

GRO GC Meeting  
Date: 3/11/2019  
Minutes taken by: Eugenia VOlkova  
GRO Levering Lounge

Note: a decision was made to move funding requests to the beginning of the meeting to allow for quorum during important voting portion of the evening.

1. Funding Requests:
  - a. We have only used under 10% of the budget for group requests and about 30% has been allocated for upcoming events. In total, including potentially fully funding today's events, it should be a little over 50% of the whole budget.
  - b. Films You Can't See Anywhere Else: Disability and Film
    - i. Screening of four short films that have to do with differently abled individuals or made by them. Will be at the Parkway.
    - ii. Through the center of advanced media studies
    - iii. Pay a \$1,000 fee for super fest, and then there is a speaker honorarium. Speaker hotel and train will be paid for by a different source. Sign language interpretations. At least 3 speakers, allocated 2 translators and we want to make the event as accessible as possible.
    - iv. Expect 20/60 graduate students/total. There is some interest
    - v. **Motion to fully fund. Seconded. Passes.**
2. JH Tech Ventures Panel
  - a. Collaborate with industry or star different products. Started by the Post-Doc association. Opening to post-docs and graduate students. Food and a panel from JH TV that will talk about what they do. Will include a panel with a startup and a networking session at the end.
  - b. HOMewood Post-doc association will cover the alcohol.
  - c. The request is only for food.
  - d. **Motion to fully fund. Seconded. Passes**
3. 6th Annual Spring Concert featuring Peabody Institute
  - a. Used to be hosted at the Shriver Hall. Students come up with the program and do the advertisement. Represent the current community as a whole.
  - b. Mainly performers from the Peabody, the event is open to everyone.
  - c. There is no entry restriction.
  - d. **Motion to fully fund. Seconded. Passes**
4. Women in STEM Symposium
  - a. April 6th, 2019
  - b. Group that supports graduate women in STEM. 2 sessions in the morning (Stand Up, Step Out (6). Breakout sessions (how to start a company, negotiation skills). Poster session. Keynote Speaker. Last year 150 attendees, this year 200.

Currently 65 homewood graduates and postdocs RSVP'd as coming. 6 other universities are also attending. 100/125 confirmed are from JHU

**c. Motion to fully fund. Seconded. Passes.**

5. Approval of the Minutes.

**a. Motion to approve. Seconded. Passes.**

6. E-Board Report

a. Communication Policy

- i. We are working on an internal professional etiquette policy for the E-Board

b. Website Update

- i. Updates for committees have gone through on the website.
- ii. We will try to use some of the GRO Guide funding for the website in future years.

c. Homewood Graduate Board (Tara, Santosh)

- i. Tara and Santosh cam.
- ii. You got an email sent out to you with a survey link. You can complete it in your own seat. It has only been disseminated to GC members right now.
- iii. Board has faculty members and meets 2x per year, 2 student representatives. This board handles issues related to getting your degree, this board votes on issues that deal with getting your degree. Would like to target, get, improve meetings between advisors and graduate students for a structured schedule of feedback between a graduate student and an advisor. Need to know how much it varies from program to program across the departments and throughout the schools.
- iv. Reached out to Nancy Kass and they are working on something very similar. They are meeting with her in a few weeks and this would be very helpful in facilitating this discussion.
- v. See if we can make university-mandated exams to become more required across different departments. Specifically GBO's.
- vi. Any other suggestions or input that you would like them to take to the board:
  1. Progress reports are given to whom? Currently, there is a general recommendation that the graduate student and the faculty advisor meet, but there is no requirement that there is a document resulting from this. Some departments have an administrative office tracking this. There is no one that is policing this. That's what we want, to make sure that it is not just a recommendation that this happens, here is who is accountable besides the student and the advisor.
  2. Departments with training grants from the NIH have required forms.

3. First we just want to complete a brief survey regarding what people are or are not doing. What would students like to have as a minimum.
4. Last year, our former chair tried to work with the policy of funding and that advisors have too much power for pulling funding off of students.
5. Email addresses were also sent out. Will there be any minutes.
6. There is some time to do some back and forth. It's possible to do some back and forth and have administrators talk about. Will check in in two meetings.

## 7. Tobacco Policy

### a. Health Safety Committee

- i. Healthy Hopkins Initiative allows students to take 2 personal training sessions.
- ii. Student mental health summit.
- iii. 2013 - smoking ban survey that was put out. All the divisions voted for a smoking ban except for the Whiting and KSAS.
- iv. 2015 smoking committee report the report culminated in a smoking ban across the entire university.
- v. April 2016 - 43% of students are in favor of a smoke free campus, many in favor of smoke-free zones. 900 UG students answered the survey.
- vi. Interested in implementation teams. What should the repercussions be?
- vii. Want representation on the implementation team.
- viii. What is the status of the cessation program?
  1. The timeline given was that in March there would be a vendor that we could call and get resources. Part of 2015 report said that an on-site vendor would be better. Looking for a new vendor and are hoping to finalize that right now. Available for everyone on campus. It excludes Security and Bon Appetit.
  2. Is vaping allowed? The 2015 report did cover vaping but that would be part of what the implementation team would look into.
  3. Bloomberg school of public health has smoking ban and the administration does nothing. That's a large part of the delay because we haven't figured out an enforcement piece. In an urban campus, as soon as you leave the building. For an urban campus, it is not enforceable.
  4. Most of the people we see smoking are staff. What will JHU do about this?
  5. They will likely not be able to do a full ban on this.
  6. Are we meant to chose someone tonight? No.
  7. When will the implementation team be meeting? That is not decided yet. Once the point of contact gets approval from HR, that is when the implementation team would be convened.

8. Would us having a presence on the implementation team be understood as us endorsing this? No, we don't think so. We are looking into smoke-free zones or a smoke-free campus.
9. Is the implementation team making a binding policy? We don't know.
10. Will the staff be on the committee? We don't know.
11. Other schools that have smoking ban have social stigmatism about this, would they have required training for this? Nothing is on or off the table.
12. Could you clarify what the official policy is? 25 feet away from buildings and there is no way to enforce it. There is a call for action on this issue.
13. Is the concern more with second-hand smoke? Yes. The areas where people are smoking are the most dense areas.
14. What are the statistics on the Bon Appetit workers that smoke? We don't have stats on this because that is not something that would be appropriate.
- 15. Motion that we table this until we know when the implementation committee will meet and we will send someone to the implementation committee once we know more about it. Seconded. Passes.**

#### 8. Title IX Committee

- a. To handle everything. We have functioning sub-committees that handle too many small parts of the process. Homewood lacks one that covers all members of the university.
- b. Given that it looks like the JHU Police Force will be something that happens, we want to get a voice at the table for how the students will interact with the JHU Police Force.
- c. How will we design this? Representation from all the schools or focus on homewood campus? Who should be involved? Representatives from each school.
- d. SARU, HERO, groups involved in campus instead of each school.
- e. We are designing this committee to report to OIE. As of right now there is no committee that covers this. There are many poor issues that happened last semester and we lag behind peer institutions.
- f. We already have a Sexual Violence Advisory Committee and seeing as how that committee is not implementing any policies, maybe this can be combined.
- g. It is great that this is on the radar and happening in a body like this, as we were talking with survivors and their advice was that the university loves bureaucracy and they love to hide their abuse of policies with bureaucracy and many survivors are still talking in committees. They drag this on for months and years. Beyond the committees, peer institutions have more resources. If the GRO is going to get involved, maybe we should focus on put pressure on existing channels with how

to shame the university with how they they lag behind. There are very specific things that other universities do that we worry about the pressures that bureaucracy will do. Maybe we should think about other channels.

- h. We need to look at liabilities. There are other things that fall under this, like abuses in power. Many times people who work in OIE are not aware of all of this. Bureaucracy is always bad. Communication is in general bad.
- i. Originally this had demands about increasing the number of administrators and working with OIE. Something with communications between involved parties. Even if it could help with administration have better communication, if people say that something has been done illegal, but the cases took too long so nothing could be said.
- j. There is a sexual violence committee, but not sure what other committees exist that go into this. There is nothing for postdocs or professional academic workers. Not that many things
- k. Sexual Violence Committee has sent out a climate survey and there has been only 1 meeting. There will be another meeting this Wednesday. If we were to have these two committees work together or restructure, we would not have anything within our control.
- l. Structural issues have been discussed in the Women's Faculty Forum and discuss if they would like to sign on to this. There is a lot of lack of communication between students and administration. They have discussed a lot for the policies. They have 2020 goals for JHU that tie into university-wide goals.  
**Motion to contact the women's faculty forum and get some input. Motion withdrawn.**
- m. Does the SGA know about this? Contact inside the SGA was impeached.
- n. We can also talk to undergrads to get their input in this matter.
- o. Understanding of doing this on a University level or a Homewood level? We should reach out to sign on and to get input.
- p. **Motion to contact SGA, Women's Faculty Forum, Women in STEM, JHTOO, Postdoc association, and other women's issues organizations that to get input on the document and the committee and sign on. Seconded. Motion passes.**