

Graduate Student Senate



GSS Meeting | 11/18/2020 | 4:00 – 5:30 PM | Zoom

1. Bring the Meeting to Session – POGSS

- a. Meeting called to session at 4:02pm

2. Roll Call – COGSS

Name	Role	Attendance
Dominic Payne	President	Present
Karla Oñate Melecio	Vice President	Present
Michael Fazi	External Affairs	Present
Sarah Widlansky	Communications	Present
Nishitha Kamini	Community Coordinator	Absent, Dominic serving as proxy
Sumeyra Gok	COLA	Present
Kendra Bostick	COLA	Absent, Kamala serving as proxy
Allison Giannotti	CEPS	Absent, Sumeyra serving as proxy
Hamad Zaheer	CEPS	Present
Emily Whalen	COLSA	Absent, Sarah serving as proxy
Alix Flinders	CHHS	Absent, Sumeyra serving as proxy
Natasha Leuchanka Diessner	PAUL	Absent
Cassie Manning	LAW	Absent, Griffin serving as proxy
Griffin Kmon	LAW	Present
Danielle Johnson	MANCHESTER	Present
Caroline Kanaskie	GRAD	Present
Sreelekha Dandu	Financial Affairs	Absent, Sarah serving as proxy
Sanchari Kundu	HOUSING	Absent
Akhtar Ardakani	PAUL	Present
Elizabeth Mamros	CEPS	Present
Chika Ugwuodo	ONLINE	Present
Chelsea Cabral	COLA	Present
Janie Bright	CHHS	Present
Chandra Annasamy	INTERNATIONAL	Present
Kamala Nasirova	CHHS	Present

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes – POGSS & COGSS

- a. Griffin made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 11/04/20, seconded by Karla. Minutes were approved unanimously.

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4. Guest Speaker – *Amy Culp, Director of SHARPP*

- a. Free and confidential advocacy and direct services to all survivors and their allies. Offering culturally competent awareness and prevention programs.
- b. Started in the 1970s, funded by the university in late 1980s. First university funded program in country. Also has some federal and state funding, Title IX has been around for 46 years.
- c. Amy recognized the unique position that grad students are in (students, instructors, mentor/mentee, different power dynamics). SHARPP serves undergrads, grads, faculty, and staff.
- d. They have financial assistance available.
- e. SHARPP is located in Wolff House, across from Health and Wellness. SHARPP is the only service located in the building.
- f. They offer 24/7 confidential helpline, face to face meetings with an advocate, remote and confidential live text/chat M-F 9-4pm, advocate accompaniment to medical and legal appointments.
- g. Unh.edu/sharp/getting-help for more info.
- h. In-person services available starting February, following all COVID-19 protocols including masks at all times.
- i. SHARPP funding comes from: UNH general funding, UNH student fee (50% for grad students), NH state funding, federal funding, gift funds.
- j. Open to questions:
 - i. Caroline asked about resources for TAs and mandatory reporting. How to have those discussions and whether that is something the grad school can work together with them on in the future. She suggested being upfront saying that you are a mandatory reporter. Title IX requirements changed in August. Relaxed a lot of reporting requirements federally. She believes grad students are still mandated reporters. Someone from GSS should be on Title IX Committee. She strongly recommended having a student reach out to SHARPP if you need to move forward with reporting. They will help the student navigate the process and decide whether they want to participate. Caroline asked about having a “script” for these conversations. Amy will send this along.
 - ii. She will send an infographic that explains the different roles of SHARPP and Title IX.
 - iii. Michael asked if SHARPP is allowed to be a Title IX advisor under new Title IX requirements (no). But there is a confidential resource advisor and they have advocated to be able to fill that role.

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- iv. Karla asked if confidential resource advisor bill has been passed. It has. Karla mentioned Every Voice Coalition. Got it in summer as an omnibus bill. Gov. Sununu signed it in July. 120 days, January 16th (?)
- v. Griffin thanked Amy and SHARPP for the work they do and said how important the advocacy piece is.

5. Committee Updates – *Committee Chairs*

- a. Programming – Walk this Friday in College Woods, potentially some over winter break for people in the testing program. No more updates on as-needed testing for events.
- b. Governance – none
- c. Diversity and inclusivity – first committee meeting is tomorrow
- d. Housing and transportation - none
- e. Space allocation (Caroline) – nothing currently being done because of Spaulding renovations. Grad student housing is one of the top priorities after they finish the Spaulding project. Need to recreate masterplan for all buildings (required by the Board of Trustees). When they do this, we can advocate for the need for housing. Hasn't been done since 2012.
- f. Health and Wellness – none
- g. Michael said the Student Bar Association is going to cancel their Student Activity Fee next year.

6. Old Business

- a. USSB Update
 - i. Michael hosted a summit with student leaders from across USNH. Productive meeting. Already planning for the spring conference. Focused on diversity, equity and inclusion by student leaders at the system level. Putting together a student leader working group to develop a climate survey. GSS will have a representative on this group.
 - ii. Meeting in spring will include all senators.
- b. Fee Review Update
 - i. Two meetings over last two weeks. Have met with SHARPP, Health and Wellness, PACS, transportation, MUB, Dining, and Campus Rec. Haven't met with Technology. Financial Affairs Committee will put together recommendations and share before the next GSS meeting.
 - ii. Elizabeth asked for more info about the Whittemore debt fee. Stacey Hall is the director for that fee. Part of campus rec fee. Has been a flat fee since the building was built (1995?). Supposed to go until 2024. Covers some staffing and other expenses.

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7. New Business - *POGSS*

- a. Spring Engagement Committee
 - i. Kendra is working on gathering data on this semester to prepare for next semester. They want a list of grad student events happening in the spring.
 - ii. They did a data analysis of engagement. Kendra shared a summary powerpoint. Findings were based around different parts of the Wellness Wheel.
 1. Overall, program heads saw slightly worse student engagement (65%). Some same, some much worse, some slightly better.
- b. DEI Event on Law Enforcement
 - i. Dr. Petty shared this with GSS. Title: "Law enforcement relations with communities of color". Collaborative event. December 4th. Dom will send out Flyer after the meeting.
- c. Planning for the Spring Term
 - i. Start thinking about schedule for GSS meetings next semester. Next meeting will be last one for this semester. Meetings will resume in February. Spring semester registration is now open.

8. Open Forum – *POGSS*

- a. Caroline asked for a show of hands of people who come to #TogetherWalks on Friday.
- b. Sumeyra asked where to upload external committee notes. Going to use Google Drive.
- c. Caroline is going to send winter break services and hours of operation to everyone.

9. Adjournment

- a. Sumeyra made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kendra. Meeting adjourned at 5:14pm.