Introduction and sign-in

Community Agreements

Roll Call (24 representatives present)

Approval of last meeting minutes – MOTION APPROVED

Approval of current agenda – MOTION APPROVED

GSA Executive Board Elections are Coming!

Every April, we elect a new GSA EBoard - you should consider running!

Benefits:

1. Be a voice for graduate students both in UCSB and in greater contexts (UCOP/DC)
2. Learn more than you ever wanted to know about academic administrations
3. Collaborate with students on events, workshops and activities
4. $$$$$
   a. Co-presidents: $10,000/year
   b. Vice-President of Finances: $7,750
   c. Other Vice-Presidents: $7,250

Your officers would love to get coffee with you and discuss their roles - office hours with more general explanation to follow!

Feedback from GA Format Survey

- Each quarter, there are three General Assemblies
  - One in person
Two in Zoom

- We tried this format last quarter, and asked for feedback in December

Of the 18 respondents, we had:

- 12 respondents approved of this format
- 3 respondents would prefer more in-person meetings
- 3 respondents would prefer more Zoom meetings

Administration Reports
Graduate Division

- The Graduate Division would like to welcome Dr. Mia Nowotarski as the new Writing Specialist.
  - 2023 PhD in Chemistry
  - 2020 National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Recipient
  - Provide one-on-one consultation to graduate students through appointments
  - Develop and lead workshops on a variety of writing topics of interest to graduate students and as requested by individual departments
  - If you’d like to schedule a consultation with her, please email her at mnowotarski@graddiv.ucsb.edu.

- Registration for 2024 Grad Slam is now open
  - Preliminary round: 4–12 March 2024
  - Final round: 5 April 2024
  - Info and registration at gradslam.ucsb.edu/2024
  - Priority registration deadline: 16 February 2024

- Fundamentals in Public Speaking Certificate Program
  - Provides a way for scholars to both develop and demonstrate competency in public speaking
  - Topics covered: content development, stage presence, and visuals
  - The series is open to graduate students and postdoctoral in any discipline
and at any stage in their program

- Programming: 5 February–12 March 2024
- Learn more about each session and sign up via the Graduate Student Resource Center page on Shoreline

- GSRC Winter 2024 Programming
  - Complete listing on GSRC Shoreline page
  - Programming:
    - Fundamentals in Public Speaking Certificate Program
    - Beyond Academia 2024 Conference (28 Feb–1 Mar)
    - Career Development
    - Funding & Finances
    - Diversity & Outreach
    - International Students

Co-sponsorship Requests

- Chem PD - Entrepreneurial Success Seminar
  - Emile Morin

Chem PD: Entrepreneurial Success Seminar Co-sponsorship request

**VOTE: APPROVED**

Yes: 23
No: 0
Abstain: 0

Executive Board Report

Annjulie Vester (External)
Need a graduate student representative for the College of Letters and Sciences Faculty Executive Committee (FEC)
- biweekly on Thursdays from 2-4

VP Graduate Student Affairs: Felicia Rutland
HEALTHCARE
expected rate increase next year ~24 to 30% (23-24 year 10.7%)

Contracts and Opportunities Working Group

kwabena agyare yeboah, History, Engagement Lead
Sai Sukruth Bezugam, Electrical & Computer Engineering
Daniel Cervantes, Co-Chair, Political Science
Alicia Geng, Gevirtz Graduate School of Education
Mayra Gomez-Labrada, Co-Chair, Theater and Dance

Healthcare Working Group

Taft Crowley, Political Science
Xinru Du, Technology Management
Yuehao Gao, Media Arts and Technology
My Thu Tran, Co-Chair, Geography
Kris Troy, Co-Chair, Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology (MCDB)
Ashvini Varatharaj, Linguistics, Humanistic Lead
Olivia Wander, Political Science

Housing Working Group

Will Heo, Co-Chair, Economics
Shaylee Larson, Co-Chair, BioEngineering
Ye Mu, Geography
Carina Paredes-Rivera, Spanish and Portuguese
Shreyas Parthasarathy, Physics
Timothy Perez, Sociology
George Tsouloufas, Political Science
Lindsey Washiashi, MCDB

VP Budget, Finance, & Committees: Adrienne Tsikewa

- General Fund: $180,000 (estimated)
  - Lounge $46,000
  - Events $9000
  - General Assembly $7000
  - Co-sponsorships $15,000
  - Affinity Groups $8000
  - Committee Stipends $10,000
  - GSRC co-sponsorships $5,250
• Executive Board $44,500
• GSA Awards $500
• Travel $10,000
• Miscellaneous $3,500
• Retreat $1,000
• TOTAL= $164,250

Through November 2023
July -Nov = $40,982.22/$14,405.15 supplies & expenses

• Other Funds:
  • Emergency Grant $50,000 (approx.) for the year (F, W, SPR)
    • quarterly fee increase $2.89→$5.78
    • Fall = $19,200.78
    • Fall disbursement total = $11,550 to 17 students
    • Winter = $17,339.81
  • Conference Travel Grants $52,000 (approx.) for the year
    • Carry forward = $80,622.37
    • Deadline for winter = 1/26/24
    • Fall = $18,927.88
    • $37,500 each quarter (F, W, SPR)
    • Fall disbursement estimate = $29,500
    • Winter = $16,952.32
    • Currently 58 applications; 51 requesting max amount = $500

• Other Funds:
  • Child Care Grants $39,000 for the year
    • Carry forward $20,000
    • Fall = $14,452.83
    • Fall disbursement total = $10,800
    • Winter = $12,960.41
  • Summer Bus passes $18,000 for the year
    • Carry forward $24,000
    • Fall = $6,937.48
    • Winter = $6,235.79
    • Pause or decrease amount for upcoming fee affirmation?
Committee on Library, Information and Instructional Resources

Open Forum on Data Management Across the Disciplines
Feb. 23, 2024 12:30-3:30
Focus will be on data management and the facilities that exist or are needed to assist faculty and students in managing their data; gain understanding of the shortfall of support, with an eye toward issuing a recommendation on where future campus planning and investment would be most useful

Would like two students (preferably one STEM & one SHEF) to present on their data management experiences. Compensation will be in the form of committee hours.

- atskewa@ucsb.edu
- gsa-vpfa@ucsb.edu
- Subject line = Data Management Forum volunteer

Voting Item: Affinity Group Support
Women in Science and Engineering

VOTE: FUNDING APPROVED
66.7% Yes
29.2% Abstain

Report
UAW Region 6 Political Action & Leadership Conference

Region 6 - western states of the US

UC Graduate Academic Student Employees & Student Researchers (Local 2865) & UC Postdocs (Local 5810) fall under Region 6 of the UAW

Big time for Region 6: there have recently been 50,000 workers newly unionized in Region 6 and Tesla workers are in an historic process of unionizing

What we did:

- Workshop pressing issues: climate justice, corporate greed, social justice (new union organizing, contract campaigns, political action)
- Talk to other workers in other industries: Tesla & the Big 3
- 2024 goals discussion

Tesla workers are in the middle of a historic fight to unionize. Harassment, discrimination & bullying abound in HE & Tesla workplaces. UC Graduate Academic Student Employees & Postdocs will now be amalgamated under one local.

- Bargaining in 2025
- Plan from now to move towards this

ADJOURNED