

Graduate Student Association

General Assembly Meeting

October | 2020 | 6PM — 7:45PM

Via Zoom

Meeting called by the GSA Co-Presidents Pedro Craveiro and Alex LeBrun

Notes recorded by Maya Zaynetdinova, VP of Communication and Events

- Introduction and sign in
- Community Agreement and Zoom Specific Agreements
- Roll Call//Academic Departments Present: [30 Graduate Representatives]
 - History of Art and Architecture [1]
 - Asian Studies [1]
 - Comparative Literature [1]
 - Film and Media Studies [1]
 - Latin American and Iberian Studies [1]
 - Linguistics [1]
 - Spanish and Portuguese [1]
 - Theater and Dance [1]
 - Biomolecular Science and Engineering [1]
 - Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology [2]
 - Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology [2]
 - Physics [1]
 - Earth Science [1]
 - Psychological and Brain Sciences [1]
 - Anthropology [1]
 - Communication [1]
 - Feminist Studies [1]
 - Geography [2]
 - Global Studies [1]
 - Political Science [1]
 - Chemical Engineering [2]
 - Electrical and Computer Engineering [2]
 - Education [1]
 - Bren [2]
- Approval of last meeting minutes // MOTION CONSENTED
- Approval of current agenda // MOTION CONSENTED

- Introductions of graduate representatives in breakout rooms
- Special Elections of Vice President of Financial Affairs
 - Kasie Mays
 - Eugene Riordan Jr.
 - **Melanie Adams (elected)**
- Presentation
 - UCSB Rapid Rehousing Program
- Administration Reports
 - Graduate Division Report // Dr. Carlos M. Nash and Robert Hamm
 - Graduate Council // Dr. Adam Sabra
- Executive Board Reports
 - Internal Co-President // Pedro Craveiro
 - GSA lounge closed until further notice
 - All social events are postponed until further notice
 - Virtual social events
 - Head Staff Lounge person appointed
 - MacKenzie Wade, Anthropology
 - Reallocated funds for the COVID-19 Relief Fund
 - Luke will talk about this shortly
 - OISS/GSA/GSRC partnership
 - GSA/GSRC/Grad Div Graduate Student Resource Packet
 - Officer of Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion
 - External Co-President // Alex LeBrun
 - Mandatory COVID-19 testing for graduate students in on-campus housing
 - On-Campus Graduate Student Instructional Spaces
 - HSSB and Library; 35 total rooms
 - Up to 6 hours per week; up to 10 weeks in advance
 - Computers available in HSSB
 - COVID protocols
 - Instructional Technology Grant for UCSB Graduate Students
 - Up to \$1,000; reimbursement okay
 - October 22nd Deadline
 - Anything for instruction or learning

- **Vice President of Communication and Events // Maya Zaynetdinova**
 - Graduate representatives:
 - Make sure you are an elected representative by your department
 - The number of grad reps varies by the size of the department (one for each 50 students)
 - In order to be added to the email list, you must fill out the grad rep form (can be found on our website <https://gsa.ucsb.edu>)
 - Don't forget to sign in!
 - Social media -> email me if you'd like to be featured or would like to promote a relevant student event

- **Vice President of Graduate Student Affairs // Jordan J. Tudisco**
 - UC SHIP decided to stop fully covering COVID-19 related expenses
 - Weekly testings required by the university as well as testing for people with symptoms are still covered but other "non-medically required" testing is not.
 - We are still waiting to hear from Student Health about medical costs.
 - Updates from the Covid-19 Response Team
 - LabCorp Flu Clinic Feedback
 - The UC is in the process of starting a UC-wide Telehealth program that will allow students to see medical providers and specialists from any UC campus through virtual consultation.
 - Nothing of interest yet from the Committee of Diversity and Equity or the Undergraduate Council
 - I will represent UCSB on the UC-wide Title IX Student Advisory Board

- **Vice President of External Affairs // Felicity Stone-Richards**
 - University of Graduate and Professional Council (UCGPC) which represents interests of graduate students in UC have made the following advocacy agenda.
 - Long Term for the year: raising the issue of police funding with UCOP and fighting for Basic Needs funding.
 - Short Term: Preparation for election, pushing voter registration drives, campaigning for Prop 15 (increase property taxes to fund public education) and Prop 16 (repeal ban on affirmative action), facilitating phone-banking to support Prop 16.

- **Vice President of Budget, Finances, and Committees // Luke Rosedahl**
 - The COVID19 Relief Fund was established in Spring 2020 to help students suffering from COVID19-related financial struggles.
 - We funded it with money that would normally be spent on programming but was going to go unspent due to COVID

- So far we have awarded over \$50,000 to 70+ applicants
 - Primarily for unexpected moving/housing expenses, emergency travel expenses, and medical expenses
- Funding:
 - In spring the GSA provided \$35,000 and Grad div provided \$10,000
 - Grad Div was able to fundraise an additional \$23,000 for Fall
 - There will be a bigger need than that, so we should allocate more of our funds
- Allocate more funds for the COVID Relief Grant
 - Officer Planning Retreat: \$350 of \$750 available
 - Bagel Hour: \$5.000 of \$16.000 available
 - GA's Dinner: \$1.500 of \$5.000 available
 - Social Hour: \$2.000 of \$5.000 available
 - Mosher: \$2.000 of \$6.000 available
 - Lounge Events: \$150 of \$1.500 available
 - Total: \$11,000
- Update COVID Relief Grant Guidelines (<https://gsa.ucsb.edu/covid19>)
 - Allow applicants to receive it more than once
- **Action Items** (Requires Assembly Vote)
 - *Vote to allocate \$11,000 in funds for the COVID Relief Grant: **APPROVED***
 - *22 in favor, 0 abstentions and 0 nays*
 - *Vote on the Updated COVID Relief Grant Guidelines: **APPROVED***
 - *18 in favor, 1 abstention and 1 nay.*
- **Announcements**
- **Adjournment**