

UMCES Graduate Student Council Meeting  
May 27, 2022  
1:00-2:30pm

In attendance: Anna, Kia, Sarah, Maddy, Tan, Grace (prospective rep from AL), Ben Malmgren (prospective rep from HPL), Alan Williams (prospective rep from HPL), Isabel Sanchez (prospective rep from CBL)

1. Updates from USMSC, Admin Council, DEIC, MEES PCC, UMCES PCC
  - a. USMSC
    - i. Had elections on Sunday
  - b. Admin Council
    - i. Discussed Kardia Group report, comments on anonymous Google doc. Planning an Admin Council retreat in Fall
  - c. DEIC
    - i. Discussed if DEIC has power to 'change' things or serving more as an advisory committee. Seems like a more advisory committee.
    - ii. Next open DEIC meeting will focus on Pride Month.
    - iii. Ombuds update- plans to start in Fall. Discussion of hiring external group to help facilitate
  - d. UMCES PCC
    - i. Kia is a rep but can't attend next meeting. Looking for someone in GSC to go.
    - ii. Amy sent out a Doodle Poll for a meeting during June 2-10th that Kia will forward
2. Voting system for new GSC reps
  - a. Prospective members for each lab
    - i. HPL Alan + Ben
    - ii. CBL Isabel + ?
    - iii. IMET Majeed + ?
    - iv. AI Grace + JJ?
  - b. Amy Griffin said staff council has an election system
  - c. Anna is going to make a google form modeled off of the staff council system to allow people to nominate someone or themselves for a rep position
  - d. If there are more than two people nominated for 1 lab, then there is an election process within GSC
  - e. The voting process is conducted within the council at the staff level
    - i. Does the GSC want to keep the voting process within the GSC or do we want to open it up to all students
  - f. Continual struggle of getting representatives
    - i. Maybe the nomination aspect will get more people?

- ii. GSC needs to increase transparency; some people cannot see all the work the GSC does so they do not think being a part of it is a worthwhile use of their time ⇐ start sending the meeting minutes out to all students
- iii. Really talk about the GSC at new student orientation and say they should try to get involved in the next year, then we can nominate newer students when the next turnover comes around

### 3. Meet & Confer Discussion

- a. Will be scheduled for June
- b. Meet and confer is our way of talking with the institution (alternative to a collective bargaining setup)
- c. Student leaders meet directly with Lynn Rehn (VP Finance), Lisa Ross (Director HR), Amy and Larry (VP education office)
- d. Place to raise concerns and maintain communication with higher administration
- e. Since we are a small institution this has been working for the past few years, however, there are other instances (e.g. UMBC) where this process is more contentious and/or unproductive
- f. We meet for meet and confer every year in June
- g. Topics to bring up:
  - i. CBL students are interested in having an HR rep on campus
  - ii. In general, students would appreciate more transparency about the budget
  - iii. Also, more transparency about how to get access to resources if the budget doesn't allow for them
  - iv. Follow through and get closure on the "need to do" and "almost accomplished" lists
  - v. Discussion about student fees and how to improve this situation
    - 1. Unclear about what UMCES students have access to at CP since we don't pay fees
    - 2. Polled GSC about how they would feel about paying fees but getting all CP services -- pretty much whole GSC did not like that idea
    - 3. Asked Larry about just paying for certain CP services we need
  - vi. Follow up on making student compensation for lab-related outreach activities uniform and equitable
    - 1. HPL students get paid to give tours, and this has been the norm for a while
    - 2.

### 4. GSC Rep at UMCES PCC Meeting

- a. Kia is looking for replacement to go to this meeting- sent out Doodle Poll email so someone can attend