UMCES Graduate Student Council Meeting

July 8, 2022

11am-12:30pm

In attendance: Anna Hildebrad, Cheslea Fowler , Isabel Sanchez , Jonathan Johnson, Anna Windle, Kyarii Ramarui, Grace O’Hara, Sarah Johnson, Tan Zou, Amy Griffin, Maddy Lahm, Abdulmajid Alrefaie

1. Introductions - introducing as members transitioning out or new additions.
2. Explanation of GSC roles
   1. Anna explained what committees the chair/co-chair sit on (outlined in GSC handbook) - two year term. Former chair will be around for six months after transition & will attend meetings and help clarify
   2. GSC members - outgoing reps let incoming reps know what can be done: helping with new students at labs, lab-specific engagement, attending and representing students at faculty/laboratory director meetings
3. Chair, Co-chair, Secretary selection
   1. Chair/co-chair 2 yr minimum - Isabel Sanchez (CBL) interested in Chair - unopposed. Confirmed Isabel Sanchez is the new chair.
   2. Majeed Alrefaie (IMET) unopposed as co-chair. Confirmed Majeed Alrefaie is the new co-chair.
   3. Secretary will be Chelsea Fowler (HPL) - New GSC Secretary

Ongoing and future tasks for 2022-2023

* 1. Ongoing tasks from previous GSC:
     1. Updates to Graduate Assistant Policy and creating new stand alone GSC policy - almost done, Larry, Kia, Amy, and Anna worked on a lot - sent for review to Administrative Council. Anna determined to finish with Isabel’s help
     2. Meet and Confer - annual opportunity GSC to meet w/ administration, Larry, education office, HR, direct communication in lou of collective bargaining. We are allowed to engage in external representation (union), GSC should communicate to student body that we’re allowed external help and what resources are available
     3. Possible stipend to Chair/co-chair as means of encouragement and recognition. Attend new student orientation to invite new students to join.
     4. Lynn Rhen - approved $5,000 budget for GSC- run any ideas through Lynn

1. Q&A
   1. Bringing back newsletters? Amy G.- Stopped during covid. Hoping to bring back. Can use last 5-15 min of GSC meetings to populate newsletters and Amy will put it together and send it out.
   2. GSC has a shared google drive - new members will replace old members.. Chair/co-chair/and secretary granted access to editing, everyone else is view only.
   3. GSC email address/umces google account: gsc.umces.edu.
      1. Isabel- look at previous emails - good resource for annual calls/announcements
   4. Listserv for GSC members only: gradstudentcouncil@umces.edu
      1. Kia and Anna will be on listservs for six more months before being removed from listserv
   5. Anna mentioned there are other committees that the GSC is asked to serve on including the DEIC, Student Stipend Committee, UMCES Programs, Courses, Curricula (PCC). New GSC reps will replace current GSC reps on these committees- will figure this out later.
   6. Amy is currently working on editing a new student handbook and will be sent via email soon to look at sections and make sure it looks thorough and represents groups and students on campus.