

Graduate Student Association

University of South Carolina Student Life

President's Cabinet Meeting Minutes – 9/1/2017

Student Government Office, Russell House

GSA members present: Clint Saidy, President; Jennifer Mandelbaum, Vice President; Matthew Owens, Graduate Council Representative; Akshita Narang, Secretary of International Student Affairs; Ryan Montalvo, School of Medicine Liaison; Rachel Lunsford, Secretary of Alumni Relations; JaQor Goodwin, Press Secretary; Gloria Esoimeme, Secretary of Graduate Student Organizations; Anna Cofie, Secretary of Health; Omonefe Omofuma, Secretary of Professional Development.

Guest: Theresa Sexton, Coordinator for Student Government.

GSA members absent: Tony Brown, Treasurer; Nick Vera, Secretary of Community Outreach; Victor Kidd, Secretary of Multicultural Student Affairs; Kat Edmond, Secretary of Graduate Assistantships; Barbara Bujak, Secretary of Veteran Affairs; Sarah Truesdale, Secretary of GSA Affairs.

NOTE: These minutes will become final on September 8, 2017 if not challenged.

The Graduate Student Association met on Friday, September 1, 2017 at 5:00 P.M. in Russell House, Student Government Office with the following items on the agenda:

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Welcome and Introductions**
3. **GSA President's Cabinet Bi-Weekly Meetings (Fall 2017) from 5:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.**
September 15, September 29, October 13, October 27, November 10, ~~November 24~~
(Thanksgiving), December 1. Dates to be approved by attendees.
4. **Discussion and Feedback from the Welcome Back Event**
 - a. General feedback was that it was positive and well attended.
 - b. Thought to be about 80-110 people
 - c. Jennifer spoke to our role "serving as the GSA", reminding us to be mobile and armed with information to spread awareness about GSA.
5. **Ideas for Upcoming Events**
 - a. Clemson vs. USC game tailgate
 - b. Holiday party
 - c. Stress-down days near the end of the semester.
 - d. Service day for the GSA Cabinet
 - e. Partnership with the Health Center
 - State-of-the-art Kitchen
 - Mediation room
6. **Graduate Student Resource Fair – Friday September 8, 10:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. in Russell House Ballroom**
 - a. Would like for most of us to volunteer and be able to show-up at the table
 - b. Shifts divided into 2 or 3 and will send for us to sign-up, next week.
7. **State of the University – Tuesday September 12, 10:00 A.M. in Russell House Ballroom**
Clint discussed his hope that we show up
8. **Updates from Liaison and Secretaries**
 - a. Ja'Qor Goodwin, Press Secretary

- Created an Instagram, questioned the group about our desire, as a GSA, for what we would like to post/how to represent ourselves there.
 - Mrs. Theresa gave names that would be of assistance to Ja'Qor
 - Also "did you know" for us as GSA members
 - "Take away" from meetings (especially if we have data)
 - Goal: Create a newsletter.
- b. Ryan Montalvo, School of Medicine Liaison
- Attended a Q/A session at the Med School (not med students, but grad/professional students).
 - Advertised the GSA and how to get involved.
 - Gave contact info
 - Promoted our social media to learn of upcoming events
 - Goal: Meet with leadership within the med. School graduates.
 - How to tie in med students with all other graduate students.
- c. Rachel Lunsford, Secretary of Alumni Relations
- Reaching out to the alumni association
 - May look into planning with Sec. of Prof. Dev. to plan an event or networking opportunity during Grad. Student Week (Spring 18')
- d. Nick Vera, Secretary of Community Outreach (Updates sent by email)
- Getting grad students enrolled in the service opportunity he mentioned
 - Gathering supplies to send to Houston (Sponsored by GSA)
 - Possible collaboration between USC Grad School and Local Bus System to create an event where Grad Students ride the bus to advocate for expanded routes and more collaboration with public transit (alleviate parking stress)
- e. Gloria Esoimeme, Secretary of Graduate Student Organizations
- Goals to send emails to all leaders for student groups, and see where they are in their planning for the upcoming year.
 - Looking into a student activity fair where all of those orgs can come together and recruit/learn what is here
- f. Anna Cofie, Secretary of Health
- Goals to get involved with the school of public health, because they are often first to know about campus events regarding health
 - Looked into being able to join forces with the School of Public Health and present Graduate Students with ways to volunteer
- g. Akshita Narang, Secretary of International Student Affairs
- Office of International Students have a lot of their own events, so looking to learn more about collaborating with them.
 - Meet with leaders or grad orgs. that are specific to international students.
 - Expanding programs already in existence.
- h. Omonefe Omofuma, Secretary of Professional Development
- Meeting on Tuesday to collaborate for ideas in the Fall surrounding professional development.
 - Charge other graduates to take advantage of weekly collaboration opportunities with office of Prof. Dev.
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 - (Clint charged all of us with SPENDING the money allocated for student orgs. so that GSA is able to continue to receive funding which will aide these orgs.

9. Good of the Order

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 P.M.

CC:

Dr. Anna Edwards, Interim Associate Vice President of Student Life
Theresa Sexton, Coordinator for Student Government.