



Graduate Student Association Meeting

Friday, April 12, 2024

MINUTES

- I. Meeting called to Order at 5:38p.m.
- II. Adoption of the Agenda – Agenda Adopted
- III. Attendance of GSA Officers Recorded
 - Veronica Golden, Donald Hardwick, Kelsey Marino, Katherine Miromonti, Charvaye, Itoko Kobayashi, Desiray Slaughter, Navya Mehta, Shenese Patterson, Clivens Fresnel, Cinnamon Morris
 - GSA Liaison – Dr. Kevin Miller, GSA Faculty Advisor, Dr. Fredrick Floss
- IV. GSA Meeting Minutes Approved from March 8, 2024.
- V. Remarks of the President, Shenese Patterson
 - a. Puccio event and Wilson event for April.
 - b. We are still deciding on if the 23rd or the 24th works for the event. The 23rd is the date that works for the majority. Puccio's event is about creativity.
 - c. For Dr. Wilson May 2 at 7:30 could possibly work this date will give us time to plan and advertise it. Dr. Wilson's workshop is about professional branding.
 - d. At the recent drag show GSA approved money for fans but only received 90 fans. The drag show had a good turnout.
 - e. Shenese and Katherine attended open house and connected with students interested in GSA and gave out fliers.
 - f. End of year celebration still in the works. Possibly in campus house, off campus or union. If we spend enough money, they will stay open longer, any date in May is available, possibly April 30th, May 1st, 7th or 8th. If there is sufficient interest, we will host the event. If not, it will not be offered.
- VI. Remarks of the GSA Administrative Liaison, Dr. Kevin Miller, Director, Graduate Studies
 - a. At the April 16th Graduate Advisory Committee, GSA President Shenese Patterson update GAC on GSA events and opportunities for graduate students.
 - b. Merit-based applications - a total of 8 PT applications – 6 FT were funded. There was a total of 26 FT applications and 8 PT applications. Letters of notification were sent to all applicants. Awardees are being provide the option to have award sent to student accounts to be applied towards loan if they have a loan or have the award sent as a check, which may taxable.
 - c. Graduate Student Research Fair & Capstone Contest – set meeting with Executive VP Morris. Research fair poster presentation option is open to any research



graduate students are doing. All graduate students all are welcome and invited to present.

- d. Funding towards research fair – the recommended funding for the research fairs is \$1,800 for food and posters for graduate student poster presentations. Before COVID we were seeing presentation numbers in the 80s with the number increasing as it became more popular. Instructors liked having a venue for their students to present their work in a professional environment. This year two additional instructors are having their classes present with another sharing they intend to make it a course requirement in spring 2025.

VII. Remarks of Vice President of Finance, Clivens Fresnel

- a. Presentation of the Amendment to the GSA Constitution for vote. Amendment approved. The change in the GSA Constitution related to allocation of funds to Academic Line and Social Welfare Line will be made for 2024-2025 along with the reduction of travel and research funding from \$3,000 to \$1,500 per year per student.
- b. Review of approved guide for budget expenditures.
- c. Merit-based scholarship winners' allocation amount starting 2024/2025. Amount under consideration is \$1,000 per student full time or part time. GSA Constitution does not state a minimum or maximum number of awards to be awarded or a minimum or maximum amount per award. Senate decided to recommend \$1,000 per student full time or part time, and allow the 2024-2025 GSA to set the amount and number of total awardees for next year

VIII. Remarks of Executive Vice President Cinnamon Morris

- a. Motion to adopt \$2,800 spending proposal for Graduate Student Research Fair approved.
 - i. Expenditures for 2023 were \$1,497.89 Student Welfare (\$731 Balloon Masters; \$766.89 Chartwells) and \$800 Academic Line for Printing (\$575 Posters; \$225 Programs) for a total of \$2,297
 - ii. Motion for 2024 included \$1,800 Student Welfare (\$850 Balloon Masters; \$950 Chartwells) and \$1,000 Academic line for Printing posters and event programs.

IX. Remarks of Vice President of Administration, Desiray Slaughter

Presented estimate total cost of @ \$300 for light refreshments for tabling and professional development events and professional development events.

- a. Planning Committee update - tabling event set for April 15th 4pm-7pm Bacon Hall 2nd floor.



- X. New Business
 - a. Funding Request from Derek Smith for \$401.36 for refreshments at *Community Research Colloquium* in Buffalo on April 18 at Buffalo State. The event is open to all graduate students and made on behalf of MPA students. Motion approved.
 - b. Motion made for \$300 (estimate \$100 for each event) funding for refreshments for tabling and professional development events. Motion approved.
 - c. GSA Social Media Platforms – addition to GSA website. Upcoming event flyer shared on Instagram, possibly Discord Facebook. Cinnamon has been doing a great job keeping the social media up to date. Please tag GSA on any post if you are at conferences etc.
 - d. Remarks from Senators – constituent questions/comments – none presented.
 - e. GSA Officers will be acknowledged at the research fair. Every board member has added to the improvement of GSA this year. GSA will need a new executive board as current board members are graduating. Information will be going out soon.

- XI. GSA Reminder: GSA Graduate Student Research Fair is Friday May 10, 2024, 3-Minute Capstone Contest Finals begin at 5:00 p.m. followed by the award presentation of Outstanding Master’s Projects and Outstanding Thesis, and then the announcement of winners of the 3-Minute Capstone Contest Finals.

- XII. Meeting Adjourned at 6:34 p.m.