



## Graduate Representative Organization

### GC Meeting Agenda

Date/Time: 18:00 PM ET Mar 6th, 2023

Hybrid: Mergenthaller 111/ [Zoom](#)

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

- a. The meeting is called to order at 6:05 PM.

#### II. Approval of GC Minutes 02.21.2023

- a. *Unknown*: Motion to approve 1/23 meeting minutes
  - i. *Unknown*: Second
  - ii. Yea: 26, Nay: 0, Abstain: 0
  - iii. The motion has been approved

#### III. Demere Woolay from Office of Diversity and Inclusion Presentation and Discussion (6:10-6:30)

- Contains referrals to resources for anyone who feels uncomfortable with the topics covered.
- Roadmap to assess progress in diversity & inclusion, survey planned for staff, students and faculty.
- Rankin Climate to measure 'campus climate'.
- Awaiting IRB approval, survey to be released March '23.
- Survey to assess comfort level, sexual misconduct, exclusionary behavior etc.
- Request GRO to spread awareness about the survey.

Sections include:

- Comfort with overall climate at JHU. Experiences with exclusionary behavior.
- Sexual misconduct (faculty, staff, postdocs only).
- Workplace climate.
- Available online and in paper format. Qualitative and quantitative questions.
- Use of support resources.
- Institutional actions related to climate.
- Demographics.

#### IV. EBoard Reports (Ali & Michael):

##### A. Updates from 2/13/23 EBoard Meeting

- Aiming to have some form of non-coffee hour programming 1/week
- Creating an 'Event Calendar' for this, still in progress!
- Advocacy Chair: Pride event in the works- Great Hall- piece of canvas and paints to paint their thoughts with some goodies- working on the finalization of the event
- Health and Wellness: Setting up knitting event and working with various offices for events
- Security Chair: CPR Training classes
- Diversity Chair: International Trivia Event in progress- 11th of April- Souvlaki and non alcoholic drinks- charm city trivia
- Sent out Monthly Recap (thanks Harini and Gabriel!)-This will be used by GC Reps to give their departments updates and a venue to ask questions/provide feedback

##### B. Updates from Meeting with GRO Advisors

1. [Responses from Meeting with Dean Ed](#)
2. [Responses from Meeting with President Daniels](#)
  - Setting up regular meetings with upper level admin (Vice Provosts, President Daniels, etc.) Working with Public Safety, Transportation, etc. for better lighting, funding more shuttle routes, etc.
  - Brought up safety issues around Stieff-Silver building General EBoard/budget logistical issues
  - Setting up Tax prep session for international students
  - Feel free to send it to us if there are follow up questions.

##### C. Updates on meeting with Transportation Office on 02/22

- Transloc and JHMI:
- JHMI is accurately taking off from the online schedule but Transloc updates are incorrect
- Working with Transloc to ensure more accurate updates Working to get the online schedule into the app as a more accurate backup.
- Hampden Shuttle:
- Current Ridership: 10-12 a day. 50/week
- Considering creating a night time version as well
- Other follow ups:
- Working with the Academy to make sure transponders are being turned on in appropriate time. Working with them to switch from Academy coaches to JHU busses
- Intersection by Stieff Silver has been worked on with DoT but will take some time. Transportation office is working on temporary solution
- New Keswick commuter schedule has a back-and-forth component to it to add other direction as opposed to one-way Remington shuttle
- Working with them to switch from Academy coaches to JHU busses
- *Mihir*: Shuttle didn't come to the medical campus and it wasn't being displayed on the app for 20 minutes. I also have a screenshot of it.

- *Michael*: Do send it to us with a small description and we'll discuss it in the next meeting with the Transportation office.
- *Ali*: We can draft the updates and also send it.
- *Mihir*: Send a google form for reporting these issues.
- *Michael*: They could use the GSSI form to do that and it's better if they reach out to the Transportation office directly to avoid one more layer of redundancy

#### **D. Updates on the event calendar**

### **V. Group Funding Requests (Mihir)**

#### **A. Rethinking African Media (\$1000)**

- Title: Rethinking Print Culture, Digital and Oral History as Archive, Evidence, and Method: From Africa to the World
- Venue: Gilman Hall
- *Unknown*: So it is an international event workshop. We have contributors from Africa, from Europe, from Asia, and from North America. However, we do expect to have about 25 people here at the event presenting with a total of 25 presenters at the workshop. So there's a hybrid workshop. Keynote speaker is an associate professor of African studies at Harvard, and that keynote is going to be open to all graduates, students, and all undergraduate students at Johns Hopkins.
- Requested funding for catering-1080 dollars
- So the event is over 2 days, 2 extensive days, about 8 to 10 h each, and they are planning on having 3 meals.
- *Unknown*: Where is it actually going to be hosted right now?
- *Unknown*: Right now Gilman 308, We are too, maybe, but we're working with the taxpayers to see if we can gain different types of access to a larger room that has been archived from a global perspective. If we can have a more kind of centralized location for the event and also the keynote, because we are expecting much broader participation in not much more extensive sort of participation.
- *Unknown*: So what is your expected attendance? And what is your assumption behind that?
- *Unknown*: So we are. We've had an incredible kind of interest from the Johns Hopkins community. That is the first time in the history of Hopkins that we've had it in African studies. Centric events, and so we know for sure that we'll have roughly 25 people giving presentations or acting as chairs and moderators but we actually think we're looking at quite a few people who will be on campus just for presentations alone, and one estimate that we have from a group that we're working with. If you know, like a 100 people coming out to the keynote in person, we will have a hybrid event to grapple with COVID-19 and little morbidities.
- *Mihir*: So is the event open for everyone like all the Masters students?
- *Unknown*: The keynote will be open to everyone but in terms of presentations, it depends on the room size.
- *Unknown*: So it's open in the sense that right now the keynote and then

open participation in terms of how people choose to interact with the workshop. So we are looking to have an open call for different kinds of volunteers in different ways from building a website to digitizing archives to acting as moderators so if you're interested email us.

- *Unknown*: I mean it's interdisciplinary. The history is the contention of history. People participating in this event are sort of like, maybe even with the 3 studies anthropologists, anthropologists, and so it's multi-disciplinary.
- *Heramb*: So how many graduate students are you expecting out of that? In that 100 count?
- *Unknown*: I think the majority would be graduated students. All that is open to undergrads just because of the sort of interest level that graduate students will probably have in this event. I'm not saying that undergrads wouldn't come to this but I'd probably just expect graduate students to come and then we actually are paying an honorarium to everyone who is participating.
- *Unknown*: So we really think that with Dr. Clark will have wide turnouts because she speaks to a broader audience that's growing amongst the graduate student here through black world and Africana studies specifically in the intersections of medical humanities public health and digitization so we're hoping that in part because of our keynote that we will draw on a crowd that rarely you might not come to an African studies.

- a. *Unknown*: Motion to approve the group funding request
  - i *Unknown*: Second
  - ii. Yea: 27, Nay: 0, Abstain: 2
  - iii. The motion has been approved

## **B. Ramadan Iftar (\$1000)**

- They plan to organize 8 iftars (dinner after fasting from dawn to dusk), every Tuesday and Thursday.
- Benefits: Bringing people together and creating a space for them to get to know one another. Observance of a spiritual practice and fostering greater awareness of it for wider Hopkins community members, in the celebration of tolerance and interfaith dialogue.
- Venue: Medical campus
- *Michael*: What was the turnover like last time?
- *Unknown*: The first day we had almost 100 people. Then, the previous one were like 80-85.
- *Esther*: Where will you host the iftars?
- *Unknown*: 7 iftars will be hosted in the Turner auditorium and one of them will be hosted in the medical campus.
- *Esther*: So it's a little difficult for the Homewood students to find the location and travel to the medical campus for the iftars.
- *Unknown*: So there's a free shuttle that runs (JHMI shuttle) to the medical campus and the students could take that to come there. We make it a point

to mention it on the poster.

- *Michael*: So what was the proportion of medical students to homewood students last year?
- *Unknown*: It was predominantly medical students.
- *Ali*: Are you applying for funding from any other organization like GSA?
- *Unknown*: Yes, we are applying for funding from the School of Public Health and the School of Medicine.
- *Michael*: So there may be a few issues regarding the shuttle. It'll be great if it's possible to arrange some sort of ride sharing for the Homewood students.
- *Unknown*: Yes, it's possible.
- *Heramb*: Try to keep one iftar at the Homewood campus if possible to make it more accessible for students.
- *Unknown*: So we will be hosting in Homewood on Wednesdays and Fridays and in the medical campus on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We will try implementing ride sharing.

a. *Michael*: Motion to approve the group funding request

- i *Unknown*: Second
- ii. Yea: 23, Nay: 0, Abstain: 6
- iii. The motion has been approved

### C. JHU Iranian Graduate Association(\$1000)

- Event details- Celebrating Iranian New Year
- Date: April 2nd
- Location: One of the quads in Homewood
- Headcount estimate: 100
- Budget estimate
- Lunch, (non-alcoholic) drinks, dessert (12/person) : \$1200
- Lawn games rental: \$200
- Event is open to all graduate students and their guests
- Event will be advertised on group mailing list
- *Michael*: Have you reserved one of the quads, or like, is that something that you're kind of working on like getting that space?
- *Unknown*: We haven't actually. But I think I've been planning a lot of events for the department, and it's usually hard to get a space indoors. But I think we have multiple quads if I can kind of like, be sure that we have a source of funding that the next step for me is, gonna be fine.
- *Mihir*: So one follow-up question to his question. So in case it rains, have you got another location plan for the event?
- *Unknown*: I think we are gonna have a rain date like, have it on another date, still outdoors. So we will take 2 dates. If on April second, it's gonna rain like they will email everyone and reschedule for the other.

a. *Michael*: Motion to approve the group funding request

- i *Unknown*: Second
- ii. Yea: 24, Nay: 0, Abstain: 5
- iii. The motion has been approved

**VI. GRO Student Suggestion and Idea (GSSI) Form (Heramb)**

- A student did reach out regarding lack of period care, sanitation facilities -it was addressed immediately
- Make sure to recommend masking for our social events
- Add the GSSI form to the monthly summaries as well.

**VII. Open Discussion & Questions**

- We only have 500 dollars in the group funding and got to figure out how to reflect that on the website so that people don't reach out asking for 1000 dollars
- During the next meeting we could discuss more about first come first serve basis group funding or requests based on timeline.
- We got to consider a more formal way of fundraising- if people have ideas feel free to send it to us

**VIII. Adjournment**

*a. Michael:* Motion to adjourn the meeting

i *Unknown:* Second

ii. Yea: 28, Nay: 0, Abstain: 1

The meeting adjourns at 7:40 pm.

**IX. Voting Details**

Voting Motion ID	47	48	49	50	51	52
Motion	To approve the 2/21 meeting minutes	To approve the Rethinking African Media group funding request	To approve the Ramadan Iftar request	To approve the Iranian graduate funding request	To adjourn the meeting	
Anthropology						
Applied Mathematics & Statistics (AMS)	Yea	Yea	Abstain	Yea	Yea	
History of Art	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Biology	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Biomedical Engineering (BME)	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Biophysics	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering	Yea	Yea	Yea	Abstain	Yea	
Chemistry	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Civil Engineering						
Classics	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Cognitive Science						
Computer Science	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Economics	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Electrical & Computer Engineering (ECE)	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Engineering Management		Abstain				
English	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Environmental Health and Engineering (formerly DOGEE)						
EPS (Earth and Planetary Sciences)	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	

Modern Languages and Literatures (Formerly GRLL)	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
History	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
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)	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Philosophy						
Physics and Astronomy	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Political Science	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Psychological and Brain Sciences	Yea	Abstain	Yea	Abstain	Yea	
Sociology	Yea	Yea	Abstain	Yea	Yea	
Writing Seminars						
Robotics	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Co-Chair 1						

Co-Chair 2						
Secretary		Yea				
Treasurer	Yea		Abstain	Yea	Yea	
Admin & Funding						
Social 1	Yea					
Social 2	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Advocacy 1		Yea	Abstain	Abstain	Yea	
Advocacy 2						
Communications						
Diversity		Yea	Yea	Yea	Yea	
Graduate Involvement Chair	Yea	Yea	Abstain	Abstain	Yea	
Intercampus Chair						
E-sports coordinator						
Health & Wellness			Abstain	Abstain	Abstain	
Security Concerns Chair						
<b>Yea</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Nay</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Abstain</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>