Graduate and Professional Student Association

The Pennsylvania State University 315 HUB-Robeson Center University Park, PA 16802 Ema[il: gpsaoffice@gmail.com](mailto:gpsaoffice@gmail.com)

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| GPSA 70th Assembly Meeting | Wednesday, November 11, 2020 | 6:00 pm | Zoom meeting |

**Actions Items:**

* Alex Zhao is meeting with the Board of Trustees on Friday, November 13, 2020, so let him know if there are any concerns or issues he should bring up.
* Alex Zhao is meeting with the deans of the Graduate School soon so le let him know if there are any concerns or issues he should bring up.
* Let Katy Gerace know if you’re interested in participating in, or have questions about, the Thanksgiving Basket Drive.
* Dr. Matthew Ferrari’s Data 4 Action COVID-19 study is accepting volunteers, get in touch with them if interested in being part of it (<https://covid-19.ssri.psu.edu/data4action>).
* If interested in serving as the GPSA State College Borough Council Student Representative, please apply by November 30th: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfFhoAkF3thTtrTjteusTCYwm4itV4b-YECnA80VTpfW3H-1g/viewform>.

**Legislation Passed:**

* Resolution 70-16 – Constitutional Amendment (Articles XI and XIII)
* Resolution 70-17 – Bylaws Amendment (Proxies)

**Agenda**

1. Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM
2. Roll Call – See Appendix I
3. Adoption of the Agenda
   1. Amended to change the parenthetical notation for Resolution 70-16 (“Membership Eligibility” changed to “Articles XI and XIII”).
4. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes from October 28, 2020: Approved
5. Open Student Forum:
   1. **Zach Goldberg:** Interested in filling the last EMS spot, so checking out GPSA
      1. Also wanted to raise a Geography student issue in that the Graduate School is limiting quarter-time summer appointments, which would present problems for a number of employees.
      2. Hoping that GPSA and Grad Council could potentially address this particular issue.
      3. **Questions**
         1. **Diego Hernandez:** Advocacy & Diversity Committee deals with issues related to student equity, but happy to continue this conversation offline ([zag5022@psu.edu](mailto:zag5022@psu.edu)) to try to address this problem.
         2. **Alex Zhao:** Happy to follow up with you about this as well as bring this up to the Deans of the Graduate School because my understanding is that EMS is changing its policies, but want to see what the Deans can do.
            1. Alex will follow up with Zach as well.
         3. **Claire Kelling:** This issue isn’t under the Grad Council’s purview, it would be addressed in the way that Alex mentioned. Thank you for coming and bringing this to us though since it doesn’t seem like this is strictly an EMS issue.
         4. **Star Sharp:** Want to echo Claire to say thank you for coming to Open Student Forum and bringing this issue to our attention.
   2. **Courtney Cole:** Since alternative grading isn’t as much of an option for grad students this semester, what steps should I take to try to get an alternate grade for one particular class that has been challenging?
      1. **Alex Zhao:** Get in touch with Dean Ades or Dean Preston to discuss this matter, but if you’d like help with this, let me know and I can reach out as well.
      2. **Claire Kelling:** That is a Grad Council issue and the appeal doesn’t have to be extensive, it can be brief, but please go through the appeals process if you have an issue with grading as a graduate student.
6. Special Presentation: Kelly Wolgast, Director of the COVID-19 Operations Control Center
   1. COVID-19 cases up throughout the U.S., including Pennsylvania, so want to do testing and take preventative measures to avoid further spread.
   2. Active Efforts
      1. Return Home Program – broad outreach and voluntary testing by appointment for students between November 12th and 19th at University Park
         1. Advocating for all students leaving University Park to get tested at least three days before they depart.
         2. Encourage grad students remaining over Thanksgiving to take a test on the 19th and quarantine over Thanksgiving break.
         3. Appointments are preferred, but will not turn anyone away who shows up at the BJC to be tested.
      2. Call Center (814-865-2121) – call with questions
         1. Most people calling with testing questions
      3. Testing Options – Surveillance and walk-up testing ends today (November 11th)
         1. This testing concluded to encourage students to go to the BJC to get tested.
         2. Please encourage colleagues, friends, students, committees, etc. to sign up to get tested before departing campus.
      4. Currently discouraging international travel for domestic students at Penn State
         1. Most international countries have restrictions related to COVID-19
         2. Certain states and counties within the U.S. also have restrictions on travel, so check those before traveling.
      5. Employees who remain on campus can opt-in to future voluntary testing
   3. What happens after Thanksgiving
      1. Students residing on campus after Thanksgiving will be small in number
      2. Will not have seven-day walk-up testing, but there will still be walk-up testing after Thanksgiving Break.
      3. UHS will also have operations (more details forthcoming) so students and employees know procedures for over the holiday break.
      4. Will continue to provide quarantine and isolation spaces over Thanksgiving Break (so if student tests positive on the 18th and elects to stay behind, there is space for them).
   4. Goal is for all students to understand their health status before departing for break
      1. If positive and choose to leave, will at least have that knowledge.
   5. **Questions and Comments**
      1. **Mandy Burton:** Could you describe what the process is like for testing between the 12th and 19th?
         1. This is the VaultHealth spit test, so bring your smartphone and sign in. You’ll drop off your sample and leave the BJC.
         2. Queue lines will be spaced and masks are required.
         3. Do NOT need to bring your insurance card for this.
      2. **Diego Hernandez:** COVID-19 disproportionately affects communities of color, does PSU have any resources for those communities?
         1. What types of resources are you thinking would be appropriate?
            1. Things like insurance, monetary assistance, and mental health support.
         2. We have resources in place for students available through Student Affairs
            1. Don’t avoid testing because you think you can’t afford it (it’s free) or the university will pick up the bill
            2. COVID-19 related concerns tied to things like housing can also be brought to Student Affairs; some CARES money leftover
      3. **Steven Baksa:** Is the testing also free for employees, especially those present over Thankgsiving break?
         1. The opt-in testing is at no cost to employees, but going through the health plan might involve some costs.
      4. **Steven Baksa:** If an individul were to test positive for COVID-19, what is the protocol in that scenario?
         * 1. If it’s a student who decides not to travel, we will offer them an isolation/quarantine space if they are an on-campus student.
           2. If the student is living in a tenable off-campus situation (own bathroom and bedroom), they can isolate in their own space; if not in a tenable living space, on-campus quarantine space offered to them.
           3. Students not required to stay if they test positive, so if they still choose to leave, the University will provide isolation guidance for being at home.
      5. **Steven Baksa:** So the university is not requiring testing or isolation?
         1. No, we can’t do that; can offer advice and space to isolate, but can’t force anyone into a room.
         2. On-campus quarantine spaces also available to graduate students.
      6. **Brooke Mattern:** Will the random surveillance testing be resumed after Thanksgiving Break?
         1. The surveillance model we have right now wouldn’t work with the population after Thanksgiving Break, so instead of mandatory surveillance testing, we’ll go for aggressive messaging about opt-in testing.
         2. Aim is to test all on-campus students once a week after Thanksgiving Break.
         3. Will reduce testing sites down to two – one at Beaver Stadium and another elsewhere on campus.
      7. **Niladri Sekhar Mandal:** How is the randomness of the surveillance testing determined? What’s the algorithm/mechanics being used?
         1. Data that we’re using involves LionPath and assignations to hybrid or on-campus classes as well as lab spaces – data isn’t pure
         2. Also removing those who test positive or symptomatic from the pool.
         3. People being removed as information changes for people (addresses or if they move to all online courses, for instance)
         4. Next semester planning to move from a surveillance model to a screening model – will make that announcement by the end of the month.
         5. We overenroll and overinvite students to participate in the surveillance testing to meet the 1% threshold.
      8. **Ali Watts:** Could you talk about how the return to campus in January will differ from the plan for Fall 2020?
         1. Advocate for everyone to get their flu shots
         2. Every area in the country is at high-risk right now, so have to take that into account and still working out plans and understanding of Penn State’s laboratory capacities.
         3. Plan will be clear sometime in December
         4. Important to have a test on record now since that helps as a point in reference for tests in January.
            1. Having a positive COVID-19 test in December can still mean you test positive in January – if that test isn’t on record with PSU, the university would ask that student to quarantine even if they’re no longer contagious.
      9. **Yasha Duggal:** For the testing over winter break, how frequent will it be?
         1. I don’t know that answer yet, it will depend on how many students stay on or around campus over winter break. There will be some availability, though it won’t be as much as this semester or even this month because of the lower population.
      10. **Niladri Sekhar Mandal:** Is information available about the testing process and where would students go to find information about those tests?
          1. The PCR test (provided by VaultHealth) tests DNA, it’s a confirmation test and the accuracy rates are more or less perfect.
          2. Task surveillance testing hasn’t failed accuracy tests; PCR is the gold standard for COVID-19 right now.
             1. Inconclusive = presumed positive
      11. **Ali Watts:** Could you talk me through who has access to student testing?
          1. If they’re registered as a student with PSU, they have access to student testing.
          2. If an employee, also has access to employee testing, so get the best of both worlds.
          3. Student testing is really aimed at on-campus students and students living in a campus community.
      12. **Nico Terry:** I'm wondering to what extent the restrictions or advice to refrain from international travel are based on the logistics of that travel as compared to unknown COVID conditions, possible future travel restrictions preventing those students' return, or some other factors. Given that the US seems to be a strong contender for the most severely affected country at this time, travel restrictions for outgoing trips may be more effective in protecting outside communities from our students (not that there's anything wrong with that) and I'm wondering: what narratives have been chosen to communicate about these decisions, and why were those lines of reasoning chosen?
          1. All of the above, want to make students aware of the risks of international travel
          2. Global Programs spearheading the information campaign for international students.
      13. **Diego Hernandez:** Is there any discussion about moving Spring 2021 entirely online given the circumstances in the United States?
          1. Dr. Wolgast advises President Barron about on-ramps and off-ramps
             1. What they’re doing is watching what other Big 10 schools and universities are doing.
             2. Also listening to advice from Governor Wolf and the Pennsylvania state government
          2. Right now on track to resume classes on January 19th as planned.
      14. **Julia Kelliher:** Is it still possible to get a COVID-19 test after Thanksgiving break starts?
          1. Would advise getting tested on the 19th since it’ll take a day or two to get the results back.
          2. After testing on the 19th, self-quarantine until you depart State College.
7. Executive Officer Reports
   1. President – Alex Zhao
      1. Borough Council Representative application is live
         1. Representing GPSA and larger graduate and professional student population on the Borough Council.
         2. The social services available to the State College community *are* available to graduate and professional students, so feel free to use them as necessary.
      2. Meetings with Student Leader Roundtable and Student Affairs leadership
         1. Discussed climate change and racial justice resolutions
      3. Meeting with Board of Trustees on Friday, so let Alex know if there are issues or questions for him to bring up
      4. Also meeting with Graduate School deans soon, so let him know if there are issues or questions for him to bring up.
   2. **Questions and Comments**
      1. **Claire Kelling:** How did people react to the climate change and racial justice resolutions?
         1. Some elements of the climate change resolution controversial (fossil fuel donors, zero emissions goals, etc.), but others, such as research, welcomed.
         2. Racial justice points referred to the student code of conduct review
      2. **Diego Hernandez:** What will be your approach to the Board of Trustees given the anticipated resistance to certain climate change resolution recommendations?
         1. Basically, the approach is to highlight how much students and student governments support these plans and measures.
      3. **Claire Kelling:** Did you bring up compensation of task force/committee members?
         1. Didn’t bring it up at this meeting, but will bring it up on Friday.
         2. **Claire Kelling** suggests those elements would be more appropraite for Student Affairs to hear and Alex will bring them up at the next meeting.
      4. **Star Sharp:** How many other Big 10 schools are net zero and, if they exist, which ones have done so?
         1. Not sure, but will look into it and continue the conversation offline.
   3. Vice President – Julia Kelliher
      1. Student Leader Roundtable
         1. Dr. Matt Ferrari looking at how many PSU students have had COVID-19, what the spillover into the community has been, and what the overall effect on the community has been (<https://covid-19.ssri.psu.edu/data4action>)
            1. Noted that about 25% of those tested had COVID-19 antibodies.
            2. Recommended the university go online, but that suggestion was disregarded.
      2. **Questions and Comments**
         1. **Niladri Sekhar Mandal:** What was the impact on the community?
            1. Tested some community members, but antibody levels much lower in the community (2%) compared to the 25-30% level on campus.
            2. Data 4 Action accepting volunteers for the study, get in touch with them if interested in being part of it; have to opt in.
   4. Treasurer – Matt Billups
      1. Nothing to report
   5. Secretary – Katie Warczak
      1. Please let me know if mispronouncing delegates’ names or if delegates enter the meeting after attendance has been taken
      2. Committee chairs please send her attendance records after each committee meeting
      3. Sending out the newsletter tomorrow, please submit any event announcements or graphics by noon
   6. Faculty Senate – Star Sharp
      1. No Faculty Senate meeting this month (November always a skipped month)
      2. Last meeting was a special session concerned with the P/F measures for the undergraduates.
      3. Special presentation on Canvas being held tomorrow at 2:30; Star will put the information in the chat.
      4. Put the Spring 2021 Wellness Days dates in Slack
      5. **Questions and Comments**
         1. **Claire Kelling**:Graduate School opted not to offer alternative grading to graduate students, has there been any reaction from Faculty Senate?
            1. No, haven’t heard anything from them, but it’s a shame since Faculty Senate voted to offer alternative grading to undergraduates, not to have SRTEs, and similar measures.
            2. Graduate students seem to be falling through the cracks since every other population on campus seems to have a safety net and protective measures; it’s very disappointing.
         2. **Claire Kelling:** Was surprised to see no interaction between Faculty Senate and Graduate Council on this – didn’t the Faculty Senate speak about students generally and not just undergraduates? Is there potential for further discussion or is it a done deal?
            1. I think the Faculty Senate was using “students” broadly, but ended up only meaning undergraduates.
            2. Would be worthwhile reaching out to Faculty Senate and mentioning that the Faculty Senate didn’t specify that the measures discussed only applied to undergrads.
         3. **Ashley Smalls:** Did I hear correctly that SRTEs aren’t being used this semester? And if so, it seems strange that this relief is being provided, but not alternative grading for grad students.
            1. Yes, SRTEs are being pushed down the road because faculty have concerns about them being biased.
            2. Star will bring grad student alternative grading issue to Faculty Senate and post the answer on Slack.
   7. Graduate Council – Claire Kelling
      1. Grad Council met today and decided to open their meetings to all university community members starting in Spring 2021.
      2. Grad Student Faculty Issues Committee started working on ombudsprogram – there will be four ombudspeople; the application will go out soon and will require a letter of recommendation from a graduate student.
         1. Will get a service release from their departmental/college duties.
      3. Discussed not granting alternative grading options to grad students
         1. Doesn’t think grad students had any input on this issue.
      4. Considering adding 120-day timeline for qualifying exam retakes
         1. Lots of pushback against this from graduate students and will be reworked by the relevant committee for the December meeting.
      5. **Questions and Comments**
         1. **Niladri Sekhar Mandal:** Did the Graduate School take the Grad Council’s thoughts into account before making the decision about alternative grading systems for grad students?
            1. No, Grad Council didn’t vote on this and while the Grad School seems to have consulted faculty and the like, no input from grad students was requested.
         2. **Niladri Sekhar Mandal**:Would there be any exemptions from the 120-day rule?
            1. Exemptions would be possible, but it would establish a university-wide requirement.
            2. Quite a few issues related to this proposal that still need to be ironed out.
            3. Main reason they’re doing this is to prevent grad students from staying in an incompatible program for too long.
         3. **Sandeep Krishnakumar:** Will the alternative grading system be available next semester if it’s available this semester?
            1. Really don’t want to do alternative grading systems for anyone in the Spring 2021 semester, so likely that such systems will go away in the spring unless things get much worse.
            2. **Star Sharp:** The decision to allow the alternative grading system again wasn’t universal and it’s likely we won’t know what will happen in Spring 2021 until the end of the semester.

Continuing to kick the issues down the road, which is problematic for students as well as faculty.

Will inquire with head of Faculty Senate to see if there are plans to decide what is going to happen with alternative grading in Spring 2021 before April.

* + - * 1. **Sandeep Krishnakumar:** Thanks, lots of what they’re saying right now in terms of policies doesn’t seem fair.

1. Resolution 70-16 – Constitutional Amendment (Articles XI and XIII)
   1. Adding more specificity to the Constitutional Articles
      1. “act” becomes “resolution” in Article XI, Section A
      2. “brought” becomes “proposed” in Article XIII, Section A
      3. Language clarified so that it doesn’t say that the Assembly and the graduate and professional student body must propose referenda jointly.
   2. **Questions**
   3. **Discussion**

**RESOLUTION PASSES 37-0-0 – See Appendix II**

1. Resolution 70-17 – Bylaws Amendment (Proxies)
   1. Trying to make the language around declaring proxies and who can serve as a proxy clearer.
      1. Strongly encouraged to find a proxy
      2. Delegates not required, but strongly encouraged, to find a proxy from within their constituency.
      3. Faculty Senator can serve as a proxy.
   2. **Questions**
   3. **Discussion**
      1. **Artemio Cardenas:** Happy to serve as a proxy, but want to warn against setting things in stone a little too much.
         1. **Claire Kelling:** Aiming to save time and offer clarity since this is a question that comes up multiple times a year, though it might be too specific.
      2. **Diego Hernandez:** Think that Claire has a point here in trying to make it more explicit because more delegates are absent without proxies than absent with proxies.
      3. **Artemio Cardenas:** Better to ask the question on Slack or reach out to the Speaker because it’s unlikely that a lot of delegates are going to the by-laws for answers
      4. **Alex Zhao:** Other delegates can’t be proxies, but the Faculty Senator can be, so is everyone else forbidden from being a proxy?
         1. **Claire Kelling:** Yes, the elected Faculty Senator without GPSA voting privileges is the only member of the Assembly who can serve as a proxy.
         2. **Alex Zhao:** Would it make sense then to change “assembly” on line 18 to “GPSA”?
            1. **This amendment was suggested and approved.**

**RESOLUTION PASSES 37-0-0 – See Appendix II**

1. Reports
   1. Speaker of the Assembly – Yasha Duggal
      1. Not much to report
      2. Will take **Artemio Cardenas**’s suggestion and put proxies into the absence form along with a reminder that delegates cannot serve as proxies.
      3. Great work, everyone!
   2. Advocacy and Diversity – Diego Hernandez
      1. Town Hall follow-up event happening on Wednesday, December 2nd from 7-8:30 PM
      2. Asking delegates to share information about this within their departments and colleges so that social media advertising is being supplemented.
      3. Mental health issues
         1. Need to increase awareness and possibly come up with some wellness activities and/or trainings
         2. Looking into trainings for suicide prevention and awareness and come up with a plan for Spring 2021.
   3. Professional Development – Justin Korman
      1. Had stress management event last week; went well and might ask Dr. Korman to do another session.
      2. Meeting this Friday to continue working on the mentoring program.
      3. **Questions and Comments**
         1. **Diego Hernandez:** I attended the mental health event with your father and it was a great event with a lot of resources provided, so thanks to you and your dad for putting that on.
   4. Programming - Jocelyn Delgado
      1. Pottery event registration still ongoing – next Pottery Night is November 18th
   5. Community Outreach – Katy Gerace
      1. Arboretum planting event went well – planted up to 1,000 bulbs between Saturday and Sunday.
      2. Thanksgiving Basket Drive
         1. Historically, different organizations have put together baskets for Centre County families in need, but this year just providing $20 gift cards.
         2. Encouraging delegates to spread the word about this effort.
         3. Let Katy know if there are questions about this drive
   6. Internal Development – Steven Baksa
      1. Danny Shaha working on scheduling a meeting between ID and the Ethics Committee to set up the anonymous reporting mechanism.
      2. Looking into Exec Board compensation pilot program
         1. Corresponding with Damon Sims and UPUA – meeting set for Dec. 11th at 3 PM.
         2. Currently doing research on what other colleges have done in relation to compensation packages for graduate and undergraduate associations (thus far, only Rutgers has responded and neither group receives compensation).
      3. Wants to thank Natalie DeSouza for advertising the Open Student Forum
      4. **Questions and Comments**
         1. **Alex Zhao:** Will pass on info from the Big 10 GroupMe that he is in.
2. Liasion Reports
   1. Graduate Council Ad Hoc Committee on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion – Diego Hernandez
      1. Working on emphasizing and advertising diversity, equity, and inclusion resources already available since they are often overlooked.
      2. Coming up with a strategic plan and will meet again in December.
   2. Student Transportation Commission – Alex Zhao
      1. West Parking Lot to reopen by end of year
      2. Move to ZipCar rather than Enterprise (which is closing its rideshare program)
      3. Scooters might also be available depending on whether they’re made legal.
      4. **Questions and Comments**
         1. **Nico Terry:** Is ZipCar still functioning?
            1. Yes, just shut down for a few months
   3. Search Committee for the Assistant Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Student Affairs – Will Searight
      1. Have interviewed a number of candidates and are moving into the final rounds
      2. **Questions and Comments**
         1. **Claire Kelling:** Are those names public?
            1. Not sure, but won’t disclose to be safe.
         2. **Claire Kelling:** Will there be public presentations or the like?
            1. Not sure, will check and get back to everyone.
         3. **Diego Hernandez:** Echoing Claire, can you let us know what information you can share?
            1. Yes, will get that info tomorrow morning.
         4. **Claire Kelling:** Can you let them know that we’re interested in participating so they’re more inclined to include us?
            1. Yes
         5. **Star Sharp:** What is the position being filled?
            1. Assistant Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Student Affairs (under Damon Sims)
3. Judiciary – The Honorable Schonn Franklin
   1. Updated Constitution and By-Laws
4. Student Truestee – Bryan Culler
   1. Want to remind everyone about upcoming election for Student Trustee position, applications will go out after January 1, 2021.
   2. Alex is on the selection committee
   3. More details forthcoming in January
   4. Board meeting starts tomorrow at 8 AM and Friday is the executive meeting along with the public Board of Trustees meeting
      1. If there are any concerns or questions that need to be passed on to the Board of Trustees, let Alex, Julia, or Bryan know.
   5. Board of Trustees Diversity Goals
      1. Don’t yet have clarification on the definition of “diversity” but it will be looked at by the new Diversity & Equity Committee
   6. **Questions and Comments**
      1. **Diego Hernandez:** How do you as a Student Truestee advocate for grad students and how do you separate grad student issues from undergrad concerns? Also, tomorrow, could you inquire a bit more about the diversity questions we had last time?
         1. **Alex Zhao:** Yes, we’ll bring those questions up again
         2. **Bryan Culler:** In terms of the graduate-undergraduate divide, it’s the same for campus, World Campus, commonwealth, etc. I depend on Alex, Julia, and the like to convey graduate concerns to me.
         3. Difficult to represent so many different people, so important to keep lines of communication open to people who can share concerns.
      2. **Diego Hernandez:** We have the opportunity to really solidify this relationship with Bryan for the remainder of his term as well as his successor so that we can ensure advocates are advocating appropriately for all groups.
         1. **Bryan Culler:** You’re absolutely right and I’ve talked with Claire before about setting up something so that students can meet with trustees and have more contact with them.
         2. **Claire Kelling:** Just had a successful argument to the Borough Council that one person cannot represent both graduate and undergraduate students, let alone World Campus and Commonwealth students, so we need to think really critically about whether one person can effectively represent all students.
         3. **Artemio Cardenas:** Glad you’re bringing up the diversity issue and don’t let them just dismiss your suggestion on the basis that Board of Trustees members come from a wide variety of places that the Board doesn’t have control over.
            1. **Bryan Culler:** Definitely agree with that and should encourage exterior sources of Board of Trustees members to consider diversity when appointing people. Term turnover one of the obstacles to this as well, so need to work on diversity for the next term.
         4. **Star Sharp:** What is the strategy to have a diverse selection committee as well as candidates?
            1. Trying to use connections to other leaders on campus to advertise openings to their constituencies, especially if they are an identity-based group.
            2. Need to go straight to diversity groups with applications
            3. Open to suggestions as to how to better pursue diversity efforts.

**Star Sharp:** Would recommend working with Associate Deans and making ure people know that positions are available and divesrse applicants are wanted.

* + - * 1. Will reach out to the people Star recommends and will also be in touch with President Barron.
      1. **Diego Hernandez:** Concern last time we talked about the definition of diversity, so definitely recommend reaching out to key members in Graduate School to get word out to diverse populations.
         1. **Bryan Culler:** Will definitely do that, some limitations in that the definition of “diversity” can’t be determined by just one person.

1. Advisor – Adam Christensen
   1. Nothing to report, but happy to answer questions
2. Comments for the Good of the Order
   1. **Star Sharp:** Have some answers about the alternative grading options for graduate students.
      1. No alternative grades partially because there are some master’s programs that are only 30 credits so it would be possible to graduate without formal grades.
      2. No alternative grades for Summer 2020
      3. Can appeal for an alternative grade through Dr. Sarah Ades; just ask for the accommodation, it’s not meant to be a drawn out process
   2. **Steven Baksa:** When would the next Assembly meeting be?
      1. Wednesday, December 9, 2020, at 6 PM
3. Meeting adjourend at 8:21 PM

**Appendix I**

U= Unexcused Absence E= Excused Absence P= Present L= Late

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Office** | **Name** | **Email** | **11/11/20** |
| **Executive Board** |  |  |  |
| President | Alex Zhao | yxz331@psu.edu | P |
| Vice President | Julia Kelliher | jck79@psu.edu | P |
| Secretary | Katie Warczak | kaw64@psu.edu | P |
| Treasurer | Matthew Billups | mwb21@psu.edu | P |
| Faculty Senator (Graduate School) | Artemio Cardenas | auc1346@psu.edu | P |
| Faculty Senator (GPSA Appointed) | Star Sharp | sms75@psu.edu | P |
| **Judiciary** |  |  |  |
| Chief Justice | Schonn Franklin | sjf5762@psu.edu | P |
| Associate Justice | Emily Lesher | ejl5218@psu.edu | P |
| Associate Justice | Michelle Massey | mzm1228@psu.edu | A |
| **Graduate Council** |  |  |  |
| Graduate Council | Claire Kelling (Science) | cek32@psu.edu | P |
| Graduate Council | Arghajeet Saha (Ag. Sci.) | axs1296@psu.edu | P |
| Graduate Council | Hannah Nolte (Engineering) | hpn5070@psu.edu | P |
| Graduate Council | Nathaniel Schermerhorn (Liberal Arts) | njs5478@psu.edu | P |
| Graduate Council | Alex Cassell (Education) | acc5851@psu.edu | P |
| **Assembly** |  |  |  |
| Agricultural Sciences | Mandy Burton | abb25@psu.edu | P |
| Agricultural Sciences | Terry Torres Cruz | tjt33@psu.edu | P |
| Art & Architecture | Izzy Healey | deh45@psu.edu | P |
| Communications | Ashley Smalls | aks5347@psu.edu | P |
| Earth and Mineral Sciences | Corey Hoydic | cjh5690@psu.edu | P |
| Earth and Mineral Sciences |  |  |  |
| Eberly College of Science | Lan-Nhi Phung | lxp437@psu.edu | P |
| Eberly College of Science | Yasha Duggal | yzd5183@psu.edu | P |
| Eberly College of Science | Nico Terry | nbt5133@psu.edu | P |
| Education | Farhan Sadique | fvs5201@psu.edu | L |
| Education | Ali Watts | auw214@psu.edu | P |
| Education | Kade Crittenden | kzc5745@psu.edu | P |
| Engineering | Sam Altland | sja198@psu.edu | P |
| Engineering | Tim Shokri | txs5645@psu.edu | P |
| Engineering | Will Searight | wts36@psu.edu | P |
| Engineering | Sandeep Krishnakumar | uuk82@psu.edu | P |
| Engineering | Lauren Katch | luk50@psu.edu | P |
| Health and Human Development | Rachel Park | trp5242@psu.edu | P |
| Health and Human Development | Brooke Mattern | bcm5214@psu.edu | P |
| Information Sciences and Technology | Matt McGee | mam8223@psu.edu | P |
| Inter-Collegiate Degree Program | Jocelyn Delgado | jmd956@psu.edu | P |
| Inter-Collegiate Degree Program | Katy Gerace | ksg5199@psu.edu | P |
| Liberal Arts | Lyana Sun Han Chang | lls268@psu.edu | P |
| Liberal Arts | Michael Duncan | mzd512@psu.edu | P |
| Liberal Arts | Diego Hernandez | dah65@psu.edu | P |
| Nursing | Sanga Jung | sjj5207@psu.edu | P |
| School of International Affairs | Emefa Abena Yengbe | eay5090@psu.edu | P |
| School of Law | Emma Robertson | efr5217@psu.edu | L |
| School of Law | Melanie Ouma | mmo5387@psu.edu | L |
| School of Law |  |  |  |
| Smeal College of Business | Justin Korman | jpk5593@psu.edu | L |
| At-Large Delegate | Steven Baksa (IGDP) | smb6448@psu.edu | P |
| At-Large Delegate | Joseph Sengeh (IGDP) | jvs21@psu.edu | P |
| At-Large Delegate | Ama Agyapong (IGDP) | ada27@psu.edu | P |
| At-Large Delegate | Maureen Kahiu (Ag Sciences) | mmk6223@psu.edu | P |
| At-Large Delegate | Niladri Sekhar Mandal | nfm5321@psu.edu | P |
|  | Number of voters in Assembly: | 39 | 39 |

**Appendix II**

U= Unexpected Absence E= Excused Absence A= Abstain Y=Yes N= No

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Office** | **Name** | **Email** | **Resolution 70-16** | **Resolution 70-17** |
| **Graduate Council** |  |  |  |  |
| Graduate Council | Claire Kelling (Science) | cek32@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Graduate Council | Arghajeet Saha (Ag. Sci.) | axs1296@psu.edu |  |  |
| Graduate Council | Hannah Nolte (Engineering) | hpn5070@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Graduate Council | Nathaniel Schermerhorn (Liberal Arts) | njs5478@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Graduate Council | Alex Cassell (Education) |  | Y | Y |
| **Assembly** |  |  |  |  |
| Agricultural Sciences | Mandy Burton | abb25@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Agricultural Sciences | Terry Torres Cruz | tjt33@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Art & Architecture | Izzy Healey | deh45@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Communications | Ashley Smalls | aks5347@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Earth and Mineral Sciences | Corey Hoydic | cjh5690@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Earth and Mineral Sciences |  |  |  |  |
| Eberly College of Science | Lan-Nhi Phung | lxp437@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Eberly College of Science | Yasha Duggal | yzd5183@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Eberly College of Science | Nico Terry | nbt5133@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Education | Farhan Sadique | fvs5201@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Education | Ali Watts | auw214@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Education | Kade Crittenden | kzc5745@psu.edu | Y | Y |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Engineering | Sam Altland | sja198@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Engineering | Tim Shokri | txs5645@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Engineering | Will Searight | wts36@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Engineering | Sandeep Krishnakumar |  | Y | Y |
|  | Lauren Katch |  | Y | Y |
| Health and Human Development | Rachel Park | trp5242@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Health and Human Development | Brooke Mattern |  | Y | Y |
| Information Sciences and Technology | Matt McGee | mam8223@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Inter-Collegiate Degree Program | Jocelyn Delgado | jmd956@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Inter-Collegiate Degree Program | Katy Gerace | ksg5199@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Liberal Arts | Lyana Sun Han Chang | lls268@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Liberal Arts | Michael Duncan | mzd512@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Liberal Arts | Diego Hernandez | dah65@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| Nursing | Sanga Jung | sjj5207@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| School of International Affairs | Emefa Abena Yengbe | eay5090@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| School of Law | Emma Robertson | efr5217@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| School of Law | Melanie Ouma | mmo5387@psu.edu |  |  |
| School of Law |  |  |  |  |
| Smeal College of Business | Justin Korman | jpk5593@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| At-Large Delegate | Steven Baksa (IGDP) | smb6448@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| At-Large Delegate | Joseph Sengeh (IGDP) | jvs21@psu.edu | Y | Y |
| At-Large Delegate | Ama Agyapong (IGDP) |  | Y | Y |
| At-Large Delegate | Maureen Kahiu (Ag Sciences) |  | Y | Y |
| At-Large Delegate | Niladri Sekhar Mandal |  | Y | Y |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Number of voters in Assembly: | 31 | 37 | 37 |
|  | Quorum: | 16 | 0 | 0 |
|  |  |  | 0 | 0 |