GSA General Assembly
January 15th 2019

Meeting starts 6:09 pm

Motioned to approve minutes, second, consent, no abstentions

- Agenda
  - Greetings!
  - Community Agreements
    - Votes: 50% +1 to pass (Article II, Section B, Clause E)
    - Respect the speaker
    - No cell phones/recording
    - Be engaged
    - Step up/step back
    - One Mic, One Diva
    - Jargon Giraffe
    - Decorum
  - Roll Call
  - Last meeting minutes and current agenda approval
  - Presentations
  - Advisor/Grad Div. Reports
  - Executive Committee Reports
  - Action Items
  - Discussion Items
  - Announcements
  - Adjournment

- Roll Call
  - 16 departments signed in
Presentations

- **UAW (5 minutes)**
  - This week there’s UAW people from other campus at UCSB.
    - They have been signing up people
  - 2 events:
    - Monthly Membership Meeting
      - January 22nd at the GSA Lounge at 12 PM
    - Happy Hour at M Special Brewery
      - January 31st at 5 PM
  - Email santabarbara@uaw2865.org

- **IHC Public Humanities Grad Fellows Program (10 minutes)**
  - New program: Public Humanities Grad Fellows Program
    - Preparing students for careers as dynamic, socially-engaged humanists both within and beyond the academy
  - Open to HFA and Social Sciences PhD students
    - Students may apply at any stage of their graduate career
  - Program requirements
    - Course work
      - 2 course series
        - History and theories of public humanities
          - Relationship between public universities and neighboring communities
        - Skills for the Public Sphere (will be offered in the Spring)
          - Applied to community needs
          - Skills for public and community engagement
    - Paid Internships and Community Projects
      - Practicum requirement
      - Stipend of $5,000, many are in the summer
      - Descriptions are available in their website
      - Community project
      - Collaborate with community partner
    - Capstone Project
      - Public presentation of your work in the program
  - PhD Students interested in pursuing careers within the academy and outside the academy
  - Different info sessions in late January and February
  - [www.ihc.ucsb.edu/public-humanities](http://www.ihc.ucsb.edu/public-humanities)
  - Deadline to apply to the internships is February 25th
• **UCPath at UCSB (15 minutes)**
  o Speakers:
    ■ **Cindy Doherty** - Director of Academic Personnel - cindy.doherty@ucsb.edu
    ■ **Jim Corkill** - Controller and Director of Business and Financial Services jim.corkill@bfs.ucsb.edu
    ■ **Cynthia Señeriz** - Acting Director of Human Resources and Compensation Manager cynthia.seneriz@hr.ucsb.edu
  o Challenges faced:
    ■ Timing of transition, September was terrible timing because it’s peak time for student hiring
    ■ New season that no one in the system has used. Admins throughout campus are not familiar with the program and there was no testing before
    ■ UCPath center at UCR its centralized, so things take longer since thing cannot be solved at UCSB.
    ■ The complexity of how students are hired. UCPath was used to staff and admin that only have one position throughout their career. On the other hand, graduate students’ employment is complex and changes often
  o Things done to mitigate challenges:
    ■ The system has become more familiar, there has been training on campus regarding student employment
    ■ UCPath center is hiring more people. Their projections for how many staff they needed were not accurate and not they are fixing that.
    ■ Can student hiring be simpler? The process and core issues are being looked at in order to find long term solutions.
    ■ Now admin are more confident using the system
  o Things that grad students can do to help:
    ■ Knowing who in the department to talk to. Identifying who they’re signing paperwork and contracts with.
    ■ If the person in your department is not being responsive, you can contact admin (HR, …)
    ■ Being conscious of the hiring paperwork and process.
    ■ Let know admin about the issues sooner rather than later
    ■ **Make sure you access UCPath and check your pay stubs before your pay day**

• **Health & Wellness (5 minutes)**
  o Speaker: Alvaro Cornejo
  o Online challenge for Grad student wellness
    ■ Download the GooseChase App
- **Ergonomic Workshop**
  - Physical Therapy Dept Representatives
  - SRB 12-1 PM on Jan 23rd

- **Thursdays at the Lounge**
  - Rejuvenation Station
    - Massage Therapist

- **Program on Week 9 at the GSA Lounge**
  - Build your own cake/brownie
  - Snacks

- [http://wellness.sa.ucsb.edu/grads](http://wellness.sa.ucsb.edu/grads)

- **Margaret Klawunn, VC of Student Affairs (15 minutes)**
  - Things that student affairs is doing to address grad student issues
  - 4 big areas were identified
    - Climate within academic departments regarding Faculty
    - Students with family
    - Experience of underrepresented grad students
    - Housing
  - The plan is to make work groups around those issues to meet regularly and make some progress.
    - Probably a lunchtime Friday meeting to discuss resources and issues
    - Launch with a paid lunch
    - Following times there would be snacks/drinks
  - Responsible for the experience that students have at UCSB
  - GSA will send out information about the first meeting

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**Co-Sponsorship Application**

GSA contributes up to $300 for events

- **ChESS: Chemical Engineering Seminar Series (5 minutes)**
  - Grad student led research presentations
  - **Goal:**
    - Provide the opportunity for graduate students to present their research and expertise in to a broader audience (campus-wide if funded by GSA)
    - Encourage engagement and collaboration between researchers in different fields
  - **Publicity Plan:**
    - ChESS website chegsa.engineering.ucsb.edu/chess
    - Emails
- **Flyers**
  - Dates: 6 ChESS talks in Winter Quarter
    - every other Friday: Jan 18th, Feb 1st & 15th, Mar 1st & 15th, April 5th
    - Location: Engineering II, Room 1519 (capacity: 70)
  - Amount requesting from GSA: $300 ($50/sem for refreshments)

**GSA Advisor and Student Affairs Report / Grad Div Reports**

- **GSA Advisor/Student Affairs Report**
  - Don Lubach
    - **Career Services**
      - Clothing Bank where you can find professional (used) clothing for free
      - Tomorrow January 16th: Companies come to critique resumes in case you are interested in jobs outside academia
      - Career Fair: 11AM to 2PM
      - [www.Career.ucsb.edu](http://www.Career.ucsb.edu)

- **Graduate Division Report**
  - Robert Hamm
    - **UCPath**
      - Grad Div sent 2 emails before the start of winter quarter
      - Monthly message with instructions on checking your pay stubs
    - **Events coming up**
      - **Individualized Professional Skills (IPS) Grant Program**
        - Travel grant for professional development
        - [Program Flyer handout](#)
        - Feb 1st: Meet and Eat to learn more about the program
          - [Meet and Eat event handout](#)
        - Talking points:
          - New grant program made possible through collaborative funding across campus
          - Awards up to $1000 will be granted to eligible graduate students and postdoctoral scholars who wish to individually tailor their career paths with outside professional development opportunities
          - Meet and Eat event on February 1 to learn more about the program and to hear from students who have received awards

- **2019 Beyond Academia Conference**
- **Sponsor flyer** (we're still finalizing the registration flyer)
- **Talking points:**
  - Annual grad student-run career exploration conference
  - Conference will be on March 8-9, 2019
  - Registration will open Monday, February 4

**2019 Grad Slam Competition**
- **Talking points:**
  - Annual competition for the best 3-minute talk by a graduate student
  - Over $15,000 in cash prizes
  - $5,000 UCSB prize
  - April 9th to 19th is the competition
  - Registration now open through Friday, February 1
  - Upcoming public speaking training workshops on Monday, February 25:

### Executive Reports

- **Cierra, President**
  - **UCPath Update**
    - Meeting in Riverside
    - There will be future meetings
    - Be attentive of February paycheck, we’re expecting more issues with it
    - We are trying to get someone from UCPath to come talk to us
      - The options are Feb 4th or Feb 11th (Mondays)
      - Probably will happen Feb 4th
  - **Policing Recommendations**
    - Policing Town Hall on 1/30 at 12pm?, location TBD
    - What do we want to tell UCOP?
  - **Lounge Renovation (hopefully!)**
    - Movable furniture
    - Dynamic Partition
    - Multi-purpose and multi-functional space
    - Pool Table decision
    - Option of getting egg chairs and relaxation pods from Health & Wellness
    - Bagel Conveyor Toaster
● Longer tables for working in groups
  ○ Open Access for Theses & Dissertations
  ○ Info will be sent out to everyone
○ UCSB Grad Mental Health Conference - end of Feb!
  ● February 22nd or 23rd
  ● We need a planning committee ASAP
  ● Please share any ideas
○ UC Sexual Violence Activism Conference - April
  ● 13th and 14th of April
  ● During Sexual Assault Awareness month
  ● UC-wide
  ● If you’re interested in planning it email us

● Jenny Selvidge, Student Affairs
  ○ UCSHIP EOB Meeting Recap

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Psychoeducational Testing

**Background: Minimum Essential Coverage (MEC) Review**

- UC SHIP must demonstrate compliance with MHPAEA and meet provisions of the ACA to receive certification as MEC

**Mental Health Parity And Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA)**
- Self-funded plans are not required to provide coverage for mental health/substance abuse (MHSA) conditions
- When a self-funded plan covers a MHSA condition, coverage must be in complete parity with the medical/surgical benefits
- Parity applies to:
  - o financial requirements/limitations
  - o quantitative treatment limitations
  - o non-quantitative treatment limitations (medical management)

**Affordable Care Act (ACA) – Essential Health Benefits (EHBs)**
- Mental health and substance abuse disorder services including behavioral health treatment are included as one of the 10 EHBs listed by the ACA
- EHBs vary by state and are based on the state’s benchmark plan
- Self-funded plans are not required to cover all EHBs
- When a self-funded plan covers an EHB, the plan cannot place annual or lifetime limits on the EHB

Center for Medicare/Medicaid Studies (CMS) has determined that UC SHIP must eliminate the lifetime limit to satisfy MHPAEA compliance
- Removing the lifetime limit risks exposing the plan to abusive billing if UC SHIP maintains “pay as billed” reimbursement for non-contracted providers

**UC SHIP has three options to address MHPAEA compliance:**

1) Eliminate psychoeducational testing as a covered service
   - Impact to 2019-20 rate: -0.1%

2) Maintain psychoeducational testing with change to OON reimbursement
   a) Eliminate $3,000 lifetime maximum
   b) Reimburse providers based on Anthem’s standard reimbursement (contracted rate for contracted providers, allowed amount for non-contracted providers)
      - Students utilizing a non-contracted provider may be subject to balance billing
      - Impact to 2019-20 rate: de minimis (0%)

3) Maintain psychoeducational testing with change to OON reimbursement and deductible
   a) Eliminate $3,000 lifetime maximum
   b) Reimburse providers based on Anthem’s standard reimbursement
      - Students utilizing a non-contracted provider may be subject to balance billing
      - Waive deductible for psychoeducational testing
      - Impact to 2019-20 rate: de minimis (0%)

- Student Health Survey
  - It’ll go out soon
Student Health Town Hall
  ■ So graduate students can discuss their concerns with UCSHIP or health insurance
Federal Title IX comment period letter (action item for later)
  ■ Jenny wrote a suggested letter on proposed revisions
UCOP Title IX SAB (Recommendations in action items)
  ■ Recommendations for UCOP

Luke, Budget and Finance
  • I will be closing OrgSyncs in the next couple weeks
    ■ If you have not yet emailed me your decision on this front please do so by Friday (1/18)
  • Recap of the two options:
    ■ 1: Keep your OrgSync
      • Pay either $35 or $50/year
    ■ 2: Transfer your OrgSync funds and delete your OrgSync
      • Funds will be transferred to your department

Change in Co-sponsorship Process
  • Previously used OrgSync
    ■ Required Organizations to have an OrgSync Account
  • We now can disburse funds through one of three routes:
    ■ Send the money to an academic department
    ■ Reimburse individuals directly after receipts are turned in
    ■ OrgSync

Amanda, Committees & Planning
  • Mosher Diva Night
  • Currently working on filling committees
    ■ Sustainability Committee needs rep!
  • New Committee Rep!
  • Major Events Committee- Alex Lebrun

Paulina, Communications & Records
  • 2019 GSA ELECTIONS
    ■ Initiatives up for Reaffirmation
      ■ Graduate Student Night and Weekend Parking
        ○ Mandatory fee of $5.00 (includes return to financial aid of $0.42) per graduate student per quarter (excluding summer) to fund annual Nights & Weekend parking passes for all graduate students.
      ■ Arts & Lectures Graduate Student Fee Initiative
        ○ Mandatory fee of $7.56 per graduate student per quarter (including summer) to support Arts & Lectures ($5.67 goes
to Arts & Lectures, $1.89 goes to return-to-aid)? Out of the $5.67 program fee to Arts & Lectures, a 6% administrative tax will be collected on all non-capital expenditures.

- **Graduate Student Emergency Relief Grant Fund**
  - Mandatory fee of $4.08 per graduate student, per quarter (excluding summer) to maintain a relief fund for registered graduate students experiencing temporary and acute financial hardship ($2.89 goes to the fund, $1.02 is for return-to-aid, and $0.17 is for administrative tax)?

  - New page on our website regarding UCPath
    - Grad Division
    - Housing
    - Helpful Links

- **Raphael, Academic Affairs**
  - Report from Graduate Council
    - Website that allows anyone to see statistics on PhD programs
      - https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/infocenter/doctoral-program
    - Good news: 56% of PhD alumni are on a Tenure Track
    - Grad Slam registration is open:
  - Report from Faculty Legislature
    - Las Varas Ranch: UCSB received a donation to buy Las Varas Ranch a property of 1800 acres. The size of campus before that was 1000 acres.
      - Donated because Charles T Munger does not want to happen to UCSB what happened to Berkeley, UCLA and Caltech with no space to grow.
      - There is not yet any proposition on what to do with the space.
        - Some are talking about a med school
      - 7% increase on budget => tuition will not increase
      - It seems that contract with Elsevier will not be renewed, so we probably will lose access to journals by the end of January
  - Representation on Academic Senate
    - Academic Senate allowed GSA to have a same grad student representing in several committees.
    - In addition they offered representation on committees that were not determined by our bylaws previously
    - We will make a proposition of change of our bylaws for the next GA
    - In the meantime we need a resolution to appoint GSA members to such positions
  - Representation on Academic Senate Resolution
Let it be resolved that the Graduate Student Association (GSA) General Assembly allows the GSA Executive Board to appoint Graduate Students Representatives for the positions on Academic Senate Committees that are not determined by GSA’s bylaws for the rest of the academic year of 2018/2019, with the understanding that the GSA General Assembly will approve changes to the bylaws incorporating these new positions for all years hereafter.

- Leihua, External Affairs
  - Issue 1: The sunset of the Student Advisor Position
    - Strategic move
    - In exchange, better alternative options: UCSA President as a permanent Student Advocate to the Regents (STAR), Student Observers to attend regental committee (abolishing the current three committee limitations).
  - Issue 2: New State budget
    - Overall, 6.9% increase compared to Jerry Brown’s 3%
    - 3 actions items that UCSA are working on:
      - Advocate for additional enrollment funding for grad students ($10M+$30.3M additional) → Collaborate with UCGPC
      - $49.9M funding for the UC expansion, and advocate for faculty diversification metrics (more graduate students of color).
      - make Cal Grant eligible for graduate parenting students (long-term)
  - Issue 3: Davis Incident
    - Students, union rep, employees who picketing in support of AFSCME 3299’s strike on OCT. 25 were attacked by a UCD manager
    - But, the perpetrator faces no penalty, and the admin. at UCD did not make concrete statement
      - Video: [https://www.facebook.com/davisusas/videos/375011449735450/](https://www.facebook.com/davisusas/videos/375011449735450/)

- Heather, Internal Affairs
  - Weekly Resources in GSA Lounge (CAPS, CARE, Title IX, DSP, Health & Wellness)
  - Conference Room is available whenever the door is open.
  - Updated Lounge Reservation Policy
  - Lounge Updates- in progress!
  - Email: GSAVPInternal@gmail.com
  - GSAloungereservations@gmail.com
Action Items

- Vote on co-sponsorship for ChESS: Chemical Engineering Seminar Series
  - Motion, second, consent, no opposed, no abstentions.
  - Motion passes

- UCOP TIX SAB recommendations
  - Recommendations for the Office of the President Regarding the Title IX Student Advisory Board (TIX SAB):
    - Whereas, the UCSB graduate Student Representative to the Board was suspended for publicly criticizing the office of the president.
    - Whereas, this suspension was done without any semblance of due process.
    - Whereas, we the UCSB Graduate Student Association are unable to exercise control over the appointment and dismissal of student representatives to the TIX SAB as is customary on our campus.
    - Whereas, staff members from the Office of the President openly endorsed using un-scientific methods to knowingly bias survey results in their own favor.
    - Whereas, the UC Office of the President has not acknowledged any wrong-doing, in spite of increasing student opposition from this campus and others, and indeed has continued to circumvent our work to represent the needs of our constituents.
    - And whereas, the UCSB GSA, after detailed and thorough discussion chose to boycott the committee to demonstrate our belief in the urgent need for reform.
    - Let it be therefore resolved that we recommend the following structural changes be made to both the TIX SAB and to university wide committees more generally such that they truly represent the voices of the student body:
      1) Due to their lack of professionalism and seeming disregard for academic rigor and honesty, it is our belief that Suzanne Taylor, Acting System Wide Title IX Coordinator, and Principal Investigator Chris Carrubba-Katz must resign.
      2) Positions in the System Wide Title IX Office should be instead staffed by experts in the social sciences whose research interests align with sexual violence policy.
      3) The Office of the President should issue a public apology and reaffirmation of the importance of free speech to student representatives on this and other system-wide committees as well as to the UCSB GSA.
      4) The Office of the President must work in good faith with student leaders on the policies and procedures regarding sexual violence and sexual harassment, rather than as they seem to be now, simply to quash student activism and silence dissent.
      5) A publicly available standardized procedure outlining the situations under which a student representative may be dismissed from a university wide
committee, including the right to appeal to an independent body with student members.

- 6) The right to choose a representative to this and all system wide committees should be handed over to the student government bodies on each campus.
- 7) That the positions on the Title IX SAB be paid in proportion to the expected work of the committee, rather than, as they are, fully volunteer positions.

Motion, second, consent, zero opposed, zero abstentions. 29 favor.

Motion passes

- Representation on Academic Senate resolution
  - Let it be resolved that the Graduate Student Association (GSA) General Assembly allows the GSA Executive Board to appoint Graduate Students Representatives for the positions on Academic Senate Committees that are not determined by GSA’s bylaws for the rest of the academic year of 2018/2019, with the understanding that the GSA General Assembly will approve changes to the bylaws incorporating these new positions for all years hereafter.

Motion, second, consent, zero opposed, zero abstentions. 29 favor.

Motion passes

- Comment Letter for Federal Register Re: Title IX Enforcement
  - We, the graduate students of UC Santa Barbara, represented by the Graduate Student Association (GSA), strongly oppose many of the Trump administration’s proposed changes to Title IX enforcement. As a federal law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex at all educational levels for all institutions receiving federal funding, Title IX has, increasingly over the past 20 years, been used to combat the epidemic of sexual violence on college campuses nationwide. Many of the proposed changes roll back progress that has been made in supporting students of all gender identities and are not in line with the rigorously vetted and tested best-practices established by the work of our own graduate student researcher colleagues nationwide. For these reasons, we oppose the following changes to Title IX implementation:
    - 1) Changing these educational disciplinary proceedings into courtroom-style hearings through the introduction of direct cross examination by the advisor of the accused and a change in the standard of evidence, as well as permitted evidence types
      - a. The purpose of these cases is to provide a safe educational environment for all students involved, not to traumatize students, nor even to punish the accused. In a court of law, cross examination is an important right as the possible penalty for being found guilty is incarceration, thereby denying someone their liberty. A finding of responsibility in a university disciplinary proceeding does not result in the loss of any fundamental human rights for the accused. Rather, in some cases, students found in violation of Title IX policies may lose the ability to continue their work or education on that specific college campus.
○ Other opportunities remain available to them, as they do to those students and staff suspended or dismissed for academic dishonesty, destruction of university property, or other policy violations. For this reason, it is unreasonable to structure these hearings with allowances for cross examinations of the witness by attorneys rather than neutral university officials and to put the victims and witnesses on trial by allowing previous sexual behavior to be used as evidence in these cases. This, of course, would be allowed in a court of law, but these hearings are not intended to be as such. Furthermore, to utilize a higher, “clear and convincing” standard of evidence, as opposed to the current preponderance of evidence standard, will further distance the processing of these cases from other university disciplinary processes.

○ 2) Allowing for and encouraging the use of mediation in cases of sexual violence
○ a. This has been repeatedly shown through rigorous academic study to be detrimental to victims. There is no reason to utilize methodologies we, as academics ourselves, have established to be retraumatizing, unsuccessful at easing harm done to the victim, and ineffective at reducing rates of second and third offenses.

○ 3) Changing the definition of sexual harassment from “unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature” to “unwelcome conduct on the basis of sex that is so severe, pervasive and objectively offensive that it denies a person access to the school’s education program or activity.”
○ a. Although on its face this definition makes some sense, courts have previously found that behavior such as a supervisor forcibly kissing an employee is not sufficiently severe and pervasive to qualify as sexual harassment. Nevertheless, such behavior in many states qualifies as either sexual assault or assault and battery. To use a sexual harassment definition that courts have previously ruled to be a higher standard than some state-level assault statutes is utterly ridiculous.

○ Although we also object to many of the other proposed changes, these three serve to highlight our belief that if implemented, these changes would fail to protect students from discriminatory behavior in our educational environments. It is our hope that these changes will not be instated and future drafts will be more in line with current best practices established through peer reviewed research.

○ Motion to endorse the letter for the purpose of submitting to the revision period passes
  ■ Motion, second, consent, zero opposed, zero abstentions. 28 favor.
  ■ Motion passes

○ Motion to endorse the letter for the purpose of sharing on social media, local media, UC-wide campuses
  ■ Motion, second, consent, zero opposed, 5 abstentions. 20 favor.
  ■ Motion passes
• Pool table
  o Keep?
  o Donate?
  o Sell?
  o **Motion to sell**
    ■ **Motion, second, consent, 4 opposed, 7 abstentions. 17 favor.**
    ■ **Motion passes**

Discussion Items

• Policing Recommendations for UCOP
  o Come up with recommendations for the Town Hall

• Psychoeducational Testing Funding
  o **Motion for Jenny to vote NO on option 3**
  o **Motion, second, consent, 4 opposed, 7 abstentions. 17 favor.**
  o **Motion passes**

Motion to adjourn the Assembly
  • **Motion, second, consent. 0 opposed. 0 abstentions**

End of meeting 8:51 PM