Graduate Student Council

GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL (GSC) MEETING MINUTES
DATE: Thursday, September 2, 2021
TIME: 5 - 7 pm
PLACE: Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting:
https://uic.zoom.us/j/84897229709?pwd=MnpHdW5vTWlBSTdSa1FTcFBNU1Z3dz09
Meeting ID: 848 9722 9709
Passcode: m2JBs81n

1. **Welcome**

   The welcome address was given by GSC President, Melissa Macero

2. **Officer Introductions and Review of Officer Roles**

   Each officer introduced themselves and talked about their roles and responsibilities.

   - Melissa Macero, President
   - Trina Fresco, Vice-President
   - Shravni Deshmukh, Treasurer
   - Rita Omuero, Secretary

3. **GSC Advisor Introduction**

   Dean Linda Deanna, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs/Dean of Students

   - This year is her 20th anniversary working at UIC.
   - She asked students to reach out to her if they need assistance. She mentioned that one of the functions of the office of Student Affairs/Dean of Students is to provide students with support like housing, personal/family issues, grief, or faculty conflict.

4. **Discussion of the Role of GSC**

   By Melissa Macero, GSC President

   - The official governing graduate student body and serve all graduate students.
   - Sponsor and host academic and social activities
   - We do Travel Award and Conference Award
   - A bridge between graduate students and the administration.
   - Brings reforms to assist students e.g emergency housing

5. **Roles of GSC Executive Committee**
   - Assist the officers in planning, facilitating, and executing GSC events and activities.
   - Attend GSC regular meetings and Executive Committee meetings.
   - Support GSC officers and students

6. **Discussion of the Role of Representatives**

   By Trina Fresco, GSC Vice-President
   - Bridges between the students, their departments and GSC officers, and the administration
   - Attend regular meetings and disseminate minutes and GSC events information to the students in their respective departments.
   - Bring students concerns to GSC
   - Absence might be made up but more than 2 absences lead to a replacement

7. **Roles of Alternate Representatives**
   - Fill in for the primary representative in their absence

8. **Important**
   - Two amendments to the GSC Constitution: Article IV. Representatives and Alternate Representatives and Article IX. Funds were voted on.

9. **Academic Year 2021-2022 Budget Discussion**

   By Shravni Deshmukh, GSC Treasurer
   - GSC Awards are divided into 3; Travel award, Conference award, and Project award
   - Project Award
     - Deadline 1st Friday in November for Fall semester and 1st Friday in March for the spring semester.
     - Submit application via GSC email GSC-OFFICERS@listserv.uic.edu
     - Awards are voted on at the regular meeting after the presentation of the project
   - Travel Awards
     - No out of state travel award for this Fall semester due to safety concerns

- Divided into four quarters:
    - Quarter – 1: May 01st – July 31st
    - Quarter – 2: August 01st – October 31st
    - Quarter – 3: November 01st – January 31st
    - Quarter – 4: February 01st – April 30th
- Applications should be submitted within the quarter of the intended travel
- For presenters submit proof of acceptance e.g an email from the organizers
- The amount is $300 for in-state travel
- Conference Awards
    - Introduced last academic year (2020-2021) due to the pandemic
    - Funds virtual conferences from registration to presentation and in-person attendance within Chicago.
    - The amount was increased from $75 last year to $200 for this academic year
    - All awards are given on a first come first serve basis
    - Funds for the academic year ends on May 15, 2022

10. **Breakout rooms for Representative introductions and ideas/concerns about GSC**

    Facilitated by GSC officers

11. **Breakout room reports**

    Concerns/suggestions brought forward are

    - Campus Care: A speaker to explain how campus care works
    - Networking: how to network in a virtual world
    - International Students internships
    - Cover letter workshop
    - Stress management
    - Survey for events/speakers ideas to students sent by the representatives.
    - Social events like Trivia games

12. **Representative Sign-In and Adjournment**