



Student Government Association

Student Government Council – Modesto A. Maidique Campus

GPSC Committee

Meeting Date: July 20th, 2020

Start Time: 4:00 pm

1. Welcome and Call to Order
2. Roll Call

Chair: Shahnawaz Rafi

Shahnawaz Rafi	present
Christian Perez	present
Sandro Alvarez	present
Kamila Fernandez	present
Nitya Ramalingam	present

3. Open Forum

4. Old Business

- TA Orientation Package: Progress
 - 1) Nitya is waiting to send out the flyer from JP.
 - 2) The flyer has the same content that was originally set out.
 - 3) Christian discusses the powerpoint presentation to be presented at the TA orientation.

5. New Business

- Review of modified resolution for Master's degree students in extending Dean's List
 - 1) Sandro discusses the modified section 5.
 - 2) Incorporates extension to Deans List and the grade tiers for the resolution
 - 3) Sandro added Cum Laude, Summa Cum Laude, etc.
 - 4) Master's degree students were included and the resolution was modified to allow for extension for dean's list for graduate school.
 - 5) Improvement of marketability for honors to the dean's list for graduate school.
 - 6) 3.25 GPA was determined through averaging between GPA for graduation and the 3.5 GPA dean's list requirement for Bachelors
 - 7) Kamila asks if law school students are included in the resolution itself
 - 8) She explains that for law school students the GPA for the dean's list is 3.0
 - 9) Sandro asks if the law school requirement is for JD candidates or for JMs
 - 10) The resolution will be presented for UGS and to the student body
 - 11) Dr. Kos piqued interest about the dean's list idea
 - 12) Rafi explains that we should present the resolution to the UGS and get some proper feedback

- 13) Dean's list should be pitched to Dr. Kos to see how the deans respond to this potential bill.
- 14) UGS at the end of the day are the ones who determine the standard and the grade scale in graduate school.
- 15) Dean Hill should also be contacted.
- 16) The expectation is that Graduate students should have a good gpa to stay in their graduate programs.
- 17) No response yet from Dr. Kos to Sandro's followup.

- Section 5 of our GPSC in the MMC statues change
 - 1) Sandro discusses that the current section 5 guidelines state that the PSC chair shall be responsible for submitting written reports to certain entities.
 - 2) The next addition or modification to this bill would be to use a biweekly report that goes to the CSO advisor and in regards to GSO organizations.
 - 3) Sandro looked at the budget allocations prior to the coronavirus outbreak and he saw that the medical school and law school also have the authority to disburse for travel funds.
 - 4) Rafi explains that the standard before was that written reports were only made for the speaker and finance committee.
 - 5) Nitya explains that her position was meant for making sure that she's responsible for making sure law school students do not double dip.
 - 6) Historically, it's just been the medical school representative and the law school representative.
 - 7) CSO advisor should be included states christian and sandro because GSO requests can result in funding from both CSO/GPSC (double dipping).
 - 8) Purchase requests that result in funding for CSO and GPSC could result in funding violations.
 - 9) Rafi explains that GPSC solely funds travel funding requests, professional development, etc.
 - 10) Teresa explains that she would know if a student may potentially be double dipping due to her organizing travel request submissions.
 - 11) Rafi requests doing an investigation into this funding issue.
 - 12) Teresa explains that CSO has to travel in groups and does not fund solely individuals such as GPSC.

- Administering a survey on types of problems or concerns a graduate student faces during a pandemic

- 1) Rafi explains we are in the process of developing a survey focused on graduate student issues during the current pandemic.
- 2) We will try to understand their problems and this will provide a baseline for the future.
- 3) Nitya explains that Angelica was supposed to send a survey out before the pandemic regarding this issue.
- 4) Rafi explains that we can extend the context of that particular survey.
- 5) We can construct responses based on the survey back in March.
- 6) Nitya asks if the Counseling and Wellness center at FIU regarding this issue?
- 7) Rafi explains that a remote agreement was submitted already for employees and that certain emails were sent regarding emergency COVID-19 aid.
- 8) Most grad students are international students and this can help with this survey.
- 9) Rafi will share it at the end of the week.

- FIU student food pantry for graduate students

- 1) Rafi discusses the idea of sponsoring a month for FIU student food pantry that is outside the one currently conducted by the SGA.
- 2) A report on panthernews explained that a student who was international barely had enough food and money.
- 3) Kamilla explains the difficulty of having this food drive virtually.
- 4) Rafi explains that we can't use the Gofund me page.
- 5) We can go to each departments GSO to see what funds are collected and transfer those fund to the food pantry unit.
- 6) Advocating for students to donate if they can and right now the funds are based on donation.
- 7) The foundation has a platform for students to get a dollar.
- 8) Find a way to adjust and make it work.

- Social media outreach planning to CSO registered organizations
 1. Rafi already shared the CSO organizations and started to contact others.
 2. Sandro explains we can cross reference with other GSO's on the list in excel.
 3. We must begin contacting GSO's to get communication going.

- Reaching out to the GSO's of other universities
 - 1) Rafi contacted the GSO of UF and they shared their line of activities.
 - 2) Most activities will be remote for now.

- Fall 2020 Plan review:
 1. Budget
 - We still have to wait for feedback on the budget.
 2. Events
 3. SOP modifications

- Graduate Senator proportion in the SGA
 1. GPSC setup does not allow for graduate students to join from other organizations.
 2. A graduate student liaison would not be allowed to be updated.
 3. You can talk to Alexandra Valdez to see if secretaries and graduate students do not get paid.
 4. We need to talk with President Valdez.

6) Announcements

I. Gradsfellars

- 1) Kamila explains that she is doing a welcome back grad skellar for the 24th of August or the last week of August.
- 2) She believes that an idea that is appropriate for ZOOM and other forms of media platforms. ai

- 3) Rafi raises a question regarding how would Kamila contact the students and gather a list of students?
- 4) Share the information with the Med school and Law school.
- 5) Most of the information was shared through the UGS and also other platforms.
- 6) CSO may be a potential avenue to use outreach for GPSC events.
- 7) Sandro explains that we could use the particular intel for reaching out to the appropriate organizations.
- 8) The end of September and October a potential townhall that would include President Rosenberg, Dr. Kos, medical student dean, and law school student dean.

Adjournment

Meeting is adjourned at 5:10 PM