



## **Graduate Student Senate Meeting of the Whole–February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

28 People in Attendance

Executive Council Attendees: Joey Campbell, Jessica Bocanegra, Aayudh Das, Mahafuza Aktar, and Kenna Rewcastle

Senator Attendees: Brandon Ackley, Jeffrey Adams, Caroline Aubry, Jennifer Bower, Rosie Chapina, Kevin Fischer, Jacquelyn Gillen, Tatiana Gladkikh, Johnny Gonzalez, Humon Heidarian, Molly Hurd, Kayla Johnson, Bijay KC, Rigo Melgar-Melgar, Jaspreet Singh Nagi, Rosy Neale, Bharat Poudel, Anoob Prakash, Avery Rasmussen, Ashley Waldron, Lindsay Worley, Robert Worley

Representative Attendees: Aarzo Grover

GSS Recognized Club Attendees: ISA, NSA, MRS, SPG, RGSA

Attendance was taken via sign-in sheet during the meeting.

*Meeting was called to order by Vice President Jessica Bocanegra at 11:00 AM.*

### **Executive Board Updates**

#### **Vice President Updates**

- Two candidates have been nominated so far for the Administrator Q&A session: Sherwood Smith (Director, Center for Cultural Pluralism), Sidney Hilker (Student Trustee, Board of Trustees, current Medical Student). Jess will send survey link out again.

## **Committee Updates**

### **Constitution and Bylaws Committee: Brandon Ackley**

- The following Bylaws amendments were introduced at the Winter Senate Retreat (January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019) and have been edited following Senator's suggestions.

#### **Section A: Membership**

Clause 1: A Senator may join or leave a committee by notifying the Chair of the committee.

Clause 2: A non-Senator graduate student may serve on a committee by notifying the Chair. The Chair may decide to set a maximum number of non-senator members on a case-by-case basis.

Clause 3: If a Senator misses 3 meetings without notifying the Chair of the committee, they are removed from the committee. A senator removed in this way may not rejoin the committee for the remainder of the academic year.

#### **Section B: Chair of Committee**

Clause 1: The Chair of the committee is nominated and voted on by the committee as outlined in Bylaws Article V Section C Clause 2.

Clause 2: The Chair is responsible for organizing committee meetings, as well as monitoring the progress and activity of the committee. They are also responsible for keeping attendance of the committee, as well as ensuring that committee minutes are sent to the GSS Vice President in a timely manner.

Clause 3: If a committee Chair is not fulfilling their duties, the committee may vote to remove the chair. A unanimous vote of the committee is required to remove the Chair. If a Chair is removed, there are two possible resolutions. If the committee has a Vice Chair, the Vice Chair assumes the role of committee chair. If the committee does not have a Vice Chair, the Executive Council representative will serve as acting Chair until a new Chair is elected.

#### **Section C: Vice Chair**

Clause 1: A committee can elect a Vice-Chair as needed, following the same voting method decided on for electing the Chair.

Clause 2: The duties of the Vice-Chair are flexible and consist of aiding the Chair as needed.

Clause 3: If the Chair cannot be present for a meeting, the Vice-Chair assumes the responsibilities of the Chair for that meeting.

#### **Section D: Structure of the Committee**

Clause 1: The nature of ad-hoc committees requires varied structure for each committee. As such, only loose structure is discussed here as a guideline.

Clause 2: A committee is required to meet a minimum of 6 times in the academic year.

Clause 3: To resolve disagreements within the committee, the problem is presented to the Senate for deliberation. The resolution is decided by the Senate with a majority vote.

Clause 4: Once per semester, committees are encouraged to advertise a meeting in the GSS Newsletter. This meeting will be open to all graduate students.

- All amendments were unanimously approved with limited discussion as the amendments reflected the revisions that were suggested by senators at the Winter Senate Retreat.

#### **GSS Diversity Committee: Rosy Neale**

- The Diversity Committee will be hosting Multicultural Night on Friday February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6-9 pm in Sugar Maple Ballroom, featuring dialogue surrounding diversity and inclusion as well as food and networking opportunities.

#### **Campus and Community Engagement Committee: Mara Hintz**

- The CCE Committee's main goals for the semester are to 1) create orientation videos to help new graduate students identify existing resources and locate key facilities and to 2) increase volunteer and service opportunities.
- CCE Committee is organizing a team for Rallython that benefits the children hospital; the cost of participation for GSS team members would be covered by GSS, and CCE will be organizing a bake sale to fundraise as well.

#### **Faculty Senate Curricular Affairs Committee: Camille Marcotte**

- Approved the creation of a direct-entry, terminal M.A. in Psychology with concentrations in General/Experimental Psychology and Clinical Psychology
- New major code for MS in Athletic Training was approved as ATR: Athletic Training. It was previously approved by the department and Registrar
- A name change and restructuring of the Department of Romance Languages and Linguistics was approved. The Department requested to change the name to the Department of Romance Languages. The Linguistics program will be in CAS and faculty in the Linguistics Program will retain their faculty appointments in the Department of Romance Languages, but may also change their primary faculty appointment to a different department in CAS. The department code will change from RLL to ROM.
- Revisions to the standards for curriculum proposals were approved. Revisions add a section for Curriculum Assessment and Program Evaluation to the requirements for the proposals.

## **New Business**

### **Graduate Student Food Insecurity: Caroline Aubry**

- The Food Systems program is organizing support structures for those facing food insecurity; through a Center for Health and Wellbeing program that collects un-used meal swipes from student meal plans, students can get up to 14 guest swipes in dining halls; work on bringing food pantries to campus is ongoing ("Swipe Out Hunger" drives), these drives collected 629 meals last semester

### **UVM Humanitarian Mapping Club: Lindsay Worley**

- Join the UVM Humanitarian Mapping Club for their first mapathon of the semester on Tuesday, February 5th, as they create digital maps of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Ministry of Health has announced the 10th Ebola outbreak in the DRC; this task aims to update the inhabited areas and map visible infrastructures in the villages west of Lubero.
- WHERE: Aiken Center - Room 101 WHEN: 6:00 - 8:00 pm, February 5th, 2019
- Anyone can join, no experience required. There will be computers provided but please bring a laptop if you have one.
- "The Missing Maps project aims to map the most vulnerable places in the world (affected by humanitarian crises: disease epidemics, conflict, natural disasters, poverty, environmental crises). Building on HOT's disaster preparedness projects, the Missing Maps tasks facilitate preemptive mapping of priority countries to better facilitate disaster response, medical activities and resource allocation when crises occur."

### **GSS Logo**

- A question was posed about making GSS logo available in a background-stripped format. These changes will be implemented and downloadable versions of the logo will be made available on the new website when it is launched.

*Meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.*