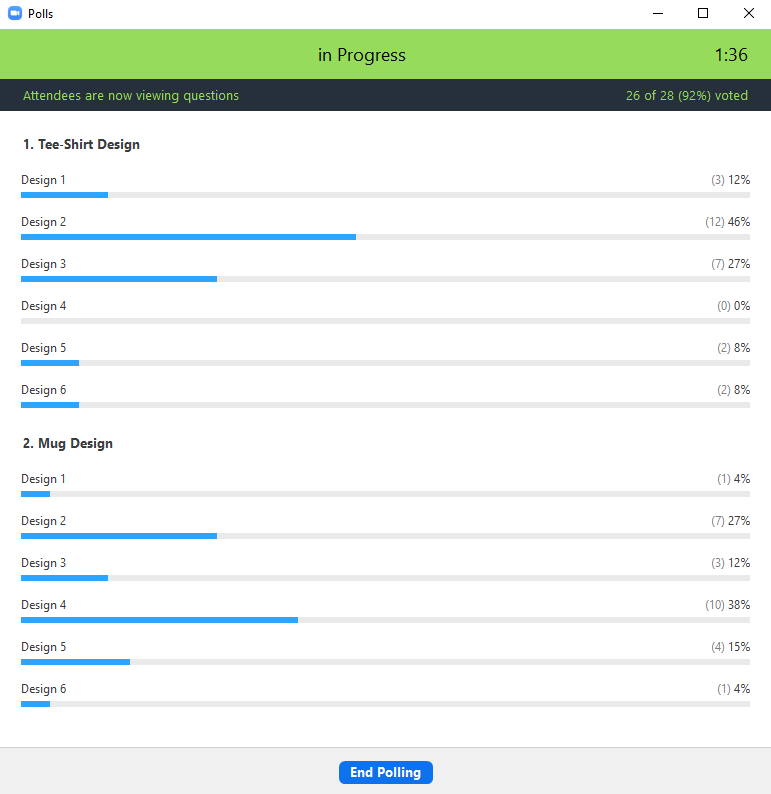
1. Call to Order and Agenda Review
   1. Shane called the meeting to order at 6:03PM.
   2. Discussion
      1. Benjamin Taylor (Political Science): Will any of the stuff on JHPD at the end be more time-consuming? Just want to make sure not reaching it at the very end. Formal motion if this is something more advisable to do.
      2. Conor Bean (Co-Chair): 10-15 minutes. No problem moving it up.
      3. Ben (Pol Sci): I move to move the JHPD to directly after the E-Board report. (Motion to move Item VI to position IV)
         1. Stephan Kemper (Admin/Funding Chair): Second
         2. Yea: 26 Abstain: 2 Nay: 0
         3. Motion Passes
2. Approval of Minutes from 2-1-2021
   1. Ben (Pol Sci): Motion to approve the minutes
      1. Stephan (Admin/Funding Chair): Second
      2. Yea: 27 Abstain: 2 Nay:0
      3. Motion Passes
3. E-board Report (Shane & Conor)
   1. Updates on the undergraduate COVID-19 cluster and restrictions on on-campus activity
      1. Conor (Co-Chair): Emails from JHU central about COVID cluster the first week back for undergrads. This ultimately resulted in them not resuming on-campus activity until Thursday. Some undergraduates, specifically related to sports teams, are going through the disciplinary process. No details have been released due to FERPA concerns. Multiple cases of suspension and a few cases of possible expulsion. Shifting undergraduate culture to amplify peer pressure in adherence to guidelines. Frustrating that we are coming across different on-campus facilities that grads were relying on are being chained off (not capable of being used by grads and undergrads as of now). How can grads use these facilities that are important for them to use? We will note that we’ve been told that the South African and UK variants are not here yet.
         1. One major quote that was taken away from the meeting is that this would have been a: “Catastrophic event for mid-Atlantic region had one of the above been detected.”
      2. Maya (COVID-19 Concerns Chair): That is the main takeaway. Additionally, I would like to add that, going into the meeting, I did not know what the meeting would be or what it would focus on.
         1. Admin learned from this cluster that without perfect compliance there will be problems with high risk and infection (A few people being irresponsible causes huge issues).
         2. Main plan to increase compliance is outsourcing compliance to student leaders. Culture of compliance. I have concerns about the feasibility of that.
         3. Cyril Cook (Biophysics)\* in text chat: Students were eating in the tents on the quad in front of Gilman today. The ropes that had previously marked them as closed weren't up.
            1. Maya (COVID Concerns):Tents are now open, yes. I can confirm that.
         4. Ben (Pol Sci)\*in the text chat: If a catastrophic event was possible, why did they insist on bringing undergrads back to campus?
            1. Erini (Physics)\*in the text chat: ^^^^^ second
            2. Maya (COVID Concerns): Yes, Ben the possibility of the catastrophic event is quite concerning.
         5. Shane (Co-Chair): The complaint that we raised is that it was unfair that they were removing access to those for graduate students when it was not a grad student cluster. Continue to make sure it’s clear that grad students need access to those facilities regardless of what’s going on in the UG community. If you have questions or concerns related to this, please give to Maya before she goes to this meeting (additional meeting tonight). We don’t expect us to have a lot of input but it would be good.
         6. Erini (Physics)\*in the text chat : Did anyone ask why the university admin was surprised "a few bad apples" could do this when the school of public health has been telling the country otherwise?
            1. Maya (COVID Concerns): not a Q&A format, it was that we were given two brief updates and we were divided into groups. The groups were led by Student Advisory Committee for reopening. Disabled the chat function at a certain point (after a question about punishment was raised). Said punishment in the works.
         7. Jo Giardini (English)\*in the text chat: Do we have numbers for what proportion of instruction is on campus right now?
            1. Shane (Co-Chair): No, but we can work to get them.
            2. Maya (COVID Concerns): Clarification, what exactly do you mean by numbers?
            3. Jo (English): I mean, not number of students, but like what multiplier of students by classes in attendance? Wjat proportion of instruction is currently happening online vs. in-person? (1 out of 10 classes or 1 out of 5 classes and additionally 1 out of 10 classes with 100 students or 1 out of 10 classes with 20 students).
            4. Eugenia (Secretary), Maya (COVID Concerns), and Conor (Co-Chair) collectively promised to get an answer to this question.
            5. Eugenia (Secretary): I can inquire but not something I know. Something like 1/10 classes is what I've heard but only anecdotally (would need to look up notes/ask)
            6. Jo (English)\*in the text chat: (later clarified via text): Yeah I think the difficulty would be that I’d want to know that relative to size of classes too. 1 class with 100 students is different than 1 with 10, etc.
      3. Ben (Pol Sci)\*in the text chat: Relatedly, do we have any sense of projected undergraduate enrolment/tuition paid had campus remained closed to undergrads vs. its partial reopening?
         1. Erini (Physics)\*in the text chat: second ben's question
         2. Ben (Pol Sci): Having UG’s on campus strikes as a money-grab. Do we have any way of asking the administration if they have actively put public health at risk in order to make sure they don’t have a budget shortfall?
         3. Maya (COVID Concerns): In the Spring semester and during the summer they were really concerned about drops in enrolment and in one of the economic presentations that they gave they had a huge budget deficit which was allegedly due to not having UG’s at the facilities. However, according to the faculty audit, the numbers of loss given were not accurate. Enrolment is actually up from the previous year. Some sort of model where they predict the financial loss in different situations. Surprised if finances don’t play a role in the decision. Consistently overestimated the financial losses and enrolment drops.
         4. Ben (Pol Sci) \*in the text chat: An ill-calculated money grab, then
      4. Jo (English): I’m curious, beyond attempts to allocate blame or punishment, has the university proposed any proactive measures for addressing isolation among undergraduates? Especially those who are here and face the expectations of academic and athletic commitments?
         1. Maya (COVID Concerns): They are mainly outsourcing the labour to student org leaders. They did not come up with any plans of their own. Discussing the need to create a supportive environment and to create an environment where virtual interaction is fulfilling and engaging.
         2. Eugenia (Secretary): The one concrete thing I have heard to this effect is that the athletics program is getting coaches involved in monitoring the health and behaviour of their athletes.
         3. Jo (English) \*in the text chat: Some concerns about the way that this doubles down on a particular exceptionalism in how athletes are treated, and the way that it doubles down on ties that are specific to the athletic community (not connecting folks with people/support structures outside of this), but…
   2. Shane (Co-Chair): We’ve heard that a new template for research restart plans may be announced soon - all labs may be required to re-write to follow template
      1. We have heard that it is likely that a new template for laboratory research plans will be announced soon, and that all extant plans may be required to resubmit to follow the template.
      2. Upcoming meeting: with Denis Wirtz to discuss suggestions regarding lab research plans: provide any feedback, questions, or suggestions you may have to [arlington@jhu.edu](mailto:arlington@jhu.edu).
         1. A comment that Shane made to the President that there was an extraordinary and unnecessary duplication of effort of writing plans from scratch. If there had been centrally-provided templates with options that we could pick between that it would save many man-hours.
   3. Shane (Co-Chair): Summary of E-Sports league from Fall semester
      1. Approximately 150 participants, with 5 competitions across four games (~50% graduate students)
      2. Matches for three games were live-streamed on Twitch, with an average of 80 unique viewers, estimated that ~40-50 of them were non-participants in the league itself.
      3. League lasted 7 weeks.
      4. Total cost for prize support $2000 - at $286 per week with -> 100 grad participants per week, the cost ratio is extremely low.
      5. Ashley Kiemen (ChemBE): how much of the $2000 went to the same groups consistently winning?
         1. Shane (Co-Chair): That’s actually not possible. The max that any individual could win would be if the were the sum of the 5 individual winners. In that case, they could select a prize between 3 items (gaming headphones, mouse, keyboard). The most that was spent on any student was $75, no one would win more than that.
   4. Conor (Co-Chair) Updates regarding the Dean of Student Life Coalition Diversity Coursework Proposal
      1. No response yet from undergraduates who are a part of the subset of the coalition dealing with course diversity.
      2. Rezwana Zafar (part of OMA leading the group) has not heard anything about any movement on the proposal so far from the Dean of Student Life office, I will check again on Thursday 2/18.
      3. Hopefully by next GC will have a better idea of where the proposal is in terms of movement/coming to fruition.
   5. Shane (Co-Chair) Provost's Student Advisory Committee meeting report back
      1. Shane (Co-Chair): Mostly talking to President Daniels. This was right after the COVID cluster started, it was very clear that all the administrators were very caught up with dealing with/thinking about that situation. One subtext sounded like they were very happy to be talking to graduate students (who had not had any cluster on campus). Committee introduced themselves and talked about their experiences at JHU. Daniels asked to give some input on how we have been impacted during COVID. There was a lot of the feedback expected (I raised extreme duplication of effort (a bunch of lab research plans being written, a lot of them not written by PI’s)). Funding in Humanities. Funding extensions for humanities students. What delays look like across divisions. There was nothing except for platitudes about what would be done. Some promise of follow-up and discussion. Nothing was accomplished in terms of policy. Daniels was interested in people’s stories, perhaps will help moving his opinion of the situation. Disappointing that we had had the chance to pre-submit issues. We submitted a question in advance (does the university plan to lobby the Biden administration about the recent changes to Title IX? Updates on the private police force?). We received no answers. Vice Provost Nancy Kass said that she would follow-up with him for answers. Not occurred yet. We were supposed to get results on Provost’s lab work survey in December. Any questions or concerns or things you want me to raise for the next PAC committee meeting?
   6. (Conor): Meeting with Rezwana Zafar from OMA regarding leadership diversity initiative (call for volunteers)
      1. Rezwana has been leading an initiative for UG’s to share a space to discuss being a student leader of colour and hindrances to diversity in the workforce.
      2. Typically takes the form of a retreat but due to the pandemic this has shifted to one day, multiple Zoom session format
      3. She is looking to make a grad student specific version of this program and hopes to launch a one day event (tentatively March 20th)
      4. She is asking for GRO support in the form of grads willing to participate that day as breakout session leaders (after a training session with her).
      5. The GRO can support in the form of grads willing to participate that day as a breakout session leaders (after a training session with her). Hoping for 3-5 people total. Please reach out to me if interested by tomorrow afternoon.
      6. Shane (Co-Chair): Is there any requirement for who can serve (student leaders of colour)?
         1. Conor (Co-Chair): For some of the groups she is looking for student leaders of colour. But she is willing to have alternative support for students who don’t identify as student leaders of colour. Right now, she is just looking for how much buy in she gets from the GRO and will respond accordingly.
      7. Yuri (Advocacy Chair): I volunteered as one of the breakout session leaders for this upcoming program.
      8. Conor (Co-Chair): Yuri, Briana, and I are meeting with Rezwana on Thursday.
   7. Shane (Co-Chair): Co-sponsored event with HW-PDA, JH-PDA, and BGSA - Feb. 25th, no trivia
      1. Baltimore author Kondwani Fidel will be performing a reading from one of his books, and engaging in a discussion moderated by Dr. Ashley Cureton (JHU Postdoc) of antiracist approaches to education and narrative
      2. Co-sponsored by Homewood PDA, Johns Hopkins PDA, and the BGSA
      3. We got involved in this because the speaker was outside the scope of what the Homewood PDA was able to manage. Tatsat pledged $1,000 from his GSI budget, so it must be an intercampus event. GRO is also providing logistical support and we will be hosting the Zoom room and monitoring the registrations. The GRO will send a reminder email as the date approaches.
      4. We are cancelling the trivia night on that night to encourage further attendance.
      5. Erini (Physics)\*in the text chat: sorry if i missed this, but has the link been shared for the co-sponsered anti-racism in teaching event?
      6. Conor (Co-Chair)\*in the text chat: Erini: I believe the zoom link still has to be created
      7. Conor (Co-Chair)\*in the text chat: Zoom Registration: <https://JHUBlueJays.zoom.us/j/98731763046?pwd=OTJRVkgrYVp4RXU1NkcyZnh0aWFzQT09>
      8. Shane (Co-Chair)\*in the text chat: Per Erini's question: Event details were in an email titled "Black History Month Speaker Event: Kondwani Fidel" sent on Thursday, Feb 11th at just before 6PM.
   8. Conor (Co-Chair): Upcoming collaborative event with Roshi Rao at PHutures
      1. Roshni is planning a speaker event with GRO support and publicity in April or May
      2. Original plan was Karen Kelsky from ‘The Professor is In’ but there was a Twitter fallout
      3. Roshni discussed possible speaker options with Rachel and Ona today
      4. **Rachel Stein** (Professional Development Chair): There is no final speaker yet. Looking at April/May, currently negotiating the price back and forth. A lot of it is either: life in the workplace, emerging workplace trends/job types due to changes in the work environment.
   9. Alex Helms appointed to Mattin Center Farewell Committee
      1. We were informed last Monday that they are forming a committee to say farewell to the Mattin center which will be raised for the new Student centre later this year. Week of events. Anticipated to be at the end of April.
      2. Committee is comprised primarily of undergraduates, specifically those who had a strong connection to the Mattin Center. Want grad student perspective to the planning as well. Alex agreed to participate. First meeting was last Thursday. If anyone in the GC or if your departments see things you want recognized or included in this initiative reach out to Alex please.
      3. Alex (Social Chair): In this first meeting we discussed basic event planning. If anyone would like to share any ideas or themes, please do so. Here is my email: ahelms2@jhu.edu
   10. Launched GRO Advocacy Chair Office Hours
       1. First office hours held this weekend
       2. Yuri’s Office Hours Sundays 3-5PM
       3. Briana Office Hours Wednesday 6-8PM
       4. Shane (Co-Chair): Please share and advertise in your departments!
       5. Matthew Morgado (Philosophy): What is the link for the Office Hours?
          1. Conor (Co-Chair): I believe it is a standing zoom link in the email
          2. Shane (Co-Chair): Title “Student Advocacy Office Hours” sent from the GRO email account on Friday at 6PM
4. Discussion: GRO support for legislative campaign in MD Assembly to strip private universities of their police powers (see [GRO statement on JHPD](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MNF4ZfXe_48UpdeF6j5jAdqFbDxk7jR3cLAzNzd0pvI/edit) from this summer)
   1. Conor (Co-Chair): Last week the E-board voted to approve some materials distributed. Right now in the (Maryland State) house and senate two parallel bills going through to strip private police forces by private universities. This is one of the hurdles JHU previously cleared. One thing that we realized is we wanted some guidelines or get some guidance of how we should be advocating around this. In June we voted on a full statement against the private police force. We want GC input on what we should do and how we should lobby against this.
   2. Possible support can include:
      1. Contacting the House and Senate bills’ authors to provide GRO statement from the summer
      2. Automatically submitting the GRO statement as the GRO for any written testimony on the Maryland General Assembly website as the bills progress
      3. Continuing to broadcast materials from the Coalition Against Police by Hopkins, including individual legislator contact instructions
         1. Particularly how do we feel about sending the summaries by these specific legislators?
      4. Ben (Pol Sci): Does the GRO’s statement from the summer include a call to return to control to the local police force? Because if not, I would be in favour of all GRO testimony pushing not just for a rescinding of the power but also a return of local control to Baltimore.
         1. Conor (Co-Chair): No, that is not a part of the statement now.
      5. Erini (Physics): I second what Ben was saying in terms in terms of what the GRO was saying sending out individual testimony. Also I think that a statement should be sent out on behalf of the student body/GRO. We have historically been very supportive of similar asks (advocacy against private police force). So, yeah I think that we should definitely do that and I think it’s within the purview of the GRO doing that. I think that statements show that graduate students who live in this community will also be affected by this.
      6. Shane (Co-Chair): I guess, my comment is more of a question in regard to Ben’s proposal. I was looking back to the statement and it doesn’t explicitly say that control should revert to Baltimore. Currently the jurisdiction is still Baltimore’s, is that not correct?
         1. Ben (Pol Sci): My understanding is that, as a remnant of Dixie-crat control tendencies of Baltimore in the 19th century, any control of police practices has to go through state house. Plantation owners who wanted to maintain control over a predominantly black city did so with police. There are 2 parallel issues here: the return of local control to Baltimore over policing in general (which you wouldn’t have in other states) and this informs who has the right to tell JHU to do what it’s doing.
      7. Erini (Physics)\*in the text chat: Baltimore doesn't have full control of their own police force. what ben is saying lol. So even when Baltimore wants to make certain reforms or changing to their policing, they legally need to go through the state legislature (vs most cities have control of their own depts)
      8. Ben (Pol Sci)\*in the text chat: I will formally move as follows: “Move to add a call for return to Baltimore City of local control over its police to GRO testimony from the summer, to submit that testimony to the relevant channels, and then to distribute information to the graduate student body"
         1. Erini (Physics)\*in the text chat: second bens prop
      9. Shane (Co-Chair): That last clause, what is meant there? All information that other sources have provided? Or just our statement and what the GRO has collated by ourselves?
         1. Ben (Pol Sci): All information determined by the E-Board to be relevant or if not determined to be relevant, it should be brought forward to the GC.
      10. Eugenia (Secretary): I’d like to request clarification regarding a specific matter. We recently had to decide whether or not to send out information that was not collected or verified by the GRO. In this situation, we were not sure whether said information was strictly appropriate to send out. How would your motion, and subsequently following your motion, treat this information?
          1. Ben (Pol Sci): I would suggest that appropriateness is subsumed under relevance.
          2. Ben (Pol Sci)\*in the text chat: I say forward information along with reps’ parties and top funding sources, as well as total donations from JHU
      11. Conor (Co-Chair): Specifically asking about the information collected by the Coalition Against Policing by Hopkins about legislator’s positions and there was some discomfort assessing those positions. What information should be forwarded from this position and how much advocating should the GRO be putting to endorsing these positions?
      12. Erini (Physics): As has happened previously in terms of distilling another non-GRO’s information, the GRO has its specific advocacy/stances that it’s doing and other groups are supplementing those advocacy efforts. In this case, I think it’s fine for us to say “this is what we’re sending, this is what is in what we’re sending” if you want more information, here is information from another group, here is what they send. The concern is if the GRO isn’t vetting every single thing that is listed, there might be confusion or mistakes. But the GRO doesn’t necessarily vet every single attached groups’ information in general unless we are co-sponsoring. And since they are just asking for the GRO to spread the word, it is fine to just send the information out.
      13. Wangui Mbuguiro (Communications Chair)\*in the text chat: An example related to Eugenia’s question, is whether the e-board could vote to forward these flyers from @CAPH without GC approval: https://www.instagram.com/p/CLKDKBwJ1eK/
      14. Ben (Pol Sci)\*in the text chat: I would suggest that the E-Board bring any advocacy material regarding which it is uncertain to the full GC for evaluation and a possible vote. I would accept such a consideration as a clarification of the information deemed relevant to be forwarded.
      15. Shane (Co-Chair): Suggested friendly amendment: “Move to add a call for return to Baltimore City of local control over its police to GRO testimony from the summer, to submit that testimony to the relevant channels, and then to distribute information as collated by the GRO and determined relevant and appropriate by the E-Board to the graduate student body. In the case that the E-Board deems material inappropriate or irrelevant, the GC will be asked to determine if it should be shared."
          1. Ben (Pol Sci): Accept the friendly amendment.
          2. Erini (Physics): Second the friendly amendment.
      16. Shane (Co-Chair): With regard to the Instagram posts that Wangui shared, the E-Board could decide to distribute it without GC’s approval but if the E-Board decides not to share it, they would need to bring it to the GC to determine whether or not it should be shared.
      17. Ben (Pol Sci)\*in the text chat: I would also suggest, though not as an amendment, that any controversial but timely information be submitted to an electronic vote of the GC
          1. Erini (Physics): second that as well lol
          2. Shane (Co-Chair) : That's a good suggestion, and is certainly something we can do
      18. Motion: Move to add a call for return to Baltimore City of local control over its police to GRO testimony from the summer, to submit that testimony to the relevant channels, and then to distribute information as collated by the GRO and determined relevant and appropriate by the E-Board to the graduate student body. In the case that the E-Board deems material inappropriate or irrelevant, the GC will be asked to determine if it should be shared."
          1. Yea: 21 Abstain: 3 Nay:0
          2. The motion passes.
      19. Shane (Co-Chair): While we’re on this point, the specific Instagram that Wangui shared, would that specific material be something that the GC would want to be shared by the GRO? At least moving forward as a yardstick of what the GC is comfortable with it.
      20. Wangui (Communications Chair): Instagram post: https://www.instagram.com/p/CLKDKBwJ1eK/
      21. Ben (Pol Sci): Move to share it
          1. Shane (Co-Chair): Second
          2. Erini (Physics): Same, its public knowledge relevant to the issue.
      22. Wangui (Communications Chair): To clarify, this is a real motion and we will actually be sending out this information.
          1. Shane (Co-Chair): yes, this is a real motion that we will actually be sending
      23. Conor (Co-Chair): It’s not actually too late, the hearing of this bill in the house has been bumped from this week to 02/24. So sending that information now is not irrelevant.
          1. Wangui (Communications): Perfect! That’s what I was worried about.
      24. Ambar Pal (Computer Science): How will the GRO determine the factual correctness in the future?
          1. On this link, there are at least 5-6 images and by glossing over them, I can’t be sure that the images are all factually correct and that we aren’t misleading the graduate body by sending the email.
      25. Erini (Physics): Well, I guess my question is, why would we? We aren’t co-sponsoring with them. We’re saying, this is what we are doing. Here is another group that is working on this. And it’s clear that the other groups is not the GRO. We frequently share information from other groups all the time and we don’t fact-check the other groups. But maybe we should have a committee that is most relevant to fact check for the e-board.
      26. Shane (Co-Chair): I think that Ambar’s question is a valuable one. I understand Erini’s point but generally what we’re sharing are event links and have a lot less potential damage to our reputation if it’s factually incorrect. Potentially if someone sent to us relevant information but it was fabricated, it could be dangerous to our reputation to send it on. The structure of voting that we have set up is assumes that the organization sharing the material is legitimate and information is correct.
      27. Samantha Bell (MSEM)\*in the text chat: agree
      28. Ben (Pol Sci)\*in the text chat: Friendly amendment for E-board (even if a relevant chair) to verify any information before being sent out and also to present any factual concerns to the GC for consideration
      29. Erini (Physics)\*in the text chat: fair, I see your point Shane
      30. Wangui (Communications Chair): My concern is that, timeline-wise this is not feasible. The motion previously voted on was whether something is appropriate or relevant. I don’t know how factual fits in. We can vote to forward such flyers even if we weren’t sure, because of time restrictions, whether or not the information is factual. If a state vote is happening in 2-3 days, it might not be possible for us to fact check all the materials before it is no longer relevant to send it out.
      31. Erini (Physics)\*in the text chat: I amend my position
      32. Ben (Pol Sci)\*in the text chat: \*and also to present any factual concerns to the GC for consideration
      33. Erini (Physics)\*in the text chat: I second defing to the eboard to decide if something needs to be fact-checked or sent to the gc for a vote.
      34. Ben (Pol Sci): Regarding Wangui’s further comment: I do think that, as an initial matter the accuracy of the information is relevant to its appropriateness. To the extent possible, some member of the E-Board verify the accuracy of the information and send to an online vote to the GC some concerns with its accuracy. Sometimes there is a line that is crossed where mere fact checking leads to political negation/not productive.
      35. Shane (Co-Chair): Friendly amendment: Move to share this information if determined factually accurate, and to amend the previously passed resolution to require the E-Board to have at least one member verify information is factual before making a decision or to call for a GC vote if the factual nature of the information cannot be ascertained.
      36. Tatsat Banerjee (Intercampus Chair): Who, in the E-Board do you expect to do this fact-checking? Will it be on a case-by-case basis?
          1. Shane (Co-Chair): Yes, it would be on a case-by-case basis. With this specific information it falls under the advocacy chairs, so it would be advocacy and co-chairs. It would not be unrelated positions. But that would be determined by the executive board and the fall back would be one of the co-chairs.
      37. Ben (Pol Sci)\*in the text chat: Accept the friendly amendment
      38. Erini (Physics)\*in the text chat: Second Shanes amendment,
      39. Conor (Co-Chair)\*in the text chat (a summary of Ben’s motion): Move to share this information if determined factually accurate, and to amend the previously passed resolution to require the E-Board to have at least one member verify information is factual before making a decision or to call for a GC vote if the factual nature of the information cannot be ascertained.
          1. Yea: 25 Abstain: 5 Nay: 0
          2. The motion passes
      40. Wangui (Communications Chair): It seems like it would be beneficial and easy for the E-Board to vote on forwarding materials that contain information (broad information, easily Google-able) if that information that isn’t difficult to fact-check. In terms of advocacy groups, if you want us to send out information, please chose facts that are easily verifiable.
      41. Conor (Co-Chair): That’s a good point and it would help facilitate E-Board discussion and vote on things like this much quicker.
5. Request for GC approval to appoint Vittorio Loprinzo as E-Sports League Coordinator, and to create a second co-coordinator position, which may be filled by the E-Board by appointment, to assist for the spring semester’s E-Sports league
   1. Same funding streams for this Semester’s league have already been pledged
   2. Vittorio donated ~ 70 hours of administrative work last semester, it would be likely be a similar number of hours this semester.
   3. Expected participation is higher for Spring semester, anticipated cost ratio including paid coordinator hours still far below $5 per person per week.
   4. He suggested that if someone else wants to assist, someone from the GC might be interested and we would welcome someone being involved from the GC. We can advertise some assistance for that.
   5. Tatsat (Intercampus Chair): Was Vittotio not a GRO Coordinator?
      1. Shane (Co-Chair): In essence, yes – because he was coordinating on behalf of the GRO. However, he was not paid for this position. In the past he was officially the welcome coordinator but now he is just coordinating without a position. We would like to get him an official one.
   6. Shane (Co-Chair): Motion to appoint Vittorio Loprinzo as an E-sports League coordinator, to be paid for no more than 150 hours for AY 2020-2021, and to approve a second E-Sports League Coordinator position to be paid for no more than 25 hours for the Spring 2021 semester to assist in running the E-Sports League.
   7. Shane (Co-Chair): Motion to appoint Vittorio Loprinzo as an E-sports League coordinator, to be paid for no more than 150 hours for AY 2020-2021, and to approve a second E-Sports League Coordinator position, to be appointed by the E-Board, to be paid for no more than 25 hours for the Spring 2021 semester to assist in running the E-Sports League. \*slight amendment made to the motion\*
      1. Conor (Co-Chair), Eugenia (Secretary), Tatsat (Intercampus Chair): Second
      2. Yea: 22 Abstain: 5 Nay:0
      3. The motion passes.
6. Discussion: Selecting a t-shirt & coffee mug design for running/biking races. (Alex)
   1. Alex (Social Chair): A couple of weeks ago, sent out an email asking for suggestions/submissions for t-shirts and coffee mug designs for our biking/running races. The designs would be on the back of the t-shirts and on the front of the coffee mugs.
   2. Grusha (Cog Sci): Question: are the t-shirt and mug white?
      1. Alex (Social Chair): It will depend on the design, not necessarily
   3. Zoom poll was conducted. By an overwhelming majority Design 2 won for the t-shirts and Design 4 won for the mugs.
   4. 
7. (Conor): Discussion: Attempting to arrange a GRO/GSA/BSPH SA/TRU joint town hall/question session with Admin
   1. We are continuing to meet, on a bi-weekly basis with everyone (GSA/TRU/BSPH SA). At our last meeting on Friday, it came to our attention that TRU’s outreach to the administration was rebuffed.
   2. In response to the Baltimore Sun Op-ed, members of TRU reached out to arrange a meeting, were rebuffed. Told that as admin currently work with GRO, GSA, and student groups like ours to address these concerns, they don’t want to speak to TRU about these concerns. We haven’t had the best luck being in contact with them. The distinction being made between our organizations is not comprehensible.
   3. One ask from TRU is that we would collectively write a response to VP’s Kass, Gange, and Wirtz to endorse TRU’s request for a town hall/question session with Provost/ upper-level admin
   4. Erini (Physics): Yeah, I agree with everything that’s been said so far. It’s a good idea for all the groups to be there because the collective knowledge of so many different people all across campus who have been affected not only by COVID but also by the response. Thank you everyone for doing this I really agree, I was pretty dismayed that Maya has basically no open entrance for any grad student to have conversation with admin about any issues that have popped up. Try to get transparency on COVID. It’s getting too tough to talk to admin. Everyone is frustrated that we don’t have a venue or an opportunity to discuss these things. The GRO should go and move forward with this.
   5. Erini (Physics)\*in the text chat: motion to join joint town hall
   6. Conor (Co-Chair): Can I flesh out the motion a little bit?
   7. Erini (Physics)\*in the text chat: please do
   8. (Conor): Motion to 1) co-author letter with GSA, BSPHSA and TRU supporting TRU’s request for a town hall with Provost Office admin, 2) co-host this town hall with the organizations mentioned
      1. Erini (Physics): Second
      2. Yea: 15 Abstain: 3 Nay: 0
      3. Motion passes
8. Open Discussion
   1. Alex (Social Chair)\*in the text chat: We are looking at hosting movie nights, if you have any suggestions let us know. (Unable to stream Sony, Neon or Amazon studios)
   2. Christina McNerney (Biology): People in my department were very confused after the town hall regarding COVID vaccines and there was a lot of confusion about what group we are in. Now there is general confusion about what are TA’s vs grads mentoring other grads vs. people who share lab space with other grad students who are TA’in in person. Recurring question and concern in my department
      1. Shane (Co-Chair): Basically, the school’s understanding of the guidelines is, anyone who is doing in-person instruction falls under 1C and the school can enter into distribution (teaching, Ta’ing, or training “formal mentorship or teaching someone in a lab”, grad students who are mentoring a junior grad student in their lab). It’s very vague. You could be in a lab where you are training another graduate student and they are not eligible while you are eligible. You could be in a lab where all your co-workers are training undergraduates but you are not, and you are not eligible. WSE and KSAS have already asked to identify lists of grad students and postdocs who have a formal instructional role (allegedly coursework). Unclear how they are handling that (grad mentor grad). However, we have heard from the GSA that the SOM has been recommended not to rely on JHU for vaccine distribution and to seek other sources (city or state) and through an odd interpretation of the CDC guidelines for Phase 1C is anyone in sciences/lab are eligible regardless of what they are doing. Some people are using that to get vaccinated elsewhere.
      2. Conor (Co-Chair)\*in the text chat: To the best of my knowledge, Shane’s assessment is correct (also, the only information I have is from meetings where Shane was present)
      3. Christina (Biology)\*in the text chat: Thanks, that was super helpful and much clearer than any university level communication
   3. Xian Li (Psychology): UI UC 4th year PhD student case on violating COVID testing compliance, if you’re working remotely, from home, you are waived from COVID testing. Due to the frequent change of the school’s policy and not informing everyone, the student is currently being expelled from the university for at least 1 year for not testing. Is there a possibility for similar things happening in our university?
      1. Shane (Co-Chair): The current policy is that anyone who is going on to campus needs to be compliant with Prodensity (logging symptoms, weekly tests if they are a grad student, flu vaccine). Anyone not going on campus does not need to comply with any of these. Policy does not say that people who are off-campus and working remotely need to do routine testing. It’s been clear that they need to communicate that. They don’t want to punish anyone for non-compliance. If there are multiple conversations, there will be some sort of consequence. For grads there will be a more in-depth conversation.
      2. Eugenia (Secretary): Technically, according to the new changes to the code of conduct, the school could suspend or expel you.
      3. Shane (Co-Chair): Not expected to suspend or expel, however.
      4. Maya (COVID Concerns): From a townhall conversation with Christine Kavanagh she said that noncompliance with testing, deans of academic affairs follow up first. Her first assumption is that there is a technological glitch or that there was a misinterpretation of the policy/what students are supposed to be doing. If someone has additional questions about this, please speak to me about this. Additionally, new guidelines have been released for undergraduates outlining the maximum possible punishments for violations. However, the maximum punishment is not guaranteed. This is more geared towards undergraduates than to the graduate population.
      5. Xian (Psychology)\*in the text chat: Thank you for the clarification!
   4. Maya (COVID-19 Concerns): Update on the Monday night UG student leaders meeting attended during the GC: Similar to last week’s. Reiterating that they are outsourcing labour to student UG organizations. It was a rather frustrating meeting. There seemed to be a lot of undergraduates who are frustrated with reporting, feel like there are abuses of anonymous reporting violations (moving furniture in Brody) a lot of shaming and hostility going on. Another major point is that there hasn’t been much behaviour change outside of the Charles Commons housing but we’ve just been lucky (continuing minor violations such as removing masks with a few people withing a few feet of one another.) Many UG’s don’t feel like meaningful change is happening. Need more clear communication from university.
   5. Cyril (Biophysics): I was flabbergasted when someone said that the UG’s who attended that party had COVID. What was the source of that? Did the university say that was the case.
      1. Shane (Co-Chair), Conor (Co-Chair), and Eugenia (Secretary) found the sources below to corroborate the story.
      2. <https://www.jhunewsletter.com/article/2021/02/as-in-person-classes-resume-again-we-must-do-better>
      3. "According to a sorority leader, Nick Wright, the assistant director of Fraternity and Sorority Life (FSL), revealed in a meeting with fraternal organization leaders that there are at least three pending expulsions for students who knew they had COVID-19 and attended the party. Others who attended will be suspended."
      4. <https://www.jhunewsletter.com/article/2021/02/in-person-activities-ban-extended-as-three-partygoers-face-expulsion>
   6. Isaiah (Treasurer): Just so everyone knows, I work in a computational lab so I haven’t been on campus. However, my lab got approval from the Deans to go back on campus and work so there may be other computation labs that are starting up in-person again.
      1. Maya (COVID Concerns): That has been a thing since July
      2. Shane (Co-Chair): But I thought that this was only for things you couldn’t do remotely.
      3. Maya (COVID Concerns): Yes but the current interpretation is that being more productive in a lab office is counted as enough of a reason for needing to be on campus. It now sounds like more people are being made aware of it and it’s more appropriate for productivity and resource access. However, if you are going back you do need to change your status in the ProDensity app as well.
      4. Isaiah (Treasurer): I was curious with respect to…this seems not a good idea to roll out right now in view of the cluster. If there are more people on campus then that’s a greater risk for virus spread as well.
      5. Maya (COVID Concerns): Constantly in a state of precarity between the undergrads and the surrounding area. I don’t think that changes to this will happen in the near future. The timing is a little odd, in my opinion, to have it coinciding with the start of the hybrid in person online undergrad classes.
9. Adjournment