1. **Call to Order and Agenda Review [1 min]**

Eugenia called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

**There is a motion to approve the minutes.**

**The motion is seconded.**

**A vote is taken, and the motion passes with 24 in favor.**

1. **E-board Report (Eugenia and Elliot) [10 min]** 
   1. **GRO-GSA-TRU COVID-19 advocacy for graduate students update**

Eugenia noted that the GRO just sent an email to distribute that there is some ongoing surveying within KSAS to assess how students are being financially impacted by COVID-19. Not all departments seem to be surveying their students, despite the fact that there is an internal KSAS deadline of May 20th. We think that this assessment is going to be done on a department by department assessment ultimately, but with some school insight/power as well. We think that the more students who make their needs and concerns known to their PIs/departments will improve the chances of student support. This information was provided to GRO through TRU, who is also advocating for students to have similar discussions.

Eugenia noted that the GRO leadership has continued to meet with Vice Provosts Nancy Kass and Stephen Gange, and last week we also met with Vice Dean Matt Roller. We learned that KSAS seems very unlikely to provide any kind of blanket support to graduate students, and wants to assess everything on a case-by-case basis. We are going to continue to push on this issue.

Topics that we will be pushing in future meetings include: how our communications to the JHU Board of Trustees was received and asking to meet with the secretary of the BoT, the financial allocations to graduate students from the CARES act money given to JHU, and continuing to push for financial stability/support for graduate students.

* 1. **Food & Transportation for essential grads & volunteers**

We have made some headway in purchasing $7500 worth of Lyft gift-codes for essential personnel and affected students as a slight means of relief. Elliot is making headway on getting the codes purchased and distributed.

We also had $7500 allocated for Grubhub codes to provide support to front-line workers and those strongly affected by COVID-19. The logistics are being managed currently. In theory we are supposed to distribute everything before the end of the fiscal year, however we have gotten some vague permission to allow for some distribution after the fiscal year ends – continuing slightly into June/July.

We are glad that we have gotten this approved – we know that the GSA at the School of Medicine has not been able to get their financial relief efforts approved, so it is great that we are able to do some of this direct relief.

* 1. **Parking for grads during COVID**

There is currently a campus-wide freeze on parking permits. Anyone with a permit is still being charged even if they are not using or able to use their permit. We have pushed this to the level of the Dean of Student life and have gotten clarification that essential employees should not need to worry about permits being checked. Beyond that, however, it does not seem like the parking office is willing to do anything about this actively. The best we can hope for is some retroactive relief/reimbursement after the University is opened (at least more opened).

There was a comment: it seems like this is a large cost to some students, it is good that they may get some retroactive support but we should continue to advocate for it.

The communications chair asked: are students who have current parking passes able to park on campus?

Eugenia responded that essentially any ‘essential employee’ who has an access letter from the school is able to park on campus. That said, it sounds like there is just no enforcement of parking rules on campus.

The GRO has been reaching out to everyone who contacted us regarding these issues – if you know of others who have concerns or are affected by this, please encourage them to reach out to us.

* 1. **GRO End of the Year Summary**

Elliot is taking the lead on writing a summary of the GROs efforts over this academic year – it will be distributed and published on our website once the E-Board completes/approves it.

* 1. **E-board transitions and committees**

We are getting some additional seats on committees in the coming year. The various committees that we know GRO members will be involved in were presented to the GC. Eugenia highlighted that the GRO finally got some involvement in the Graduate Student/Postdoc subcommittee of the Research Restart Committee. We were not given a seat on the Library, Archives, and Museums committee, but we were told that they would be open in communicating their progress with us.

Last week an application for the cross-cutting Student Advisory Group relating to campus re-opening was open to the school. We know at a very minimum that Eugenia is going to be on that committee.

* 1. **GRO Survey Responses**

We are talking about some of the survey results with administrators specifically, and results are still trickling in – some of the biggest issues are that people feel much more depressed/anxious than usual. Many students are saying that they have not had meaningful (or any) discussion with their PIs regarding COVID-19 related impacts on graduate student work.

Some numeric questions demonstrate important results as well; people are very concerned about their research/work progress. Greatest worries for all students overall are research/academic progress, but there is also significant long-term financial impact concern in KSAS. These are areas that we will continue to advocate for and focus on in our continued work.

There was a question as to when the survey would be closed.

Eugenia responded that we have not fully determined this – it will likely be open for additional responses over the next few weeks, but we are already using the data in our advocacy efforts.

1. **Graduate Student Group Approval [10 min]**

Two groups are here for consideration to be approved as graduate student groups. Eugenia outlined the group requirements as well as the purpose of group recognition and what group get from being recognized.

* 1. **Iranian Graduate Student Association at Johns Hopkins**

The material presented to the GRO by the Iranian Graduate Student Association was given to the GC. Elliot clarified that SLI may require the group to change their name. Representatives were present for questions, but no questions were posed by the GC.

**A motion was made to approve the group.**

**The motion was seconded.**

**The vote was taken, the motion passes with 25 in favor and 1 abstention**

* 1. **ECE Graduate Student Association**

The material that the ECE GSA provided to the GRO was presented to the GC. Representatives, including the 2nd term president, were present for questions.

**A motion was made to approve the group.**

**The motion was seconded.**

**The vote was taken, the motion passes 26 in favor and 1 abstention**

1. **GRO E-Board Elections [90 min]**

Shane, as Co-Chair Elect, acted as the Elections Official.

He read a statement to the GC to explain the election procedures for the evening and reminded all members present of the rules of decorum for discussion, the methods of voting, etc.

* 1. **Permanent Positions**
     1. **Co-Chairs (1)**

Nominations made in advance of the meeting were: **Elmer Zapata-Mercado**, **Conor Bean**, and **Shuran Zhang**

No nominations were made from the floor.

The election was conducted: Conor Bean was elected as the new Co-Chair.

* 1. **Fixed Positions**
     1. **Administration and Funding Chair**

Nominations made in advance of the meeting were: **Yuri Chia,** who declined the nomination.

No nominations were made from the floor.

As there were no nominees, nobody was elected Administration and Funding Chair.

* + 1. **Social Chairs (1)**

Nominations made in advance of the meeting were: **Shuran Zhang, Yuri Chia** who declined the nomination

Nominations from the floor were made for:

The election was conducted: no candidate received a majority of votes, so no Social Chair was elected.

* + 1. **Advocacy Chairs (1)**

Nominations made in advance of the meeting were: **Rourou Ji**, **Yuri Chia**

Nominations from the floor were made for: **Daniel McClurkin**, who declined the nomination

The election was conducted: **Yuri Chia** was elected as the new Advocacy Chair.

*Note: A call to check quorum was made during the election, as many people had left the call. Quorum was still present, so the election was continued.*

**There is a motion to field the nominations for Welcome and Guide Chair and Health and Wellness Chair simultaneously.**

**The motion is seconded.**

**A vote was taken, the motion passes with 17 in favor.**

* + 1. **Welcome and Guide Chair**

Nominations made in advance of the meeting were: **Yuri Chia**, who was ineligible due to his election as Advocacy Chair.

No nominations were made from the floor.

* 1. **Floating Positions**
     1. **Health and Wellness Chair**

Nominees were:

Nominations from the floor were made for: **Ashwini Gupta**, who was unable to accept the nomination.

**A motion was made to allow the Executive Board to appoint people to fill vacant Executive Board positions for the course of the summer.**

**The motion was seconded.**

After discussion and clarification of the revised bylaws, a friendly amendment was made and accepted to modify the motion to

**A motion was made to allow the Executive Board to appoint people to fill vacant Executive Board positions for the course of the summer, with voting privileges on the Executive Board during the course of their appointment.**

**The vote was taken, and the motion passes: 11 in favor and 1 abstention.**

1. **Open Discussion & Questions**

Eugenia opened the floor for comments or questions. None were raised.

1. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at **9:15PM**