

## GSO Meeting on 6/23/2020

Presiding: Wei-Lee

Present: Wei-Lee, Carly, Aidan, Apurva, Daniel Gribble, Daniel Hayes, David, Gaurav, JT, Kurt, Paulina, Sydney, Vik, Prof. Morgan

Absent: -

### **Symposium**

From last time:

- Still waiting on SAO to approve Symposium via BoilerLink
  - Will discuss with SAO and BOSO via virtual meeting
- Decided to upload elevator pitch files via slack?
  - JT + Daniel G follow up on user permissions?
  - Alternatively: upload to YouTube (poster presenter winners?)

This week:

- Slack:
  - With free, only general channel can be restricted by admins.
  - With premium, all channels can be restricted by admins.
  - Do trial run this week.
- BOSO says university needs to clarify regarding Fall events before paperwork can be done. Plan on complete virtual symposium for now.

### **Regular updates**

Vice President- Carly:

- Talked to Dr. Liu about fun/hobby presentation event. She prefers in-person event.
  - Wei-Lee will ask Dr. Zoltan Nagy for virtual hobby discussion event.

First Year Reps- Daniel H and Paulina:

- Planning to have WebEx chat with incoming first-years soon.
  - Could be helpful to have other GSO officers or grad students on panel too.

Safety- David:

- Dr. Nagy is unsure about when the next Department Safety Committee meeting will be. In the meantime, she told me to send her the concerns raised by GSO regarding 1) one-glove policy regarding personal gloves and 2) narrow stairways on the new side of the building.
- Assembling the ChESS organizing committee for webinars.

Social- Kurt:

- Logic puzzle event next week.

#### Sports- JT:

- Circulated email about e-sports intramurals and virtual rec programs.

#### Student Advocacy- Aidan:

- Attended GSAC meeting.
  - Inform grad student body about a petition against a bill regarding restriction of visas of Chinese students in the US.
- Conference room use amidst new Forney rules?
  - David will bring it up in Safety committee meeting.
- Any GSO minority support events to be conducted? Any more summer town halls?
  - Kurt will confirm about march for minorities event set up.
- Conduct socially distanced highway cleanup?
  - Daniel G will check.

#### Sustainability- Daniel G:

- Will follow up on possibility of socially distanced highway cleanup

#### PGSG- Vik:

- PGSG will begin conducting affairs in Fall semester.

#### President- Wei-Lee:

##### Diversity, Equity and Inclusion discussion

- Ideas for DEI:
  - Have anonymous survey/board for those wanting to express views privately.
    - More accessible to everyone. Could prove helpful in facilitating discourse between people having a variety of opinions.
    - Potential issue: Maintaining civil discourse on anonymous boards could be a challenge.
  - Have a roundtable peer-to-peer discussion amongst grad students.
    - Point of consideration: A moderator may be required to ensure the discussion remains civil and on topic.
    - Discussion amongst peers may be more open.
  - Invite an expert (Dr. Evans, Ph.D Associate Dean of Students, Education and Advocacy) to nucleate discussion.
    - An expert could provide suggestions for improving DEI in the dept.
    - Discussion may be stifled in the presence of an authority figure.
  - Alternatively, all three of the above ideas can be implemented in a step-by-step manner considering feedback from students at each level.
- Make a statement regarding recent events and commitment to supporting students on Facebook page.

- Audience is the general student body.
- Can have DEI training for grad students.