

Graduate Student Association

General Assembly Meeting

May | 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: [27 Graduate Representatives]
 - History of Art and Architecture [1]
 - English [1]
 - Film and Media Studies [1]
 - History [1]
 - Religious Studies [1]
 - Spanish & Portuguese [1]
 - Theater and Dance [1]
 - Dynamical Neuroscience [1]
 - Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology [2]
 - Earth Science [1]
 - Marine Science [1]
 - Physics [2]
 - Anthropology [1]
 - Communication [1]
 - Geography [1]
 - Global Studies [1]
 - Political Science [1]
 - Sociology [2]
 - Chemical Engineering [1]
 - Electrical and Computer Engineering [2]
 - Education [1]
 - Bren [2]
- Approval of last meeting minutes // MOTION CONSENTED
- Approval of current agenda // MOTION CONSENTED

- **Presentation**
 - *Mutual Aid at UC Santa Barbara*
 - *Student Researchers United Campaign*
- **Administration Reports**
 - *Graduate Division Report // Dr. Carlos M. Nash and Robert Hamm*
 - *Graduate Council // Dr. Adam Sabra*
 - *Academic Senate*
- **Executive Board Reports**
 - **Internal Co-President // Pedro Craveiro**
 - GSA Dixon-Levy Service Award Recipients (5)
 - GSA Excellence in Teaching Award Recipients (14)
 - The ceremony is next June 1 at 7 pm (after our last General Assembly of the year)
 - Register in advance at <https://tinyurl.com/awardsgsa>
 - **External Co-President // Alex LeBrun**
 - Ongoing Budget Talks
 - FY2020-2021: No cuts. The governor's budget reinstated their previous cuts, and we took a loan.
 - FY21-22: Looks like ~3% budget cut across the board, depending on a lot of factors including the June governor budget.
 - Beyond: Big structural deficits campus-wide
 - Fall Reopening
 - Two major points: (1) it is happening, (2) admin is working to make the transition easy.
 - How is it happening? Mandating the Covid-19 vaccine
 - Issues being worked out on the mandate: Medical/religious/personal refusals, enforcement, international-specific issues.
 - Ongoing discussions about classroom sizes, mask-wearing in the classroom, undergraduates who do not comply with measures, professors asking too much of their TAs if hybrid
 - The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) Grant
 - Systemwide Police Policies and Administrative Procedures Review
 - UCSB's Academic Senate strongly rejected the Police Policies, calling it "severely out of alignment with current best practices and general public expectations around policing."
 - One aspect to note is that the document criticized the role of policing in civil protests (like the COLA protests, which had plainclothes officers).
 - This document got systemwide criticism, including from UCLA.

- **Vice President of Communication and Events // Maya Zaynetdinova**
 - Elections are over!
 - Voter turnout: 702 votes (24.8% - up 1.5% compared to 2020)
 - All fees reaffirmed
 - New Executive Board announced
 - Commencement registration is open until May 10th (Oprah Winfrey will be the keynote speaker)
- **Vice President of Graduate Student Affairs // Jordan J. Tudisco**
 - No relevant news from the Committee on Diversity and Equity and the Undergraduate Council (mostly curriculum changes for undergrads)
 - No relevant news from the UC-Wide Title IX Student Advisory Board
 - No relevant news from Health Insurance (next meeting Mid-May)
 - Housing will move forward with changes to the roommate preference form (mostly changing the questions about gender identity and sexual orientation) and will move forward with a new form for gender-inclusive housing
 - Student Health had a health equity listening session (with little attendance) but the main discussion points were:
 - Racist, transphobic, homophobic, fatphobic, ableist micro-aggressions are still rampant, especially on the non-patient facing side of things (insurance or pharmacy for instance); also, biased problematic discourses about which kind of students are more expensive than others, i.e.: queer men because of PREP)
 - Access to Student Health being inequitable and unfair due to expensive parking
 - Issues with biased beliefs at Student Health surrounding who needs STI testing more often and who doesn't
 - Insufficient coverage of trans-affirming care and surgeries
- **Vice President of External Affairs // Felicity Stone-Richards**
 - Had meetings with the higher education teams of Senator Limon and Assembly member Bennett to lobby for bail reform bill, police accountability, and affordable housing bills. Generally both teams in support, but final position contingent on final wordings of the bills when they move to the other house
 - Had meeting with Pres Drake to discuss housing and funding for racial equity reforms, UCGPC trying to gather data to track retention of POC faculty and students in each department on campus
 - UCGPC and UCSA interviewed semi-finalists of Student Regent candidates, final 3 sent to Regents

- Vice President of Financial Affairs // Melanie Adams
 - New system for processing payments underway
 - GSA budget being prepared for past year and upcoming year
- Action Items
 - Vote to approve the GSA Resolution in Support of Student Researcher Unionization // PASSED [24 yes, 1 abstain]
- Announcements
- Adjournment