



Graduate Student Senate
120 McFall Center
Bowling Green, Ohio 43403-0181
Phone: (419) 372-2727
<http://www.bgsu.edu/gss>

General Assembly

Friday, October 25, 2019 – 3:00-5:00 p.m. – Education 115

Call to Order

Called to Order 3:00pm

Roll Call – Quorum achieved!

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Motion to approve: MACIE, Second: Computer Science
Vote: Motion Carries!

Guest Speakers

Jennifer McCary, Chief Diversity and Belonging Officer (3:00pm)

Discussion of Diversity & Belonging Planning & Policy

New Division created this Summer

Taskforce by President Rodgers to empowering/supporting people in new Initiative
Chaired by Ms. McCary

Work for semester to see what has taken place at BGSU around inclusion & diversity
Recommendations made based on the taskforce

Full report from Taskforce found on President's website

Key: Adopting of standard definitions, increase responsibility and accountability, &
Changes in organizational structure at the university level

In general, found things that had worked and things that had not worked

Division is to serve faculty, students, and staff

If faculty/staff don't feel like they belong, it does not translate into teaching

Make sure faculty/staff have language to serve community & students

Goal by May: Writing Strategic Framework for Diversity and Belonging

Goal is to provide funding for separate office for LGBT+ programs in 3 year's time

Diversity & Belonging Council: Publishing monthly scorecard of how we are doing

Goal is to show transparency in how the council is doing on current initiatives

Can send information through excel document of scorecard through October

Will be up on website soon:

Champions of Diversity & Belonging Awards

Nominate someone who is championing the values of diversity and belonging

Winners will be selected at the end of the year

Offer variety of workshops for training including:

Cultural Competency, bystander intervention, LGBTQ+, First Gen students, etc.

Workshops for faculty, staff, and students

Common set of definitions were set as well

Unclear definitions across persons create conflict; must grapple with need for set of definitions

Clear definitions for diversity, belonging, and inclusion set

GSS discussed these definitions earlier in the year

Goal is to have consensus for faculty, staff, and students

BGSU still searching for new Title IX coordinator

Reports, investigations, & adjudications go up in terms of sexual assaults

Spread of awareness can lead to more prevention work in the community and school

Goal is always prevention

Questions asked by GA Body

Important takeaways from questions

A prevention/awareness program is being rolled out on campus called Green Dot

Program to support reductions in campus sexual assault through passive/active

Interventions

Open House Nov. 1st (1-4pm) in Hayes 207 for information on On Campus efforts

Standards for University cases and Criminal cases are substantially different at this time

Will discuss how trainings, services related to Diversity and Belonging will count for tenure with Provost & Faculty

Officer Reports

President

Robin Hershkowitz – robinh@bgsu.edu

Career Services Follow up

Conversation about graduate students & Career Services at BGSU

Graduate students do use Career Services

Services for graduate students are there

November 13th: Public Service Career Fair

THRIVE

Initiative from University to address wellness

Collection of services for all students

Mindfulness Drop-In (Free) October 30th

Multicultural/Accessibilities Chair: Take advantage of the Mindfulness Class

Other places can be very expensive

Vice President

Ashley Hendricks – ashendr@bgsu.edu

SAVE THE DATE for Graduate Student Spotlight on Nov 2 time 2:00pm

Football game recognition at BGSU vs The University of Akron football game

Highlighting accomplishments of graduate student success

Spotlights throughout game for graduate students
Graduate Students: Walk onto field, wave, and leave
Enjoy game for free!

Must be in the stadium
App for students (free) on phone, will scan phone
Walk-on during First Quarter break
Information will be available soon

RSVP by Tuesday
Bring Constituents, Partners, Kids

Old/Unfinished Business

Funding for Professional Development

Ashley Justice - ashjust@bgsu.edu

Acceptance letters will go out today
Including letters of rejection
Will include rationale for any rejections

New Business

Professional Development Resolution Discussion

President: Resolution & Timeline presented today, open to questions/feedback
Resolution information

Advocate for more Professional Development
Part of Belonging
Less academic positions available, expand opportunities outside of purely
faculty-based professional development
Goal: Give information to faculty to train us for non-faculty jobs
Funding unequal across degree programs
Plan to increase graduate enrollment; can help all students

“Therefore” (Ask portion of resolution)
Active partners with departments to provide what we need
Faculty/Staff are given resources for better training
Incentivizing time for faculty to mentor in tenure process
8 credits is full-time for graduate students
For financial reasons: 12 credit hours is full time
Provide opportunities to fill in the gap

Timeline

Draft finishing this week; welcome help via email
Next general meeting will be discussion & voting on resolution

Questions asked by GA Body on Resolution

Recap of important questions

Funding is not equally accessible across individuals & degree-offering programs

Current information/literature included in recent draft of resolution
Problem of liquidity and inequality in attending conferences due to reimbursement system
Goal of resolution is to expand what is offered as Professional Development opportunities
Particularly for opportunities here at BGSU to remove cost of travel
Change to credit hours would save students, departments funds
Allow students to take more classes outside of their own department
Plan to clarify language regarding Professional Development Resolution v. Funding for
Professional Development proposed change set before SEC next week

Speaker

Marlene Reynolds, Assistant Director, Student Insurance Program (4:30pm)

Email to contact Ms. Reynolds: studentins@bgsu.edu

Presentation on Healthcare options for graduate students at BGSU

Plans: Healthcare.gov, Ohio resident benefits, BGSU plan, International plans, Alumni
Switch from Aetna to United Health Care due to reduction in benefits
United added some benefits at slight increase in premiums

Added benefits

Some vision coverage, covers emergency room visit, dental insurance plan
Options if not opted-in to dental services
Wood County Health: Community Health Center

United Healthcare HealthiestYou

Can connect remotely to healthcare professionals with student resource plan
\$40 cost for individuals outside of BGSU health insurance

BetterHelp

Virtual counseling services for non-crisis mental health situations
Access to social workers, licensed professionals, psychologists, etc.
Available free to those with United; cost for non-insured students

Website: <http://bgsu.edu/studentinsurance>

My Office on 2nd floor of Falcon Health Center

Flu Vaccines are covered by United Health Insurance

No need to make an appointment to do so
Please bring health insurance card/photo ID

Questions from GA Body

Important information from GA Questions

Can contact Medicaid, possibly qualify due to nature of our stipends (domestic students)
Please make appointments with Ms. Reynolds, usually can meet 8-4pm on Monday-Friday
International students: must have at least 5 year residence in Ohio to qualify for Medicaid
Contact through Benefits.ohio.gov may not work for all international students
Standards for plans covering international students are set by Visas, U.S. government
BGSU's standards: Must have a plan that works here in the U.S.

Nominations for Secretary

Robin Hershkowitz – robinh@bgsu.edu

Safe for assistantship/can check language

Higher Ed PhD: Nominations here or on Canvas?
Can apply through Canvas or Email

MACIE: Sarah Mehler nominated
Seconded
Nomination accepted!

Shubham Sundriyal nominated
Seconded; accepted!

Mathematics MA: Nene Ukonu (Mathematics)
Seconded
Accepted!

Nominations: Please come see Secretary

Nominations: Please be sure to fill out the application on our Canvas Page by November 5
Nominations can be made at the November 8 meeting

Announcements

Computer Science: Annual Event: Diwali (Festival of Light) started today
Celebrating Nov 2nd (Saturday Night!)
Dance, food, fashion show (Indian Cinema)
Table tickets in Student Union table (Monday 3-5pm)
Individual: \$15, table \$120,
More information on: [Facebook.com/indiastudentorganizaition](https://www.facebook.com/indiastudentorganizaition), BGSU page

Theatre & Film PhD: Drunken City closes tomorrow
Tonight performance at 8pm
Student Rush tickets at 2pm tomorrow: still tickets at curtain – go for free
Tickets online are cheaper 24 hrs in advance

Sustainability Chair: Sustainability committee has been meeting, sustainability panel in Spring
Direct information to Sustainability Chair Chairor Brian for more information

English PhD: Rhetoric & Writing group in/outside of college
20 Min survey, 1 in 200 chance of winning \$50 Amazon gift card

Information:

This message is coming from the Rhetoric and Writing Studies Lab in the English Department at Bowling Green State University. We are conducting survey research, which focuses on the dispositions or attitudes that students hold related to writing.

Through this survey, we plan to gather information on the attitudes that BGSU students hold toward their own writing, both in a classroom setting and outside of college, including both leisure and in the workforce. We hope that results from this study will allow instructors at Bowling Green State University to develop more meaningful writing experiences for students as well as encourage additional collaboration between various disciplines.

We are emailing to invite you to participate in a short 20-minute online survey to answer questions regarding how you feel about your abilities as a writer and your attitudes about writing. Your name

will be kept confidential in this research endeavor. No identifying information will be included in the published material of the findings.

In addition, by completing the survey, participants will be entered into a random drawing for a \$50 Amazon gift card (approximate odds of winning are 1 in 200).

If you would be willing to participate in the survey, please click the link below to access the Qualtrics survey:

https://bgsu.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3E5efS4kQ8IXgMd

Multicultural/Accessibilities Chair: Nov 15th at 12-1pm: Green Dot training in Math Department
Interest: send email to Multicultural/Accessibilities Chair (up to 30 people)

Adjournment

Biology PhD Motions, Seconded by Math PhD

Vote: Motion Carries!

Adjourn meeting at 4:45pm