General Assembly

Friday, 9th December 2022, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Attendance: 11 Executives and 36 Senators

Meeting Started: 3:05 pm

Call to Order: By the Vice President

Roll Call: By the Secretary (we had a quorum with a total of 11 Executives and 36 Senators in attendance).

Approval of Minutes and Agenda: Seeing no changes requested, meeting minutes were approved.

Guest Speakers

- J. Clevenger; Assistant Director of Tutoring Services, The Learning Commons
  - Helps graduate students with course-based tutoring and research
  - Inquiry form available and graduate students are encouraged to fill this form
  - The Writing Center
    - Most used by graduate students
    - Over 1300 students visit the writing center
    - Services are offered both online and in-person
    - 50 mins appointment for each meeting; 2 appointments per week
    - Graduate students are advised to schedule appropriate time frames and days for assistance with thesis papers
  - Questions
    - The President asked if there is a webpage for graduate student’s support
• There are services for graduate students but there is no specific webpage for graduate students
  ▪ The Chair for Graduate Professional Development asked if graduate students could volunteer to assist at the Learning Commons
  ▪ The first approach the Learning Commons uses is to reach out to the graduate student’s department or faculty for assistance for the student in need
  ▪ The Representative of Philosophy Masters asked if there are available courses for first-time teachers and student writers
    • Yes, this is available

• Abby Coon; The Coordinator for Student Case Management
  o Student Resources on Campus - ODOS Student Case Management
  o The Goal is to help students by connecting them to the appropriate campus and community resources
  o Food assistance/ Falcon Care Program
  o Financial Assistance (Student Emergency Fund, Voucher/Gift cards, Basic Need Assistance)
  o Student Concerns
  o Examples of additional campus/community resources
    ▪ Falcon Food Pantry on campus
    ▪ 2–1–1
    ▪ Mr. Agne’s Career Collection
    ▪ Connect to services: bgsu.edu/dean-of-students/support-and-guidance.html
  o Drop–in hours: Monday – Friday: 11 am – 5 pm
  o To report affected/disturbed students
    ▪ Bgsu.edu/report-incident.html
  o To report any hazing incidence
• Lauren Albert; Health Educator – Community Focus (lmandre@bgsu.edu)
  o Anti-Hazing and Wellness Resources
    ▪ Three important things to note
      • Recognize
      • Prepare
      • Act (Together we can prevent hazing)
  o Question
    ▪ The Representative of Philosophy Masters asked how broadly
      the law discourages student organization
      • Only recognized student groups and organizations are
        accepted at BGSU
  o An important to note is that academic hazing is a thing; please
    report it to the university if this is experienced or witnessed in any
    way
  o Amnesty
    ▪ If a student in good conscience helps another student who
      requires urgent medical attention, the student who rendered
      help is eligible for a form of amnesty which allows a review
      of illegal acts such as underage drinking performed by such
      student
      • This is strictly on a case-by-case basis
  o Reporting & Resources
    ▪ Hazing Reporting line: 419–378–HAZE(4293)
    ▪ Office of the Dean of Students: 419–378–2843
    ▪ Counseling Center: 419–372–2081
- Contact Lauren Albert: 419–372–9809
  - Health and Wellness Resources
    - Gym membership included in tuition fees (depends on credits)
    - Thrive
      - Meditation seminars
      - Yoga Flow
    - BGSU Paws Therapy Dogs
    - Wellness Connection at REC Center
      - Free and Confidential HIV Testing
      - 50 condoms for $10 (purchase at the front desk)
      - The Representative of Philosophy Masters asked if the test covers STI testing.
        - It only covers HIV tests; Falcon Health does the STD tests
    - The Representative of Philosophy Masters asked for clarity on amnesty; what kind of amnesty would students get?
      - There must be exterminating circumstances for the university not to give a student amnesty after reporting an important issue

Officer Reports
  - President
    - Student Resource Hub Project
    - Follow-up on Top 3 GSS Initiatives:
      - GA Stipends
        - 70% of Graduate Student Stipends requested for this.
        - Dean Waldron working on benchmarking
      - Transportation/GA Parking
• 47% Transportation/Parking requested for this – In the President’s interview with the Mayor, we asked about the transit system, and he said there was a discussion with the university and city officials on expanding the BGSU transit system downtown
• He motioned to have a CDBG grant from the federal government for the city transit system

  ▪ Student Health Insurance
  • 45% of Student Health Insurance requested for this

o GSS Semester Highlights
  ▪ At the beginning of the academic year, the President and the Vice President made community convergence a focus for GSS through the pathway of:
    • active listening
    • diversity, equity, and inclusion
    • community engagement.
  ▪ Many of these areas overlap – but as a part of these we have,
    • Designed and Launched a Survey of over 3,000 Graduate Students to better understand and serve their interests
    • GSS SEC has sat on and maintained an active role on 27+ Different Committees/Subcommittees throughout the semester
    • (Will have) held 4 GSS SEC meetings and 4 GSS GA meetings with 12 Guest Speakers
    • Implemented a Creative Category into the Charles E. Shanklin Graduate Student Awards Colloquium
    • Actively participated in or hosted 12 events at BGSU

• Vice President
• Location change for GSS next semester; new location: Olscamp 221
• Follow-up on election day resolution
  o Working out minor details; should be up for vote in early next semester.
• Follow-up on questions with President Rogers
  o Endowment for graduate students lower than undergraduate students
  o The President and his team are working to find lasting solutions to graduate student’s problems on campus
• Censorship Reminder and requirements for Senators
  o Presence and availability of senators at GA and committee meetings are important
  o Sanctions for missing two consecutive meetings or three meetings in a semester
• Shanklin Colloquium Award
  o Celebrating graduate student’s research; 14th Annual Event
  o Wednesday, 5th of April, 2023: 12 pm – 9 pm
  o Charles E. Shanklin Award for Research Excellence
    ▪ 1st place: $1250, 2nd place: $750
    ▪ Research must be completely done
    ▪ The research must have been done at BGSU
    ▪ Research work conducted outside BGSU is not eligible
    ▪ Application opens January 1st 2023 and closes January 31st, 2023
  o Paper Presentations: Abstract submission only
    ▪ For incomplete research
    ▪ 1st place: $300, 2nd place: $150, 3rd place: $75
  o Poster Session: Abstract submission only
    ▪ 1st place: $300, 2nd place: $150, 3rd place: $75
  o For more information, contact GSS at gss@bgsu.edu
Treasurer
- Funds for Professional Development breakdown for Fall.
  - Deadline for payment collection: 30 days after the semester ends.
- Funds for Professional Development application opens December 26th, 2022.
- Committee for the FPD meets and decides on awarding successful applicants by Friday, February 10th.

Chair for Multicultural and Accessibility Graduate Student Affairs
- MLK Day of Service and Learning
  - Event will be held on Monday, January 16th, 2023
  - Symposium on Diversity: call for papers
    - Reach out to Dr. Cordula Mora (Director of the Center for Undergraduate Research and Scholarship) at cmora@bgsu.edu for more information.
- Latino/A/X Issues Conference
  - Call for Papers: Deadline is end of January
  - Event will be held March 15th, 2023.

Unfinished Business
- None to Report

New Business
- Election Protocol for New GSS SEC Elected Positions
  - Vice President began by announcing an additional meeting may need to be held to elect new positions after Constitution change at prior GA. Vice President opened the floor to discussion.
The Representative–At–Large motioned to extend the current appointed SEC members position to the end of the academic year
  - The Representative–At–Large later rescinded motion.

President offered point of clarification that this may impact stipends for these positions.

The Representative of Philosophy Masters motioned to table this discussion till the next GA meeting in January and this was seconded by the American Culture Studies, Doctoral Representative

Adjournment

- Meeting Adjourned: 4:59pm