

UMCES Graduate Student Council Meeting
January 14, 2022
2:30pm-3:30pm

In attendance: Anna Windle, Kia Ramarui, Maddy Lahm, Sarah Jones, Amy Griffin, Tan Zou, Daniella Hanacek, Emma Green, Taylor Armstrong

- 1) FUTURE Act - Emma Green is part of MaryPIRG's FUTURE Act (Facilitating University Transformations by Unifying Reductions in Emissions).
 - a) Did not pass in 2021, made changes for 2022:
 - i) Mandating carbon neutrality by 2035 was determined unrealistic, changed year to 2050?
 - ii) Environmental injustice scholarship fund for universities to offset social cost of carbon for students faced with displacement or impacts,
 - iii) Strengthen sustainability- general education requirement for sustainability education
 - b) Amy will find out if we are able to circulate petition for individual UMCES students to sign
 - i) If so, we will discuss UMCES GSC signing as organization.
- 2) Meet and Confer follow-up updates
 - a) Kia, Amy, Larry, and Anna met on Wednesday to follow-up with M&C action items.
 - b) Remaining items include updating GSC and GA policies which will get done soon since it was a recommendation of the re-accreditation team
 - c) Statement of Mutual Expectations almost complete- Amy would like more feedback from GSC
 - d) Anna sent minutes of this meeting, email her with any questions.
- 3) GA Stipends
 - a) When GSC met in December, discussed students concerns about costs of living. Executive Council created a committee and announce a \$1,565 raise for all non-IMET grad students.
 - b) Before raise announcement, Kia and Anna met with grad council students from UMB who successfully advocated for raises. They provided a wealth of resources of how they did this. We could try to replicate.
 - c) Still unclear how the new COLA and merit based adjustments will effect this raise- Amy will clarify this and all of our questions.
 - d) GA stipend committee is looking for student representatives- let Amy know if you are interested!
- 4) GSC Budget

- a) Want to make sure the GSC budget continues
 - b) Amy suggested at the end of this year, explain how funds were used and write letter to Lynn asking for money for the following year.
- 5) Other updates
- a) President's Monthly Meetings (Maddy handling, but will resume this spring)
 - b) Anyone want to serve on DEIC? (Kia and Anna looking for representatives from GSC or anyone at labs to fill in/serve)

Action Items:

- Beta testing statement of mutual expectations with our advisors. Provide feedback to Amy. (Everyone)
- Amy is following up with COLA w/ IMET, bonuses (do students leaving early this year get the full bonus)