

GRO GC Meeting
Gilman 50
Date: November 5th, 2018
Minutes Taken By:Eugenia Volkova

Approval of Minutes

- **Motion to approve the minutes. Seconded. Passes.**

Eboard Report

- A mission statement for the role and purpose of GRO was drafted and will be received in the next E-Board meeting.
- Reviewed developments and discussed further actions to take regarding the JHU-ICE letter response
- Discussion of updates on security email and planned next steps
- Grad Student Peer Support Group - More casual people to talk to, outside of what is available to the undergraduates. Potentially getting a Pilot Program running the next semester.

Homewood Recycling Office Leana Houser/Brigid Gregory

- Zero Waste Event Planning
- Homewood Recycling on Facebook and Instagram
- The office has 2 people, 3 part-time students, 2 undergrads and 1 grad student and 5 material handlers.
- Recycling has changed
 - China will no longer take any contaminated recyclables from all countries
 - We were sending 90% of our recycling to China.
 - Back to Basics Campaign
 - Don't be a wish cycler
 - Refuse plastic bags
 - Recyclable vs. Acceptable.
- Zero Waste Events
 - The goal of a Zero Waste Event is to Conserve Resources while minimizing and diverting waste from the incinerator and landfill.
 - Preferred Green Caterers, and local
 - Submit an Event Support Ticket
 - Event Support Ticket, Request Event Support
 - Pizza boxes: Compostable and recyclable. If there's not a lot of oil, it can be recycled. With oil it is compostable.
 - Boxed lunch is not 0 waste, everything is pre-packaged in plastic that cannot be recycled. Some of the caterers will adapt a zero waste box lunch.
 - Compost: Coffee cup, compostable cold cup, compostable silverware and wood
 - Recycling: Newspaper (if not wet), aluminum cans, water bottles, aluminum foil
 - Trash: Plastic yoghurt containers, plastic plate, styrofoam cup, tongs, chip container

- Other recycling: Pens, writing instruments, plastic bag, battery
- Take your event to the next level. Free Food Alert. When you're hosting an event and you have leftover food, this is where you would post your event. They are working on making the program better. Become an event coordinator. Trying to expand it to other campuses.
- Only looking for plastics 1 and 2.

Funding Request

- Thanksgiving Social Gathering
 - Civil and Mechanical Engineering, Total of \$1,000
 - It is not for alcoholic beverages
 - Great Hall, 6:00-10:30 PM, November 16th, 2018
 - Expect 100 Graduate students
 - Other funding Sources: CEGA, MEGA
 - Do our events need to be open to all students
 - If we do one, then other departments will come asking for a departmental dinner.
 - They are technically okay with this math, it's under Hopkins Events so it's technically open to everyone.
 - There are many engineering departments, and if they open it to all engineering departments, it would be more inclusive. It could be an engineering-specific Thanksgiving Social Gathering.
 - Has this event happened before? They have had similar functions and other people from other departments have attended.
 - Have they asked for money from the departmental administration?
 - Yes, currently the departments have agreed to give at least \$100 each and we want the departments to buy the alcohol. If it increases, they spend more than \$100.
 - Can we open the event to other departments? Engineering Departments or the School at Large?
 - He is open to inviting everyone as part of it but the Mechanical Engineering Department is currently bigger so he expects about 200 students in both of them. The budget would increase accordingly.
 - His budget is not very practical. There are about 4,000 graduate students on Homewood.
 - Would he consider charging \$5 per person? Does he have any other plan to make up for funding?
 - He can talk to the Computer Science Department to get more funding toward it. He is not very willing to do this.
 - Motion that we pledge up to 500 dollars that is conditional to the departments giving the rest of the money.
 - **Motion for 550 dollars from the GRO, unconditionally. Seconded. Motion passes.**

- **Amendment conditional on everyone being able to attend and there is a concerted effort on the part of the organization to advertise the event and make up the rest of the funding. Seconded. Passes.**
- **Final Motion: Motion for the GRO to grant up to \$550 for this event, on the conditions that: the event is expanded to the general (graduate?) student body for attendance, the organizations organizing the event make a concerted effort to advertise the event, the organizations planning the event reach out to their departments and other funding options to make up the rest of the funding.**
- 2018 Eid Banquet
 - JH Graduate Muslim Student Association
 - Turner Auditorium, East Baltimore Campuses
 - 5:45PM-7:30PM, November 8th, 2018
 - Grads Expected: 40 (250 total)
 - Advertising strategy:
 - GRO events and group emailing lists
 - Print advertisements
 - Social media
 - GRO website and Facebook
 - Cross-dept nature: Open to all JH students (Homewood, SPH, SON and SOM)
 - Event held/funded previously? Yes
 - Other funding sources: SPH Assembly
 - **Motion to fully fund. Seconded. Motion passes.**

Wellness Activities for Graduates

- Parental Concerns Working Group Update
- Info on the Website for Graduate and PostDoctoral Affairs
 - <https://homewoodgrad.jhu.edu/>
- Events and Provisions:
 - SWAP monthly events for exchanging and relaxing with the kids
 - Monthly group meetings in Wyman for policies for parents
 - Supplies in the GRO lounge
 - JHU vouchers for child care centers in Baltimore
 - New changing tables in washrooms across campus
 - Kid's room in Brody
- Problems:
 - Policy change in Health Insurance
 - Rec center does not have provision
 - Child care supply is very costly in Baltimore
 - Visa issues for international grad parents
- Email List

Wellness Committee Update

- New website exclusively wellness centered website coming up with all resources together
- Administration is planning to change the wellness workshops/courses being provided on campus
 - Thrive
 - Arrive and Thrive
 - Strive to Thrive: available for graduate students
 - There was someone who attended one of them for a month.
- Thoughts or suggestions? Please bring this forward
- Three workshops have similar views. As graduate students we have very different issues and it's different than for undergraduate students.
- The advertising seems like an issue.

GRO Hike Update

- 114 Responses
- 16 students selected (3 dropouts)
- Organized with JHOC. If anyone knows and can volunteer to take students on a hike. We can also rent a Jimmy Bus.

Security Townhall updated

- Forum on Policing 1 Topic: Problems with Policing
 - All of the people attending are or were police chiefs of departments.
 - Two said that they thought our campus should have our own police department.
 - Moderated by Dr. Lawrence Jackson who is opposed to the police department
 - We have forums where we are taking input and we are trying to figure out how to make a police department that everyone would like. Mostly, there were some community members for and against and some students.
 - Newsletter article about it.
 - There is another forum, The Challenges of 21st Century Policing, that will be this friday. It will be in East Baltimore, at the School of Public Health.
 - They are on different topic areas but no one sticks to the topics.
 - Are there any actions that the GRO needs to take at this point?
- VP Security Commission is November 14th. Mix of administrators and students who applied and got on the committee.
- Things will actually be happening when the legislative session begins in January. At that point we can read through the bill and figure out what is happening.
- MICA, Towson, and Goucher would also be impacted by the bill.
- No one who knows what is going on is actually speaking.
- Public Schools in Baltimore have their own police forces. No private body in Baltimore is currently permitted to have their own police forum.

JHU-ICE Response from Advocacy Chair

- Request for Information, Sept 5, 2018
- GRO Chairs sent a letter to the Vice Provost containing 2 parts

- Request information regarding the contracts, duration, and value
- Transparency regarding the relationship, including a university wide email
- Response, Sept 6, 2018
- Responded with a general statement that the university prepared in light of recent news regarding ICE
 - Brief explanation of ICE's relationship with SOE division of public safety
- Professor's Petition (Drew Daniels)
 - Created a petition to denounce the JHU relationship with ICE.
- JHU-ICE Protest
 - Two part protest organized by TRU, SAPP, SGA
 - Playdate, rally, march
 - Concern over lack of transparency of the University's Response
- GRO Response?
 - Have the other organizations that have taken the initiative started to craft their own responses?
 - There is a board to address this, this should be coming out in a week.
 - Encourage us to think about this independently...
 - This motion is not to immediately see that we are on board and see what they put out before we decide whether to put our name on it.
 - School of Education and School of Medicine have the contracts.
 - It would be a stronger voice if there were multiple groups. Maybe it would be more prudent to reach out.
 - Political things impact graduate students.
 - Could we see a draft of it before it is sent? There is a point of contact that can be reached to get the
 - **Motion that if the timeline works so that we can approve the draft at a GC meeting, we review the draft at the next GC meeting and then send it out after we have all had a change to review the draft, otherwise we will vote to add our name to it after, pending review. Seconded. Motion passes.**

CTL Graduate Student Conference: Ways of Reading, Beyond, Beneath, and Beside Theory. Move to fully fund. Seconded. Passes.

Remaining Chairs

- Communications and GRO Guide Chair
- No nominations currently for the Communications/ Guide Chair
- To be approved by the Eboard. We can send out another email asking for nominations.
- Gives us more flexibility to instate the person faster when we get a response. Fewer SG
- This is not something that is specifically covered in the constitution, but it is constitutional.
- **Motion: The motion was to delegate the right to vote for both of these chair elections to the E-Board . Seconded.**
 - 19 in favor. 3 opposed. 11 abstentions.