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. jjoconno91@gmail.com
      ii. 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

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
   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. Liase 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
1. UIUC Fellowship Finder: https://apps.grad.illinois.edu/fellowship-finder/
2. Pivot-RP: https://pivot.proquest.com/funding_main

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