



## **Graduate Representative Organization**

### **GC Meeting Agenda**

**Date/Time: 18:00 PM ET Oct 3rd, 2022**

**Hybrid: Gilman 132, [Zoom](#)**

#### **I. Call to Order and Agenda Review**

- a. The meeting is called to order at 6:07 PM.

#### **II. Approval of 09/19/22 GC Minutes**

- a. *Caleb*: Motion to approve the previous minutes
  - i. *Vinay*: Second
  - ii. Yea: 21, Nay: 0, Abstain: 0
  - iii. The motion is passed

#### **III. EBoard Reports (Vinay & Michael):**

##### **a. FYI: Budgetary Concerns**

- i. *Michael*: For the sake of transparency: in our budget request for this year, we only got a 2% raise overall from the bunch of last year, despite 9% plus inflation. 2% less than 9%, so we're effectively at a loss from the past year. We just wanted to make you aware of this, because the GRO is hurting right now financially to do all our events. There are things we talked about like last year, for example, having food during GC meetings or trying to accommodate a lot more folks during events. That was when we requested a lot more, and thought we might get approved for a lot more. So we want to make you aware of those things of we might not be able to provide food for GC meetings, might not be able to have as many folks in our events, might also have to start maybe doing like \$5, \$10 tickets for some events like what we do for spring formal.

##### **b. Inconsistency in shuttle timings addressed**

- i. *Vinay*: In the last meeting, 3 to 4 people were complaining about the inconsistency in the shuttle timing, especially the JHMI shuttle. We talked with the advisors and that has been addressed.

#### **IV. Group Funding Requests (Kefan Zhou):**

- a. **Korean Graduate Student Association (KGSA):**

- i. *KGSA*: We planned this event that we invite any Hopkins athletes who's interested in Korean culture to go on a hiking trip together to a Annapolis rocks trail, which is about 70 miles away from here. We have 23 people signed up for the event so far from all these different schools that includes WSE, KSAS, Peabody, PH, and Education. We are requesting fund for transportation and the food to have together during the event. We are taking more people to sign up for this event and these are some details for the budget. We already signed up and got approved for the Hopkins event request, and we are also providing fund to those who are providing their vehicles to drive. They're going to be reimbursed for their fuel costs. For the food, we're gonna provide \$12 worth of food per person, and we are requesting the budgets on the right bottom side of the table.
- ii. Discussion:
  1. *Michael*: So they're requesting 526 total. Is there any questions about the events? How many total people do you expect?
  2. *KGSA*: We're expecting about 30 people
  3. *Heramb*: Within the 23 people who have registered. Do we have the number of students who are from KSAS and WSE grad students?
  4. *KGSA*: Roughly, 15 to 18. So the majority of them are from either WSE or KSAS and all of them are grad students.
- iii. *Alakarthika*: \*IN TEXT\* Motion to approve 526 dollars
  1. *Vinay*: \*IN TEXT\* I second
  2. Yea: 26, Nay: 0, Abstain: 0
  3. The motion is passed

**b. Capstone Go (CG)**

- i. *CG*: Our event is after we complete our capstone project. We will hold a talk and invite faculty members and students in both the Public Health Department and the Informatics Securities of the Computer Science Department, the people who are interested in medical devices and cyber security. We will invite guest speakers from the Harbor labs, or Professor who is in the computer science department. We will share our ideas and project results. This is the screenshot for the AWS service. So each month we will spend around \$300 and 4 months in total we will spend 1,200, but we actually just request the half of it. So for the AWS service we request 450 and the event itself, we will deliberately give out Amazon giftcards to 10 students or faculty members if they voluntarily join our talk. In total, we're requesting 550.
- ii. Discussion
  1. *Michael*: I have 2 questions. I saw that there was 400 going to AWS. Is that for the research itself? Or is that for like the actual event itself?
  2. *CG*: It's actually for the event because we want to complete this project to hold the talk. So that's the prerequisite for our talk.
  3. *Michael*: I guess that's where that clarification is like: with this being a group funding request, the idea is you're requesting funding for the event itself, which would be the talk at the end. The research to get to that point, that's not the event that you're requesting funding for right? It's your own research. The research itself would typically be covered by advisors or something like... We don't cover research for like a group funding.
  4. *Caleb*: My only question or suggestion at this point would be, if you could speak with funding managers in your department to see if they can cover this sort of research end of this.

5. *Michael*: My general thoughts on this is that it's within the scope of what we do to fund the event half of it, which would be like the actual \$100 that you want to invite people to the event especially if you want to have large number of people there. I think the research part of it is tricky, because that's like us funding your research, which is not really what we do. Unless it's like we're funding you to go to a conference, or something like that. So that half of it, I don't really think falls in like our typical purview of funding.
  - iii. *Michael*: Motion to approve the \$100 for the event
    1. *Karen*: \*IN TEXT\* Seconded
    2. Yea: 23, Nay: 1, Abstain: 2
    3. The motion is passed
- c. Badminton Club Tournament (BCT)**
- i. *BCT*: I'm requesting funding for a little tournament that we're hosting. More details about the event: it will be hosted on Saturday, November 12th. The location has already been reserved at the REC center. We reserved the back end of course, the entire day already... that's going to be 12hr for 3 events - men's doubles, mixed doubles, and women's doubles. Each event will take around 4hr. In this event, I want to try to make it as inclusive and fun for everyone as possible, so everyone is guaranteed at least 2 matches. Our audience for this event would be any JHU affiliate. This event will be open to both the Badminton Club members and non-club members. I expect the attendance of around 60 graduate students, but 90 people in general, because there are undergraduates who are interested in it. I'm definitely trying to get more promotion out there through Hopkins groups, Instagram, email, and even wechat to get a lot more graduate students involved for it. Going on to the cost breakdown: The majority of our funds will be going to the birds. For the badminton birds, we want to be providing these to all of our players, so they don't have to provide it for themselves for the games beforehand. Each tube of birds is \$26, so that roughly comes out to 400 in total. As for the rest of the funds, I'm requesting for a total of \$984, the rest will all be prizes and medals for them.
  - ii. Discussion:
    1. *Michael*: One question I have: So you said that you're expecting 60 folks. Where does that number come from?
    2. *BCT*: Within the club, there are 40 members. I would say half and half are graduate and undergrads. However, during open time, there's a lot of people who come. So I see a regular number of faces over there. A lot. It would be really hard for me to estimate how many people in total there. But I know that number is mostly coming from based on our 3 events and our 16 bracket, so we can hold up to 96 participants.
    3. *Heramb*: I have a comment that I do play badminton regularly, and I think that we will get around 60 graduate students who will be attending this event.
  - iii. *Heramb*: \*IN TEXT\* Motion to fund in full
    1. *Caleb*: \*IN TEXT\* Second to fund in full
    2. Yea: 28, Nay: 1, Abstain: 0
    3. The motion is passed

## V. GRO stance on JHPD: Town Hall Followup (Caleb Andrews)

- a. Discussion on JHPD GRO statement draft

- i. *Caleb*: Because I wanted to follow up with a report back on town halls, I can attest to being present at the Homewood one; however, for retaliation and protest against my attendance there, I was barred from entering the Town Hall at the East Baltimore campus. So keep in mind my report back and updates here only reflect that of the first one and the events leading up to that. So 2 things came out of the last GC meeting, which is, should we, or should we not have a stance against the rollout of the JHPD. We did vote in support of having a statement on the JHPD and in 2020, we also voted in opposition to the formation of JHPD, and on September 13th, the KSAS faculty Senate voted against the rollout of the JHPD. Then based on what we saw at the town halls, with hundreds of students come out against the the formation in JHPD, I think this strengthens our case for making a statement against this in terms of representing the will of the graduate student population. We can take 2 weeks until the next GC meeting to provide comments, feedback, and amendments to and then we can take a vote for it on the next meeting. I just wanted to provide people enough time to do so rather than try to do it all right now. Before we get to that, I wanted to have a little discussion around people's thoughts on the email that was sent out by leadership engagement and experiential development. This is an email that was sent out prior to the Town Hall, basically establishing or attempting to shape, what the resistance to PD could look like. If anyone has seen arrested development and is familiar with the episode about freedom of speech zones or the George W. Bush administration use of freedom of speech zones, this immediately becomes familiar to me. In an effort to basically make sure to use the university lingo of saying we care about your freedom of expression, they attempted to put the protesters back behind the audience, thus denying them an audience and a right to an audience under their first amendment rights. So by saying, you can't put your signs here, you can't have your banners in front of the stage, they escalated the event to what it became. This idea that free speech can only be had in a certain zone has been deemed unconstitutional at public universities, but this is something that private universities still use to squash dissent. This was something to keep an eye on and I wanna hear people's thoughts on. Also just pulling up the latest email from Samuel Kumar: Basically there the administration report on what the MOU has done. If you were there in person, you might have seen that there was no presentation of the MOU, there was no community feedback. Getting to the statement itself, I will be sharing a document in the chat.
- ii. *Michael*: I think the balance is that obviously these zones are laughable. And that should not be the case. But there's also the balance of should people be allowed to go on stage, shoulder to shoulder with people trying to speak and be rude, and not allow them to speak, and completely shut it down. I think that's where that kind of balances and I don't think there should ever be... you can only be here. But there is that kind of balance of you should also allow speakers to speak to some degree. Not that I'm trying to justify at all the University's comments... there were very scapegoaty, running around type comments. But I know that's been something that we talked about a lot when doing this freedom of speech type, know your rights.... There is that balance of you could go anywhere, but not exactly anywhere, because you don't want to be elbowing the guy who's trying to talk out the way so you could hold up a sign up or something like that...
- iii. *Caleb*: Yeah, that's correct. Wanna reiterate that, initially the the group of people there wanted to be in front of the stage, not on the stage, that people were laying down in the sort of aisle ways. We're asked not to do so, instead, you either put their signs at the entrance of Shriver Hall (ie. where the audience had already

passed through, and would be unable to see) or stand off to the side and hold their signs. However, what we saw of people shouting down with usage of Mega phones and things like this... I agree with you Michael... I think there's room for there that if people were just up there holding signs, they were still asked not to do so. They were basically told to go to the back of the room. So in a sense that situation was escalated because of the freedom speech zones. I think if people were allowed to just stand there with a sign or be on stage with a sign, it would have been fine. But you know I'm not the event leader, I didn't coordinate anything. I just was a participant.

- iv. *Michael*: One of the things we want to be careful of is not just giving blanket support to all actions. We don't want to see like we blanket support, like everything everyone did. Like all these things, have gray zones, and you want to be very careful on our wording to support the stuff that people should have been allowed to do.
- v. *Rachel (MLL)*: I do know that at some point I don't know the exact date, but at somepoint, Baltimore City Council also has to have a hearing on this topic, and so I think, in terms of a space in which, people are probably coming in mostly from the community, not necessarily students, and in a way that might bring up questions that are more generated from the community rather than potentially filtered through by the people wanting to start the police department. I think that is gonna be a good opportunity to hear from people in the community and from that's sort of totally separate group of people, rather than students and staff.
- vi. *Michael*: Yeah and unfortunately with the MOU, it's very legislative legal leads, and it doesn't really cover a lot of the actual policies that JHPD will be implementing some very narrow piece of legislation. I know Dr. Bard plans continuing to open up more town halls like when he does actually introduce legislation... I hope he actually sticks to that... but yeah, the MOU is very, very, very narrowly focused.
- vii. *Ali*: Yeah just add to what Caleb was talking about. One of the things which people should keep in mind is that, it's been almost 3 years now, in fact, more than that, that this has been going on. The tragedy of the whole situation, I think, is that Hopkins or anyone in the Administration, has failed to address the concerns of the community, and having these events, like the town halls, basically serve as whitewashing events for all those concern. I think that's one of the reasons why you saw this kind of a response to these town halls. There's people who are part of that protest who were from the community itself, and I think that was one of the biggest reasons. I think it's always good to keep that in mind that even though the idea is to have a conversation, repeatedly, Hopkins is kind of failing to do that.
- viii. *Michael*: You mentioned a very important point... We need to be open and willing to have that conversation right... And honestly on both sides, I've had students approach me privately, and say that there are in support of it, so it's not like uniformly against and I wanna make sure even if most likely will take a position against, we still keep that door open for people who are for and still feel comfortable talking to us.
- ix. *Gabriel*: I think one of the main problems for the town hall, and also in general with this, is that Hopkins is doing it and it's not including our opinion. They're saying that they want to have a discourse or anything, but it's not a discourse... it's telling us that everything will be okay after they decided to do it. Even in the sense of you being in favor of JHPD, It's kind of a thing that Hopkins

administration is just overimposing on every of us and just imagine they will keep in doing that if we don't protest against it.

- x. *Unknown*: As students, obviously, we have a vested interest in this as well, but we really have to think about who are the people who will be seriously, adversely affected by the implementation of a Johns Hopkins police department, which will be students of color, both graduate and undergraduate, and members of the outside community, who live near or around Hopkins campuses, that will likely be targeted by extra policing. And there's definitely already a lot of negative reactions from organizations in the community, that don't see this as any sort of solution to whatever questions of safety that they're responding to. As people are reading through the statement and forming their their opinions on it, I would definitely keep all of those things in mind as well.
- xi. *Bianca (EPS)*: \*IN TEXT\* Interesting article published by hopkins which touches on the negative effects of security measures...  
<https://hub.jhu.edu/2022/09/21/school-surveillance-security/>

## VI. Open Discussion & Questions

- a. No additional issue discussed

## VII. Adjournment

- a. *Alakarthika*: Motion to end the meeting
  - i. *Gabriel*: seconded
  - ii. Yea: 27, Nay: 0, Abstain: 0
  - iii. The motion is passed
- b. The meeting adjourns at 7:03 pm.

## VIII. Voting Details

Voting Motion ID	6	7	8	9	10
<b>Motion</b>	Approve the GC meeting minutes on 9/19	Approve the funding for Korean Graduate Student Association (526 USD)	Approve funding 100USD for Capstone Go	Approve funding 984USD for Badminton Club	Motion to end the 10/3 GC meeting
Anthropology	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Applied Mathematics & Statistics (AMS)					
History of Art	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Biology				Yea	Yea
Biomedical Engineering (BME)					
Biophysics	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering					
Chemistry	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Civil Engineering					
Classics	Yea			Yea	Yea
Cognitive Science	Yea	Yea	Abstain	Yea	Yea
Computer Science		Yea	Abstain	Yea	Yea
Economics					
Electrical & Computer Engineering (ECE)					
Engineering Management					Yea
English					
Environmental Health and Engineering (formerly DOGEE)					
EPS (Earth and Planetary Sciences)	Yea	Yea	Nay	Yea	
Modern Languages and Literatures (Formerly GRLL)	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
History					
History of Science and Technology	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Comp Thought and Literature	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Information Security Inst					
Materials Science & Engineering					
Mathematics					
Mechanical Engineering					
Near Eastern Studies (NES)					
Philosophy		Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Physics and Astronomy	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Political Science					
Psychological and Brain Sciences		Yea	Yea	Nay	Yea
Sociology	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Writing Seminars					
Robotics	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Co-Chair (Michael Wilkinson)	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Co-Chair (Vinay Mahajan)	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Secretary (Karen Yang)	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Treasurer (Esther Xu)					
Admin & Funding (KeFan Zhuo)			Yea	Yea	Yea
Social (Alakarhika)		Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Social (Tram)	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Advocacy (Nicole Chen)		Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Advocacy (Caroline Maria John)	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Communications (Nick Zhang)					
Diversity (Soumya Behera)					
Graduate Involvement Chair (Heramb Gupta)		Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
Intercampus Chair (Louise Chen)	Yea	Yea		Yea	
E-sports coordinator (Emi Lou Mondragon)					
Health & Wellness (Ales Varabyou)	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Security Concerns Chair (Caleb Andrew)	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea
<b>Yea</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Nay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Abstain</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>