**MEETING MINUTES**

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|  | **Meeting:** | GSA General Meeting |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Date of Meeting:** | 5th March 2024 | **Time:** |  |  1-2 pm |
|  | **Minutes Prepared By:** | GSA VP Finance – Shihab Sharar Isa | **Location:** |  | GOOGLE MEET |
|  | **1. Meeting Objective** |  |  |  |  |  |

 GSA General Meeting

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| **2. Attendees** |

**GSA Council Members**: Khalid Iqbal (President), Shihab Sharar Isa (VP Finance & Services), Kavya Sathya (VP Student Life), **GRC**, **GSA students**

 **Management** : Patrick Kamau (Dean of Graduate Studies).



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| 3. Agenda and Notes, Decisions, Issues |
| Topic | **Discussion** |
| Biweekly meeting | * Kavya spoke to Dr. Carla, and they decided to have a workshops consisting of 5 different days, each having their own purpose.
* Kavya mentioned that Carla wants to have this a recurring event and have this for next year’s councils as well.
* Kavya mentioned that it would be good if we scheduled the event at a time when the students didn’t have a class for MISAM, MISSM and the other departments, so students wouldn’t have any overlaps.
* Kavya mentioned that they will come up with the dates and mention.
* MISSM and MISAM students will have 48 hrs. after the last day of classes.
* Khalid has the MISSM dates for the student’s classes, and Kavya mentioned to Dr. Patrick if we could get dates for the classes and timings.
* Kavya asked Carla to send the files, but she mentioned that as GSA council we could only give the dates.
* Dr. Patrick mentioned that if we have 5 different workshops, in September if we do that it would be best for students to know.
* Shihab mentioned that for students that are first year it is aimed for those students most.
* Dr. Patrick mentioned that we need to have professional development for students in general, which we need to try and implement over time of the course. Dr. Patrick mentioned that it would be best to have courses for students with no credit, so they can add this alongside just their academic degree.
* Kavya mentioned that Dr.Carla looked into various aspects before implementing this workshop and putting this in place.
* Dr. Patrick will contact Dr.Carla to understand the event better.
* Dr. Patrick mentioned that the things he noticed while looking through papers he found that the reports MISSM/MISAM students have figures and tables, MScIT have lots of coding, and if the figures of the specific code are taken out, this should be properly referenced.
* Dr. Patrick mentioned he could send something like this for the students next time.

Dinner Event: * Kavya mentioned that she contacted a bunch of places and found that Guru’s kitchen, they are willing to accommodate based on food and all.
* The manager of Guru’s kitchen mentioned that they can facilitate tickets to provide for the students, but this is yet to be decided.
* Dr. Patrick mentioned that we should not facilitate alcoholic drinks, as if something happens, it might come back, and GSA might be liable.
* Kavya mentioned that similar to last year, GSA will provide half of the payment and the rest would be on Guru’s kitchen.
* With regards to the date, Kavya mentioned that we have to provide dates to Guru’s kitchen as when there is a gameday for Oilers, every time the restaurant gets packed.
* Kavya mentioned that there is a restaurant that we kept under consideration called Little India but its far.
* Kavya also mentioned that she considered a restaurant called Khazana that was under consideration, but due to the prices we did not consider that.
* In terms of any other events, Kavya mentioned that if we implemented Dr.Carla’s event, then the GSA council would be packed.
* Khalid mentioned about the Mock interview, that the student’s number that we expected did not show up. Kavya mentioned that 6-7 students showed up, when 24 students RSVP’d.
* Dr. Patrick mentioned that he met up with Alex from CSA the executive director, and the cheque was handed to him for the U-Pass.

Health Benefits/Insurance for PsyD: * Dr. Patrick mentioned regarding the Health Benefits for Psychology students, he mentioned that he would be meeting with the health benefits professionals and speak about the situation. He mentioned that probably was a referendum back in 2020 most likely, but the PsyD students were probably not included. Kavya mentioned that the Program representative for PsyD Margaret reached out to us if there are any updates. Dr. Patrick mentioned that it is necessary to figure out, perhaps through a survey to determine who exactly has coverage and can they opt out or not.
* Dr Patrick mentioned that we could ask the registrar, the head of the psychology department to identify if they are paying for the insurance at all or not. Dr Patrick mentioned that he will check with Brian, and he mentioned that there is insurance related to international students.
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