

## Communications Committee Agenda 3/19

Attendance: Tessa, Jon-Patric Veal (Psychology), Sabreelyn Villalpando (Counseling), Abdelrahman Garbie (Mechanical Engineering), Erica Piazza (Nursing)

1. Debrief Kindness program.
  - a. How did it go?
    - i. Tessa: I'd rate it a 6/10. We had foot traffic but not as much from graduate students. It's hard to figure out who is a graduate and who is undergraduate.
    - ii. Jon-Patric: Thinks it went really well, definitely helping with getting the word out that GSO does more than funding.
  - b. What could we improve?
    - i. Tessa: Getting more of the word out. Going to graduate offices and handing out flyers. Maybe doing it in a different spot.

What did we learn from this?

- ii. Tessa: Some graduate students were very happy to do it. A lot liked the idea. But it definitely worked on getting the word out that GSO does more than funding. Making a brochure maybe for orientation on what GSO really does.
2. Talk about any new survey results.
  - a. Tessa: We're at 50 responses now. I don't think we're going to get any more traction on this. The lead was still stress toys. The second is movie night with food. Then DIY plant desk buddy which I am planning on doing in April. Then BBQ. Under program suggestions someone said museum trips which I like, definitely a maybe for next semester just need to find out from someone how much that costs and if we should offer transportation. Stay up and Write also still an idea I like. Someone said free t-shirts which I feel like if the graduate school can buy for us we could do the leg work of distributing them. Someone suggested a group chat of graduate students which I know LOGS is trying to make a discord so maybe we could advertise that? From the accessibility question definitely want to work on the guide over summer because people were asking us to be bad sight friendly and have closed captions on all videos. Someone also said PR videos of explaining how to do applications which I feel like I could do over the summer.
  - b. Sabreelyn: Love the t-shirts and free stuff, group chat would work if we can get enough people in it, the videos are definitely a good idea.
  - c. Jon-Patric: discord is 50/50.
3. Talk about stress toy bags for Grad Appreciation Week.
  - a. Tessa: Still making them in my office and I haven't been able to get to the two events so far so I've been going to buildings and handing them out. People really

like them so that's good. If I had started planning this a little earlier I could have given them to reps to distribute to their departments but oh well live and learn.

- b. Jon-Patric: Stress balls for everyone!
  - c. Jon-Patric: In the by laws the requirements are to show up to at least one committee meeting and the general meeting. But I have a problem with other people's funding coming to the meeting. The consequence being other people's funding getting cut is not the best. Can we change this?
  - d. Abdel: it's complicated (see recording for his answer).
4. Start planning Earth Month Program.
- a. Tessa: My idea is to get a bunch of succulents, soil, and pots and people can decorate their pot and plant a little succulent for their desk. I also want to have information about how to be sustainable as a graduate student so I have reached out to sustainability office. Via email I haven't heard anything but I talked to Jonathon and he says they have a lot of stuff I can take.
  - b. Sabreelyn: 100% approve of idea.
5. Start to get the wheels in motion for a possible big outside program for end of the semester.
- a. Tessa: Do we think this is a good idea to do this semester? If not what should we do instead? My idea was at the Hilliard lawn we can have food and music and maybe a photo booth and some swag to give out from the graduate school. If we want alcohol an officer has to be there. End of finals week? May 3? 4pm? 5pm? Later? Lunch? Get cornhole!
  - b. Abdel: I like the idea. Eid celebration is coming up and Clement is working on it. Around April 12<sup>th</sup>. Alumni center is not available so thinking of the Hilliard lawn. Confusion around the organizers, logistics, and who is bringing the food. Eid celebration could be pilot run of what I'm trying to do.
  - c. Erica: Maybe Friday before finals?
  - d. Abdel: I Disagree (because it's always hectic at least for engineering). Maybe the week after finals.
  - e. Tessa: Maybe I'll ask the grad school.
6. BIG Event
- a. Tessa: Not everyone that signed up showed up but the people that did we had a good group for what we got assigned. The event itself was 50/50 on the organization. Next time the grad school can do the flock because it was very hard to find graduate students when we didn't know what each other look like.