typical social we have) so that rising second years get the chance to attend one
    - 3. Sign up to volunteer! Need people to help with registration, lead ethics discussions, set-up/break-down Crab Feast, etc. Link to sign-up sheet in the Zoom chat
  - ii. The Shuttle has returned! Runs 6 - 11 am and 3 - 11 PM. Everyone must wear a mask, regardless of vaccination

1. Faculty/staff/postdocs now charged to ride
- iii. Parking on campus
1. Our parking equipment is being updated for the first time since the 90s. This will be a long process through ~October 2022. Please let me know if you know of any issues that you would like to see improved, things that you don't like about parking on campus or general features you wish we had. Ideas so far:
    - a. An option to not get a receipt when you leave a garage
    - b. LED signs that indicate the number of available spaces in each garage
  2. Changes to the Electric Vehicle charging station are proposed. There are problems with people staying longer than 4 hours, so they are brainstorming ways to dissuade people from doing this. Originally proposed charging \$10 per each hour after the first 4, but this is obviously not equitable. Now working to see if we can give UMB affiliates "prepaid" cards that give you a certain number of "free" hours per week/month that users could allocate as they wish. Let me know if you have any thoughts/concerns/ideas.
  3. There is a virtual tour of parking options and transportation services available at UMB found [here](#). You can also schedule an in-person walking tour of parking facilities with UMBPD Chief Leone (TLeone@police.umaryland.edu) or Executive Director of Auxiliary Services Robert Milner (RMilner@umaryland.edu) by emailing either of them.
- iv. The Writing Center is looking for Federal Work Study applicants for their Office Assistant job. If you or someone you know is interested, please send a copy of your CV to James Wright ([james.wright@umaryland.edu](mailto:james.wright@umaryland.edu))
- v. Do you live in campus housing? Interested in serving as the student voice for a UMB Police campaign around UMB housing? Please let me know!

- vi. Interested in being ~famous~ (aka being in UMB stock photos from around campus)? Please let me know!
  - vii. United Students of African Descent are looking for engaged UMB students to serve on their Executive Board (Secretary, Treasurer, USGA Liaison) and to sit as members of their newly formed PanAfrican Festival Committee. Reach out to President Alicia Jiggetts ([umaryland.usad@gmail.com](mailto:umaryland.usad@gmail.com)) for more information
- b. **Vice President** - Rainer Butler ([umb.gsa.vp@gmail.com](mailto:umb.gsa.vp@gmail.com))
- i. No orientation social - replaced with one of the crab feasts
    - 1. Next one will be winter social!!
  - ii. GSA - Nothing yet. First meeting in September.
    - 1. Need five people to sign up for seats
    - 2. Need two alternates
- c. **Treasurer** - Gillian Mbambo ([umb.gsa.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:umb.gsa.treasurer@gmail.com))
- i. Account Balance is \$7762.55
  - ii. Award Disbursement: Outstanding Rep Awards
    - 1. Let me know if you have received your awards if not, I will follow up with Celeste
  - iii. Budget Proposal - tentatively approved (a lot of reps missing from meeting) so this will be presented again briefly at the September meeting)
  - iv. NOVA Budget Request
- d. **Secretary** - Hadley Bryan ([umb.gsa.sec@gmail.com](mailto:umb.gsa.sec@gmail.com))
- i. Sign in- please put your name, email, program, and primary/alternate/extra rep in the chat!
  - ii. 2021/2022 Subcommittee Spreadsheet- The subcommittee spreadsheet is linked here and in the chat. We need at the very least 3 representatives on each subcommittee in order for that subcommittee to “exist” according to the GSA Constitution.
  - iii. If you’d like to receive a Google Calendar invite for GSA meetings, please let me know.

- e. **Grad Council Rep** - Nikita Aggarwal (umb.gsa.gcrep@gmail.com)
    - i. Outstanding mentor award recipient- Dr Jacques Ravel
    - ii. No Grad council meeting yet
  - f. **Public Relations** - Jenn Kirk (umb.gsa.pro@gmail.com)
    - i. The Grad Gazette web page is getting a makeover!
    - ii. Submit any stories or commentary for the grad gazette:  
<https://www.graduate.umaryland.edu/gsa/gazette/submit/>
  - g. **Meyerhoff**
    - i. Yoga event with Jenn
  - h. **NOVA**
    - i. Movie Night in September
  - i. **Graduate School DEI Committee** - Nikki Aggarwal
    - i.
  - j. **Program Rep Updates/Questions/Concerns**
    - i.
4. Old Business:
- a. Meet & Confer updates
    - i. Meeting occurred on 06/10/21
    - ii. Requested a lot of clarification on COVID guidelines
      - 1. Vaccine exemptions allowed for medical (requires physician note) and religious reasons. Full policy:  
<https://www.umaryland.edu/coronavirus/content/testing-hygiene-and-health/covid-19-vaccine-exemption-process.php>
      - 2. SMC Campus Center no longer offers vaccines, but a limited number will continue to be available at Immediate Care for incoming students
    - iii. Requested additional information on the racist graffiti incident
      - 1. Investigation is still “ongoing” and the University does not, by policy, release campus-wide updates about ongoing investigations
      - 2. The FBI was involved and determined that this was not a hate crime
    - iv. Health insurance
      - 1. Dental coverage is confusing and the website only lists what \*isn't\* covered. Jim Reynolds is reaching out to Gallagher about this
      - 2. We asked whether it would be possible to get student discounts at the Dental School and additionally whether we could obtain an up-to-date price list so that students can make informed decisions about their dental

care. The Provost's Office should be reaching out to the Dental School to "initiate discussion" about these

3. The vision insurance information on Gallagher's website regards a plan that is not available in MD (ours is through United Healthcare Student Resources). Jim Reynolds said they've requested this to be clarified on the website numerous times to no avail, but will reach out again
- v. Interested in serving on this committee? Let me know!

5. New Business:

a. Campus Safety

- i. SafeRide and SafeWalk are ongoing; can request through the new "Mobile UMB" app. New signage posted throughout buildings.
  1. Boundaries are the same for now. They want to wait until we have the official Fall 2021 student address data since the current data set is old
- ii. Blue lights will be revamped within a year or so
- iii. Crime reporting around campus follows the Clery Act guidelines; we only get reports of off-campus crimes if the UMBPD are made aware of them, which doesn't always happen, and if they're relevant to the community.
  1. More information and Annual Reports [found here](#): (will be updated soon for clarity!)

b. Thoughts on returning to in-person GSA meetings? (poll)

6. Upcoming Events:

**Date of next meeting: September 1, 2021 (possibly hybrid meeting)**

**Motion to adjourn: 6:04 PM** Lauren McCarthy and Ashley Marquardt