

University of California, Los Angeles
Graduate Student Association Forum #3, Spring Quarter
Wednesday, May 30, 2018, 5:30pm

Forum minutes notes taken by Sherry Lin, Director of Communications

CALL TO ORDER – 5:38pm

Professional Development Presentation & Graduate Professional Student Survey 2017

- Mentor, health insurance, housing, and transportation
- All graduate professional student: 26% response rate (total 3,089 responses)
- 70% said yes for formal faculty advisor; 19% has no mentors
- 53.6% unsatisfied with the costs of university-owned housing
- 37% transportation somewhat or significant slowed academic progress: 32% by car while 26% by bus
- 42.3% has not participated in student groups on a weekly basis
- High concern of total accumulated educational debt

Graduate Orientation Day Announcement

Iara Mantenuto, Graduate Student Orientation Assistant Coordinator

- Friday (September 21st) from 9am – 4:30pm
- Look for volunteers – complete the form: bit.do/uclagsovolunteer2018
- If you are part of the student groups, we have a fair for groups to sign up – please email to gsof@gsa.asucla.ucla.edu

Executive Officer Reports

Michael Skiles, GSA President

- Westwood Forward: victory – create a new North Westwood neighborhood council
- Reflect on the changes that students would like to see in Westwood – eg. Bike lanes, mobility around the area
- Early October – start of the election for North Westwood neighborhood council
- Maintain the Coalition that student built this year to prevent from seats in the council being taken over by parties that have no interest in students' needs

Alexander Fung, GSA Vice President of Internal Affairs

- One more GradCafe (next Monday); Volunteering events: Monday Night Missions (Mondays and Thursdays)

- Transitional to the new VP Internal

Parshan Khosravi, GSA Vice President of External Affairs (absent)

Rebecca Katz, GSA Vice President of Academic Affairs

- No new updates; appreciation for Academic Senates who served for the academic year of 2017-2018

2018-2019 Budget Approval

Michael Skiles, GSA President

- Correction: pay increase suggested – there is no officer stipend increase
- Added new positions (Director Stipend page): Director Diversity, Inclusion, Community, and Engagement & Administrative Director
- Finance director helps with the Requisition forms
- General allocation surplus: \$25,000
- Each year we are only able to budget 95% - there are almost 5% surplus annually (\$100,000 from the past years, accumulated)
- Fund events that GSA can plan for the beginning of the academic year of 2018-2019 – get event-planning started early
- Would like to get allocated by percentage, rather than dollar amount
- (Check the electronic version sent out by VPI)
- Motion to vote to approve the budget list
 - Seconded – discussion – Student interest groups confirm with \$3,000 allocated funding
- **Vote: APPROVED (PASSED unanimously)**

GSA Appointment Positions Approval

Michael Skiles, GSA President-elect

- Administrative Affairs: Christopher King
- Communications: Jackie D'Almeida
- Discretionary Funding: Diana Chow
- D-DICE: Ernesto Arciniega
- Events: An Chuen (Billy) Cho and Sarah Jo Torgrimson
- Melnitz: Paul Kurek
- Publications: David Jonathan Pederson
- SRC: Jennifer Doyle
- Elections: Richard Tran

- Move to rectify the cabinet appointees (seconded) → Discussion
- Qualifications are screened and interviews were conducted
- **Vote: APPROVED (PASSED unanimously)**

Official Swear-in of 2018-2019 GSA Executive Officers

- President-elect: Michael Skiles (3rd term)
- Vice President of Internal Affairs-elect: Eric Hu
- Vice President of External Affairs-elect: Michelle Viorato
- Vice President of Academic Affairs-elect: Ashley Wright

“I do hereby solemnly pledge to uphold the duties and responsibilities of my position as an officer within the Graduate Student Association at the University of California, Los Angeles. I also faithfully affirm my dedication as a member of GSA to uphold my duties as a GSA officer over those in any other student organizations and promise to adhere to the issues and concerns of all graduate and professional students at UCLA. I will also represent to the best of my ability, the credibility and integrity of all members of GSA to all other organizations, entities, and other individuals. This oath I have taken of soul, body, and mind.”

New Executive Officer Announcements

Michael Skiles, GSA President

- Thank all the out-going officers, especially Alexander, Parshan, and Rebecca
- Trust new officers to fill in; excited to work with the new team to make changes

Eric Hu, Vice President of Internal Affairs

- Weekly social networking events
- Affordable housing through Westwood Forward
- Transit passes for commuters
- More professional trainings and workshops
- Stop hikes of university housings

Michelle Viorato, Vice President of External Affairs

- Continue Westwood Forward involvement
- Expand legislative research; collaboration with Director DICE

Ashley Wright, Vice President of Academic Affairs

- Ensure filling all Senates with more diverse backgrounds
- Work with faculty to make changes on campus
- Work with new student organizations and help connecting them to resources

2018-2019 GSA Forum Meeting Calendar

Eric Hu, Vice President of Internal Affairs

- Week 3, 6, 9: Wednesdays (same schedule as the academic year of 2017-2018)
- Move 2017-2018 Session of the GSA forum (seconded)
- **Vote: APPROVED (PASSED unanimously)**

ADJOURNMENT 6:42pm