



Graduate Student Association Meeting

Friday, February 9, 2024

MINUTES

Meeting starts at 5:35

- I. Call to Order
- II. Adoption of the Agenda
- III. Attendance of GSA Officers Recorded.

Desiray Slaughter, Dr. Miller, Itko Kobayashi, Katherine Miromonti, Cinnamon Morris, Veronica Golden, DJ Hardwick, Lisa Michael, Shenese Patterson, Uttam Goruganthu, Clivens Fresnel

Guest: Chris Hufsman, Senior Assistant Librarian, Buffalo State University

- IV. Agenda Approved
- V. December 08, 2023, GSA Meeting Minutes Approved
- VI. Remarks of the President, Shenese Patterson
 - a. Announced resignation of the Executive Vice President, Julia Lange due to health issues.
 - b. Cinnamon Morris elected as Executive Vice President for the remainder of year.
 - c. GSA Tentative Event Schedule reviewed.
 - Free AKG and Burchfield Penny events happening on the first and second Fridays of the month.
 - Welcome back event – February 15, 2024 - 4-7pm Campbell Assembly Hall
 - Tabling – seeking volunteers, dates to be determined.
 - Senate meetings – GSA senate meets virtually 2nd Friday of month at 5:30pm
 - Professional development events
 - Discounted events – if folks have ideas please communicate.
 - Mental health and first aid training
 - Excel training
 - Possibly Commuter breakfast
 - Chris Hufman spoke about the importance of utilizing the library and the research workshops. Many students regret not using the library or knowing about the resources the librarians can offer. Grad students should know there is someone willing to work with your schedule for research assistance.
 - The discussion of possible opportunities and skills for basic Excel will continue with Chris. A collaboration may be in the works.
- VII. Remarks of the GSA Administrative Liaison, Dr. Kevin Miller, Director, Graduate Studies
 - a. Graduate Advisory Committee – Shenese is available Tuesday February 20.
 - b. Merit-based applications – Deadline February 9, 2024
 - i. Applications fully complete (22 FT, 6 PT)
 - ii. Additional 5 partially completed.
 - iii. After they are reviewed and ranked – GSA will vote on number to fund.



- c. Graduate Student Research Fair & Capstone Contest – planning/volunteers needed - coming up soon taking volunteers to assist with planning. Executive VP leads planning for this event.
 - d. Graduate Faculty Meeting 3-5 pm on Friday, February 23 in Bulgar 217 – Senator Lisa Michael agreed to attend.
- VIII. Remarks of Vice President of Finance, Clivens Fresnel
- a. Presentation of the Amendment to the GSA Constitution
 - b. Motion passed to become amendment to the GSA Constitution:
 - i. Adjust Academic Line allocation from 90% to 85%.
 - ii. Modify Student Welfare Line allocation from 10% to 15%.
 - iii. Funding limited changed from \$3,000 to \$1,500.
 - iv. Amendment will be shared with graduate students for comment.
 - v. Amendment vote to occur at March GSA meeting
 - c. Discuss to change merit scholarship to one amount starting 2024/2025. This will be brought as a motion in March. Amount under consideration is \$1,000 per student full time or part time.
 - i. The GSA Constitution does not state a limit to number of awards to make available or amount. This has been determined by GSA Senate.
- IX. Remarks of Vice President of Administration, Desiray Slaughter
- a. Planning Committee update
 - Mentioned above in tentative event schedules.
 - Tabling in respective buildings to help GSA out to get our name out there. VP Slaughter will email everyone to see their availability and location they would like to table. Executive VP Morris will create graphic's when tabling dates determined.
- X. New Business
- a. GSA Social Media Platforms
 - b. Cinnamon has been working on visibility for GSA.
 - i. Upcoming event flyer shared on Instagram, Discord, Facebook
Discord because received a invitation from e sport group. It would be an effective way to get scholarships out there. Cinnamon can create graphics for events along with QR codes. If anyone wants flyers let Cinnamon know.
 - c. Remarks/Thoughts from Senators – constituent questions/comments
 - d. Other
- XI. Closing Comment
- XII. GSA Senate Meeting Reminder: March 8, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., April 12, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., May 10, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.: Graduate Student Research Fair & 3-Minute Capstone Contest Finals
- XIII. Adjournments

Meeting ends at 6:57