



**GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL (GSC) MEETING AGENDA**

**DATE:** Thursday, May 6, 2021

**TIME:** 5-7pm

**PLACE:** Zoom

1. Welcome
2. Guest Speaker – Graduate Employees Organization (GEO)
  - a. Jared O’Connor, Co-President; Sebastian Tobon, Bargaining Co-Chair; Zoe Fox, Staff Organizer
    - i. [jjocconno91@gmail.com](mailto:jjocconno91@gmail.com)
    - ii. [uicgeozoe@gmail.com](mailto:uicgeozoe@gmail.com)
  - b. Graduate Employees Union
    - i. Teaching Assistants and Graduate Assistants (with a minimum .25 FTE) are eligible for GEO representation
    - ii. Bargain for contract with UIC Administration
    - iii. Defend against contract violations
    - iv. Member driven
    - v. Provide representation against labor violations
  - c. Current Contract Campaign
    - i. Bargaining Committee
      1. Meets with UIC every 1-2 weeks to negotiate next contract (AY 21/22-AY 23/24)
      2. Meetings are public, members can and are encouraged to attend
      3. Held remotely per COVID-19
      4. Next session May 18 at 1 PM
    - ii. Current contract ends August 15, 2021
    - iii. Platform
      1. Wages and fees
        - a. Raise wages
        - b. Eliminate fees
      2. Healthcare (medical access)
        - a. More coverage
        - b. Lower cost for dependent care coverage
        - c. Mail order prescriptions
      3. Sexual harassment and discrimination protections
        - a. Elimination of mandatory reporting of sexual harassment or misconduct
        - b. Allow access to workplace accommodations without formal reporting
        - c. Expand definitions of sexual harassment and discrimination
      4. Build on appointment/reappointment contract wins to address job stability
      5. Remote teaching protections
      6. Defending our legacy, winning our future
      7. Reducing summer CampusCare coverage/frozen



- d. Website: <https://www.uic-geo.net/>
  - e. Join GEO: [https://uic-geo.net/mainsite/?page\\_id=2325](https://uic-geo.net/mainsite/?page_id=2325)
3. Guest Speaker – Graduate College Fellowships and Awards
- a. Benn William, Fellowships and Awards Coordinator
    - i. Bwilli7@uic.edu
  - b. Presentation Access: [https://go.uic.edu/GSC\\_prez](https://go.uic.edu/GSC_prez)
  - c. <https://grad.uic.edu/funding-awards/graduate-funding-overview/>
  - d. Fellowships Office
    - i. Curate and send fellowship/award/grant notifications
    - ii. Process waivers for recipients of qualifying fellowship/grants and of allocated waivers
    - iii. Liaise with funding agencies during application process and beyond
    - iv. Work with departments and programs
    - v. Handle most of the UIC Grad College internal competitions
    - vi. Assist students on applications and preparing for prestigious funding competitions
  - e. What can you do?
    - i. Research option
    - ii. Ask questions
    - iii. Update your CV
    - iv. Philosophize – what do I want to be when I grow up? How do I get there?
    - v. Start applying
  - f. Internal Awards (may change over the summer)
    - i. Award for Graduate Research – up to \$3k
    - ii. Provost’s Graduate Research Award – 5k pilot grant (fall)
    - iii. Provost’s Graduate Internship Award - \$5k summer experience
    - iv. Student presenter awards (monthly deadline) - \$100-200
  - g. Internal Fellowships
    - i. Access to Excellence Fellowship (spring deadline)
    - ii. Dean’s Scholar Fellowship
    - iii. Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois Fellowship (DFI) (spring deadline, mid-February)
  - h. Other UIC Sources
    - i. GSC
    - ii. Office of International Affairs
    - iii. U of I System Awards
    - iv. SNAP
  - i. External Funding
  - j. Where to find fellowships and funding sources
    - i. Talk to your department
    - ii. Read weekly emails from Benn
    - iii. H-Net
    - iv. Look at the CVs of people in your research area/field
    - v. Search online: <https://go.uic.edu/online-funding>



## Graduate Student Council

1. UIUC Fellowship Finder: <https://apps.grad.illinois.edu/fellowship-finder/>
2. Pivot-RP: [https://pivot.proquest.com/funding\\_main](https://pivot.proquest.com/funding_main)
3. Resources for non-US citizens: [tinyURL.com/intl-funding](https://tinyurl.com/intl-funding)
4. GSC Updates
  - a. GSC Supported Initiatives
    - i. East Campus Library Name Change
      1. Vote for GSC Support: 35 yea, 3 nay, 7 abstain
  - b. Officer Transition
5. Representative Sign-In and Adjournment